



# Tails of Hope

The Newsletter of Animals in Distress  
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## *Thanks for Another Successful Radiothon*

After an incredible effort by many people, our 2021 WAEB Radiothon—our biggest fundraiser of the year—closed with a record setting total of \$215,353! That is wonderful news. We really needed those funds, since we went into the Radiothon with an operating deficit of over \$250,000. That deficit was and is due to the huge number of animals we are called upon to help, and the escalating costs of veterinary services and supplies, food, kennel supplies (for example, we go through a mountain of cat litter every month), utilities....well, you know.

We are always deeply moved by the outpouring of love and kindness from so many people. Donors send pledges with the kindest notes. Volunteers schedule their vacations around the Radiothon, and some (many) use precious vacation days so they can help out all during Radiothon week. Several businesses, not the least of which is the WAEB/iHeart team, donate services and items for prizes so that 100% of the funds we raise go directly to animal rescue and care.

Listening to news reports of all the violence and cruelty in the world can be so disheartening. However, when we think of the caring and devoted friends of our shelter/sanctuary, we are reminded that much good and decency still exist in the world. It is so easy to give up sometimes, but giving up is not an option if we want to continue to care for the lives we have saved, and to save even more lives. Some of these animals have gone through years of pain and desperation, and still they are able to try just one more time; they won't give up, and neither will we and our many wonderful friends.

Thank you. You have made life an option over death; made hope possible; and banished despair. May you and those you care about be blessed with the knowledge that your kindness and support have made a huge difference in this world, and in the lives of hundreds of animals who call Animals in Distress their sanctuary and their home.

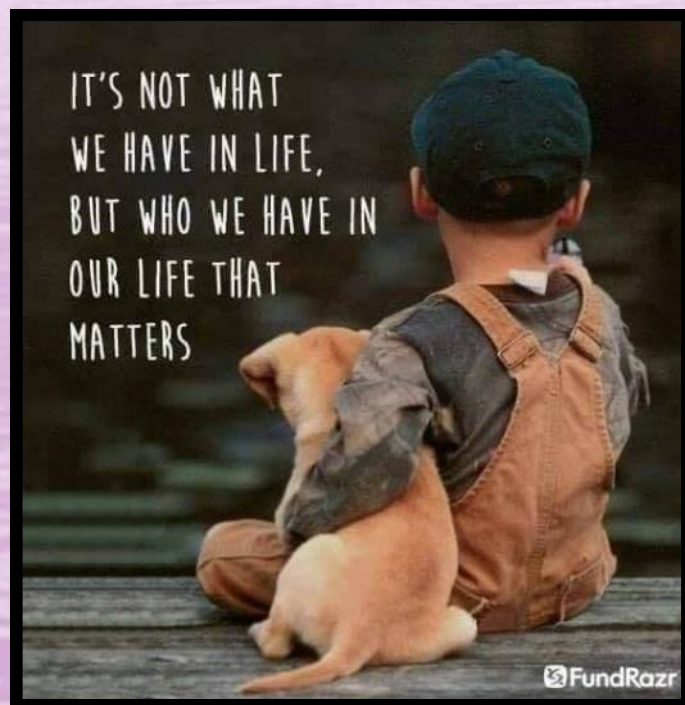
## **A Reality Check**

The pandemic has changed the way everyone does things. Our sanctuary has had to cancel many fundraisers and

activities, or modify them so we keep everyone safe. The Radiothon events were modified, the bingo has now been re-scheduled for the spring of 2022, Alumni Day and the Laps of Love were again cancelled. However, we are able to offer some hopeful news about upcoming, outside events in the next few months.

We will offer our Blessing of the Animals and the Wag Walk Walkathon with a few modifications in October. And a Yard Sale at the shelter on Sept. 18. Our first priority is always everyone's safety. BUT we also have to keep raising money. We can't sit back and relax because our Radiothon set a new record. We must always keep striving to try to keep up with escalating medical, utility, and other costs. Our rescue work is never done. Lives are at stake. And our friends and supporters, for whom we have the greatest gratitude and love, are the wind beneath our wings.

