

Helping Hands

Angels For Benji

Meet Benji, a five month old little Shih tzu boy. He appeared at the shelter just days ago, brought to us by a very distraught owner.



Normally a puppy of this age would be wiggly and happy, but what she held in her arms was a very floppy, lifeless little dog. Through tears of grief, she explained she purchased him from a Craigslist ad a week earlier. During his short time with her, she would see either a pacing, circling, agitated little dog, or momentary flashes of a normal puppy.

She feared the pup perhaps had a brain tumor and should be put to sleep. In her heart, she just could not stand the

thought of him dying. Heartbroken, she came to Hillside hoping to get help for him and possibly save his life. Little sweet Benji became ours, and true to our determination to help animals in need, he was whisked off to the vet!

Testing determined he has a liver shunt. In order to improve his quality of life, especially since he is so young, he must have surgery and this surgery must be performed by a specialist. The cost of the exam, imaging and subsequent surgery and care will cost nearly \$6,200.

Joe's Fund, which pays for the medical needs of all Hillside animals (including spaying and neutering of the residents and caring for the recent influx of many special needs animals) will be once again stretched to its limit.

But we believe Benji deserves a chance to live. He is the sweetest little boy and with some



initial medicine we have seen a little glimpse of the true puppy he is. With surgery he can do so much better.

Your support of the Hillside SPCA and our work helping animals in need, like Benji, means so very much. In this season of "angels", won't you be a guardian angel for Benji? A donation of any size to Joe's Fund (see Page 2 for more info) will help little Benji be a healthy puppy who can grow into a healthy, happy adult.

Donations can also be made quickly and securely on-line at www.hillsidespca.com.

*Thank you from all of us
— and little Benji!*



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Give the Perfect Gift - Volunteer!



There are many ways you can make a difference both inside and outside of the shelter — like assisting at fundraising events where we can always use help! When you give the gift of your time, you'll get back as much as you give — even more. You'll never find a more grateful and accepting comrade than an animal you have comforted. You'll make lots of new friends — and not just the four-legged kind. You'll discover skills you never knew you had and may be surprised at what you're capable of achieving. There are many, many ways you can volunteer to help the Hillside and animals. Contact us today at 570-622-7769 to learn about current and up-coming opportunities to get involved and give the perfect gift!

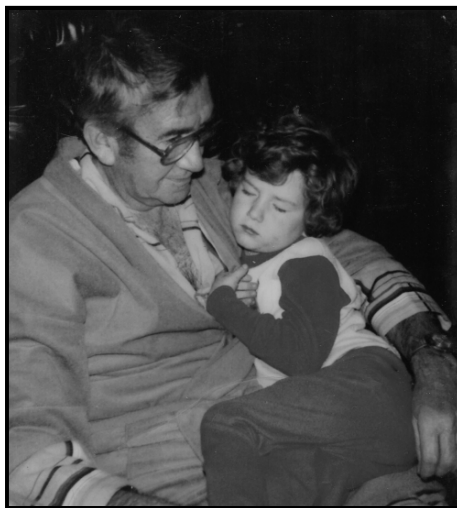
Beyond My Dreams

This is a picture of my son, Joe, with my Dad on Christmas Eve after hours of trying to get him to sleep. Joe was so excited for Christmas to arrive!

You, my Joe's Fund supporters, broke many records this year helping us spay, neuter, and care for so very many animals in need! Congratulate yourself, as I congratulate you! As you may know, it was our 30th anniversary this year of being here to help animals who need us. It would take a short novel for me to list all the animals that you saved!

The vast majority of animals that we take in are not spayed or neutered when they arrive. We are able to get them all done because of you, and many of the nightmares of those future litters of countless unwanted, homeless animals are put to rest!

The many cruelty cases we dealt with this year were often so severe many of the rescued animals needed expensive



vet care which we could not have provided for them without you and your loving, generous — and often selfless — support. Now so very many are all happy, safe and loved.

Joe's favorite holiday was Christmas, and you have made this the best one ever thanks to your kindness. You

made so many of my dreams come true.

When I lost my Joe nine years ago and started his Fund, I never dreamed it would become what it is today. Every vet bill, which is an enormous on-going cost to us, is paid by Joe's Fund.

