

Happy Tales Quarterly

May 2023

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Quit Clownin' Around What's in that crate? What do you mean "eighteen cats"?!

On a chilly evening in early March, the shelter team was finishing locking up for the day. Walking to the front door, one staff member, Malena Evans, saw the top of a carrier crate peeking over the edge of the curb. She went out to investigate and saw that the handle had broken off. As she tried to pick it up, she realized just how heavy the crate was and called for another team member's help.

Both looked up when they heard tires squealing. "There was a car at the stop sign near the exit of the parking lot, but neither of us could chase a car actively trying to peel away", recounts Malena.

Together, Malena and colleague, Bethany Reed, barely managed to lift the crate over the curb and into the shelter.

"Honestly, I first thought it was maybe five or six cats. The entire time they were completely silent, they didn't make a peep." Once the carrier was inside, "then we saw all the eyes and all the different colors of fur", says Malena. In Bethany's words, "Holy cow, there's A LOT of cats in there". The Lycoming County SPCA's Animal Care Lead, Kelli Smith, said, "we guessed there were, maybe, ten. That was our highest guess".

All three scrambled to move already sheltered cats in an effort to create space, then clean and reset the isolation room for the new intakes. "We knew we needed to hurry because the one on the bottom was panting", they were having breathing problems from being so squished, says Kelli.



The Clown Car Crate Cats

The team hefted the crate into a laundry cart and rolled it back because it was simply too heavy to carry to the isolation room.

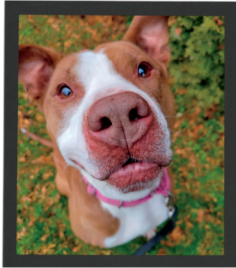
The cat eventually named "Bee" was on the bottom. "I pulled her out immediately because she was really struggling", says Bethany.

Behind Bee followed Scamper, Cadbury, Bloom, Flower, Wells, Reed, Birdie, Peep, Bunny, Petal, Sprout, Hop, Lemon, Petunia, Chick, Carrot, and little Tadpole. Eighteen cats in total, shoved into one crate.

Volunteer Spotlight – Renaissance Woman

DOG TRAINING CLASSES

For Lycoming SPCA Adopters



Per month **\$75**

Class fees benefit the



Mondays

9:30 am - 10:30 am

-OR-

Tuesdays

6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

The Lycoming County SPCA
2805 Reach Rd., Williamsport, PA

What to expect?

- ✓ The Treat Me Nicely training program will not involve dog sports, but will work with good manners in the home and community. It uses games to shape the dog's brain to come up with good answers, solutions humans like, so that you can have the dog you always dreamed of having.
- ✓ Students receive unlimited phone access to pro trainer, Donna Elkin, for questions and advice.

Donna Elkin, Pro Dog Trainer



Treat Me Nicely, LLC

Space is limited!
To enroll, please email
trainer@lycomingspca.org

Register

How to Volunteer:

Complete and submit a volunteer application to get started!



www.lycomingspca.org/volunteer

Donna Elkin has been a Lycoming County SPCA volunteer for as long as many of us can remember. She has helped the animals at the shelter and its residents in a plethora different ways!

Donna has served on the Sweet Temptations Committee for several years. She helps collect items for the silent auction, has served the sweet desserts, and even made dog treats to hand out as gifts to the event participants.

Donna is always willing to lend a hand for whatever needs done around the shelter, be it with the animals directly or for things to help meet their needs.

The most recent venture for Donna at the shelter is leading dog training classes, offered for recent adoptees from the SPCA (and, in the near future, anyone looking for a new and fun way to train your dog).

The Lycoming County SPCA would not function without its wonderful volunteers. They donate their time in so many different ways: fostering kittens and dogs, walking or socializing the animals at the shelter, office work, and at off-site events or fundraisers. If you are interested in volunteering with the Lycoming County SPCA, you can find more information and fill out an application at Lycomingspca.org.

