



100 TAPS Lane Pekin, IL 61554 Phone 353-8277 Fax 353-0072

To View our Website, click on <http://tapsshelter.org>

April/May 2009

E-Greetings Newsletter



T.A.P.S.

Adoptions:

Cats: April 40 May 23

Dogs: April 49 May 56

Adoptions & Related Commentary...

We had a nice adoption months in March and April and I am hoping that some of our loving senior pets will find a forever home in the very near future. You can check out our website for details on each of these animals. These are all friendly pets that, for one reason or another, have come to TAPS. Speaking from my own experience... senior pets are very loving, docile, already housebroken / litter box trained and tend to be very content to enjoy the good things in life – a warm pet bed to sleep on (or your bed), lots of petting and affection. They often prefer a quiet home with other well adjusted pets and make an easy addition to an existing pet household – please consider giving one of them a chance.

For dogs, I would like to call your attention to the following senior dogs; Jerusalem (a male Miniature Pincher), Daisee (a female Dalmatian), Lady (a female chow), Blue (a male Newfoundland) and Reuben(a male beagle).

For a wonderful senior cat... please check out the following; Chrissy (Fe-Gray/White), Taz (Fe-Calico), Grayboy (Male-Gray/White), Buzz (Male-Black), Tisha (Fe-Calico), Lucky (Fe-Torbie), Stewie (Male-Gray/White), Momma & Marco (Females-Dilute Torti & Tabby), Patches (Male-Black/White),or Jamall (Male-Black).

SHELTER NEWS...

In April we had a dining for TAPS event at Applebee's where everyone enjoyed a wonderful breakfast. Later in the month, Sunset Lanes hosted our first Bowl-a-thon and it while this was a nice event, we will be changing the date for future events to the late fall/winter --- keep an eye on our calendar as it approaches November. Speaking of TAPS events and fundraisers... our annual Wine & Dine was held on May 3rd and approximately \$30,000 was raised for TAPS!

If you are not able to come to TAPS to adopt a pet, please consider stopping by during an off-site event. Each month we take animals to the following locations; Petsmart in Peoria and East Peoria and to the Petco in Peoria. In May we will be going to WalMart in several communities and we are adding some grocery stores this year... please check our website and calendar of events details on the dates and times. As always, volunteers are needed for bringing pets to the off-sites and we are looking to form off-site teams now – please contact our volunteer coordinator, Sheila Borton at tapsvol@yahoo.com if you would like to sign up to help.

If you come to visit TAPS you will see a large storage unit at the rear of our parking lot. We recently had a freezer truck bed donated from Chucks Towing and Salvage (a big thank you!), which has allowed us to remove the chest freezers that took up a great deal of space in the front and rear of the large dog kennel areas. This has allowed us to add 7 more small/med sized dog cages, which will allow us accommodate more dogs – there is always such a need. We hope that this will allow us to get more dogs/puppies in and offer more selection to people looking to adopt. We have several more projects slated for this year so watch our E-greetings for information and updates.

As always, I would like to thank everyone who supports TAPS through your time, donations, and taking part in our annual and offsite events, we would not be here without your help and support!

Purrs & Wags!

Angela Blackman

Executive Director

OFFSITES, ETC.



-VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We have a lot of events scheduled for the next few months. Volunteers are really going to be needed to make these events a success for TAPS!

Volunteer Opportunities are FUN! Here are a couple of pictures from recent events.



Applebee's Pancake Breakfast



Bowl-a-thon Sunset Lanes

May 16-17 E. Peoria Petsmart 11-4. We will be taking adoptable dogs and cats. Shifts will be 11:00-1:30 and 1:30-4:00. No age limit.

May 16-17 Pekin Walmart 11-4. We will be selling candy bars and taking cash and food donations. Any age can help.

May 23-24 Morton Walmart 11-4. We will be selling candy bars and taking cash and food donations. Any age can help.

May 23-24 Peoria Petsmart 10-5. We will be taking adoptable dogs and cats. Shifts will be 10:00-1:30 and 1:30-5:00. Any age can help.

May 30-31 E. Peoria Walmart 11-4. We will be selling candy bars and taking cash and food donations. Any age can help.

May 30-31 E. Peoria Petsmart 11-4. We will be taking adoptable dogs and cats. Shifts will be 10:00-1:30 and 1:30-5:00. Any age can help.

We started an early dog walking program in September .We still need volunteers to walk dogs at the shelter at 7 a.m. so they can get a potty break before breakfast. If you have time available (an hour is all we need) this early, please contact Sheila.

If you would like to help with any of these events, please contact Sheila at tapsvol@yahoo.com.

Ways You Can Help TAPS !!

