

When it rains... it pours

If the events at Hillside the first week of August were on TV, it would make *Animal Cops* look like a good movie. My staff and I are desperate, tired, and sad.

It started one day at 7:00 am when our assistance was requested at a home in McAdoo, Pa. where officers serving a search warrant on a person neglecting her animals asked for our help.

In the home were 28 neglected cats living in filthy, horrendous conditions. Less than year before, this same person was arrested for the same offense; that time we received 74 cats from her.

It's impossible for most people to understand from words alone the misery, hard labor, and agony endured during these rescue missions. The girls involved had over 50 flea bites on each of them, their eyes burned from the ammonia of the urine, and they had to return to the shelter to clean, de-flea, leukemia test, feed, and find room for all those cats.

In addition to the 28 from the rescue, we also received more than 10 other cats that day, all privately owned or stray, in need of the same attention.

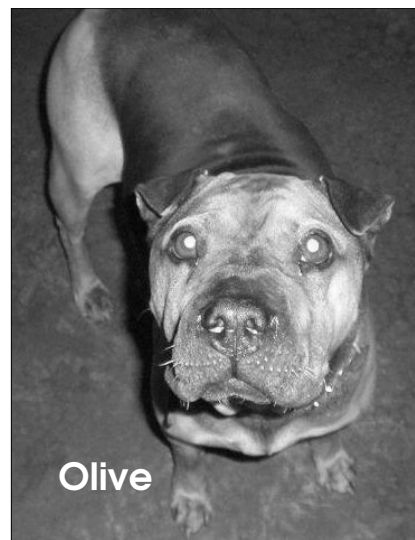
At 10:00 am, the "dog side" received a frantic cell phone call from someone who had seen a dog along side a road dragging her legs and struggling to get up. We immediately sent out two of our people.

The dog was terrified, starving, suffering from mange, and must have been out there for some time because she was severely dehydrated. In fear, she bit one of our girls, but they persevered and managed to wrap her in a blanket and rushed her to the vet. Her condition was critical with one leg so mangled it had to be removed.

Unbelievably the same day, another dog was hit by a car in Hegins resulting in the same critical situation requiring immediate surgery to remove a leg. Before the day was over we also received eight other dogs; five privately owned and three strays. One of the strays, a Shar Pei mix now named "Olive", was bloated and in severe pain from pyometra – also requiring immediate surgery.

Two days later, we rescued five puppies who were victims of heat stroke because their owner left them in a carrier in the direct sun. With no shade or water, their body temperatures rose to almost 105 degrees.

These are just a few of the incidents of the week - it would take a book to cover all of them. Since the heat wave started we receive over 25 calls a day concerning animals that are endan-



gered because of improper shelter, food, or water.

We cover all of Schuylkill County and it's a much larger area than you might think – approximately 783 square miles. Just try getting all around the county to Coaldale, Hegins, Ringtown and Klingerstown – all in one day.

It is time that our government makes allowances in their budget to help us with these horrific costs and issues. If we had to close our doors, the entire burden of housing, rescuing and caring for these animals would be entirely on their shoulders — at enormous expense.

The Hillside operates completely on private donations except for the \$9,000 we receive from the County each year and \$20.00 from the Department of Agriculture for every stray dog we receive.

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Helping Hands

NEWSLETTER OF THE HILLSIDE SPCA, INC.

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P.O. Box 233, Pottsville, PA 17901
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Shelter Visitation and Adoption Hours

Dog Quarters

MON-SAT: 11:30 am to 3:00 pm
SUN: 11:30 am to 2:00 pm

Cat Quarters

MON-SAT: Noon to 4:00 pm
SUN: Noon to 3:00 pm

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VACATION RAFFLE WINNER (May 07)

Sandra Fenstermacher
Douglasville, PA

Thanks to all of you for your
support! The vacation raffles are a
major source of income for us, and
we look forward to your continuing
and faithful support.
~ Hillside Board of Directors

When it rains, continued

(continued from page 1)

The total from both of those sources comes to approximately \$13,000 per year — an amount that pales in comparison to our vet bills alone which totaled over \$100,000 last year. Our annual operating budget is over \$500,000 — that's right — a half million dollars!

For the last 25 years, we have sent out an annual letter to each of the 70 plus boroughs and towns in our county. Only six have ever donated to our cause even though we have never turned down any of their requests for help.