*Thank you for believing in our work. Thank you for your encouragement and support. Most of all, thank you for making this world a better, kinder, and more loving place. In these difficult times, we all need to know that such love and decency still exist.*





## Thanks to Our Business Sponsors and Wonderful Donors

Many thanks to the generous businesses and people who make it possible for almost 100% of the money raised to go directly to the animals. Many changes in how we usually do things had to be made due to the pandemic. Everyone just adapted as needed, and everyone was wonderful.

Radio station **WAEB** and **Bobby Gunther Walsh** were generous in their continuing support. **Ironton Telephone** again provided the phone system, while our volunteers made the necessary changes so the phones could be answered at the shelter rather than in the studio. **The Pet Friendly Vinart Dealerships** were again the underwriting sponsor of the Radiothon and for Sunday's food, which was an assortment of prepared items like **Yocco's** hotdogs, **Jersey Mike's** hoagies, assorted baked good from the **Amish Village Bake Shop**, munchies from **Herr's**, etc.

*A special thank you to Allentown Farmer's Market and Merchants (Mr. Bill's, Johnny's Fresh Meats, Amish Village Bake Shop, Lucy & Lolly's, among others). Thanks to the Allentown Farmer's Market and The Ritz BBQ for hosting live remotes at their places of business on Saturday. And to Gene Dickison of More Than Money for*

*collecting donations at his Nazareth Day table on Saturday. The hospitality and true support for our work, shown by all of these businesses, exceeded all expectations. What a wonderful way to have fun, meet some great people, and raise much needed funds!!*

*Special thanks to WAEB's **Craig Stevens** and **Dan Holzman** and other WAEB Team members and to **Res-Q 1250** for generously donating their products and 1-3 Sunday air time, and to **Don Wenner / DLP Realty** for donating live air time from 4-5 pm.*

Thanks also to the businesses and individuals who donated money for **Challenge Hours**, to inspire people to give and match the challenge: **Nestles Purina PetCare**, **Perkiomen Animal Hospital**, **For Cats Only Veterinary Hospital**, **Kiffle Kitchen Bakery**, **Vinart Auto Dealerships**, and many individuals who donated in honor or memory of past and present pets or people.

Bobby hugs Aid Dog K-Love



**Dinner with Gunther** was won by Suzanne Blyler of Northampton, Lorrie Day of Northampton, and Rose Bachik of Hellertown. Tickets and prizes to the Allentown Fair—such as tickets to Carrie Underwood, Toby Keith, AJR, & the Demolition Derby—were won by Debbie Mankos of Allentown, Kevin Gashlin of East Greenville, Phillip & Sandra June of Bethlehem, & Frankie Amador of Bethlehem. Various gift certificates & gift items were won by Terri Csaszar, Margie Edinger of Slatington, Suzanne Spencer of Kintnersville, and Robert Stephen.

## And the Winners Are....!

A \$200 gift certificate to the **Hotel Bethlehem** will be enjoyed by lucky Frank & Donna Alexander of Freemansburg. Kathy Dvorsky of Emmaus won a \$500 gift certificate donated by **Hager Furniture**, and a \$500 gift certificate from **Joe Mascari's Carpets and Rugs International** was won by Gary Petresky of Bethlehem.

A "Get Away" at **Oliver's Salon & Day Spa** was won by Cathy Natali

of Perkasio. Judy Slocum of Hellertown will be making delicious food on the gas grill donated by **Lehigh Supply Appliances**.

Chris Jones of Bath will be playing golf at **Wedgewood Golf Course**, and Richard Nelson of Coopersburg will not have any car problems thanks to a visit from **Steve's Roadside Service**.

