



"The Kennel of Hope"

Tails of Hope

The Newsletter of Animals in Distress
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VOL. XXIX No. 1

MAY 2020

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Giving Up Is Not An Option

**The most wonderful
places to be in the
world are:
In someone's thoughts.
Someone's prayers.
And in Someone's heart.**



So much has happened since our last newsletter to our friends. The world order has been upset as countries fight the pandemic, and struggle to keep their economies afloat—and their citizens alive. The challenges and problems we are facing can seem overwhelming and hopeless. For many of us, we try to maintain our own existence and keep our families safe. The only other option is to give up...to lose our resolve in despair and negative, Doomsday thinking. Our message to you is basically this: *giving up is not an option.*

In the midst of all the drama, our shelter goes about its business—which is caring for the 350 or so residents who depend on us for everything, including their lives. Day in and day out, they must be fed, medicated, cleaned, and loved. Our dedicated staff and volunteers know that giving up is not an option for us. Killing these animals — just because they are old, or sick, or stressed out - is not an option for us.

***You are not
alone. You are
part of the
Animals in
Distress
extended
family.***

Since we are first a sanctuary, and then a shelter, our focus is on helping those who would not be given a chance elsewhere. These victims did nothing wrong: they are victims of a disease more deadly perhaps than COVID-19: human cruelty, indifference, and irresponsibility. We are their only hope. Animals in Distress is their only sanctuary, their only home.

And YOU, our dear friends and supporters, are the people who make our work possible. In the midst of all the chaos, PLEASE know that your prayers and donations are appreciated more than you can know. YOU make everything possible—with empathy, generosity, and kindness.

So much has been discussed about how lonely people feel, staying home and social distancing. We would like to let you all know that you are loved, valued, and appreciated by the animals whose lives you help save. Many of you will never actually visit those animals, but you care about what happens to them. You send such loving and thoughtful notes with your donations, thanking us for the work we do. You will never know how much those kind words of encouragement and support mean to all of us.

You are not alone. You are part of the Animals in Distress extended family. Never, ever forget that the animals you have helped saved would tell you, if they could talk, how much you mean to them.

This newsletter will update you on some of the upcoming event information. But it also wants you to know that our shelter animals are blessed to have you as a friend. You are part of their family.

With sadness, we announce the cancellation of our 43rd Alumni Day Pets and People Celebration, along with the Laps of Love, scheduled to be held on Sunday, June 7.

There is no way we can hold such an event under the circumstances, and we know that you will understand. The big disappointment is that these events are cherished because they bring our friends and supporters together to share stories, celebrate adoptions, renew old friendships, and make new friends. Of course, we also hope to raise some funds as well. However, the safety of all concerned is of paramount importance right now. Those who have taken out Journal listings will be contacted.

The Story Doesn't End at Rescue: It's All About Commitment—For Life

Do you ever wonder how the animals you read about in this newsletter are doing? Nothing speaks more about the quality of a shelter than the outcomes of their rescues, ESPECIALLY rescues of animals who have physical or behavioral challenges. Ironically, even shelters that call themselves “no-kill” exclude from their statistics animals who have those challenges. Because these animals are not considered “adoptable,” they don’t count—and they are not counted!!

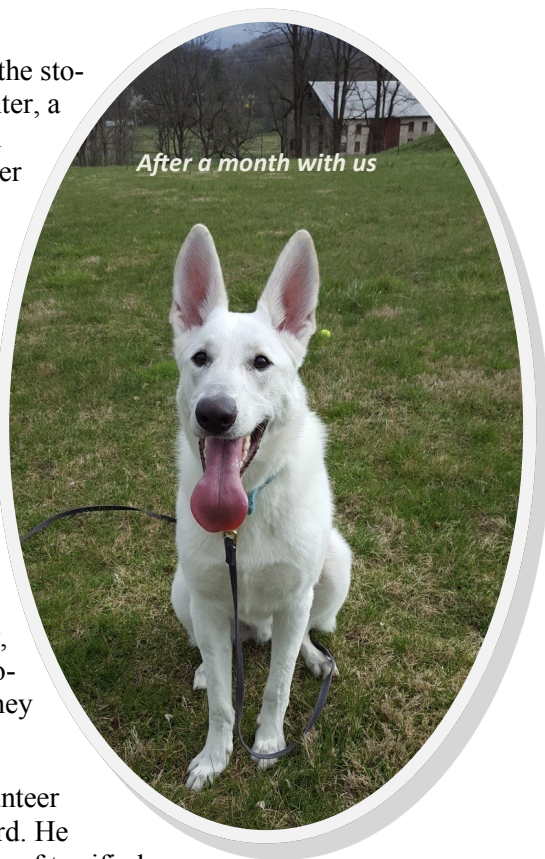


We are committed to providing the best care possible for EVERY animal we rescue, for as long as necessary. Your donations and prayers make that possible. Therefore, we want YOU to know what happens to these animals, and we never fail to count every animal, not just those who are the most marketable.

For example, in our last newsletter we told the story of a white German shepherd named Hunter, a terrified stray, later found out to have been just given away and unwanted by his former or new owner. We included a photo of the scared, bewildered dog huddled against the door of a business, exhausted from running and acting in an unpredictable manner. So many animals can be labelled as “aggressive” because it is easier (and cheaper) to euthanize them than it is to give them the time and the proper handling to allow them to heal, both psychologically and physically.