1) **The Animal Rescue Site \$100,000 Challenge.** Beginning April 13th – July 26th, you can logon on every day to this website:

(<http://www.theanimalrescuesite.com/clickToGive/shelterchallenge.faces?siteId=3>) and vote for TAPS. The grand prize is \$20,000. Also, the shelter with the most votes each week can win \$1000 and the shelter with the most votes, one in each state, at the end of the contest can win another \$1000. This is a great way you can help the animals at TAPS. Tell your coworkers, friends, the mailman, and everybody you can!!

2) **Sponsor an animal.** Your sponsorship of a particular dog or cat is a donation to TAPS Shelter to help cover the costs of rescuing and caring for the animal until he or she finds a home through adoption. Although a single sponsorship does not cover all of our expenses to care for a particular animal, your donation will help with spay/neuter, vaccinations, blood tests, worming, food, medicine, and boarding expenses. Multiple people can sponsor the same animal.

TAPS rescues many special needs dogs and cats each year. Some of these animals may never find a home because of their special circumstances. Caring for one of these animals averages hundreds of dollars per year. Sponsoring one of these animals shows your support and concern, even though you may not be able to take one of these animals into your own home.

We have two levels of sponsorship available:

For \$35, your name will appear online by the description of the animal you are sponsoring. You will receive an acknowledgement email or letter thanking you for your sponsorship and an email or letter letting you know when the animal that you have sponsored has been adopted, as well as a color photo of your sponsored animal, a short bio of him or her, and a sponsorship certificate.

For a one-year continuing monthly sponsorship of \$20 per month, you will receive everything from the \$35 sponsorship level plus a TAPS t-shirt at the end of the one-year period. If your sponsored animal is adopted before the twelve-month period is up, the sponsorship is transferable to a different animal of your choosing.

An animal sponsorship can be given as a gift, and we will send email or letter confirmation to the recipient of the gift. If you would like to sponsor an animal but do not want your name published, we will acknowledge that the particular animal has a "silent sponsor."

[TAPS Dogs Available for Sponsorship](#)

[TAPS Cats Available for Sponsorship](#)

When you have found an animal that you are interested in sponsoring, please contact us. We accept check or credit card as payment for the sponsorship. If you would like to pay by check, please include your email address and the name of the animal you would like to sponsor. This can be sent to:

TAPS
100 TAPS Lane
Pekin, IL 61554

We also accept credit cards. You can call us at 309 353 8277, or email us at tapsshelter2@yahoo.com, and let us know the name that appears on your credit card, your credit card number, date of expiration, email address, and the name of the animal you would like to sponsor. We also accept credit card donations on-line through our link [here](#). Please email us and indicate which animal you would like to sponsor if you donate on-line.

The animals at TAPS thank you for your support!

Please send inquiries about adoption, sponsorship, or surrendering a pet to tapsshelter2@yahoo.com.

3) When you shop at **Schnuck's**, you can be raising money for TAPS. You just need to stop by Schnuck's or TAPS and pick up an Escript card, register the number on their website, choose TAPS as the organization you want to support, and a percentage of the money you spend at Schnuck's goes to TAPS. It costs you nothing and TAPS benefits!

4) **TAPS is offering engraved brick pavers to the public which will be installed in our new "Memory Walk" located at the entrance to the walking trails.** We all can relate stories about how animals have touched our lives. The loss we experience at their passing is very real. Commemorating them will insure that they will not be forgotten. If you would be interested in memorializing that special pet, we would be honored to include them on our Memory Walk. Pavers are \$50 each. Contact TAPS at 353-8277 or Vicki Brent at 444-4874 for more information.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Annual Clay Shoot at Oak Ridge Sportsmen's Club, Mackinaw- Date to be announced.

Rockin for TAPS at the Pekin Boat Club-Saturday, August 1st. There will be a dog costume contest, two bands and lots of food . It is a great way to have fun and help the animals at TAPS too.

Tailwaggers at Mineral Springs Park Pekin-September 27th. There will lots of games and activities for you and your dog to enjoy. We will have raffle items, talent contests, and lots of vendors. Mark your calendar now and plan on attending.

FEATURED PET OF THE MONTH



Meet Dallas; a very sleek and soft hearted gal that would love to join your family. She is very laid back and loves getting attention. She lost her eye as a result of a terrible cold but she doesn't let that get in the way of being a terrific cat! Dallas would love a nice home with good food and maybe even a few kitty toys to play with. She's just over a year old and is really excited to start the rest of her life with you and your family.

FEATURE STORY

Just like humans, animals need socialization. The most important time for puppy socialization is the first three months. It is beneficial for your pet to be exposed to as many people and pets as possible so they learn how to behave and what is acceptable behavior. Socialization helps animals get over shyness and feel comfortable and confident. Lack of socialization can lead to behavior problems.