I won't physically be with my Joe on Christmas, but when I walk into the shelter that morning and see all the faces that will celebrate Christmas, (and each and every other day you have given them) Joe will be with me — all because of you. My dream come true would be that your holidays, celebrations, and lives are as happy and glorious as you have made so many for all of us. I love you more than words can say. You mean so very much to so very many

*Forever with loyalty and love,
~ Barbara, Joe, and past,
present and future residents of
Hillside SPCA*

Helping Hands NEWSLETTER OF THE HILLSIDE SPCA, INC.

Published Three Times Annually
By the HILLSIDE SPCA, INC
P.O. Box 233, 51 SPCA Road, Pottsville, PA 17901
(570) 622-7769

www.hillsidepca.com
www.facebook.com/hillsidepca
www.twitter.com/hillsidepca

Shelter Management

BARBARA UMLAUF, Manager
BECKY MOYER, Feline Manager
TRICIA MOYER, Asst. Canine Manager

Humane Investigations/Officers

BARBARA UMLAUF | TRICIA MOYER
MARYBETH GRAF | JANINE CHOPLICK

Shelter Visitation and Adoption Hours We Are Open 7 Days a Week

Dog Quarters, 11 am to 3 pm
Cat Quarters, 11 am to 3:30 pm

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YES! I want to help animals in need through Joe's Fund!

Enclosed is my gift of:

\$200__ \$100__ \$50__ \$25__ \$10__ \$5__ Other \$_____

Your Name:

Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

Please make checks payable to: Hillside SPCA, Inc.,
PLEASE CLEARLY MARK YOUR ENVELOPE "Joe's Fund" and mail to:
Hillside SPCA, Inc., 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 endorse-

Sending Blessings

Dear best, marvelous, wonderful supporters — As the oldest residents at the shelter, and with Hillside (which we love) being our permanent residence, we wanted to be the ones to thank you for your 30 years of unwavering and heartfelt support.



Allow us to introduce ourselves. I am Dana, the dog, and I came to the shelter 13 years ago after being horribly abused. Back then, I earned the nickname "Dangerous Dana" because I lashed out at those trying to love me due to my fears and lack of trust. The Hillside staff saw potential in me and showered me with unending patience and love until I opened my heart and fell in love with them — but only them. I never wanted to leave the Hillside because I'm safe and loved and treated like a queen.



I'm Denise, the cat, and I was in the same situation as Dana having been badly abused by my owner who threw

me against a cement wall. I also fell in love with the Hillside staff and never wanted to leave.

Our shelter mommies and daddies, along with our dedicated Board, always go the distance in so many ways to help each and every one of us who enter the Hillside SPCA's doors.

This year was Hillside's 30th anniversary of being here for those of us in need, and we were all so excited to celebrate that milestone! Unfortunately though, it also turned out to be one of the most difficult and trying years in the shelter's history — and believe me, there were many difficult years.

This year, the number of animals coming in tripled as well as the number of cruelty cases needing investigation, rescue, and extensive care. The staff was frequently feeling devastated — emotionally and physically worn down over the sheer amount of work, unwanted and abused animals, and the stress that accompanies doing the work they do.

And to top it off, they are often the recipients of criticism from those who do the abusing of us and people who would never be able to do the jobs they do for one day — probably not even for one hour! As we sit silently watching them shedding tears of frustration, our hearts break for them.

But they are strong, and we are strong, and life goes on. There are (and sadly, always will be) other animals that need care, rescuing, and lots of TLC. The Hillside SPCA along with you, our faithful supporters, and the dedicated staff and volunteers know what really matters — putting animals in need first. If there was no Hillside SPCA, what would have happened to all of us? I shudder to think...

In this season of counting blessings, all of the residents here at the shelter want to tell you just how much we love and appreciate you for giving us the Hillside and count you — and those who give from the bottom of their hearts in so

many ways — among our greatest blessings.

We furkids here at the shelter wish this wish for you — may you have the merriest of holidays and a glorious new year filled with love and joy like you have given to so very many of us. Without you, we would be gone.

We send you an "all paws" salute filled with love and want you to always remember how much we cherish the miracles you have created over the years.

*~ Dana, Denise, and
everyone at the Hillside SPCA*



Hurray! Our "Hillside Angels" sign is up!

Please visit us and see your name or the name of your beloved.

You truly are our "angels"!