The Hillside never refused an animal from Schuylkill County. We are the only shelter in the county that is currently accepting intakes on privately owned animals. We do so because we all know what happens to animals that shelters won't accept — they quickly become 'strays' dumped in isolated places, left to starve to death, get hit by a vehicle, attacked by another animal or emotionally tortured waiting for their owners to return.

The Hillside SPCA is also the only Schuylkill County shelter that has Pennsylvania State Humane Police Officers — whose training was paid for at Hillside's expense.

Hillside has become one of the finest shelters in Pennsylvania and has one of the highest adoption rates in the state.

That has happened only through the generosity of our loyal supporters — not from tax dollars, not from government help.

The Hillside exists because people just like you who love animals make the miracles happen for our unwanted buddies.

We go the distance for every animal that enters our doors, but we are absolutely overwhelmed right now. We can only help if we have the funds and support to do so. We can only continue to be here as long as we have people who care.

When I pull in every morning and look at all those faces that have a second chance at life, that are safe, fed, happy, and loved, my heart is lifted.

But with that moment of joy comes a moment of dread. What if?... What if we don't get enough donations? What if we can't afford to help the innocent animals that need it? What will happen to these sweet, trusting faces? *They will be gone.*

No matter what we must do — no matter what it takes — we cannot let that happen. And so, I am not asking for your help, I am *begging* for it. Please donate or adopt today.

~ Barbara Umlauf, Manager

YES! I want the Hillside SPCA to continue helping animals in need...

Enclosed is my gift of: \$200___ \$100___ \$50___ \$25___ \$10___ Other \$___

Name:

Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

Make checks payable to: *Hillside SPCA*, PO Box 233, Pottsville, PA 17901

All contributions are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law. The official registration and financial information of the Hillside S.P.C.A., Inc. may be obtained by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

Fern's guardian angels

By Liz Pysher

In my couple years here at Hillside, I've seen many heart-breaking cases that stand out. This year's is Fern, a dog that came to us from a very bad situation.

Originally called by a woman to pick up a "stray" Saint Bernard, we were subsequently asked to take the family's purebred 9-year-old Greyhound as well because she no longer wanted her.

Upon arrival at the home, we were given two emaciated, dirty, horrible looking dogs. It was divulged by the children that the St. Bernard was really their dog they'd had for years.

A closer look at the "greyhound" revealed she was really an extremely skinny Doberman mix. This dog, which we named Fern, would apparently go to the bathroom inside the house then get beaten for doing so.

Poor Fern spent the ride to the shelter crying in terror. Within a day, Fern fell in love with me and wouldn't leave my side, screaming and crying if I walked outside or frantically trying to find me. All I'd ever done for her was pat her on the head and tell her, "It's going to be okay".

Watching Fern, we noticed she was drinking and urinating a lot. It turns out Fern is diabetic which solved the mystery as to why she was wetting in the house at her last home! Fern was being hit for something beyond her control. This broke my heart.

Then I thought, "How will we deal with a diabetic dog at the shelter? How will we afford this? We have to give her a chance — at any other shelter she would have been put to sleep already. What do we do? Who will adopt a 9-year-old diabetic dog?"

After several conversations with our amazing shelter manager Barbara, it

was decided to get Fern's diabetes curve done and start her on insulin. Words weren't enough to express my gratitude to Barb. She always comes through no matter what the problem is — she's a true problem solver.

Fern was responding wonderfully to the insulin and seemed to be gaining



weight and being herself. She was off the leash with me by the second day at the shelter never leaving my side no matter where I went.

Unfortunately Fern's sad saga wasn't finished. One day I had her out with my other favorite dogs when I noticed that she was having a hard time finding the steps to the yard she loved to eat grass in.

Fern was going blind from the diabetes left untreated for the past 4 or 5 years of her life. She lost almost all of her sight in the couple months she was at the Hillside. We prayed things wouldn't get any worse for her.

Still a trooper, she went up the Hillside mountain with me every day, staying alongside me even though she'd occasionally "clunk" into a tree and still managing to maneuver around the other dogs at the shelter.

Fern was now enjoying life and we were thrilled to have been able to give

her that chance. But paying for the diabetes supplies for Fern was costly.

Thankfully, the Hillside SPCA Guardian Angel Program came to the rescue. "Angels" allowed Fern to continue treatment while her vet bills and insulin were paid for by wonderful donors.

We often get animals like Fern that need specialized care we can't afford, but somehow we find a way to provide it because their lives are too precious not to. Your participation in the Guardian Angel Program is crucial in allowing us to be able to help these lost souls.

