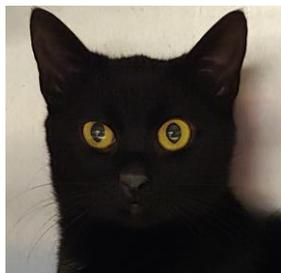




# Annual Report

## 2019



# Accomplishment TNR Program

Isabelle, 89, and her 94-year-old husband had been feeding and caring for approximately 25 cats and the kittens they produced. Their backyard had become a cat sanctuary but Isabelle's health made it more and more difficult to care for the ever-increasing number of felines. They needed help. Thanks to the Rachel Ray Save Them All grant and Best Friends, the Lycoming County SPCA was able to provide Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) services.

A TNR coordinator spoke to individuals needing help with cat colonies. In order to qualify for assistance, individuals needed to agree to monitor the colony for newcomers, provide food on a regular basis, and provide care for sick cats. Our coordinator then scheduled a trapping date with either Beckoning Cat Project or Rosebird Veterinary Center. Colony Caregivers are instructed not to feed the cats the day of the trapping so that the cats will be hungry and go into the Hav-a-Heart traps to eat the food that was placed there.

The cats are transported in the traps to the veterinarian where they are spayed or neutered, vaccinated, flea treated, and ear tipped. (See bottom Right photo of ear tipped cat.) Additional care is given for sick or injured cats. After surgery they are placed in crates to recover. Once recovered, they are returned to their colony.

Isabelle and her husband were grateful for the help from our shelter. Isabelle said, "I feel so much better now that I know the cats are spayed and neutered and I won't worry about more mouths to feed."

We were also able to TNR in trailer parks with a grant from the Petco Foundation. In total, we were able to **Trap-spay/neuter-and Return 573** cats and rehome dozens of kittens.

## What's Next? Future Goals

- 🐾 Continue TNR throughout Lycoming county.
- 🐾 Build a clinic.
- 🐾 Hire our own veterinarian and veterinary technician.



# Accomplishment

## Improving the Lives of Community Cats

Cats, through no fault of their own, will be feral (wild) when left out to fend for themselves. Kittens born to feral cats can also grow up wild and the cycle continues until a “colony” becomes unmanageable.

Neighbors who do not want cats on their property want them gone. So how can this be accomplished? And what quality of life is this? This is what we know.

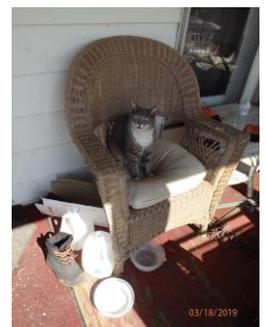
Euthanasia is not the answer. TNR, rather than euthanasia, works in eliminating the birth of more kittens. Along with TNR, colony caregivers need to monitor their colonies to care for newcomers, feed the existing cats, and provide shelters for the cats in the cold winter months. Caregivers also need to be good neighbors by keeping their property clean and continue to feed the cats. Cats who are well fed are less likely to raid the neighbor’s garbage or feast on songbirds.

For those who do not want the cats on their property, there are many ways to keep feral cats away. The SPCA provides recipes for homemade sprays that will deter cats. There are also dozens of ideas for keeping cats out of the garden or out of the yard. Simple ideas such as burying forks with the prongs sticking up out of the ground will keep cats out of the mulch. For more ideas, visit [alleycat.org](http://alleycat.org), or call the shelter for a copy of deterrents.

## What’s Next?

### Future Goals

- 🐾 TNR Feral cats as funding allows.
- 🐾 Hire a veterinarian for in house spay/neuter.
- 🐾 Provide “working” cats for rodent control in barns and businesses.
- 🐾 Provide spay/neuter assistance to end unchecked reproduction.



# Accomplishments

## Investigate, Educate, Adopt, and Repeat

Our investigator sees cases involving animals of every shape, size, and breed. The photos at the right depict cases where our intervention helped improve the quality of life for the animals.

Descriptions of the animals begin with the black lab at the top right. He had major fur loss and fatty tumors that were corrected with medical and surgical care. Next, the horse shown was in desperate need of farrier care with hooves so long it was difficult to stand comfortably. The goat's hooves were so long that it resorted to walking on its knees. The rabbit hutches lacked sanitation, food and water. One of several sheep were found in desperate need of food. Although it is difficult to see, the calico cat had patches of festering sores on its flank. The barn had so much manure in it that the cows housed there had difficulty maneuvering inside. With our officers' intervention, these animals and hundreds of others have received the care they need.