Meet the Staff – Heather Pellacore, Adoption Counselor



How long have you worked at the Lycoming County SPCA?
3 years

Why do you work here?
I started working here because I love animals. If that was my only reason, I wouldn't have made it past a few days. We see hard stuff every day, but being part of a team of strong, caring colleagues-- that love and support is a big part of why I still work here.

What is the most challenging part of your job?
Accepting that we can do everything within our power and still cant help every animal

What is the most rewarding part of your job?
Seeing an animal that arrived scared gaining confidence and showing their true personality

What is your favorite food?
Pizza

What animal would you be and why?
A penguin, because no one judges them for their waddle

What is your pet peeve?
Being interrupted

What is your dream pet?
If they weren't illegal in PA, a sugar-glider.

Quit Clownin' Around - 18 cats continued



Bee

Bloom

Bunny

Cadbury

Carrot

Flower



Chick

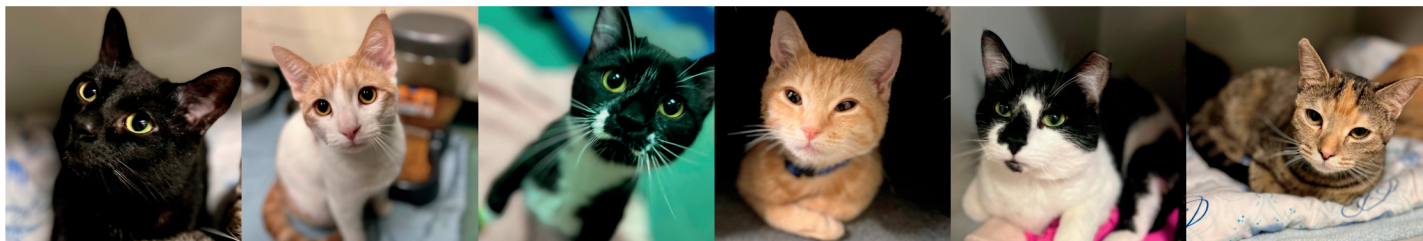
Hop

Lemon

Peep

Petal

Petunia



Reed

Sprout

Scamper

Tadpole

Wells

Birdie

"We brought them in the room, opened the crate, and started counting. We were floored!", recounts Kelli.

Once they were free to roam, another need became apparent. They were all incredibly hungry. "They all ran straight to the food and water", recalls Bethany. Fortunately, other than ear mite infestations, fleas, and upper respiratory infections, none of the cats were in need of emergency medical care.

It was clear from the number and condition that these animals were from one of an overwhelming number of cat hoarding situations in Lycoming County.

Animal hoarding is a complex issue that involves human mental health, animal welfare, and public safety.

The definition is looking after a number of animals for which the individual is unable to provide the minimal standards of care in terms of nutrition, sanitation, shelter, and veterinary care. The result is typically overbreeding, unresolved illness, starvation, and, in some cases, death of animals. It quickly spirals out of control.

In many cases, the individuals believe they are helping the animals and are in denial of their inability to provide adequate care.

There is also the increased risk factor of human isolation and loneliness, often compounded with mental health issues, that can lead to hoarding of animals. The person's need to accumulate animals and play the role of caregiver becomes more important than the animals' actual needs.

Beyond the animals suffering, hoarding also becomes a community health risk as unvaccinated cats, as well as cat fecal matter, are potential disease vectors.

Fortunately for these eighteen, they have found safe, healthy, and loving homes with significantly fewer roommates.

Thank You to Supporting Businesses & Organizations:

Loyalsock Township Supervisors
Hughesville Borough
Newberry Lions Club
Loyalsock Township School
District Wolf Run Veterinary Clinic

PMF Industries, Inc.
SZ Realty
Eck's Garage
John Savoy and Son, Inc
Geisinger Health System

BLaST Intermediate Unit 17
Sanders Mortuary
Cogan House Township
Travelers Protecve Associaon of America
RoseBird Veterinary Center
Lewisburg Veterinary Hospital

Where's my family?



Henry

These pets are still looking for a home of their own.



Jett



Shilo



Bolt



Corn

Having your pet microchipped ensures that, if they wander, we can help them find their way back home!

The Lycoming County SPCA offers microchipping services for \$25.

