

# PEKIN **Daily Times**

## **TAPS plans**

to break ground for new shelter

By [Sharon Woods Harris](#)

Times staff writer

PEKIN - The Tazewell County Animal Protective Society's "Gimme Shelter" capital campaign is giving way to a new no-kill shelter and adoption center to house Tazewell County's homeless dogs and cats.

TAPS officials are pleased with the generosity of those who contributed to the project.

"Oh my goodness - it has been wonderful," said Sue Kyle, capital campaign chairwoman. "It seems like a long time, but it has only been about six months since we launched the campaign.

"Our community and the surrounding communities have generously reached into their pockets to help build this new facility. The board, the building committee, the volunteers - everyone is thrilled that these animals will have a new place to live until they are adopted. And some who can't be adopted out can live the rest of their lives here."

The groundbreaking takes place at 2 p.m. Sunday on TAPS Lane behind Tazewell Machine Works, 2015 S. Second Street.

The public is invited and encouraged to attend. Pet owners who have adopted from TAPS may bring their leashed animals to the event.

The shelter will consist of two buildings put together, said Henry Cakora, TAPS board president. "Originally we looked at a 7,200 square foot building, but we were hurting a little for money.

"We also wanted to streamline the project and cut down on the number of rooms. We are hoping to be in the new shelter by Sept. 1."

The first building will be 2,500 square feet and the second building 3,375. The new cost estimates are \$400,000. The organization has raised \$344,600.

TAPS is still seeking donations for the project.

On any given day the animal population at the shelter ranges from 140 to 160, especially during breeding season. TAPS saves 1,500 to 2,000 cats and dogs a year.

Donations can be sent to Herget Bank in care of Delores Eagleson, 33 S. Fourth St., Pekin, IL 61554.

For more information, contact Sue Kyle at 347-8600.