A NOTE TO SANTA

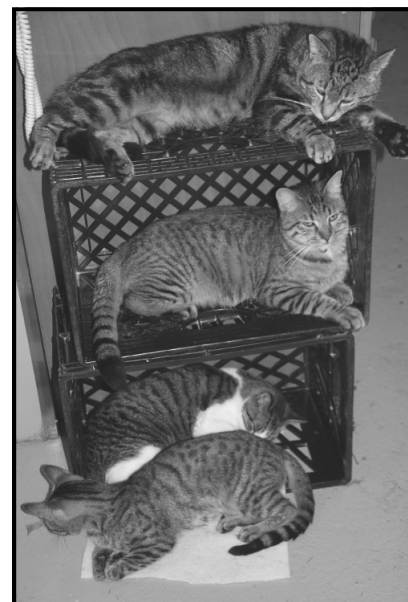
Dear Santa,

What we residents of Hillside would like most for Christmas is, of course, to be adopted by someone wonderful who will love and care for us all our lives. Every day we wait patiently for that special person to look into our faces and see the love in our eyes and say, "I want you!" Oh, it would be so grand!

We know, Santa, that it's hard even for you to find homes for all of us and, if you cannot, we know we will be very comfortable and cozy here at the best animal shelter in the whole wide world. Please dear Santa, put "Adopt Chloe and Fetta and Benji and Two Toes and Kramer and Pippen and Little Bear" at the top of your list. They especially deserve to find their forever homes.

We also ask that you deliver good health, prosperity, peace and love to all the generous and wonderful people who donate and help us all year long. We want them to be filled with joy, knowing that we will be celebrating our Christmas here at Hillside, a warm and cozy haven with great food and toys. Best of all, we will be surrounded by love because of them. They deserve it all, Santa! We love them all so much; please make all their dreams come true! And please, make our dreams come true, too!

— Love, *Baja the cat and Esther the dog*



**Four tabby cats all in a row
Waiting for Christmas,
hoping to go.
Only you can make their
dreams come true.
Please come and take one
home with you!**



www.hillspca.com
www.facebook.com/hillspca
twitter.com/HillsideSPCA

High Postage Costs

To help defray the high cost of postage, it will be greatly appreciated if either a first-class rate postage stamp or a self-addressed stamped envelope be included with your mailed donations if you require a receipt or acknowledgement. Every little bit helps as we continue to struggle to keep our doors open. Thank you!



Did you know that it's Christmas at Hillside all year long? Really, it is.

More than a few mornings throughout the year, we are happily surprised to find bags or boxes filled with food, toys, supplies and a host of other items, right on our doorsteps.

We never know who leaves all the wonderful goodies; so unfortunately, we never get to thank them. We really love being surprised by Santa's elves year round. So from all of us here — residents, board and staff alike, thank you very much dear, kind elves for giving us Christmas all year long!

Christmas for Kenny



Eight month old Kenny was in a terrible way when he came to us in October. Much of his side was ripped and punctured, with fiery red flesh exposed and lots of pain. It appeared he was bitten by another animal, perhaps a territorial tomcat.

It was off to the veterinarian for Kenny where he was examined, cleaned up, medicated and stitched together. But would the stitches hold? There was very little skin to work with; the injuries needed to be secured and only time would tell. Kenny was placed in foster care where his wounds would be carefully flushed and medicated several times a day. It would be quite a while before Kenny's side would be healed and normal.

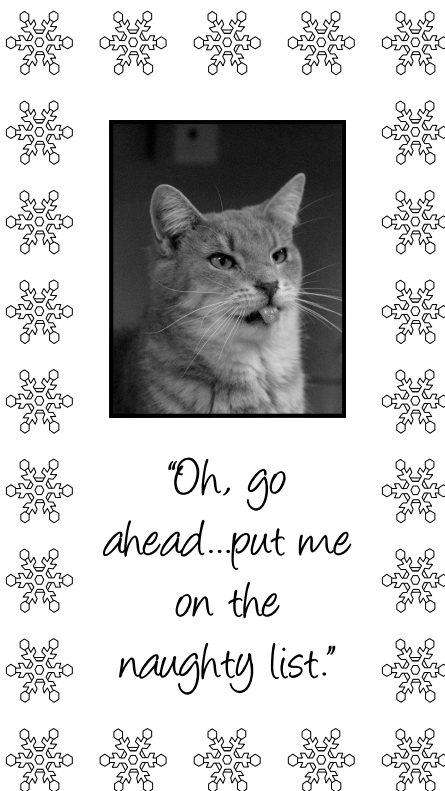
Cute, spunky Kenny is an exceptional feline. Throughout his daily treatments he was very accommodating. As soon as his foster mom sat down and placed a towel on her lap, Kenny waited at her feet, looking right up to her as if to say, "Okay, I'm ready. Let's get the job done!" Although he wasn't overly fond of what he likely considered "the silly blue collar" he wore, it prevented him from licking or biting at his skin. Like so many other things in his now restricted life, he did come to accept his blue collar.

