



Helping Hands

A publication of the Hillside Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Inc. ~ 51 SPCA Road, Pottsville, PA 17901

Journey to Healing

In April 2022, over 100 animals were rescued from a situation of cruelty, thanks to a dedicated investigation and the incredible teamwork of Hillside SPCA, fellow rescue networks, and animal response teams. These animals, including dogs, cats, rabbits, goats, pigs, ducks, a goose, a tortoise, and chickens, were carefully removed from their previous environment and safely transported to their new temporary homes.

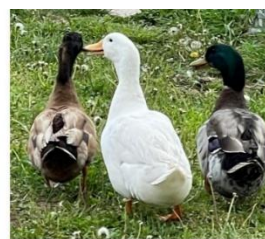
Once they arrived, the journey of recovery began. With unwavering commitment, Hillside SPCA and our network of volunteers, rescuers, and foster homes worked tirelessly to provide each animal with the care they so desperately needed and had long been denied. This was just the beginning of their healing.

Marley, a sweet dog whose fur had become painfully matted, was lovingly freed from her tangled fur by volunteer groomers. Despite her hardships, Marley faced the world with resilience, just as so many others did. Suzy, a goat who had been in critical condition, slowly regained her strength and Dante, a dog suffering from painful tumors, began to walk with less discomfort. Many of the animals had skin and eye conditions, untreated medical issues, and emotional scars, but with time, attention, and love, they began to flourish.

Thanks to the generosity of our supporters, we were able to provide life-saving care for over 100 animals. For nearly three years, Hillside SPCA was responsible for the health and well-being of these animals, providing everything from extensive medical treatments to the simple comfort of a loving touch.

In December 2024, after an extensive legal process, the case was finally settled, and the animals were legally released to Hillside SPCA, ready to begin the next chapter of their lives. They were placed in loving, forever homes, where they could experience the joy of clean spaces, soft beds, new toys, and, most importantly, the love and care they deserve.

We are deeply grateful for the opportunity to witness their transformation—from suffering to security, from fear to trust. These animals have found hope, and it's all thanks to the support of our incredible network of rescuers, fosters, and donors. Thank you for helping us give these animals the chance to heal, thrive, and find their forever homes. We truly could not have done this without you. Together, we are making a difference—because it truly **takes a village**.



Donate online @ <https://www.hillsidespca.com/donate/>

Memorials, Remembrances & Honors

- Mary Ellen Metrick by: Mrs. T's Pierogies
- Leona A. Buber by: Bob & Judy Tarris, Joe & Evelyn Tarris, Tom & Sally Fuller, Michael & Beverly Piscitelli, Paul & JoAnna Buber, Michael & Tracey Fereyo, Terry Davidson & Frank Bierman, Mr. & Mrs. Leonard Tarris, Mr. & Mrs. Martin Smith, Schuylkill Community Action, Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Cuchara, Al Sleeve, Marie Moyer, William Schuettler, Rosalie & Joseph Tarris, Dorothy Feryo, Linda Deatrich
- Irene A. Carduff by: Steven Everett
- Thomas J. Heller by: Adele Magee, Angela Heller, Todd & Jane Evans, Daniel & Brandy Heller, Arlene Walker, Taylor & Dez Hammond, Nicole Heller, Cherise Heller, Olivia Evans & Sugio Canale, Max Magee, Jack Magee
- William J. Magee Jr. by: Adele Magee, Angela Heller, Todd & Jane Evans, Daniel & Brandy Heller, Arlene Walker, Taylor & Dez Hammond, Nicole Heller, Cherise Heller, Olivia Evans & Sugio Canale, Max Magee, Jack Magee
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- Dr. Richard P. Bindie by: Barbara Bindie
- Mary Ellen Zambo by: Teresa Miller
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- Janet Dewald by: Carol Dewald
- Sandra J. Ciccozzi by: John & Nancy Ward
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- Paul & Margaret Matrishion by: Renee Pisani Matrishion & Randy Pisani
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- S.J. Cambria by: R. Cambria
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- Cade Kindred by: Amy Yeager
- Michael J. Dower, Sr. by: Anita & Marty Dwyer
- Michelle Kunkle by: Pat Kunkle
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- Pat Lord by: Beverly Dietrich
- Donald C. Ermert by: Tammy Jo Scheib, Lauren Gibas
- Mary Lou Allar by: Corrine Nawrocki, Ken & Barbara Wolfe, William Ochs, Georgia, Rich & Lori Pastuszek, Carl Felty
- Richard & Dorothy Purcell by: Monica Bonitaibus
- Dan Choplick by: Sherrie Schafer & Josh Cochran, Paula & Tom Murphy, Jean Heffner, Terry Martin, Mary Lou Bainbridge, Richard & Linda Geiger, Robert & Claudia Kelly, Elaine Rife, The Dormer Family & Doggies, Ron Brown, Sandy & Mike Josephson, Lorraine & Pat Smith, Karen Schultz, John & Monique Anne Derfler, Tricia Moyer Mentzer, Rosa, Gina, Flo, Murphy & Jonesy, MaryBeth, Maureen & Barbara Graf, Nadine Avenoso, Kim & Mike Elchisak
- Darlene Zeller by: Karen Schultz, Vickie Cesarz