While it is difficult to face the constant abuse, neglect, and cruelty inflicted on helpless animals, it is rewarding to educate the owners, prosecute the abusers, and rehome animals in need.

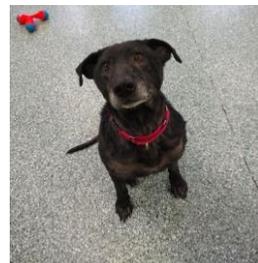
Even more rewarding is watching children enter the shelter with their arms full of supplies that were given to them in lieu of birthday gifts. Or watching animals leave the shelter in the loving arms of their new family.

Having a sick pet and no money for veterinary care is no longer a death sentence. We provided loans to 44 pet owners for emergency care through the Joyce Hershberger Medical Fund. We offer microchips for a lifetime identification of pets, lost and found tracking to reunite pets and owners, and countless hours on the phone providing referrals and answering questions related to animal care.

Our Humane Education teaches young children to care for animals and avoid bites. Safari Camp, held in the summer, teaches children from age 6 ½ to 13 about the proper care and handling of all types of domestic animals. Supervised by a certified teacher and camp aide, children learn to give a shot (using an orange), read an x-ray, learn about animal diseases, and so much more.



Before



After





## COMPASSIONATE CARE

1,116

ADOPTED



573

TNR



1,054

SPAY NEUTER  
MICROCHIPED



341

RETURNED  
TO OWNER



Over  
5,000  
Animals  
Served



CRUELTY  
INVESTIGATIONS

852



FOSTERS

558



EUTHANASIAS

137



OWNER  
CREMATIONS OR  
BURIALS

406

# Our Adoption Partners

## 1,116 Adoptions!

The animals that step through our doors are fortunate to find new, loving homes due to many caring individuals and their businesses. Beckoning Cat Project opened their Cat Tales Cat Café so that individuals could visit and cuddle with multiple felines in an open and relaxed atmosphere. Cats have plenty of space to roam, play, and lounge while visitors enjoy the cats' company. Love matches occur all the time and SPCA felines are adopted from the café.

Lycoming Mall provides space to host adoption weekends as well as retail space for pet holiday shopping. We are grateful for the opportunity to showcase adoptables, as well as raise funds through the sale of pet related items. None of this would be possible without our dedicated volunteers who help in the transport and handling of our animals and the running of the retail store.

Petco and PetSmart are generous supporters of animal rescue. Both locations offer adoption opportunities for our animals as well as product support, and grant prospects. By shopping at these locations, you are supporting the work of animal rescue.

PetValu in Lewisburg gives us the chance to showcase our cats for adoption. This is especially helpful during kitten season when the shelter is overflowing with cats and kittens as well as an enormous waiting list for admissions. Volunteers transport cats to the store and the wonderful staff care for the felines while they wait for their forever home. When there is an open space, another cat gets the chance of finding their new home.

These businesses host our pets year-round. But many other businesses host our shelter for events and allow us to bring available pets for meet and greets. Whether it is a grand opening, a themed weekend, or even a relaxing for a happy hour; our volunteers love taking pets to meet new people.



# Events

The year was bustling with fun events for pets and people alike. We kicked off the year with a Baseball Raffle. Participants purchased tickets for a chance to win one of two prizes. The Grand Prize was a Phillies Package, complete with four tickets to a Phillies game and a one-night stay at a hotel. Runners-up received four tickets to a Crosscutters game of their choice.



In February, Pints for Pups was held by New Trail Brewing Company. New Trail donated a portion of every pint sold and guests were encouraged to bring their dogs with them. The SPCA also provided a treat for every visiting pup. New Trail also held Pints for Pups in May and October.



The SPCA participated in Raise the Region, an annual community event that is organized to raise funds for local non-profits. The event was again run by the First Community Foundation Partnership of Pennsylvania and had an exciting feel as donors vied to win prizes for their favorite non-profits. We are always privileged to take part in the regional fundraiser.



On April 13<sup>th</sup>, the Lycoming County SPCA's annual Paws Run was held. The unique event featured a 2.5-mile run/walk and a 5-mile run. It was one of the SPCA's most important fundraising events of the year and attracted hundreds of walkers, runners, and their dogs. It was a beautiful spring morning and there was energy in the air as everyone gathered. With an awards ceremony, music, and snacks, both pets and people had a great time! The course looped through the South Williamsport Community Park and Little League International's baseball stadiums before crossing the finish line.