Unfortunately, as the vet feared, some stitches did not hold together. This meant Kenny's healing time would take longer. He's come a long way, though.

It takes time for fur to grow back, and there might be some scarring, but things are looking very good. Kenny is such a sweet, sweet guy. He purrs so much his name should really be Purr Box Kenny. He's endured a lot, and happily, is now ready for his forever home. His wish, our wish, is for him to spend Christmas with his forever family. Could that forever home be yours? We hope so!

With a lot of help from Kenny's friends — his vet, his foster mom, Mother Nature and of course, Hillside SPCA — Kenny's road to recovery has been a successful one. Healing and caring for animals in need is our mission and your generous support makes it all possible.

Whether you donate to our general fund which keeps our animals fed; buildings heated, lit, and maintained; vehicles running, and employees and insurances paid; or to Joe's Fund, we appreciate and love you with all our hearts!



"Oh, go ahead...put me on the naughty list."



Fundraising!

Please mark your calendars and join us for these fundraising events. Your support keeps our doors open to hundreds of animals in need!

February 12,13,14 – "Sweetheart Pets" Weekend at the Fairlane Village Mall, Pottsville, PA. Friday and Saturday 10AM to 9PM, Sunday 11AM to 5PM. Merchandise sale.

March 19 – St. Patrick's Day Parade, Girardville, PA. Starts at Noon. Marchers and merchandise tent.

April 25 – Rubber Duckie Race at WalMart, St. Clair, PA. Merchandise tent.

May 1 – Hometown Craft Show, Hometown, PA. 9AM to 4PM. Merchandise tent.

May 7 – Oak Street Festival, Mt. Carmel, PA. Merchandise tent.

May 14 – Kielbasi Festival, Shenandoah, PA. 9AM to 5PM. Merchandise tent.

May 21 – Hillside SPCA Spring Craft and Vendor Show at the Fairlane Village Mall, Pottsville, PA. 10AM to 7PM.

May 27-31 – Memorial Day Weekend Merchandise Sale at Big Lots, Frackville, PA. 9AM to 5PM daily.

June 5 – Paw Prints on the Canal, Northampton, PA. 9AM to 4PM.

Memorials & Remembrances

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Joe Parnell by Caroline Parnell, The Murphy Family, The Avenoso Family, Sallie Umlauf, Wanda Edelman

Eleanore Precourt by Prudence Precourt

Prudence Sommers by Anna & George Bergalis

Francis J. Dougherty by Barbara, Joe & Buddies

Harold Phillips by Mike & Betsy Tyson

Elizabeth Tunnessen by Mary R. Tunnessen, Danny & Anita Humenick, Sandy & Bill Tunnessen, Tunnessen Radiator, Inc.

Dorothy B. Ondo by Dian Ondo

Daryn & Henry Blum, Jr. by Richard Kost, Arnots Game & Sports Association, Andy & Sandy Gera, Ruth Ann & Jeff Latasha, Dolores Brophy, Nancy & Mac McMurtrie, Avenues, Donna, Dave & Nick, Logan, Grace Beveridge, Patricia Eichman, Ellen Runciman, Peter Keitssock, Robert & Kim McSurdy

Richard Fehr by Grace Beveridge

James Buffington by Janine Choplick

Wally Jaskierski by Richard Thomas, Eleanor & Roy Davis, Betsy & Russ Antalosky, Barbara, Joe & Buddies

Ellen Holowaty by Sallie Umlauf, Ashley Welikonich, Paula Murphy, Barbara, Joe & Buddies

Jamie Rose by Marguerite Yourshaw

Dwayne E. Reber by Victoria Milillo, Marsha Borden, John A. Petock, Joseph "Daddy Joe" Mahoney, Mary Ann Reber, Helen Holley, Paul & Dorothy Ziegler

