

# Large Animal Protection Society

Caring, Committed, Taking Action.

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## 2017 Fall Newsletter

### A Mucky Situation

“Wear the tallest boots you have!” That was the instruction from one LAPS humane agent to another. The agent was requesting help in moving many head of dairy cattle and one pony colt that had been surrendered to us in Lancaster County. The original complaint was about the colt and other horses on the farm. Helping Hands for Animals, the PA State Police and LAPS were all there to investigate. The adult horses looked OK, but the colt was covered in manure and had difficulty standing. Further investigation uncovered, literally, some mature dairy cows, heifers and young bulls standing in liquid manure up to 2 feet deep! The cattle were all thin, had no food in front of them and their drinking water was filthy from manure.



All of the cattle were covered head to tail in manure. Walking through the barn, we found several calf carcasses. In one of the pens a little calf was laying on top of a dead calf; the only way he could keep his head above the slurry of manure. Just a baby and hungry, he repeatedly sucked on a light cord hanging from the ceiling. All the agencies worked together and an agreement was reached with the owner for 10 head of cattle and the foal to be surrendered to LAPS. The police cited the owner for cruelty. Next



came moving the animals to the farm. By the time all were loaded the animals weren't the only ones covered in manure!

New Bolton's Field Service came to the farm right away to examine the animals. LAPS occasionally has cattle in their care, but never have we had so many at one time. We did not have a cattle chute to catch and hold them and the good natured vets had to catch and halter each manure encrusted animal to be examined. The exams were finished under car headlights. One heifer was so wild we could not remove the halter and rope. A couple of the cattle were so energetic and wily they could not be caught. We all agreed they must be disease free despite poor body condition. Overall it was found that all were thin and the little Holstein bull calf had pneumonia. Next the pony colt was examined. He was a sad specimen. Very lethargic, thin, manure covered and with hind legs that were poorly conformed and extremely weak. We had thought he was very young, but his teeth revealed him to be at least 8 months old. The next step was to clean up the animals. The more mature cattle were too big and wild, but the three



small calves and the pony were taken into the wash stall and soaked with warm water to soften the crust. Several young volunteers came to help and many hours later most of the hardened crusty layers had been removed. The change in appearance was truly amazing!

The young pony was named Toby and he flourished with good food and kindness. His hind legs strengthened and within days he was charging around the pasture. His body filled out, his coat shed out and he became (continued on page 2)

### LAPS Benefit Trail Ride

On May 28th 2017 a benefit trail ride was held at the beautiful Runnymede Sanctuary. Under a picture perfect blue sky about 75 riders followed a ribboned trail through gorgeous Chester County hunt county. Runnymede Sanctuary is not normally open to the public and we thank them for allowing us access. Pictured here are Timmy and Aiden, LAPS adoptees! We hope to make this an annual event. Please plan to attend next spring!



## A Mucky Situation (continued)

(continued from page 1) a beautiful dun pony. The cattle all regained good body condition and we enjoyed watching our small herd ranging around the pasture. New Bolton vets returned several times for check ups and to vaccinate the herd. The next step was to find a home for the herd. Vet and feed expenses were eating away at our always tight budget. There were many interested inquiries, but no takers. Then we heard



from Farm Sanctuary. They were interested in taking the whole herd. This was fantastic news. The cattle would be safe for the rest of their lives. Soon all the arrangements were finalized and the cattle were moved to their new home.



The State Police filed charges against the owner of the animals and he pled guilty. Some animals remain on the farm and will continue to be monitored by Humane Officers from Helping Hands and LAPS. We thank everyone involved for helping investigate, charge, examine, and care for these animals. Just like it takes a village to raise a child; it takes the animal welfare community to save a herd.

## Nellie

Nellie, a little Jersey cow, came to LAPS on the brink of starvation and left for her new home months later as a new mother and looking like a new woman!

