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

March 2010

E-Greetings Newsletter



T.A.P.S.

Adoptions:

Cats: 18

Dogs: 44

SHELTER NEWS

Last month, I laid the groundwork on why it is important to spay and neuter animals, the difference it has made on the overpopulation issue in different areas, and a couple programs that TAPS currently has to help combat overpopulation.

When you adopt a pet from TAPS, they will already be spayed or neutered, vaccinated, micro-chipped, tested for contagious diseases, de-wormed, and given flea & tick and heartworm prevention. Should there be a known condition, we send home medications and/or give counsel on further treatment options. I mention these facts to point out that we care about the health of the

animals at TAPS. Pets come to TAPS for a variety of reasons and from several sources – some are owner surrenders brought to us for reasons ranging from financial hardship to moving or not wanting the pet any longer. Another source is from other facilities that were not able to adopt them - like animal control or rescues. TAPS also takes in stray and abandoned pets. When pets come from a home, we are usually aware of their history and personality – a personality profile allows us to adopt the pet into a home that will be appropriate for them. Those that come to us from other organizations and pets who are strays or abandoned will have no known history so we adopt them with limited knowledge of their personality other than what is observed at TAPS and a temperament test performed upon admittance. While that may sound a little risky, I bring up that fact to announce a new program that I am very excited about and will be made available to adopters to ensure that their transition into your family is a successful one.

Moving forward, TAPS will offer a behavior and training manual from the Animal Behavior Network, founded by Dr. Rolan Tripp with each adoption. These positive-based training methods will give the adopter advice on working with their newly adopted pet and any issues known or those that manifest once the pet is in the home. It is our goal to not only adopt healthy pets, but to adopt them into appropriate homes. Further, we are always striving to improve our services and care for the animals – my hope is to give the adopters tools to educate them on training, animal behavior and how to handle pitfalls that may arise. While there are situations that arise necessitating a return of an adopted pet – we hope that behavior issues will not be among those factors. In addition, for the upcoming month - adopters will be signed up free of charge for a 1 year training course that will be sent weekly to your e-mail. We hope that both resources prove valuable to our adopters and helpful to our pets. If you have previously adopted a pet from TAPS and would like more information on these resources – please call during normal business hours or e-mail us at tapsshelter2@yahoo.com.

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

INSANE- HUGE CAT ADOPTION NEWS!!!

We are so overloaded on cats and our wait list is almost a year long and kitten season is coming... that being said, we are having an insane cat adoption sale.

FROM 3/12 - 4/15 ALL CATS are \$30.00!!!

You can adopt from TAPS or we will be at the following locations during the next 30 days and will also have cats available there for \$30.00:

3/15-21 - East Peoria Petsmart

3/22-28 - Peoria Petsmart

4/3 - Petco Peoria
4/12-18 - East Peoria Petsmart

Our goal is to adopt over 100 cats in 30 days - especially our long time cats (those who have been at TAPS for over 6 months... they really would love a home to call their own)

***All animals will still be spayed/neutered, micro-chipped, vaccinated including rabies, tested for feline leukemia/FIV, de-wormed, and given their flea and tick prevention. ***

Angela Blackman
Executive Director - TAPS

VOLUNTEER ORIENTATIONS

Volunteer orientations are held the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of every month at 6:30. The next orientations are March 24th & April 14th.



OFFSITES, ETC. -VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteer Opportunities are FUN! Here are a couple of pictures from our off-sites.



March 17th, 24th, & 31st-East Peoria Festival Center. We are going to be there weekly now on the earlier shift. We need volunteers between 3:30-9:00p.m. Even if you can't be there the whole time, we can use your help. If we can get enough volunteers, this could be a big fundraiser for TAPS!!

March 20th & 21st- E. Peoria Petsmart 11:00-4:00p.m. We will be taking adoptable dogs and cats. Shifts will be 11-1:30 and 1:30-4.

March 27th & 28th- Peoria Petsmart 11:00-4:00p.m. We will be taking adoptable dogs and cats. Shifts will be 11-1:30 and 1:30-4.

March 27th- Charlie's Aquarium Pekin 12:00-3:00p.m. We will be taking adoptable dogs and cats.

April 3rd -Peoria Petco 11:00-4:00p.m. We will be taking adoptable dogs and cats. Shifts will be 11-1:30 p.m. and 1:30-4. You must be at least 18 years of age.