Josephine Graf by The Graf Family, Don & Anne Flansburg, Ehsan & Camille Afshani, The Cusik Family, Joseph & Nousheen Wezorek, The Hammond Family, The Peck Family, Arman Afshani & Family, Jim & Victoria Skurski, Ida Rine, Donna & Roy Swain, Sarah Donahue, The Dutcavage Family, Paul & Antoinette McKeown, Jan & Dennis Stotemyer, Maureen Robida, Linda Zwiebel, Patricia Callahan, Berneda Dougherty

Catherine Schiebel by Thomas & Linda Flamini, Vickie & Gary Shoudt, Elizabeth Ruszin, John Ruszin

David Dolphin by Andrea Antolick

Lamont Bayer by Fay & Michael Seltzer, Richard & Laverne Sterner, David M. Wolfe, Donna Moyer, Halabura Farms, Robert & Carol Sotter, Dave Miller & Sons, Inc., Terry Gilman, Jim & Shelly Callaway, Sandra J. Kutz

Brittany Lindenmuth by Mahanoy City Girls Softball League

Marion Cryts by William & Janice Bird, Mr. & Mrs. David Kramer, Perry & Carol Pillar, Ms. Joan Webb, Martha A. Burton, Mr. & Mrs. William Allar, Shirley Uhler, Law Offices of James P. Wallbillich, LLC, Jim & Shelly Callaway, Schuylkill Referral Network Assn. Members, Ann Burke, Ruthann S. Moyer

Joseph Grabowski by Mr. & Mrs. Fred Miller

Leo Kuzma by Mr. & Mrs. Leonard Labonski, Cyndi Blaschak, Lucy Staber, Linda Smith

Melanie Yench by John Coghill, Kathy Koch, Kathy Tomcheck, Renee Seiwel

Nancy Bushar by Randall & Ruth Snyder & Family

Frederick P. Dando by Joseph & Dorothy Brennan, Gretchen R. Ulmer, Ann Dando, Ginny O'Brien, Mitzie Dando

Paul Depsky by Deborah Moyer

John Turnitza by Robert Whalen

George McCabe by Reading HealthConnect Ambulatory Co-Workers

Michael J. Douglass by Barbara & Peter Ellis

Josephine Miskar by Anne Andruscavage

Donald Kester by Diane Briggs

Choung Ja Hoover by Michelle Y. Hoover

John Rupinski by The McFadden & Loboinski Families, Brooke Geist Anderson

Jo Ann Marie Mays by Dorothy Ziegler, Mr. & Mrs. Brian Reno, Friends at Psychological Associates, Barbara Schaffer, Mr. & Mrs. Norman Stringer, Carol Mack, Mr. & Mrs. Barry Shollenberger, Crystal & Bob McGarry

Bill Sands by Ken & Gloria Sands

Joan Marcinek by Tracey & Charlie Choplick

Eileen Sency by Thomas F. Bogaczyk & Debra L. Raup

Leah H. Shugars by Dr. William B. Shugars, III

Bernice Roberts by Amy, Ann & Jake

David Keffer by Shirley Uhler

Marie Gay by Jean Holland

Constance Zapotocky by Bill & Sandy Tunnessen (Tunnessen Radiator)

Sandra L. Strouse by Mr. & Mrs. Theodore Schneider

Marian "Babe" Mickey by Paul & Terry Laubenstein

Thaddeus Oliva by Sharon & Leon Trusky

Harriet Timm & Puddles by Nancy Pauzer

Kenneth L. Freed by Jeffrey Lee

Norine Drum by Blue Creek Guitars, Inc.

Ira W. "Ike" Killian by Gloria Yohe

Leo Dougherty by Berneda Dougherty

Mary Childs by Theresa Stevenson

Brenda Tepko by Cynthia Sabol

Alice Fatula by Friends of Wacoal America

Louise Marasco by Michele Gano

Special People Honors

Kay Lubold by Sallie Umlauf, John W. Lynch, John & Danielle Richards, Stella Cappella, Anna M. Boychak, Felicia White, Matthew & Ruth MacDuff, Amy Biting, Lisa Gensel, Ann Swartz, Theresa Fegley, Sandra Derr, Brianne Polito