Weebles' Rescue Story

from shaky to snuggly

Say hello to Weebles! Although he is quite the celebrity here at Hillside now, he had a frightening story to begin with. Weebles came in with a group of 127 other animals on a fateful April day in 2022 during a cruelty investigation.

Weebles has a condition called 'Cerebellar Hypoplasia'. If a pregnant cat contracts the panleukopenia virus, her kittens have the potential to develop this condition. It prevents the cerebellum from fully developing. Commonly referred to as "wobbly kitten syndrome" it causes a lack of fine motor skills and causes the cats to appear wobbly and uncoordinated. The severity of this condition can vary from mild to severe. Weebles condition falls into the severe category which means he has a fair number of falls, head

tremors, and he needs a low litterbox for easier access. This is why we are looking for a very special home for him. He has no special dietary restrictions and is very sweet and affectionate.

While each of Weeble's tumbles may break off a little piece of your heart, his sheer determination and resiliency is pure magic. From coming out of a situation where his care was neglected, to becoming a golden boy here at Hillside- he is a great inspiration for anyone to be lucky enough to know him!



Annora



Totoro



Pepe



Groundhog

Christmas Honors

The DeFeo Family by: Marie & Bella Joy Vovakes

Janet Hillman by: Marie & Bella Joy Vovakes

Porcupine Pat by: Martha Hetherington

Mr. & Mrs. Frank Mieso by: Marie & Bella Joy Vovakes

Janet & Joe Pielacha by: Terry & Paul Laubenstein

Janet Pielacha by: Theresa Laubenstein, Joe Pielacha

Annie Mastago by: Carol Field



Whooper

- Olga McSurdy by: John & Mary Jane Hammer, Eileen Gagliardi, Kim & TJ Bassler, Pat Beadle, Kathleen Bitter Janine Reppert & Robert Eplinger
- Jean Barnes by: Debra Barnes, Randi, Sherri Cox & Family
- Bob Schaeffer by: Ruthann Schaeffer
- Jon Fisher by: Anne Fisher
- Amy L. Harig by: Carol & John Homovich, Friends & Family
- Agness Leffler by: Gladys & Joe Matz
- Jed Dubuc by: Vaal & Janet Kester
- Daniel Pachkoski by: Gail Pachkoski
- Katherine A. Bonner by: Nadine Avenoso
- John Eckert by: Sue Murphy
- William Colombaris by: Marie & Bella Joy Vovakes
- Linda Hayese by: Kathleen Louis
- Aunt Leona by: Tiffany Kulpowicz
- Michael & Mary Rozansky by: Ronald & Barbara Rozansky
- Frank Srodinsky by: Ronald Srodinsky
- Thomas & Marion Gilbert by: Scott Gilbert
- Hedda Schupak-Baum by: James Baum
- Judy Joy & Dell Joy by: Glenn Edgecomb
- Grace Ferguson by: James & Doris Ferguson
- Eugene Curran by: Alison Walden, Cindy & Bill Taylor, Sean & Deb Reilly, Natalie Critchley & Deborah Marcum, Judy & Henry Davis, Don & Susan Seiberling
- Kathleen O'Neill by: Regina Tunnard
- Jeffrey Alan Kaiser by: The Poker Crew
- Thomas Burns by: Amanda Zeigler, Arvin Welle
- Brian Thomas, As Per His Last Wishes