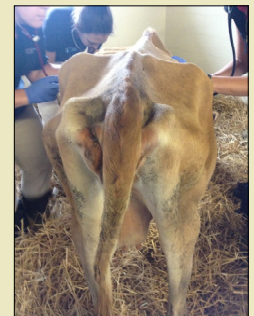


Her story began with several calls to LAPS, including one from the Brandywine SPCA about a lone skinny cow in Chester county. A LAPS Humane Officer went to investigate the situation and met the Jersey cow who was indeed in very poor body condition. Our officer spoke with the owner informing her that she had to provide shelter for the cow and more food. The owner appeared willing to provide better care explaining that the cow was pregnant and the intention was for her to provide the family with milk after she calved. Feeling confident that the situation would improve the officer left a notice of violation and gave the owner 6 weeks to improve body condition and provide a shelter.

Six weeks went by and the officer made many attempts to communicate with the cow's owner to set up another visit. The owner became increasingly hostile and refused to allow the officer to see the cow. Finally she stated that if LAPS wanted to see the cow we would have to get a search warrant to enter the property. A search warrant was granted by the Chester county District Attorney's office and two LAPS Humane Officers accompanied by two PA State Troopers went to the property. Our sole intention was to check on the body condition of the cow and make sure that the promised shelter had been provided.

We will say the owner was extremely unhappy about the visit and leave it at that.

The owner had provided shelter for the cow, but her body condition was extremely poor. The body condition of dairy cattle is based on a scale of 1 to 5. The officers judged the cow's body condition to be about a 1. It could not get much worse. Her entire skeletal system could be clearly seen. Further, the only food we saw was a small pile of yellow/brown hay, the last remains of a round bale.



The visit quickly changed from a recheck to a seizure, further infuriating the cow's owner. The cow had to be led up a hill to our trailer and we worried about keeping control of her and loading her. Skinny as she was she was still a lot bigger and stronger than us. Fortunately she was so hungry she actually chased us into the trailer when motivated by a bucket of grain. We took her directly to New Bolton Center to be examined.

After 4 days at NBC, Nellie was deemed healthy enough to go to the LAPS farm. At NBC, she was tested for disease and parasites which could have caused her emaciation. All tests came back negative; she simply had not been fed. Dr. Middleman pointed out that by looking at her side you could tell that there was no food in her rumen. There was an indentation instead of a bulge. He said this indicated that she had not had any food for some time. Possibly several days. Nellie did have one test with a positive result; she was pregnant and due to calve in January. Nellie quickly settled in to life at the LAPS farm; enjoying her grain meals and unlimited hay. Charges were filed against her owner and the case went to court. After expert testimony given by our humane officer and Dr. Middleman the defendant was found guilty and ownership of Nellie was turned over to LAPS.



Meanwhile, back at the farm...sometime during the night of January 25th Nellie gave birth to a little bull calf we named Cody. There is not much cuter than a (continued on page 3)

# 2017 Remembrances

## In Honor Of

Tiffany Raikowski – Happy 16<sup>th</sup> Birthday by Aunt Marion Hampton ~ Sandy by Mary P. Koechert ~ Joan Chain – Happy Holidays to my sister and friend by Susan Amsterdam ~ Sandy Weible by Fran Weible ~ JoAnn Mauger & Becky Kraide by Ruth Sullivan ~ Lorna Slifer by Kim Overby ~ Sandy Weible by Donna (Weible) Allaband ~ All the animals by Mary C. Walsh ~ Bill Merritt, who made all my large animal dreams come true by Mary Walsh ~ My Husband, Daughter, Son-in-Law and Grandchildren by Patricia Geiger ~ LAPS Officers – for all they do to help mistreated animals by Gary & Eileen Zerbe ~ LAPS Humane Officers and care givers of the animals by Louise Harry ~ Joan Hewett, who loved her Lord Jesus & His creatures, especially horses by Barbara Schlesinger ~ The LAPS Humane Officers for the wonderful job they do to protect the innocents by Eileen Zerbe

## In Memory Of

Terrance “Terry” Garrett by Jay & Kathy Bankert ~ My Son “Eddie” by Patricia Geiger ~ Terrance “Terry” Garrett by Mary Glazier ~ Barbara L. Wenner by Bill Wenner ~ Terrance “Terry” Garrett by John & Angie Derr ~ Margaret Munson Hall by Barbara Hess ~ Maryanne Boyle by her Parents Vince & Pat Boyle ~ Barbara Wenner by William Wenner ~ Of My Brother by Mark Alan Enck by Christine Stull ~ Lily by Mary Lumsden ~ Of ALL Abused farm animals by Cynthia Eckman ~ Priscilla M. Mooney for her love of Brownie, Lacey & Fritz by Madeline R. Mooney ~ Nancy H. Alberts, Sister, still in our thoughts & prayers by Linda Hickman, Bunny & Magic ~ Terrance “Terry” Garrett who passed into heaven 10/28/2016 by Patricia Anne Shenk