**Please support businesses who make our work possible!**

**Also, send thank you's to Bobby at: Bobby Gunther Walsh, WAEB, 1541 Alta Drive, Whitehall, PA 18052.**

**More Thanks...** So many people were part of this Radiothon and helped in so many ways.

Denny Repsher maintains the digital records of every pledge, while Bev Repsher coordinates the phone answering during the week, assisted by Barb Groff, Linda Lawhorn, Cindy Deutsch, Kelly Hartnett, Sally Searfass, Linda Hoffert, & Deb Purdy. Kelly Hartnett covered calls after hours. Rose Yanger, Cindy Deutsch, Nancy Mihalko, Linda Lawhorn, & Sally Searfass manned the weekend phone calls. Rose Yanger also coordinated the challenge and matching money, as well as the prizes and thank you's.

Mail processing for several weeks was handled by AID Treasurer Sharon Werner. Lois Gadek called in to Bobby's show twice hourly to tell stories of the many rescues done since the past Radiothon, was live on air with Bobby on Sunday, and wrote the newsletters.

Coordinating the set-up of tables and food at the kennel was an army of volunteers, coordinated by Kelly Hartnett, Linda Hoffert, and Bob Johnson. Maureen Leahy cooked the hamburgers, and many other volunteers performed countless tasks, which would take this whole newsletter to list, including making incredible baskets for the Basket Social, cleaning &

arranging everything.....we couldn't have such an event without everyone!

Joining Bobby at **Allentown Farmer's Market** and **Ritz Barbecue** on Saturday was another group of volunteers.

Sincere thanks to all who helped in any way. Events like these take a lot of work and countless hours. Because of the generosity of our volunteers and supporters, 100% of the money raised goes directly to help animals.

Does it matter? Hundreds of cats and dogs now at our sanctuary, or adopted out into loving, forever homes, would say that your support means life or death for them and so many others. **Thanks and thanks again for making this year's Radiothon a success ... and for saving lives.**



*Update: Bev & Denny Repsher later adopted Buck! He's their 5th AID dog. All were huskies. All certified therapy dogs.*



**AID Dog Buck gets a belly rub from Bev Repsher**





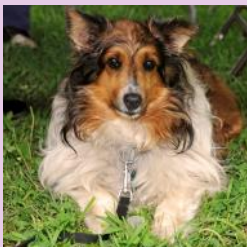
Hannah Boucher and her mother, with their two adopted AID dogs, pictured at left. As part of her Gold Award Project for Girl Scouts, Hannah prepared several Kindness Rocks bearing such inspiring sayings as "You Matter" or "You are loved." People were invited to take one rock for themselves, and then to take another rock and give it to someone else.

By the end of the day, almost all the rocks had found a home. What a sweet and loving thing to do for all our friends at the shelter on Radiothon Sunday!



So many volunteers manned phones, served food, and did so many other things. No words can adequately thank them for all that they do for the animals.

## **RADIOTHON 2021**



Thanks to Anita Bielecki for taking photos to share with all our friends.







**Good Memories  
& Good Friends  
on Radiothon  
Sunday 2021**



I agree to assume all responsibility for any and all risk or damage or injury that may occur to me (or my dog) as a participant in the Pet Walk. I will assume all risks associated with participating in the event including, but not limited to, illness, traveling to and from the event, falls, contact with spectators or other participants, and the effects of the weather (including extremes of temperature and/or humidity), and the surface condition of the course or staging area. I affirm that the dog(s) participating with me is/are currently licensed, with current Parvo, Distemper and Rabies vaccinations. In consideration of being accepted as an entrant in this event, I hereby for myself, my heirs, minor child or ward, and executors and administrators of all the foregoing release and discharge the City of Quakertown, Township of Haycock, Dept of Conservation and Natural Resources, Commonwealth of PA, Animals in Distress, its employees, Board of Trustees, sponsors, volunteers and all persons associated herewith from all claims, damages, rights of action present or unanticipated, resulting from or arising out of, or incident to, my participation in this event. I agree to permit the free use of my name and picture in any broadcast, telecast, or other account of this event.