May is Microchip Your Pet Month!

Upcoming Events—Fun for Pets and People

PAWTRAITS Calendar Contest

Top 12 Winners Receive

- 1 A professional photo shoot
- 2 Your pet featured with their own month in the 2024 calendar
- 3 A free copy of the calendar & bragging rights



It's that time of year again- we are opening up the Pawtraits Calendar Contest!

Do you have a beautiful pet? Are they model-esque? Do you think seeing their face every day for a month would brighten peoples' lives?

Beginning May 15th, you will be able to submit a photo of your pet to our calendar contest and ask your friends and family to support by donating to vote. The top winner will even snag the cover spot!

Any domestic pet is invited to participate. Multiple pets are allowed in one photo (so no arguments among your fur kids), but no people may appear in the photos.

Mailed monetary votes must be received by Friday, August 4th to be counted in the final tally. Winners will be announced on Monday, August 7th.

For more information visit our website's events page or email lycospca@lycomingspca.org.

Summer Safari Camp July 8th - August 9th

Summer is fast-approaching and with it comes Safari Camp! The Lycoming SPCA's Safari Camp is a week-long program for children ages 6.5 - 14 to learn about the humane care of domestic animals as well as the role of a non-profit in the community. Weeks are typically divided by age groups to help ensure age-appropriate activities.

While activities do focus on animals, we do not just *play* with animals all day.

Camp sessions are designed to encourage respect for all living things while incorporating reading, writing, science, math, and art skills. There will be hands on activities with animals, crafts, speakers, discussions, and outdoor activities.

For more information, stop by the shelter, call 570-322-4646, or email lycospca@lycomingspca.org

Volunteer Orientations

Wed, May 24

Wed, June 28

Wed, July 26

All volunteer orientations begin at 6:00 p.m. at the Lycoming County SPCA.

Fill out a volunteer application at lycomingspca.org/volunteer.



Paws Run Thank You!

Paws Run 5K, held in April 2023, was a fit and fun fundraiser for all. Thank you to the following sponsors who made it possible!



No Trouble at All - Old Boy, Trouble, Needs a Home



Trouble is incredibly loved. Despite having to surrender him due to failing health, his previous owner still visits the shelter periodically to check in on "T".

This eleven year old boy may not be able to see the smiles he causes, due to his blindness, but he can certainly hear the laughter.

T greets everyone with tail wagging. "He's very sweet, very trusting, and so intelligent," Trouble's caregivers say. "He loves when you whisper in his ear and when you give him belly rubs." He also loves to give hugs!

Trouble never had a dog sibling, so he isn't the best at sharing his toys and much prefers the company of humans to other animals. For this reason, he does need to be the only pet. Just because he's a silver fox, it doesn't mean he's lost his zest for life. He still loves going on walks, letting his ears and nose guide his path. Though, he will always veer immediately if he smells hot dogs!

While T is loved by all of the staff and volunteers, none of us (including his former owner) want him to be at the shelter. His golden years should be spent in a quiet home.

Update for Members & Supporters

Due to the rising cost of postage and printing and our continuous effort to maximize our funding for the care of our animals, effective February 28, 2023, we are making the following changes to our donation reply letters.

· Memorial and In Honor Of

Acknowledgements will be mailed on the last weekday of each month to the recipient families/individuals.

· Membership & General Donations

*will be mailed in a summary report with a compiled list of all donations received.

*For members with email addresses in our system, we will email thank you letters and acknowledgments as usual.

*If you want donation letters with each donation, send your email address to development@lycomingspca.org.