April 10th & 11th-Morton Walmart-10:00-3:00p.m.-We will be selling candy bars and taking food donations.

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

Animals, Volunteers and Staff Hanging Out at TAPS



Denise and Bean



Kari and Thaddeus

Volunteers of the Month

February

Carol Randall and Freddie Lee



Fred and Carol have been volunteers since 2008. Fred began by walking dogs, Carol started by socializing and grooming the cats. They helped sell Community Days coupon books at the Pekin Bergners store in the fall of 2008. They enjoyed it so much, and did so well, that they have completely taken over this event. They just finished with the Spring 'Community Days Event' and made a whopping \$1,061.12 for TAPS. Great job Fred and Carol!



UPCOMING EVENTS

March 14th-March 21st-Chili's E. Peoria Pepper Profit Program. Take a special coupon (see below) to Chili's during this week, show the coupon before you order, and 10% of your purchase goes to TAPS!



Pepper Profit Program

Bring this voucher when you visit (Dine In or
To Go) the **Chili's** location identified below
and 10% of your purchase (excluding taxes)

will benefit:

TAPS

(Tazewell Animal Protective Society)

Group/Charity

MARCH 14TH - 21ST

Event/Exp. Date

One coupon per person, per visit at participating Chili's restaurants only. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Offer ends per expiration date above.

800 Riverside Dr. East Peoria 309-694-4460

Tazewell Raffle Center (formerly the Bingo Center)- March 17th, 24th & 31st (and every Wednesday) from 5:00-9:00 p.m. Part of the proceeds goes to TAPS. Bring a bunch of friends and see if you can win some money!

BIG EVENT!! Wednesday, March 24th is our second weekly Wednesday at the Creve Coeur Raffle Center. They are having a special promotion. It is called Warm-Ups Must Go, meaning a Jackpot will be won that night for \$1600.00. This is a big chance for TAPS to earn some money for the shelter so spread the word, come out and bring your friends!!

March 22nd-Bob Evans in Pekin- 5:00-7:00p.m. Eat at Bob Evans, mention TAPS, and part of the proceeds goes to help the animals at TAPS. Bring your friends and enjoy the food and good times.

March 30th-Avanti's in Pekin-All day-10% of Carry out and Pickup Orders goes to benefit the animals at TAPS. Thanks Avanti's and welcome to Pekin!

Dining for TAPS-April 7th -Papa Murphy's Pekin-Mention TAPS and part of the proceeds goes to TAPS.

TAPS Wine & Dine-Sunday, May 2nd Pekin Country Club-This is our big annual fundraiser. Watch for more information on silent auction items, entertainment, and ticket prices.

Ways You Can Help TAPS



The Animal Rescue site is giving away money to animal shelters. Eighty-five grants will be awarded for a total of \$100,000 to eligible Petfinder.com members.

Click on this link daily:

http://www.theanimalrescuesite.com/clickToGive/home.faces?siteId=3&ThirdPartyClicks=ERA_020410_ARS_Html

There are tabs down the right side of the website. Click the Shelter Challenge tab, put in TAPS, or Pekin, Illinois and bring up TAPS and cast your vote. Do this daily and send the link to pet lovers you know and ask them to do the same!

Final prizes will go to the eligible Petfinder.com organization with the highest accumulative votes for the duration of the Challenge as specified in the rules.

Voting begins on January 18th, 2010, and ends at midnight (PST) on April 18th, 2010. The more friends you can rally to vote for your favorite rescue organization, the better its chances of winning. Every vote, every day counts - shelters can pull ahead even during the last few days with enough support. Get people involved! Your favorite rescue organization is counting on you!

Eligible organizations with the most votes could receive a weekly prize and/or one of the other grants below:

Grand Prize: One \$10,000 grant!

Honorable Mention: Three \$3,000 grants!

State Winners*: Fifty-one \$1,000 state grants (50 U.S. states and Washington D.C.)

Weekly Winners** We're doubling your chances for a weekly prize! Twenty-Six \$1,000 grants will be awarded, two for each week of the Shelter+ Challenge.

EBAY-We now have items for sale on ebay. You can go the website at <http://www.stores.ebay.com/felz-own-pet-supplies?refid=store> and proceeds benefit TAPS.