- Mary Ellen Lewis by: Mary Mesch & Joe Varese, Paul & Amy Schmerfeld, Robert, Anne Mae & Bob Bashago, Clare & Ed Darker, Tom & Annie Davidock, Mary Koch, Dr. James Langdon, James Reise, Kelly Kirkpatrick, Karen Belfiore, Kathy Pedriani
- Patrick & Mary Antonio by: Edward & Evelyn Mueller
- Theresa Andruscavage by: Paul & Mary Noon, Kenneth Clifford, Leo Davendish, Cynthia Kline, John & Tina Krupilis, Margaret Mary Brown, James & Maureen
- Ann Brinsko by: Cheryl & Jack Killian
- Dave Harper by: Anita & Marty Dwyer
- Dr. Robert D. Hall, Jr. by: Tim & Patti Hanrahan
- John W. Latsko by: Joan Smagacz
- Audrey Artz by: Beverly Hutzel
- Judy Botek by: Evelyn Weber
- Gail Vesay by: Sharon Miller, Stephen & Janis Kurtek III, Patricia Zaharis
- Linda Schock by: Leonard & Georgine Benek
- Helen Wagner by: Tim & Kathie Rush, Macris, Hendricks & Glascock, P.A.
- John Stuart Richards by: Suzy Jones, Gloria Donatti, Pioneer Tunnel Board of Directors & Staff, Eydie & Tom Reed, Steve & Robin Zimmerman, VFW Post 2198, Joyce Buehler Welch & Stylists @ Hair On The Square, Danielle Richards
- Judy Reed by: Vicki Reed
- Robert B. McCall by: Colleen Garrity
- Samuel Aungst by: Michael Messerschmidt, Jim, Naomi & Lee Richenderfer, James Richenderfer, John Balas, Charles & Janet Smulligan, A Friend, Ella Aungst
- William "Bill" Rose by: Robert & Sharon Lipko, Stiney & Rita Krueel, Rose Kuehn, James Kimmel, R & J Transportation, Susan Mistysyn, Darlene M. Henry, Terry & JoAnne Doyle
- Joan Saunders by: Mary Anne McCaffrey
- Barbara Umlauf by: Mary Lou Pillus, Kathleen Drobnick, Shirley Willinsky
- Caroline Parnell by: Diane Willow
- Jack Hummel by: William Strouse
- Leonard Yenilaitis by: Mr. & Mrs. Walter Dunkling
- Deborah Moyer by: Fern Moyer
- Ryan Oravec by: Diane & Jerry Briggs, The Featro Family
- St. Francis by: Parishioners of St. Ambrose
- Evelyn Tropp by: Robert & Mary Webb, Scott Webb, Colleen Lucas
- Sarah Beltz by: Kathy Bosak
- Ralph Falls, Sr. by: Liscusky Family, The Baldingers, Madeline Welsh, John & Tina Smolock
- Butch Furer by: Jodi & Jeff Sweet, Ralf, Diane & Beezer Bzura
- Atty. Lloyd Hampton by: Atty. James J. Dopkin
- Howard Smith, Jr. by: Kim Fogarty-Dreisbach
- Sue Prohibition by: Sugrue & Kloczek Families
- Mary Ann Siket by: Schuykill Haven Area H.S. Faculty

"In Memory" and "In Honor" **Contributions** may be sent to "Memorial Honors" Hillside, SPCA, P.O. Box 233, Pottsville, PA 17901. Those wishing to remember the Hillside SPCA in your will or estate planning, it is important to use our full corporate title "Hillside Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Incorporated." Thank you.

BUNNIES... BUNNIES... BUNNIES....

Looking for a furry friend to brighten your days? Consider hopping over to the Hillside SPCA and welcoming a rabbit into your life! These adorable, often overlooked creatures make wonderful companions, bringing joy and personality to any home.