Thanks to all of you who donated to become Fern's guardian angels, she has now been adopted by a wonderful woman who fell in love with her. This angel came to meet another dog at our shelter and fell in love with Fern. She already had a blind Corgi as well as a few other dogs with medical problems.

Fern's new "mom" Robin is even considering taking her to Cornell University to get her vision corrected! I never would have imagined such a happy outcome for such a sad dog. Fern has truly changed my life, and because of all of you that helped and her wonderful new mom, we've saved one more life that was doomed to be dumped on the streets!

Many thanks to all of you who contribute to the Hillside, for without you we'd be lost and animals like Fern would be doomed.

For more information on participating in the Guardian Angel Program, please phone Barbara, Tricia or Liz at 570-622-7769 or visit our website at www.hillsidespca.com to see animals in need of "guardian angels".

Cat room woes

Litters of unwanted kittens by the dozens — from owners who failed to have their cats spayed, from people who rescued them from highways and backyards, from those who abandoned them on our doorstep or the driveway in make-shift boxes — they just keep coming. Thankfully, we are here for them, that is why we exist.

Unfortunately, hardly a day goes by that we do not deal with owners who no longer want cats they've owned for several years. Mostly, they just show up at our door and say, "Here."

How sad that pets used to living in a home end up being given up by someone they love. "Moving", "Allergies", "We don't want her any more." or "She's sick." — people surrender their cats for various reasons, most of which we fail to understand.

We try, but very rarely can we convince them to keep the pets that at one time they wanted and loved. These owned cats, always forlorn, frightened and confused, add to Hillside's feline over-population.

We recently rescued 28 cats and kittens from a house in McAdoo, a town in the far northeastern part of Schuylkill County.

The woman was a true "cat collector." She kept taking strays into her house, thinking they were better off with her than anywhere else but failed to give them proper, sanitary living conditions.

It is quite possible to keep large numbers of cats and care for them properly, but that wasn't happening in this case — in plain terms, her house was filthy and uninhabitable.

Luckily, the cats were not in bad physical condition, but it was only a matter of time before their health would have begun declining.

On that same day we also took in 7 other needy cats. That's 35 in one day! Just in July we took in over 200 cats and kittens!

August didn't fare much better. As of press time, 50 cats were brought to us by Shenandoah, Pa. officials, this time a sad case of 2 owned cats neither spayed or neutered that multiplied to 48 in a short period of time!

Through the most trying times — and we are in them now — the Hillside SPCA carries on and remains a true refuge for unwanted and neglected animals.



Jackie

Cadoo



Helga



Amber



Scooter



We're AVAILABLE!

Freedom for Bennie

By Tricia Moyer

Just one day after celebrating Independence Day, we met a "stray dog" named "Buster."

We had our doubts that "Buster" was really a stray, so we decided to give him a new name — "Freedom." From that day, the staff was in love.

Freedom was a happy-go-lucky young pup always wrestling with the other dogs and keeping himself occupied with other Hillside residents.

Unfortunately, one day Freedom seemed a little slow and just didn't seem "right." So, of course, Freedom went to the vet.

The saying, "Freedom isn't free." is certainly a true statement! After several nights at the vet's office and days of worrying, Freedom was finally released from the hospital.

After spending hundreds of dollars on this guy, we were tickled pink to have him back with us at the shelter. A tail wag from Freedom was worth all the worrying when we knew he was okay!

Luckily for Freedom, he was adopted

by a truly patient and caring woman named Linda who just adores Freedom, now called "Bennie."

We recently got an update from Linda saying Bennie is a blessing to her and Kodiak, her older lab who needed a friend.

Though mischievous at times, shredding papers and toys, every day is a party with Bennie and he loves his new life with Linda.

Saving Freedom wasn't a question for us — we had to help him, no matter what the cost. But, now we need to pay those costs — remember, "Freedom isn't free!"

The Joe Parnell Spay/Neuter & Emergency fund has really taken a hard hit lately (as is often the case) meaning



we need funds to be able to continue to help animals without hesitation so they can get a second chance like Freedom.

From the bottom of our hearts, we say, "thank you" to everyone who has donated to this fund and gave our Freedom a chance to be free.

There are no words

Dear Wonderful Friends,

I'm having "writer's block" because I don't know how to say thank you enough for contributing to my son's fund (*The Joseph Parnell Spay/Neuter & Emergency Fund*).

I can't find the right words to express how I felt when I saw the envelopes with "Joe Parnell Fund" on them.

I cried with sadness, and I cried with joy. So, so many emotions...