In just one month, Hunter is revealing what a great dog can be. He is smart, loving, and maturing into the dog he had the potential to become. We want to stress that had he been handled incorrectly, he could have bitten out of fear, which is true of any scared animal (or human). We stress this aspect of the story because we know for a fact that too many animals’ lives are lost because they are deemed “aggressive.” How sad.

Anyway, just one month later, here is a picture of Hunter at our shelter. Volunteer Bob Johnson had Hunter out for a walk and was playing ball in our agility yard. He asked Hunter to sit/stay, and here is the happy result. Compare it to the picture of terrified Hunter and you can see what a difference your support of our work is making!



Buddy's New Set of Wheels! You may remember Buddy, a senior beagle who came to us with a sad story.

Buddy had health issues and would have been considered “unadoptable” by many rescues and shelters. However, we know for a fact that there are kindhearted souls who will open their homes, and their hearts, to those animals in need of special care. In fact, our adopting families, as a group, are among the most loving, empathetic, generous-hearted people anywhere.

Buddy was adopted by a family who already had several rescued dogs, most of them beagles. The family likes to share their walks on their country property with their dogs, but discovered that Buddy could not keep up. He simply didn't have the stamina due to some old injuries to his legs. One option would be to leave Buddy home. BUT Buddy wanted to go! He wasn't willing to become a wallflower at home while his beloved family walked the trails.

The picture shows Buddy in the special stroller that allows him to go for walks with his family. While many people would have looked at Buddy and seen an old dog with issues, his adopters looked at him and saw a precious life worth saving and cherishing. THAT is the kind of home we want for all of our animals, and they all deserve that.



Please return this coupon to: RADIOTHON, Animals in Distress, P.O. Box 609, Coopersburg, PA 18036

Enclosed is my donation of \$_____ to help animals like Hunter, Eli, and Buddy get a second chance in a world that seldom gives second chances.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

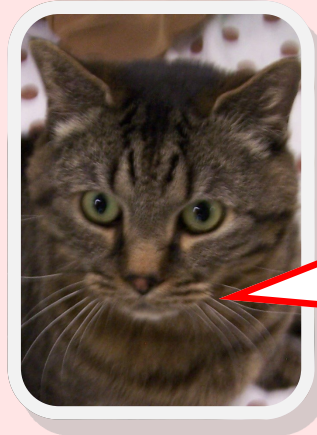
Check this box if you do NOT want a receipt for your donation.

If using a credit card: Card# _____ Exp. _____

Print Name on Card: _____

Authorized Signature: _____

Indicate here if you or your business would like to donate Challenge Hour money, (\$500 or more), and indicate the amount you would like to donate for a Challenge and also any special information (if it is a memorial or tribute, for example) . For more information, contact Rose Yanger at 610-759-2819. Challenges inspire people to donate since they can double or even triple the amount of their original donations.



Thank you for caring about me and my friends. We will never forget your kindness.

Love, Eli



An Even Greater Challenge: WAEB Radiothon 2020

Our upcoming Radiothon, our biggest fundraising event of the year, starts on July 13. As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, we are doubtful that the events associated with the Radiothon will be possible. Those events include two live remotes on Saturday, a full day of events at the shelter on Sunday—including our Basket Social and merchandise sales, animal visits to the radio station, phone answering live in the studio, ...the list goes on and on.

By the writing of the next newsletter, some of these decisions will be made. We will keep our friends updated through this newsletter, through on air updates by WAEB, and by updates on our website: animalsindistresspa.org.

Unfortunately, we may end up tens of thousands of dollars short due to these changes. We are hoping and praying that our friends will be as generous as possible this year to try to make up for that and other event cancellations.

Please take a few moments to reflect on what we can do, together. Please support our work. We can't raise the \$50,000+ it takes to run our shelter every month without

your help. In fact, a harsh reality is that if it were not for our dedicated volunteers, that monthly cost would be much higher.

We pledge to you that 100% of every dollar you donate is used directly for animal care—not for inflated salaries, marketing through tv commercials and expensive mailings, not for “administrative” costs that hide a multitude of expenses having nothing to do with true animal rescue and rehabilitation. We get NO money from any public sources—not local, state, or federal. YOU are the only source of the money it takes to save lives.



We hope that you will make a generous donation to this year's Radiothon. We are challenged to equal the \$159,110 we raised last year. We are counting on all of our friends to do what they can to enable this year's Radiothon to have a solid amount pledged before July 13. We cannot stress enough how important this is. Please do what you can. Lives depend on the results of the Radiothon.

ANIMALS IN DISTRESS

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Lehigh Valley, PA
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DATED MATERIAL . . . PLEASE RUSH

Current Resident

*Hey, we need your help
now more than ever.
Please help us make
this year's WAEB Radi-
othon our best yet!!*



**Everybody's talking
about the WAEB 790AM
Radiothon, starting July
13. Mark your calendar
now, so you don't miss
out on this important
event, that is dedicated
totally to raising funds to
rescue and rehabilitate
desperate and injured
cats and dogs. Check out
all the details inside.**

Check out our website at animalsindistresspa.org for
news and updates.