Adult dogs need socialization too. Take your dog to a place familiar to you and he will feel comfortable too. If you do not know how your dog will act around other dogs, take your dog for a walk in your neighborhood first. He will get exposure to dogs, hopefully that are leashed or in a fenced yard, and you can safely introduce your dog to a new dog. Once you feel comfortable your dog gets along with other dogs, a visit to a dog park may be next.

Car rides are great for dogs. They love to look out and see what is going on. Be sure to take them for rides often, not just when it is time to visit the vet.

You can help socialize the pets at TAPS in many ways. Coming out and spending time with the animals helps them be comfortable around different people. Volunteering at one of our offsite locations, such as Petsmart and Petco, helps them meet new people and pets and they are out in the public, and not just in a cage.

Dogs love to please their owners. Join the Best Friends Program at TAPS. Pick a dog, take him/her for a walk, play catch with them in one of the outside pens, teach him to sit, stay, shake, and come. Cats need Best Friends too. If you prefer cats, choose a cat, spend time playing with him/her, petting him or brushing him. You and your best friend will benefit from this bonding time.

Here are a couple of pets who have become friends since they met at the shelter:



Faith and Vega



Stripes and Shilo- the feral cats

Wish List: Every month we will include an updated wish list. TAPS is a non-profit organization supported by the generous donations from the Community. If you can help by donating any of these items, please bring your donations to the shelter. TAPS is open Tuesday-Sunday.

TAPS Wish List (New items added)...

Priority Needs

- Dry kitten food (*Natural Balance, Nutro, Purina One, Science Diet*)
- Dry puppy food (*Nutro, Purina One, Pedigree, Science Diet*)
- Canned Cat & Kitten food
- Pre-paid gas cards
- Postage stamps (books or rolls)
- Clay cat litter (*We use between 50-75# / day*)
- (2-4) bird houses & a Shepard's' hook to hang them- our kitties need some entertainment

Animal Supplies

- KMR Kitten formula
- KMR Puppy formula
- Prescription pet food for dogs (I/D, J/D)
- Prescription pet food for cats (A/D, I/D, W/D, D/M)
- Dry dog & puppy food (*Nutro, Purina One, Pedigree, Science Diet*)
- Dry cat & kitten food (*Natural Balance, Nutro, Purina One, Science Diet*)
- Gift Cards to Petco, Petsmart, Tractor Supply Co, Menards, Big Lots
- 1cc or 3cc luer lock syringes
- Revolution, Frontline or Advantix (*feline or canine flea and tick products*)
- Heartguard, Iverheart, or other name brand heartworm pills
- Canned dog or puppy food
- Paper plates (*used to serve soft food on for animals receiving medications*)
- Pet brushes and combs
- Dog toys (***Kongs-Black Med & Large sizes, Plush squeek, tennis balls, raw hides, etc.***)
- Gentle Leaders, Harnesses
- Old towels

Office Supplies

- Printer ink cartridges
 - HP Color: 57, 95, 97
 - HP Black: 56, 92, 96
- 4" X 6" Index cards (cage information cards)
- Black Sharpies
- Ink Pens
- Computer Printer Paper 8.5" X 11"
- Yarn (for warm blankets)

Cleaning Supplies

- Antibacterial soap
- Hand Sanitizer
- Sponges with scratcher on one side
- Larger Sponges about 8" X 4" X 2"
- Bleach (*we use ~ 1 gallon per day*)
- Scrubbing Bubbles aerosol cleaner
- Laundry detergent (*on average we wash 15 loads a day*)
- Paper towels
- Toilet tissue
- Kleenex
- Odo-Ban (from Sam's Club)
- Toilet bowl cleaner
- Garbage bags (*13 gallon and 33 gallon size*)
- Glass cleaner
- Oust
- Dish washer Soap (liquid or dry)
- Dish soap (liquid)

People Needs

- Volunteers
 - Dog walkers (*hours: 7-8:30 or any time 11-8*)
 - Evening Volunteers (*hours: 6-8PM*)
 - Adoption Counselors (*hours: 11-6*)
 - Front Desk Assistants (*hours: 10-6*)
- Foster families
- Any carpenters with some free time?
 - *We have an indoor project needing work, but will need some help... please call TAPS and ask for Angela, or e-mail me at admin@tapshelter.org to find out the details!*

Miscellaneous Needs

- Cash donations (We are always in need of money to keep operations going)
- Used ink jet and laser printer cartridges for recycling
- Old cell phones for recycling
- Aluminum cans for recycling

Note: Please contact the Executive Director to discuss specific large ticket needs.

Please feel free to forward this newsletter to your friends and fellow animal lovers. If you know of others who would like to be included in our email list, contact us at hcakora@grics.net. If you do not wish to receive our E-Greetings in the future, please do not reply to this email. Instead, click on hcakora@grics.net and request your name from our email address list.