I want to scream because I cannot fix this devastating sorrow — I can't bring back my Joe.

I can't talk to him, I can't see his beautiful Irish blue eyes, I won't hear his laugh, his famous "one liners", or ever hug him again.

What I do know is that this fund was started to honor Joe and help animals have a second chance at life — ironically it saved my life in the process.

If it were not for the Hillside and this fund, I might have died from a broken heart.

Joe died on Monday and I returned to work on Saturday. When I pulled in and looked at all those faces waiting for me, it was almost spiritual.

I could not save Joe, but he would want me to save them. Your gifts have accomplished this — for me *and* the animals in need.

With great gratitude and love,

~ Barbara, Joe, and buddies

Those wishing to support this vital, life-saving fund should send donations to:

The Joseph Parnell Spay/Neuter & Emergency Fund,
Hillside SPCA, PO Box 233
Pottsville, PA 17901
Make payable to:
Hillside SPCA, Inc.

We Speak For Animals (W.S.F.A.)

by Cassie Lewert & the Hillside's
Janine Choplick

Cassie writes:

"One day I was thinking about starting a club. I thought maybe a club to help the community. Well I thought that would be a great idea until I realized I should have a club about the most precious thing in this world — animals.

I thought it would be great to help the animals in need. I figured, animals are my life! They make me, well... me! I was sure that a club for animals was the best club to create.

I have to admit, I had a little help with the name, but I'm just a kid! I'm still learning! Now, I can't forget about my dear mom and dad. They made W.S.F.A. possible.

My mom's great ideas and organizational skills helped A LOT. My dad was so cool about letting the club hold our car washes for the SPCA at Wendy's. I couldn't do it without them.

The members of W.S.F.A. are the best! They are the coolest girls ever. Hopefully W.S.F.A. will last forever, helping animals, and trying to make our world a better place for them."

Janine writes:

A year ago I was asked to attend a car wash that was being held by a group of girls to benefit the Hillside SPCA. Breezy, my Border Collie and Hillside good-will ambassador, and I were very warmly welcomed upon arriving

at our local Wendy's restaurant and quickly realized we were in the midst of wonderful new friends.

Looking over the parking lot, I saw buckets, soap, sponges, hoses and lots of eagerness in each face. Unfortunately, it started to rain. We were all disappointed, but this was a great opportunity to be filled in on the club's goals.

Cassie and friends told me they all love animals and wanted to help the shelter by having this fund-raiser. Their club, W.S.F.A. decided a car wash would be a perfect, fun project.

"What does W.S.F.A. stand for?" I asked. The reply came back in unison, "We Speak For Animals because they can't speak for themselves."

Shortly afterwards, the sky cleared and the very first vehicle pulled into the lot for a washing. With cheers all around, I was certain the driver thought he'd won the lottery! The rest of the day was busier than we ever could have imagined. The car wash was a gigantic success.

This year, W.S.F.A. held their car wash again. This time, the sun was shining — a picture perfect day. We were busy from start 'til finish, even ending later than planned because of the tremendous turn out. Another success!

W.S.F.A.'s enthusiasm for helping animals is contagious — the Wendy's restaurant in Pottsville has a collection canister in the store for the Hillside and helps raise money by asking customers for donations. Some

Wendy's employees even took turns helping to wash cars!

Throughout the year, W.S.F.A. conducted fund-raisers for the shelter such as making and selling hand-made chocolate animal lollipops for Easter.

W.S.F.A. also gives out treats to the cats and dogs at the Hillside and were volunteer helpers at the Annual Pet Expo.

These girls, their parents, grandparents, and friends have all taken time from their busy schedules to help needy animals.

Because of the compassion and dedication shown by everyone involved with W.S.F.A. the future will be brighter for so many animals. And if the animals COULD speak, they would be saying, "Thank you!"

We Speak For Animals

The organization was formed in March 2006 when Cassie was in 5th grade (age 10) and started the club with some of her friends at school. We Speak for Animals was registered as a Non-Profit organization in February 2007.

Members:

Cassie Lewert- Head leader and founder
Lindsey McClelland- President
Jackie Letcher- Vice President
Destrie Tarlecky- Secretary and Treasurer
Alexis Rist- Scrapbooker

*Seeking
loving
home...*



Shiva



Pete



Max

Starting over

Dear Hillside SPCA,

Hi! This is Stella. Back when I lived with you all I was named Regina after I came to you in January after my "bad start" in Shamokin.

