



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

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

August 2009

E-Greetings Newsletter



T.A.P.S.

Adoptions:

Cats: 36

Dogs: 46

SHELTER NEWS

We have long needed additional areas for adopters to visit with our pets and I am pleased to report that this will soon become reality. Currently we have two small rooms for cat visitations and only one area suitable for visiting with our dogs. Later this month, in addition to the larger area which is commonly used for dog to do introductions, we will add two rooms that will be large enough for dog visitations. Our volunteers will also utilize these new rooms... particularly in the winter or poor weather when it is still important to visit with our dogs, but the weather may not permit a long walk outside on our TAPS Trails. The project has come about thanks to the hard work of a volunteer who writes grants for TAPS, several dedicated volunteers, as well as members from the Harvest Bible Chapel. These volunteer efforts have allowed for the purchase of materials as well as labor to build the rooms. In addition to this indoor project, our Building and Grounds crew

continues to add to the outside... recently, through setting up some doggie waste stations throughout the grounds. This will make clean up after a walk much easier, and help to keep our grounds looking their best. Thank you to these volunteers, and to **everyone** who gives of their time through volunteering – you really make a difference!!

Activities & Fundraisers:

Thank you to everyone who came out to our Rockin' for TAPS event – it was a lot of fun! The weather could have been better for our Ride for the Animals, but a very dedicated group of volunteers did take part in our Ride and reported a very enjoyable time. Thankfully the weather cleared up in the afternoon allowing for everyone to enjoy the outdoor festivities at the Pekin Boat Club.

Another event that I would like to highlight is an upcoming “Dining for TAPS” at a new location... Chili's - East Peoria. When you visit them between Aug 22nd – 30th, TAPS will receive 10% of your total order. You simply need to stop by TAPS to pick up a coupon naming this event and give it to your waiter/waitress during your meal. If you are not able to make it in to TAPS to pick up a coupon, please check out our website to download the coupon which you can print out and take with you.

It is still a little early to share all the details, but please mark you calendars for our annual Tailwaggers Classic to be held on September 27th at the Pekin Mineral Springs Park. We have added new booths and demonstrations, Avid will be returning to microchip your pet and our top adult fundraiser will have win a weekend stay in St. Louis with activities. Your dog is sure to enjoy the dog walk and activities of this fun-filled afternoon.

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

A WORD FROM TAPS BOARD PRESIDENT

This week will be the completion of our dog training classes. For those that are not familiar with what we offer, we promote two 6 week basic manners sessions a year. Due to indoor space limitations, we hold them outdoors during the summer months on the west side of the shelter. Good weather sees us enjoying the warm evening breezes while rainy nights place us indoors for instruction and demonstrations.

What we find most promising is the number of volunteers that commit to choosing a TAPS dog to train and socialize through these classes. The best thing we hear is “I don't have a dog to work this week, because mine got adopted!” Our owner/dog teams that enroll from the local public see improvements as well. Many of their dogs were recently adopted from TAPS. Our class provides further help in assuring that the adjustment from shelter to home life is successful. It's wonderful to see them return happy, healthy and loved.

On behalf of Ann Goyen and myself, we would like to thank all those who participated this summer. Never doubt that you have made a difference in the lives of each dog in the class. We are already planning for next year, when we hope to offer even more in the form of training and information.

Sincerely,

Vickie Brent

President, TAPS Board of Directors

Special Volunteer Recognition!!

Alice Cakora was recently nominated by TAPS for the Starlight Award. The award is given annually to a senior volunteer whose giving spirit brightens the lives of others. The award is given to the nominee who has best influenced and shaped the community in Mind, Body, or Spirit.

The winning volunteer earns \$10,000 for their nonprofit organization. While Alice did not win the award this year, she and her husband Henry were invited to attend the award dinner. Thank you Alice for your dedication to TAPS!



OFFSITES,ETC.

-VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteer Opportunities are FUN! Here are a couple of pictures of volunteers helping TAPS.



