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<http://www.lebanonhumane.org>

April 20, 2009

Dear Animal Ally:

As we are well into the next millennia it seems that (at last) society views animal shelters in a new light. Animal shelters are no longer thought of as horrible places where unwanted pets go to die. Finally, society has recognized what people in the shelter business have known for years. Humane Societies are safe havens for homeless animals. A place that pets receive the care they need and are treated in a compassionate manner.

As many of you are already aware, our shelter has no time limit to a pet's stay with us. As long as we have an empty cage or kennel and the animal is adoptable, they can remain with us as long as is needed to find a good home. Many shelters across the country do not have this ability. As a result the Humane Society of Lebanon County assisted a shelter in Ohio this past winter by taking 25 of their dogs. We recently took in four dogs from a York County shelter. Without shelters cooperating with each other many more lives would end – including those twenty-two dogs who will now find homes in our county.

At the beginning of this year we instituted an aggressive spay/neuter policy, having adult animals sterilized before they leave our care. In addition, the Humane Society of Lebanon County has spent considerable funds in veterinary bills to rehabilitate sick/injured stray pets. These cats and dogs have been given another chance because we have invested in their care. In the first quarter of 2009 we have already spent more than in the whole of 2008 on veterinary care for the unwanted pets from Lebanon County.



Just ask “Cookie”, a stray female pit bull mix who came into our shelter with a severely damaged front leg. When the veterinarian told us that Cookie needed to have that leg amputated we had to commit to the surgery. Of course, Cookie did not even look back after her operation. She adapted quite well to her three good legs, and she found a wonderful home with a family that loves her very much.

Recently, our new humane society police officer, Kevin Gonzales won his first case in court. The case involved a man who had shot his neighbor’s cat. He was found guilty and fined for animal cruelty.

After receiving care for the gunshot wound (and coincidentally this cat also had to have a leg removed), “Morris” has settled in with a family who reaps the rewards of Morris’ love and appreciation every day. He has adapted quite well to his so called handicap. Morris did not deserve the brutal treatment. Many more people are reporting animal cruelty because they know that the Humane Society of Lebanon County employs a full time humane society police officer. Animals have a right to kind and compassionate treatment.



Our shelter is burdened by financial responsibilities that result from “fighting the good fight” for animals. That is why we ask for your continued support. Without an animal shelter in our community the unwanted dogs and cats would encounter suffering that they do not deserve. The Humane Society of Lebanon County exists to provide a safe haven for the animals in our county. Animals cannot speak for themselves, but we are sure that if you look into the eyes of Cookie and Morris, they would convey sincere gratitude.

Thank You,  
Sincerely,

Tracy Stevens  
President, Board of Directors

P.S. Please join us for the annual Pooch Picnic on May 16, 2009. Lion’s Lake Park 11am-3pm.  
Check our website for more information...[www.lebanonhumane.org](http://www.lebanonhumane.org)