I was adopted on February 17th by my mom Allison Price. Since you all took such good care of me and were happy and sad to see me leave, I thought I would let you all know how I am doing in my forever home.

I have come a long way in the past five months! I've been to the vet a few times. She seems nice enough, even though she insists on clipping my nails!

We are all working on my anxiety. I know I have "issues" but I keep getting better. I love my mom, but I still have to work on other people.

While I work on trust, my mom gets to carry me around in a purse when we go places!

I mastered the leash thing, but I have to figure out what to do when the dog-gone thing gets looped around my legs. I love bones and chews — sometimes better than treats!

My sister Sadie and I get along great. We kind of snuggle and go for walks. We both like to go after squirrels and have figured out two dogs are better



than one when pestering for table food.

I didn't bark for the first couple of days I lived here, but I got over that with Sadie.

She taught me that cool game involving mom's shower floor decals. I taught her to scratch mom's hand when she's done petting us and we're not done being petted.

In the end, I have a very good life that keeps getting better every day. Thank you for everything you did for me at a time when I really needed help.

After a lot of thought, my mom decided a new name would be good for me in a new life.

"Stella" means star and it is simple, yet dignified. However, my middle name is Rae, from Regina. In any case, thank you and I will be keeping in touch!

~ Stella Rae Price



Charity Alert

The Hillside SPCA (Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals) is NOT affiliated in any way whatsoever with any other animal groups. This includes the ASPCA (American SPCA), the Pennsylvania SPCA, Humane Society of the United States (HSUS), American Humane Society (AHS), National Wildlife, etc.

Many of these groups have millions of dollars in their reserves, and yes, they are involved in various animal projects worldwide. However, we receive no monies whatsoever from any of them!

According to financial reports on www.give.org, The ASPCA has a reserve, *after expenses*, of over 29 million dollars! The American Humane Association reported an income of 48 million dollars and expenses of less than 10 million dollars!

Local animal shelters like us rely completely on local donors like you to keep our doors open. Every single dollar donated is spent for the benefit of needy animals in our area.

We, and the animals we serve, are grateful for your continued support.

Memorial and Remembrance Gifts

Helene Bailey by Raymond Ford, Sandra Ford, John S. Clark Elementary Third Grade Teachers, Cynthia Eckert, Pat Pacenta, Tom & Sue Beveridge, Ann Beaver, Sylvia Nabholz, Dan & Janine Choplick, Karen Alban, Ellen Schlitzer, Diane Drogalis, Tom Adcock, Susan Bindle, Chris & Dave Ambrose, Sandi Griesbaum

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Bill & Nevin Breiner by Faron & Dove Breiner, Lenny Lyka, Toby, Shasta

Stephanie Ryan by Walter & Kathleen Kruczek

"In Memory" and "In Honor" contributions should be sent to:
"Memorials/Honors", Hillside SPCA, PO Box 233, Pottsville, PA 17901

Memorial and Remembrance Gifts

Alverna Dewald by Mr. & Mrs. Clarence Weiss, Joyce Ann Ebling & family, Margaret Sterner, Jeff, Donna, Jill & Mallory Spotts.

Barry R. Bair by Zion Lutheran Church Choir, Reed family, William Timm, Rose Mary Mogr, Jerusalem Lutheran Church Chancel Choir, Jane Deibert, Carol Dietz, Joyce Mengle, Barbara Gosselin, Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Bowman.

Gene Lonergan by Francis Purcell

Brian Bierman by Anonymous

Michael McGinniss, Sr. by Ann Marie & Ronald Downey, Mike Downy, Tracey Cavanaugh, Eastern Division ESPA, Frieda Hoh Circle, Pottsville Area School District Academic Center Employees, Pottsville Area School District Educational Support & Professional Union.

Sheree Murphy by Barbara Umlauf

Catherine Davidson Jones by Kay Davidson & Ron Ulmer, April & Ed Wytovich, Bill & Elaine Miller, Dr. & Mrs. Dennis Bane, Mahanoy Area High School 1965, Marylee Cola, Jo & JoAnn Holochuck, Cheryl Muscavage, Mr. & Mrs. George Hertz, Mary Jane Ward, Lynda Schiffer, Karen & Pat Davidson, Nancy & Peg Ulmer, Dr. & Mrs. Robert Boran, Sr., Sara Rile

Agnes Lorraine Brennan by Gretchen Jo Haas, John & Cheryl Strublar, Aldine Knely.

Marge Janischek by Bob J.