Next up was a Kitten Shower, organized by creative SPCA volunteers. The shower was held in April at the start of kitten season. Similar to a baby shower, the event included cake and punch, games, and a registry for foster kittens. A basket raffle from local businesses was also included. The focus of the event was to raise awareness of the SPCA foster program and encourage donation of supplies as well as recruit new foster families. New foster families did sign up and they were used right away as kitten season swung into full bloom.



# More Events

Right around the corner was the kick-off of the SPCA's annual Calendar Contest. Running May-August. For the first time, folks could enter their pet online through the SPCA's new fundraising software, Salsa. Using Salsa's peer-to-peer tools, they could also reach out and rally friends and family to their side with monetary votes for their pet. An online leaderboard kept the contest hopping and 81 pets were entered. A record \$21,718 was raised!



Mid-summer found SPCA supporters on the golf course for Putts Fore Paws, organized by Barb Michael. The event was held at White Deer Golf Complex and featured a four-person scramble with a variety of skill prizes. Winning teams were awarded in men's, women's, and mixed categories. Lunch was held following the tournament.



As fall carpeted the Susquehanna valley, pet-lovers and dogs hit the trails at Tails on the Trail. It was the second year for the autumn-flavored event. The event was held at Trinity Farm, owned by SPCA supporters. The hike wound through the pretty hills and offered views of fall in all its glory. New this year was a parade of breeds, which was a hit.



Sweet Temptations, as its name implies, is indeed sweet. Dessert vendors from around the area lined the historic Genetti Hotel's ballroom in downtown Williamsport. Guests purchased tickets to be able to sample and vote on all of the sweet confections put forth. It is a difficult job, but guests always rise to the challenge. A silent auction was also held as well as the Red-Carpet Stroll, featuring pets who have been adopted from the SPCA. The evening closed with a video that showcased the year's shelter pets and remarks were shared by the SPCA board and staff. It, as always, was a wonderful evening as folks rallied to remember the local SPCA and all of the lives that have been transformed there.



The SPCA rounded out the year with Pet Pictures with Santa, and a holiday toy drive was also organized and gave the shelter pets plenty of Christmas toys and treats!



#GivingTuesday was our final fundraising event for the year. The national event promotes donations to non-profits and is a push for end-of-year charitable giving.

To all of the volunteers, staff, board and community members who helped or attended the year's events, we say thank you! Without you, the shelter pets could not enjoy the sanctuary of home-between-homes that they do today.



#GIVINGTUESDAY

**Board and Staff Members as of December 31, 2019**

**Board Members**

Joyce Hershberger.....President  
Bill Fox.....Vice President  
Ron Walko.....Secretary  
Terry Girdon.....Assistant Secretary  
Andy Gallagher .....Treasurer  
Ed Metzger.....Assistant Treasurer  
Katie Bell, JoAnn DiPasquale, Chase Kelch, Jacob Miller, Richard Schluter,  
Donna Sortman, Alicia McNett, Sebastian Peipher

**Staff**

Victoria Stryker.....Executive Director  
Dr. Jeff Scheckter..... Veterinarian  
Michelle Madara.....Veterinarian Technician  
Kabrina Schweikert.....Kennel Manager  
Wendy Rundio.....Assistant Kennel Manager  
Kelli Smith.....Animal Team Leader  
Shawn McMonigle.....Humane Society Police Officer  
Betsy Sparling.....Humane Society Police Officer  
Christa Watson .....Development Coordinator  
Missy Black.....Volunteer Coordinator  
Amy Ringkamp.....Marketing Assistant  
Patricia Barclay..... Bookkeeper  
Secretaries.....Julie Bennett, Samantha Fagnano, Heidi Koch  
Lili Crum.....Camp Director  
Summer Bishop.....Camp Assistant

**Kennel Attendants and Adoption Counselors**

Malena Evans, Abigail Trostle, Nicole Mummert, Megan Murray, Dominic Preziosi,  
Bethany Reed, Carols Santiago, Howard Simpson

**Volunteer Supervisors**

Annika and Melanie Huyhn, Robyn Hannan, Roxann Freezer, Sister Carlita Jones,  
Samantha Fagnano, Deb Schall