Memorials & Remembrances

Jeri Wagner by Debbie Gray & Cha Cha

Dr. Jones & Staff at Brunswick Veterinary Hospital by Donald & Karen Bailey

Birthday & Anniversary Honors

Barbara Fahy & Carolyn Brooks

Russell & Susie Zimmerman by Lynda & Mike Ernst, Patricia & Tom Macaluso, Judy & Jerry Teter

Fred J. Wiest by Staff at Williamson, Friedberg & Jones

Marjorie Gerber by Ed Leuchtner

Pet Memorials & Honors

Jazz by The Murphy Family, The Avenoso Family, The Umlauf Family, Janine, Dan & Jonathan

Maisy by Janine, Dan & Jonathan

Toby, CJ & Odie by Jane & Rick Kremer

Harley by Dolores & Ann Marie Tully

Gizmo/Kuma by Sherrill Anne Brennan

Katie Marie by Sallee & Staree Night, Melissa Bromwell, Barbara, Joe & Buddies

Rudy by Ruth & Gary Eckrote, Perry Aleski & Jason Lechmer, Mary Jaros, Sandy & Joe Michaels

Dakota by Anita & Martin Dwyer

Jillian, Jillisa, J.C. Lynne, Jameson, Skippy, & Bootsy Ann by Anna Brose

Joey by Lisa Mayshock

Shadow by Barbara Balas & Tom Ickes

Sam, Gus & Brodie by Larry & Brenda Shuey

Ekko Latella by Bill & Sandy Tunnessen

Alex by Dr. & Mrs. Thomas J. Dirnberger

Strider by Bill & Lydia Storey

Dakota Bashinsky by Roberts Family, Bashinsky Family

Jessie Kaczmarczyk by Roberts Family, Bashinsky Family

"Black Cat" by Dawn & Bill Rowan

Bruiser Price by Lynda Elenshaw

Gizmo Rupinski by The McFadden & Loboinski Families

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

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"



Visit us any day of the week and find a new forever friend from among the many, many animals awaiting a loving, permanent home. We welcome out-of-area adopters with proper references. See our website or phone us for more details. Our staff will work closely with you to find that perfect match to make sure you are choosing the pet that will make both you *and* your new furry friend happy. Adopting means you have an instant devoted friend for life! We are open 7 days a week. Door-to-door driving directions and hours for adoption are available on our website at www.hillsideSPCA.com.

ADOPT TODAY!

Waiting for a Home

COLLIN



SPUNKY



PETUNIA



MORGANA



ROCKO



RUSTY



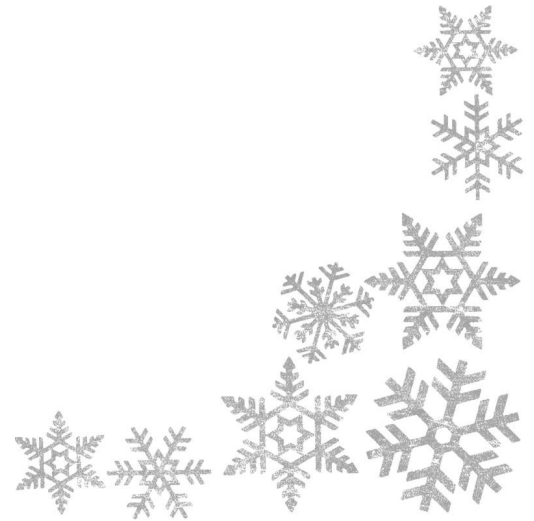


P.O. Box 233
Pottsville, PA 17901



Kitten Food NEEDED!!

We would appreciate a nice supply of **kitten food** for Christmas. That adult food is just too big and hard for us to chew! *Thank you from all us "wee ones"!*



From our humble beginning 30 years ago through today, you have made life better for thousands of animals in need by providing nutritious food, a warm and safe shelter, quality veterinary care, life saving rescues, and the prevention of countless unwanted litters of puppies and kittens through your donations and support.

Giving a gift of any size helps continue this vital work of caring for the hundreds of animals in residence here at the Hillside SPCA today, tomorrow — and beyond..

~Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

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.



SHOW COMPASSION. KNOW PEACE.

Enclosed is my gift of:
___ \$5 ___ \$10 ___ \$20 ___ \$25 ___ \$50 ___ \$100 Other \$ ___

Name: _____

Address: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip: _____

Mail to: Hillside SPCA, Inc., PO Box 233, Pottsville, PA 17901