Sign up for a Schnucks eScript customer card and a percentage of your grocery bills will go to TAPS. Click [here](#) to learn more.

You can donate food to TAPS through The Pet Pantry food donation program. For more information, visit their [website](#) and select the Donate link on the home page.

Sponsor an animal- 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."

Some of our Sweethearts waiting for homes



Pretty Boy

Pretty Boy is a 2 1/2 year old boxer/lab mix that is a big guy but very shy. He is real sweet and walks well on a leash. He can sit on command, goes to the door to be let outside, and never leaves the yard. He is kennel trained. Because he is a big dog, he would do best in a home with children 12 years and older. He is fearful of some men. He is looking for a new home with a big yard and a loving family.



Calvin

Greetings! My name is Calvin - I am a domestic shorthair cats who is around 6 year old. If I am not laying on the bed for a quick cat-nap, I am in the room where my people are --- I want to be with you and will jump into your lap or onto the chair you are sitting in to be petted. I am quick to lay on my side for a belly rub which is a little dog-like, but hey I enjoy a good scratch just like the rest of em'. For playtime, I enjoy chasing toys --- especially those feathers attached to a string, and could play for hours with them - (squirt a little catnip spray on them and WOW is that fun!). I have gotten along with the foster dogs that have come home to stay off and on, but prefer the company of felines. I enjoy being petted, love sleeping at the foot of the bed with my human and feline friends, and would love a forever home of my own.

If you are interested in adopting Pretty Boy or Calvin, please call TAPS at 353-8277.

PET NEWS

FEARFUL PETS-The weather is getting nicer and that means we are outside more. It means are pets are outside more too. If there is lightning and thunder or fireworks outside, many pets become frightened.

According to Dr. Sophia Yin, a veterinarian and behaviorist from San Francisco, animals have three ways of showing fear: freeze, flee, or fight. The easiest way to help your pet deal with its' fears is counter-conditioning, pairing the scary in small doses with something the pet likes, like treats. Punishment is never appropriate in a fearful pet, says Dr Wayne Genthausen. Control the exposure to the fearful experience and reward your pet for remaining calm. For thunderstorms, there are recordings you can buy and use to build confidence.

Watch for signs of anxiety, such as drooling, yawning, and scanning the room for escape routes. Go slowly and build on your successes. If you are not having any success, ask your vet for a referral to an animal behaviorist and/or medication. Keeping your pet fear-free makes life easier for your pet (and you).

COMPETENT PET OWNERS-New dog laws proposed in England would require dog owners to take a competence test to prove they can handle their pets. They would also have to buy pet insurance and pay to have their pet micro-chipped. Of course, the costs of setting up a program may be prohibitive and defining what constitutes a "competent" pet owner may be difficult. At least the British government is trying to protect their animals' health and safety. Maybe one day our government will take a look at such laws here....

TAPS Wish List...

Priority Needs

- Dry cat & kitten food (*Natural Balance, Nutro, Purina One, Science Diet*)
- Dry Senior Dog, Puppy and Small Breed foods (*Nutro, Purina One, Science Diet*)
- Canned Dog & Puppy food
- 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, O/M, J/D)
- Prescription pet food for cats (A/D, I/D, W/D, D/M)
- 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 cat and kitten food
- Heavy, round, flat bottomed ceramic or glass bowls 4-6" in size for felines (*no metal ones – too light & get tipped over*)
- 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.***)
- Leashes and collars, Gentle Leaders, Harnesses
- Old towels

Office Supplies

- Printer Ink Cartridges
 - HP Color: 57, 95, 940XL-C, M, Y
 - HP Black: 56, 92, 940XL
- 4" X 6" Index cards (cage information cards)
- Black Sharpies
- Ink Pens
- Computer Printer Paper 8.5" X 11"
- Batteries – 9 Volt... we are doing fine on the AA – but are in need of 9Volt for our smoke detectors.
- Yarn – for volunteers to make warm blankets from

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
 - Kitty Cuddlers
 - Evening Volunteers
 - Adoption Counselors
 - Front Desk Assistants
- 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 ltltoad@comcast.net. If you do not wish to receive our E-Greetings in the future, please do not reply to this email. Instead, click on ltltoad@comcast.net and request your name from our email address list.