John Reilly by Ethel Reilly

Rose Marie Weber & Pete McCloskey by Tim & Gwen Holden

Vincent Stephen by John & Josephine Stephen

Jessie Gradwell by Marian Gradwell, Beverly & Brian Smith

Karen Deeter by June Slingluff

James Messina by Cathi Kimmel

Virginia Miller by Barbara Miller, Denise Foran, Sandra Katch-

mar, Howard Shamp, Terry Heffner, Vincent Gately, Agnes Blickley, James Miller, Mr. & Mrs. George Bubeck, Linda & Gerry Einsig, Eileen Lecher, Michelle Casey, Richard Miller.

Mary Ann Sims by Sharon Sims Hall, Cheryl & Martin Rowan

Bruce Bowman by Iris McNoldy

Cathy Zimmerman by Sara Rile

Betty Lou Brady by Barbara Verbitsky, Evelyn Jones, Jim & Antoinette Gallagher, Lucille & Joseph Brady, Janet Damiano

Marian Gradwell by Brian & Beverly Smith, Mary Batdorf, Peggy Twardzik, Dorothy Gradwell, Theresa Basara

Mary Yanushefsky by Deborah C. Moyer

Christine Sarno by Amy, Anne & Jake Andrusavage

Gary Regnier by Anna Melnick & daughter, Marietta Dixon, Dick & Janet Jones, Joe & Tammy Chipriano, Richard Shimkus, Robert, Celestine, Robert J. & Natalie Mestishen.

Sarah Schreiber by the Stutzmans

Murray Collins by Diakon

Mrs. John Morgan by Paul & Ruth Ann Boltz

Shawn Grinaway by Delores Grinaway

Barbara Michaels by John Cary

Eugene Rosenberger, Sr. by Fessler USA Shipping Floor, Betty Seaman

Julia Cecelia Kilker by Mr. & Mrs. Robert Kilker, John J. Kilker, Bob & Mary Kurdy, Alan Pietkiewicz, Irene Flaherty, Sissy & Jim Lally, Mr. & Mrs. John McCole, Ann & Harry Murray, Michael & Sharon Dalley, Michael & Ann Malinowski, Virginia & Louis Marshall, Robert & Joan Medlinsky, Bruce & Mary Harloz, Jim & Irene Carduff, Mr. & Mrs. Brian Weiser, Mr. & Mrs. Matthew Reiprish, Joan & Justin Ker-shaw, Jo & Rick Examitas, Shirley Gunderman, Lynn Kamarousky, Caulfield family,

Francis & Lois Carduff, Jim & Kathy O'Connell, Anne & Paul Gober, Ellen & Ray Guers, Reinoehl family, Frank Kays, Joe Link, Terri & Joe Wood, Michelle Rosenberger, PJ & Helen Quirk, Allen & Regina Palubinsky, Georgine Sinkus, Marie Gay, Eugene & Mary Sinkus, Frank & Barb Carbuff, Fogarty & Stahl families, Pam & Edward Chizauski, Joe & Donna Palubinsky, Schumack family, Michael Dougal, Michelle Krusinsky, Rick & Kathy Sczerbowicz, Mamie, Lorraine & Mary Jo, Shenandoah Quarterback Club.

Connie Harbonic by Scott Rhoads, Joy Russenberger, Karen Mione, Christina Gerasimowicz, Mr. & Mrs. Jack Miller, Norma Challenger, Barbara Dornsife, Kimberly Wise Foster, Ralph Trout, Maureen Stefanowicz

Reed R. Kellner by Terri, Phillip & Abby Kellner, Donnas & Audrin Miller, Kathleen & Joe Setlock, Patrick & Denise Killeen, Scott & Stephania Schafer, Ken & Maryanne Thomas, Tamaqua Lions Club, Mr. & Mrs. William Siegfried, Emily Hobbs & family, Dot Evans, Anthony Dranginis family, Bernie Kuperavage family, Dave Kuperavage family, Lillian McBreen, Mr. & Mrs. Charles Hubiak, Rick & Michelle Stone, Larry & Janet Eiche, Janine Sullivan, Mr. & Mrs. Robert Shewokis, Annie Tamalavage, Arielle Fisher, Alexis Bohr, Molly Boran, Joan Yacobenas, Bob & Barbara Herring, Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Evanousky, John Kross, John Kross, Jr., Carol Kross, Linda Vinci.

Verna Rydzefski by daughter Jackie, Edward & Lois Meka

Richard Geiger by James & Lyn Kirkland

Maggie Mae Dougherty by Berneda Dougherty, Berneda Beacher

PET MEMORIALS

Gretchen & Peppy by Allen Koch, Sr.

