

HUMANE SOCIETY NEWS

Humane Society of Wyoming County, Inc.

Autumn/Winter, 2019

Rabies Clinics Protect Pets and People

For many years now, the Humane Society of Wyoming County has been sponsoring twice-yearly, low-cost rabies vaccination clinics for dogs and cats. This year alone, we vaccinated 349 companion animals (180 on May 4 and 169 on October 5). Rabies chairperson Carol Jenkins notes that rabies vaccinations are mandatory by state law for all dogs and cats 3 months of age or over within Pennsylvania. Our clinics provide a low-cost option for pet owners to fulfill this legal requirement, thereby protecting both the pet and human populations from this deadly disease. Thanks are extended to our many volunteers who give up their Saturdays twice a year to help at these events.

Dr. Colin Jeschke of the Abington Veterinary Center administers a rabies inoculation at our low-cost clinic held on Saturday, October 5. A total of 169 dogs and cats received their vaccination that day.



HSWC Updates

On June 11, several officers from the HSWC attended an informational symposium at the Radisson Hotel in Scranton, sponsored by the Scranton Area Foundation. The event presented possible sources of funding for organizations assisting with animal welfare within Northeastern Pennsylvania. Since that time, we have applied for two grants to assist with the spaying and neutering of cats, and are anxiously waiting to hear if we were successful.

During September, our Humane Society Police Officer's payroll records were audited by the Pennsylvania State Workman's Insurance Fund. This audit determines if all payroll records are in order. There were no problems found during that audit.

Most years, our annual expenses exceed our income. How do we keep operating? We are able to continue thanks to several gifts and bequests we received in the past. If not for those, we could not continue all our services. Please consider a bequest to **"The Humane Society of Wyoming County, Inc."** when documenting your final wishes.

Although we did not have a booth at the Wyoming County Community Fair this year, our Humane Officer, Darrell Sands, volunteered his time at the event to meet with county residents and answer questions.

“So what **DO** you do?”

We often hear, “You don’t have a shelter yet, so what do you do?” Plenty, it turns out.

—Cruelty, neglect, and abuse investigations by a state-certified Humane Society Police Officer.

—Spay/neuter assistance for struggling pet owners.

—Emergency care for injured pets when an owner cannot be located.

—Pet food donations to several local food pantries.

—Low-cost rabies vaccination clinics (see page 1).

—Fostering services when local shelters are full.

—Maintain phone service (messages accepted 24/7), to assist pet owners (and others) with questions on a myriad of topics.

—Fund raising events to keep us going (we receive no direct tax dollars, nor United Fund monies).

—Education on humane pet care topics.

—Lending of humane traps (free of charge).

—Maintenance of informational Facebook and web pages.

PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE!!

Please be certain that all your own cats, as well as neighborhood stray and feral cats, are spayed or neutered, and up-to-date on rabies vaccines. Local shelters are filled to capacity with unwanted, stray, and homeless cats. We all must do everything we can to reduce that number by spaying and neutering. Lower-cost spay/neuter options are available.

Annual Membership Meeting Notification

The annual membership meeting of the Humane Society of Wyoming County is scheduled for **Wednesday, October 30**, at 7:00 p.m. at the Department of Agriculture Building, Route 92, Tunkhannock. Members holding individual or family memberships, and who have paid their current dues by the May 31, 2019, deadline, are entitled to vote on each matter submitted to a vote of the members, including election of officers and Board of Directors, as outlined in our by-laws. Members must vote in person, and no proxy voting will be allowed during election of officers or Board.

Cruelty Cases in Wyoming County

Our Humane Society Police Officer continues to address an abundance of animal cruelty, neglect, abandonment, and abuse in our county. The mistreatment comes from all municipalities, and for all kinds of creatures. Just a few of the calls Officer Sands has responded to since May 1, 2019:

- ◆ Neglected donkeys
- ◆ Abandoned dog—Forkston Township
- ◆ Abused dogs—Laceyville
- ◆ Mistreatment of domestic duck
- ◆ Large scale animal seizure (other animal welfare organizations involved as well)—Nicholson
- ◆ Cat in critical condition on Route 11
- ◆ Dog with amputated foot—Washington Township
- ◆ Mistreated German Shepherds—Lake Winola
- ◆ Cat injured and covered in maggots—Nicholson
- ◆ Goat with no shelter or water

Suffering animals suffer in silence until we humans take action on their behalf. The costs associated with training, outfitting, and insuring our humane officer are substantial, but we feel it is an imperative expense. Donations toward this endeavor are most greatly appreciated. If you witness animal abuse, please call us at 570-836-4745. **All calls are confidential.**

Libre’s Law in Effect:

Governor Tom Wolf signed “Libre’s Law” into effect in 2017. The law increases penalties for animal abuse, increases protection for horses, and prohibits dogs from being tethered outside for more than 9 hours in any 24 hour period (or for more than 30 minutes when temperatures are above 90 or below 32 degrees). It also provides civil immunity to veterinarians, vet techs, and humane society police officers who report suspected cases of animal abuse or neglect.