The Hillside SPCA is brimming with adoptable bunnies just waiting for their forever homes. From fluffy Lionheads to sleek Dutch, and everything in between, you're sure to find a bunny who steals your heart. Go ahead...fall head over heels for those twitching noses and floppy ears.

Ready to hop in? If you're ready to add a bouncy, adorable bunny to your life, visit the Hillside SPCA today! Meet the available bunnies, talk to the staff, and find the perfect furry companion to bring home. You'll be giving a deserving animal a second chance and adding endless joy to your life in return.

Contact us today to learn more about the adoption process and meet your new best bunny friend!

Capital Campaign

The Hillside SPCA is on the cusp of Phase 2, which is a significant milestone that brings us closer to providing even better care for animals in need. While we've made tremendous progress, we're reaching out to our generous community one last time to help us fully realize our vision. Specifically, we still need funding to complete vital upgrades to our facilities, including the Cat Room, Cat Intake Room, and the Small Dog Building. These spaces are crucial for ensuring the comfort, health, and well-being of the animals as they wait for their forever homes. Your contribution, no matter the size, will help us make these critical facilities a reality, providing a safe and welcoming environment for our feline and canine friends.



Jamie Barton by: Bill & Elaine Miller
 Marie Vovakes & Bella by: Suzanne & Frank Mieso
 Jean Conway by: Bea Petri
 James Baum by: Deborah Long
 Gail Pachkoski by: Heather Pachkoski
 Sassy by: Bill Mack
 Willa by: Judith Walton
 Paulie, Regina, Mario & Marco by: Renee Pisani
 Matrishion & Randy Pisani
 Angel & Baron by: Carissa, Seth, Angel & Baron Hench
 Mark & Mary Cambria, Ann, Tim & Garrett Knoebel, Gen & Dave Donkuchik, Jarad Cambria by: R. Cambria
 Beezer Bzura by: Ralf & Diane Bzura
 Ralphie & Flick by: Laurie Rhodes
 Happy Valentine's Day to Janet Pielacha by: Joe Pielacha

ADOPT TODAY!

www.hillsidespca.com



Pet Memorials

- Kramer by: Diane & Jerry Briggs
- Berger by: Lisa & Mark Phillipeck
- Gretel, Boots, Koda & Taz by: Elaine Hackenburg
- Baby by: The Kergick Family
- Hank by: Ralph Beam
- Flaime by: Renee & Matt Popalis
- Nuffy Bruno Dot & Linda Jaskierski
- Fluffy Dormer by: The Dormer Family & Doggies
- Bruno by: Sandy & Bill Tunnessen
- Katie by: The Hopkins Family
- Chase by: Erin Tranquillo
- Palmer by: Amanda Staller
- Lilac by: Lana, Kris & Suge Bucher
- Abby by: Peggy Chillis
- Patsy Rowan by: Mary Smith
- Bella by: Allen Frantz
- Sqweekers, Misi, Nugget, Petey & Nugget & Spooky by: Theresa & Walt Quade
- Boomer by: Ralph & Kristy Beam
- Zoey & Gracie Alexander by: Nanny Matz
- Catherine the Saint Bernard by: David Herb
- Indy by: Jack & Kathy Dalton
- Tuffy by: Kelly Zwiebel
- Rocket by: Penny (Lillian), Ron Engle, Ryan & Kristin
- Lager & Shelby by: Ruthann Schaeffer
- Candy by: Pam Weeks
- Emie, Benji, Shadow, Coco, Maddie, Stella, Tabby & Midnite by: Tricia Palubinsky
- Mia by: Jean Sharkey
- Topsey by: Diane Taylor
- Holtzie by: John, Caroline & Katie Tucci
- Jake by: Jennifer Cordes
- Honey, & All The Hillside Dogs Before Her by: Lawrence Barth
- Toby by: Eileen Lewis
- Fuzzy by: Vicki Reed
- Chester, Rustle, Sheba & Friskie by: Dale & Kaye Schwenk & Family
- Gino, Samantha, Cleo, Chloe, Brandi, Rocco, Maria, Ava, Angelo, Tippy & Jingles by: Renee Pasani
- Matrillion & Randy Pisani
- Snowball by: The Engle Family
- Gus, Hogan, Brodie & Sam by: The Shueys
- Buddy by: Mike Holowaty
- Orson Wells by: John & Janice Reid
- Jaeda, Jorda & Copper by: Rosalie Klosko
- Travis by: Carissa, Seth, Angel & Baron
- Gretel, Boots, Koda & Taz by: Elaine Hackenberg
- Annie & Dixie by: Lois & Kevin Kehoe
- Teddy, Tassie, Baxter, Waldo & Venus by: Sandra Gilbert
- Lucky Bobbin by: Walter Coyle
- Bo by: Celie & Bob Belas
- Harley by: Anita & Marty Dwyer
- Buddy the Beagle by: The Weber Family
- Tigs by: Wendy & Trey
- Cookie, Tess, Tiger, Lucy & Cindy by: Maryann Sworen
- Jessie, Trevor & BB by: Patti Yoder