Lobo by Don & Margie Nairt

Bailey by Tom & Karen Knappenberger

Neil Rossini & Georgie by Susanne Gorman

Lager by anonymous

Keisha by Diane Drogalis

Shag by Linda Morgovnik

Toby, Whiskers, Taz by Tim & Kimberly Fetterman

Max Shaner by the Kowaloneks

Iggy, Buster, Beau by Mary & Paul Burns

Dakota by Noreen Gregory

Saxa by Peggy Twardzick

Bandit, Buck by Janine & Dan Choplick

Jake by Robert & Judy Davidson

Taylor by Mary Anne Bercher

Baby Dog by Dorothy McCann

Trouble -Marie by Dolores Konitsky

Katy by Margaret Ulmer

Snuggles by Anna Brennan

Bertha by Magee family, Angela Heller

Rocky by Memmy Zangari

Dinky by Martina & Fran

Maya by Melissa Turner

Amari by Karen Lehman

Maya Papaya Emily Sassy by Janet Turner

Shadoo by Krissy Gilbert, G.S. Troup 1298

Sassy by John & Carol Biello

Gus by Ann Marie Swatsky

Bubba Dog by Ann Swartz

Maxwell Freeman by Robert Boyer

Angus McGhee by his family, Barbara & Staff

Patches by Marilyn Herb

(Continued on page 10)

For those wishing to remember the Hillside SPCA in your will and estate planning, it is important to use our full corporate title in doing so: Hillside Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Incorporated

Memorial and Remembrance Gifts, continued

(Continued from page 9)

Spunky Brown Rowan by the Rowans

Blazer by Kathy & James Garber

Jordan Mengle by his owner

Lingling by Naomi Wall

Biddy Bindie by Lynn Kamarousky

Spunky Rowan by Andrew Martin family

Divot by Mt. Valley Golf Course Staff

Melody by Mary Louise Brennan

Puddles by Andrew Martin Family

All shelter kitties & doggies everywhere that went to Kitty & Doggie Heaven by Anonymous

MOTHERS DAY

Jane by Paul Dornsife

Helen Delenick by Linda Delenick

PET HONORS

Bear by Richard Pasenckick

Champ by the Fettermans

Callie by Kim Bassininsky

Abbee & Dollee by Kowaloneks

LeClair & Lilly by Kelly Jo Miller

Buddy & Simba by Elizabeth Herring

Dolce, Tia & Toby by Paul & Lori Smerlick

Chip by Martin Lorent

Fern, Annie, Buster and all "senior" dogs with love by Laurie Haines and Charlie

BIRTHDAY HONORS

Kelsey Nicole Mills by Her Family, Hillside Residents

Joe Blass by Ann M. Swatsky

Ed Leuchtner by Jim Howat, Jr., Marjorie Gerber

Iris McNoldy by Sheryl Hart

John Reilly by Ethel Reilly

Helen B. Leuchtner by Her Family

Helen Delenick by Linda Delenick

B.J. Howat by Ed Leuchtner, Marjorie Gerber, Jim Howat, Jr.

Marjorie Gerber by Jim Howat, Jr., Ed Leuchtner

SPECIAL HONORS

Ken & Cindy MacDuff by Lori Fogg & Tyler

Richard Mentzel by Jennifer Matz

Marriage of George & Sue Yanaccone by Janet & George Eisenhuth

Anniversary of the Welches by Diane Bensinger

Ebony beauties

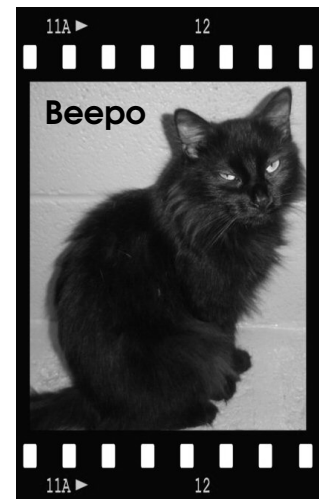
We love black cats — and so does a young girl named Amanda who visited us recently to help with brushing and petting. She wanted to work with the black cats first.

Amanda described her own black cat, Ebony, to us as “dark as the night sky with eyes that glimmer like stars.” She thinks that cats’ eyes look brighter, tongues look pinker and fur is shinier when a cat is black.