## Animals-In Honor of

Sunny, Scot, Major, Malachi & New Guy-to our noble steeds of the Philadelphia Saddle Club by Betsy Bowden ~ Skippy by Barbara Casciegna ~ Ramblin’ Tim the Wonder Horse-Continuing appreciation by John & Linda Morrison ~ Rock by Connie Chiasson ~ Fred the Red Bull by Karen Nocella ~ Flower by Sandra Morris ~ JinBeau McCue by Ada Miller ~ Surfer Dude by Debra L. Hoffman ~ Jackson by Cheryl L. Sweeney ~ Duce, the Dachshund by John & Lea Reynolds ~ Sequoia, Ladies Side Saddle Hunter by Kathe Carlsson ~ Puppy Reines Perelman – A loving, kind & wonderfully gentle soul, by Marsha R. Perelman

## Animals-In Loving Memory of

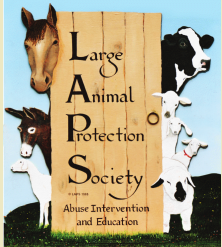
Cant Nulin-Always in our hearts by Kim Overby, Lorna Slifer & Maya Korctskly ~ Buster by Catherine B. Wray ~ Vandy Flower-Never forgotten by Linda & John Fuchs ~ Puddles-A loving Friend I will always remember by Catherine Labate ~ Ollie by Chip Niels ~ Star-An awesome horse & Buddy by Priscille Dolor ~ Radar – Thanks for all the memories by Judy Forchielli ~ Alpo by R. Neill ~ Scotty, Taffy & Cherry by Donna L. Allaband ~ Storm by Joan ~ Echo by Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Foster ~ Ranger by Julie Luckraft & Jeffrey Penneys ~ Rayne – A Hackney pony by Donna Santora ~ Caleb – My beautiful Blade Morgan by Maija Ray ~ Pumpkin – Miss you and love you always by The Smith Family ~ Max the Big Head Cat. We miss you Michael & Shiron Paul ~ Trooper by Steve & Jean Thomas ~ Banter by Katherine M. Mack ~ Our Beloved Diesel by Glenn & Sheryl Sweeney ~ Sir Prize & Gus by Sue Mayer ~ Bonnie by Mary Kochet ~ Ollie by Chip Niels ~ Of all the animals I have had by Louise Harry ~ Libby, Sweetest Chestnut Mare by Linda Morrison ~ Buster, The best cat by Catherine B. Wray ~ Rayne – A Hackney pony by Donna Santora

(continued from page 2) Jersey calf; except maybe a Jersey calf in a fleece blanket to combat the cold. Cute as he was; Cody was very weak and could not nurse on his own. His legs also buckled at the ankle. SO off the NBC the pair went. Under their expert care, Cody grew stronger and could be returned to LAPS.

Meanwhile back in court...Nellie’s ex-owner filed an appeal and another court date was set. Once again Dr. Middleman and our LAPS humane officer prepared to testify. This time there was much negotiating between attorneys and after 4 hours the ex-owner agreed to plead no contest. At last the case was finished and Nellie and Cody would not have to be returned to a neglectful home!

When Cody was ready to be weaned he was adopted out to an animal sanctuary where he can live out his life. Nellie was also adopted. She joined another LAPS cow, Annabelle, who also had been the victim of starvation. The two are best friends living the good life.





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 P.O. Box 243  
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LAPS is funded only by public donations. All of our Humane Officers are

volunteers. We need your help to continue our work.

Please make a donation and change an animal's life for the better.

All donations are tax deductible.

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Name of Animal or Person Honored: \_\_\_\_\_

( ) Animal ( ) Person ( ) Remembered ( ) Honored  
 (Please check one)

Remembered or Honored By: \_\_\_\_\_

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