Shirley Frey by: Susan Merwine
 Zellie Jedlovec's 6th by: Diane Briggs
 Theresa Laubenstein by: Janet & Joe Pielacha

Don't Overlook the Timid Souls

In the bustling world of animal shelters and rescues, it's easy to be drawn to the playful puppies and outgoing personalities. But hidden amongst them are often the more timid souls, the dogs who need a little extra time and patience to blossom. Three such dogs, Josie, Zero, and Rocket, are still searching for their patient, understanding forever homes, almost three years after being rescued from a hoarding situation.

These deserving dogs, all believed to be lab mixes, have made incredible progress in their journey towards healing. However, the scars of their past still linger, leaving them shy and needing a special kind of owner. While they may not bound up to greet you with wagging tails, beneath their reserved exteriors lie hearts yearning for love and security.

Josie, Zero, and Rocket are seeking special adopters who understand that earning their trust takes dedication and patience. These sensitive dogs need stable, predictable homes where they can gradually blossom and feel secure. Picture the heartwarming moment a fearful pup allows a tentative touch, or the first brave steps they take into a wider world. The rewards of welcoming a shy dog into your life are these subtle victories, the quiet joys that bloom from unwavering commitment.

Think about the kind of home that would best suit these sensitive souls. A busy household with young children might be overwhelming. Instead, they would thrive in a quiet home, perhaps with a single person or a couple, who are experienced with shy or anxious dogs. The key is to create a space where they can decompress, learn at their own pace, and eventually feel comfortable enough to let their personalities shine through.



ZERO



JOSIE



ROCKET

Adopting a timid dog isn't always easy, but the rewards are immeasurable. You'll be giving a deserving animal a second chance at life, and you'll experience the unique bond that forms when you earn the trust of a once-fearful creature. You'll witness their transformation firsthand, from a shy, withdrawn dog to a loving and loyal companion. If you have the patience, understanding, and love to offer a dog like Josie, Zero, or Rocket, consider opening your heart and home to one of these overlooked gems. They may not be the flashiest or most outgoing dogs in the shelter, but they are undoubtedly deserving of a happy and fulfilling life. They are waiting for someone to see their potential, to understand their needs, and to provide them with the safe and loving forever home they've been longing for. Perhaps you are the one they've been waiting for. Don't overlook the timid souls; they deserve a chance to shine.

SWAG

Shop online now on our website:
<https://www.hillsidepca.com/store/>



Long Sleeve \$28.00



Hat \$12.00



Hoodies \$40.00



Furn



P.O. Box 233
Pottsville, PA 17901



EVERY DOLLAR MAKES A DIFFERENCE

We are funded almost entirely through donations. Every single dollar donated is spent for the benefit of animals in our area. **YOUR** generosity is what keeps our doors open allowing us to treat, shelter, feed, and love the many who come to us in desperate need of a second chance.

They need you.

Please show them you care TODAY!

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.



Support & Donations

Enclosed is my gift in the amount of \$_____.

- ☐ Joe & Caroline Fund
- ☐ General Operations
- ☐ Capital Campaign

Mail to
Hillside SPCA Inc.
P.O. Box 233, Pottsville, PA 17901