Dog Contest-Rockin For TAPS



Spending time with the cats



Walking the dogs on the trails

Any carpenters with some free time? We have an indoor project needing work, but will need some help...please call TAPS and ask for Angels, or email her at admin@tapsshelter.org to find out the details!

August 15 & 16 Peoria Petco 11-4. We will be taking adoptable dogs and cats. Shifts will be 11:00-1:30 and 1:30-4:00. Must be 18 years of age or older.

August 22& 23 East Peoria Petsmart 11-4. We will be taking adoptable dogs and cats. Shifts will be 11:00-1:30 and 1:30-4:00. Any age can help.

August 29& 30 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.

September 4& 5& 6 Washington Walmart 10-3. We will be taking cash and food donations. Any age can help.

September 5 Manito Popcorn Festival-We will be walking dogs in the parade.

September 11-13 Pekin Marigold Festival-We will have a TAPS booth set up.

September 12-Pekin Marigold Parade 10am-We will be walking dogs in the parade.

September 19 Morton Pumpkin Festival-We will be walking dogs in the parade.

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



UPCOMING EVENTS

Volunteer Appreciation Cookout-August 29th-Come out and enjoy some food and fun in appreciation of all the work the volunteers do to help the animals at TAPS.

Creve Coeur Raffle Center (formerly the Bingo Center)-August 14th (and every 2nd Friday of the month from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.) TAPS is now assisting at the Creve Coeur Raffle Center. Part of the sales goes to TAPS. If you love to play raffles, come out and bring your friends. There is supposed to be a big prize given away that night. If you are interested in volunteering to help contact Sheila, our Volunteer Coordinator.

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.

Garage Sale to benefit TAPS October 3-Do you have lots of items around the house you would like to sell? Come and set up a table(s) at the first annual Garage Sale for TAPS being held October 3 from 8-3. We will set up in the Tazewell Machine Works parking lot so there is plenty of room for lots of tables and parking. It costs you nothing. We just ask that part (or all if you are feeling generous) of the proceeds go to TAPS. You are responsible for bringing tables, chairs, money, help, etc. and taking home anything you do not sell. Please email Pam Scott at ltltoad@comcast.net if you are interested in participating.

FEATURED PET OF THE MONTH



Laddie

Laddie is one big friendly guy that is searching for a permanent home. He is very loving and playful and knows many basic commands. He tends to play a little rough so he would do best in a home with children older than 12 years old. Laddie cannot go to home where there are cats or small animals. Laddie needs a nice secure yard as he tends to want to visit everyone in the neighborhood. He's 7 years old and would love a chance to win your heart and have a forever place in your family.

BET YOU DIDN'T KNOW!!-FACTS ABOUT CAT AND DOG ADOPTION (taken from Adopt-a-pet)

- Did you know that approximately 4 million adoptable dogs & cats are killed each year due mainly to overpopulation? Did you know that 25-30% of dogs for adoption in animal shelters are purebred? The other 70-75%, of course, are lovable, wonderful mixed-breed pets, just waiting for a chance to be your perfect new friend.
- In an effort to help people make good choices when they adopt a dog or cat, many humane societies, SPCAs and pet rescues provide adoption counseling to help match you up with a pet for adoption.
- If you have your heart set on a specific breed, before you check out a dog breeder or pet store, why not adopt a pet from a breed rescue organization? Breed rescues are groups that specialize in a particular breed of dog or cat.
- Don't be fooled into thinking that animal shelters and pet rescues are filled with dog or cats that were discarded because they're "bad". Shelter pets for adoption are wonderful companions who became the victims of family tragedy, unlucky circumstances or irresponsible owners.
- Did you know that many backyard dog breeders and pet stores who supply the majority of purebreds simply are selling inbred pets without care for preventing genetic problems? Mixed breed pets have less inbreeding, generally less inherited genetic disease, and therefore overall lower vet bills and happier pets! And the best place to find a mixed breed dog or cat is at an SPCA, a humane society or an animal shelter.

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...

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*)

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

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.