Halloween is her — and our — least favorite holiday because she fears for their well-being. Amanda questioned why we have more black cats than any other color, and all we could respond was that adopters pass them over for what they think are “prettier” ones. Amanda did not think that was fair.

We know that any one of our black cats will make somebody very, very happy. If you are planning to add a new feline to your household, please visit us at the shelter and check out all our ebony beauties.

There are also many beautiful, shiny-coated ebony canines waiting for new homes!



Rising star Thanos

By Amy Eckert

First I would like to thank the staff of the Hillside SPCA, for without their hard work and daily sacrifices, I would not have my dog Thanos.

With all the media's attention at this time concerning pit bulls and the atrocities committed by their owners, as well as the constant threat of breed bans, I would like to tell the story of Thanos - a truly remarkable pit bull.

Thanos had a very rough start to his life. At just 6 weeks of age he was taken from his mother and, by the very people who should have loved him, had his ears cut off to make him appear more intimidating. This cosmetic act is called cropping.

Now most times cropping is done in a veterinary clinic with access to pain medication and sterile equipment. Unfortunately for Thanos, his owners decided to attempt it on their own.

After starting to crop the ears, they found out that a dog's ears can bleed quite profusely since they contain several veins. The owners then attempted to stop the bleeding by sewing the ears with fishing line.

Several days passed until the shelter received a call from someone who reported hearing a puppy screaming. Workers were immediately sent out to investigate, and much to their horror, found a little puppy with bleeding and badly infected ears being kept in a rabbit hutch.

Once brought to the shelter, he was doing very poorly - not eating or moving much. I was called to rush him to a vet, who decided that Thanos would not do well in a shelter environment and would need 24 hour care.

I took him home and it was decided that I would foster him for the shelter. Little did I know where that choice would lead!

It took several months of vet visits, antibiotic therapy, and ointments to get him over the infection. Then the hard part started - trying to find him a home.

Unfortunately, by his appearance alone he was not attracting any interested people. After several more months, I decided that he had found his new home with me.

I began training and socializing Thanos around people and other dogs to make him into the best dog he could be.

One day about 4 years later, I got a call from a good friend saying that there was a casting call for dogs for the play *Oliver*, and asking if I was interested in bringing Thanos to try out for the play!

Thanos at this point has lots of obedience training behind him, and we hoped it would be enough. At the casting call, he did several tricks and showed some of his obedience training, and even gave kisses to some of the young actors in the play.

Much to my surprise, he got the role of Bill Sykes' dog! Thanos and I spent the next two weeks working on specific behaviors that they needed him to perform, and then less than one week rehearsing in the Kirby Center.

With a live orchestra playing and so much happening on the set, I was thrilled to see him handle it all with poise and a great working attitude.

Many people were interested in his story and he made friends wherever he went. He even made friends with a TV star - David Canary, who stars on the ABC soap *All My Children*.

Thanos is also currently working on several AKC Obedience titles, and is a Registered Therapy Dog, going to schools and nursing homes to visit and educate.

P.S. Amy's miracle work with animals has changed the lives of so many. She is on our Board of Directors, works endlessly for the shelter, and is the best animal trainer ever!
~ Barbara Umlauf



Volunteers Urgently Needed!

The Hillside SPCA welcomes volunteers of all ages. Volunteers are an important part of our everyday operation and we'd be lost without them.

Right now we really need a few good people who can give us some **office/ telephone assistance** — any amount of time, any day of the week will help. Retirees and /or senior citizens especially welcomed. We really need you! Ask for Barbara or Becky at the shelter (570-622-7769) or phone Sylvia (570-739-4767)



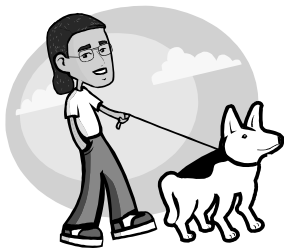
P.O. Box 233
Pottsville, PA 17901
www.hillsidespca.com

OPT to ADOPT



A Shelter Pet TODAY

Visit us 24/7 at www.hillsidespca.com



ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, October 13th,
Noon to 3 pm

Come join us for a fun-filled event.

Be with people who love animals!
Share the happiness of what your
wonderful contributions have accomplished!

Bring your pets (our alumni) or a picture of our buddies!

It's hard working here every day, the only benefit we receive at the Hillside is seeing our buddies happy and healthy. Sharing moments and pictures of the happy endings is what keeps us going. It is the reason we are here. And, hopefully, you may make eye contact with a face that will melt your heart and take them home with you.

Hope to see you!