Memorial / Honorary Donations Acknowledged

The Humane Society of Wyoming County gratefully acknowledges the following memorial and honorary contributions received:

- ◆ In memory of Gladys the best watchdog ever, from Pat Imbriani.
- ◆ In memory of Meadow and Skubbie, beloved cats owned by Jeanne Finch, by Gail & Bill Sickles.
- ◆ In memory of Mary Ratigan, from the following: Fred & Kathy Postelle; Matthew & Marion Munley Cartwright; and Henry & Kathleen Rodriguez, Tom, Margaret, and their families.
- ◆ In memory of Samson (the dog) and Stubby (the cat), beloved pets of Angie Colarusso & Shane Kleiner, from Janet & Bill Shaw.
- ◆ In memory of Vel, the hen who had some physical challenges, from Catherine Noreika.
- ◆ In memory of James Schappert of Lake Winola, husband of Judy Schappert, from Janet & Bill Shaw.
- ◆ In honor of the 25th ordination of Reverend Jeffrey Walsh, from Janet & Bill Shaw.
- ◆ In memory of Brandon Burleson, from Barbara Reel & Karl Besteder.
- ◆ In memory of a kitten brought in for care by our humane officer, a donation was made to Kansas State University by the Bunker Hill Veterinary Hospital
- ◆ In memory of Cooper, Nigel, and Vel, beloved pets of Gail & Bill Sickles, by Janet & Bill Shaw.
- ◆ In memory of the departed felines of Ed & Kristie Prall ("Morty"), Rose Starry ("Fraidy Cat"), Steve & Cheryl Anderson ("Leo"), Tony & Judy Flak ("Stretch"), and Jeanne Finch ("Meadow"), by Janet & Bill Shaw.
- ◆ In honor of the 60th wedding anniversary of Larry & Mary Ann Dymond, and in honor of the 50th wedding anniversary of Alice & Tom Edwards, by Janet & Bill Shaw.

YES! I WOULD LIKE TO HELP THE HUMANE SOCIETY

(Please clip and mail this coupon if you can help us.)

The Humane Society of Wyoming County, Inc., is recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization. Donors may deduct contributions as provided in Section 170 of the Internal Revenue Code. Your contribution will help us continue our work in Wyoming County. **All work is performed by volunteers (except for our Humane Society Police Officer).**

Enclosed is my contribution of \$ _____.

I would like my contribution to be used for: (check one)

- _____ General society expenses
- _____ Low-Cost Spay and Neuter Program
- _____ Funding for Humane Investigations by our Humane Officer



Please mail your contribution to:
 The Humane Society of Wyoming County, Inc.
 P.O. Box 478
 Tunkhannock, PA 18657-0478

My Name & Address:

We strive to insure that your donations are carefully spent and properly accounted for.

Founder's Day

The Humane Society of Wyoming county participated in the Tunkhannock Founder's Day celebration on June 22. Thanks to everyone who stopped by to say hello and supported our booth, and congratulations to those who won some great prizes at our raffle!

Special Thanks to . . .

- ◆ Forkston Township Supervisors, for their donation.
- ◆ Back Mountain Kennel Club, for their generous contribution.
- ◆ The businesses who allow us to place our collection canisters at their locations.
- ◆ Penn East Federal Credit Union, for donating their Founder's Day proceeds to us.
- ◆ Michelle Carpenter, for donating labels for pet food donations to food pantries.
- ◆ The Wyoming County commissioners, for their donation.
- ◆ Shur Save Supermarkets, for their contribution from the Community Rewards Program.
- ◆ Our Board of Directors and officers, who serve on a voluntary basis.
- ◆ Williams Pipeline employee donation.

SPEAK UP

FOR THOSE THAT CANNOT!



HUMANE SOCIETY NEWS

**The Humane Society of
Wyoming County, Inc.**
P.O. Box 478
Tunkhannock, PA 18657-0478
Web page: www.hswcPA.org
Telephone: (570) 836-4745

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