Save Lives - Become an SPCA Member

Member Levels & Perks

(\$45) Regular.....	Quarterly Newsletter
(\$100) Cat Kennel Sponsor.....	Quarterly Newsletter Name on Cat Kennel (1 yr)
(\$200) Dog Kennel Sponsor.....	Quarterly Newsletter Name on Dog Kennel (1 yr)
(\$500) Adoption Advocate.....	Quarterly Newsletter 10% off SPCA Store 1 Small Animal Sponsor
(\$1,500) Rescue Partner.....	Quarterly Newsletter 10% off SPCA Store 10% off Adoption 1 Cat Sponsor
(\$2,500) Faithful Friend.....	Quarterly Newsletter 15% off SPCA Store 15% off Adoption 1 Dog Sponsor
(\$5,000) Humane Hero.....	Quarterly Newsletter 15% off SPCA Store
Lifetime Membership*.....	Quarterly Newsletter (existing member for at least 7 years) Cat or Dog Kennel Sponsor (5yr)*
Memorial Membership.....	Memorial Brick

To continue to receive quarterly newsletters, consider becoming a member.

Philanthropy in Action - Thank You for Your Support



St John Neuman



Norman Mundric



Mrs McQuown's 2nd Grade Class



Mrs. Eiswerth's Class



Penn College



Violet Bea & other community supporters



Muncy Bank & Trust

Spring Wish List

Cats

- 🐾 Dry or wet cat food
- 🐾 Non-clumping cat litter

Kittens

- 🐾 Dry kitten food
- 🐾 Wet kitten food

Dogs

- 🐾 Nylabones
- 🐾 Kongs

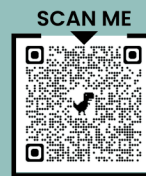
Small Animals

- 🐾 Rabbit food
- 🐾 Timothy hay
- 🐾 Guinea Pig Food

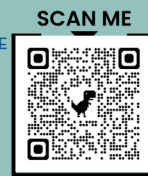
General Supplies

- 🐾 Laundry detergent
- 🐾 Dish soap

You can drop off items directly at the Lycoming County SPCA or have them shipped through our Chewy.com wish list.



FUNDRAISING RITE AID





2805 Reach Road
Williamsport, PA 17701-4178

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Williamsport, PA
Permit No. 66



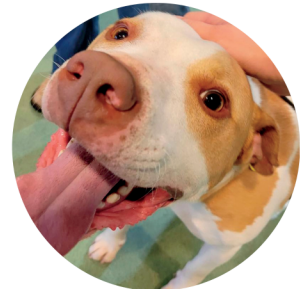
The Lycoming County SPCA
celebrates 131 years in operation
on June 13th!

Happy Tail Adoptions for Cooper and Eugene

We just love happy endings! Cooper, one of our longest residents, had called the Lycoming County SPCA home-between-homes for almost two years. The boisterous American Pit Bull, Terrier-mix, came to us as a young boy when his family realized they could not provide all the long-term care he needed. You see, Cooper struggles with allergies. If you or your pet have allergies, you know what a roller coaster ride it can be to diagnose and treat. The financial baggage is draining, too. Cooper's caretakers at the SPCA monitored him carefully, using medicated baths, creams, sprays, and medication. You name it, and Cooper has probably tried it.

Prevention and prompt treatment of his allergies gave Cooper great relief and new energy. And he already had quite a bit! Caretakers have gone through all the ups and downs that come with a maturing dog still learning his footing—especially when that dog has plenty of energy to burn. While at the SPCA, Cooper came into his own and was always so sweet, greeting everyone with a smile. While every adoption is a dream come true, Cooper's adoption was extra magical. His new mom saw him on the SPCA website and applied for him. The family's Pitbull had recently passed away, and they (especially their other dog) were all missing a doggie companion. Now, Cooper will be well taken care of forever!

Sweet, old man Eugene was found lying in the grass on a cold January day. When his dog sniffed Eugene, and he did not move, his finder knew something was wrong. He rushed him to the SPCA, where staff discovered Eugene was underweight, matted, front declawed, and blind. He had been lost outside in a very confusing world. After several weeks figuring out shelter life, he showed his cute personality. He loved his fluffy bed, only crawling out to give a head bump to someone who smelled familiar. His new family saw Eugene on Facebook and fell in love. "He looks like he really needs a loving home," they said. Even the two-hour drive to the shelter did not stand in their way. Now, Eugene is safe and cozy in their arms.



Sweet boy, **Cooper**, has found his forever home.



Eugene has the 'Happily Ever After' to his Cinderella story.