Parent/Guardian signature if under 18

Is a non-profit, tax deductible organization dedicated to rescuing and rehabilitating abused, abandoned, and injured cats and dogs.

Our no-kill sanctuary receives NO public money from taxes or municipal sources and relies totally on donations and fund raisers for its income. ALL non-animal care work is done by volunteers, so that 100% of ALL donations go to help the animals.

**If it is raining on Oct 30, CALL 610-762-8553 after 8 am to get the event status.**

[illegible]



**at Nockamixon State Park.**

A map of the study area in Pennsylvania. It shows a network of roads: Route 309 running north-south, Route 313 running east-west, Route 563 running north-south, Route 412 running east-west, and Route 611 running north-south. Mockernion State Park is a shaded area located between Routes 313 and 563. Quakertown is marked with a black dot on Route 309. A north arrow points towards the top left of the map.

- All participants who raise \$50 or more in pledges will receive a free T-shirt.
- All participants who raise \$100 or more will be eligible for the top prizes.
- The 2 adults with the largest amount of sponsorship will have first and second choice of prizes.
- The student/child (under 18) with the largest amount of sponsorship will win a special prize.

All dogs must be leashed (6-foot maximum length not in any stages of heat, up-to-date with Parvo, Distemper and Rabies vaccinations and wear current ID tags. Your furry friends under 6 months of age may be happier at home. Dog walkers should scoop up after their pets. Animals in Distress reserves the right to remove from event any dog that becomes stressed or out of control.

Participants under the age of 12 must be accompanied by an adult; under 18 must have a parent/guardian signature to participate.



Participant's Name (print)

[illegible]

## Registration Form

*Please Print*  
Address \_\_\_\_\_

Pet's name

**Registration Fee:**

(DO NOT WRITE IN THE)

sign waiver & release form (see back).

**Sent to:**

## Animals in Distress Wag Walk,

**The participants raising the most sponsorship \$ will choose among a variety of gift baskets and gift cards.**

**The person raising the most \$**

**chooses first and so on. Ties will be resolved by a drawing to determine the order of prize selection. Participants**

**will receive a gift bag at check-in, while**

**supplies last.**

.....Please detach this coupon and mail it to: Animals in Distress, P.O. Box 609, Coopersburg, PA 18036 .....

**Enclosed is my gift of \$\_\_\_\_\_ so that the neediest pets like Thomas and so many others like him can get a second chance in a world that seldom gives second chances.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_



**Check box if you prefer that we don't send you a receipt.**

Check is Enclosed **or** Charge my Credit Card

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name on card (print) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

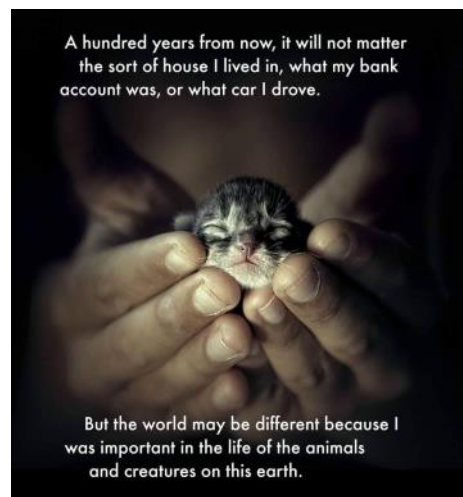


**I can't attend the Blessing of the Animals but want my pets blessed:**



\_\_\_\_\_ (list names)

**Thank You for Lending Many Friendly Paws a Helping Hand!**



**Thomas after a few weeks of care**

### **What Your Support Means**

Every year, we perform several rescues that perfectly embody the importance of our work and of the Radiothon which raises essential funds to save these lives. This year, we were contacted by a desperate person who found a cat unable to walk. All four feet had open wounds, and in those wounds were maggots crawling around and eating the cat alive. The kind person reached out for help from several places and was turned away. Someone suggested that she call Animals in Distress, and she knew this was her last hope.

At such times, we can't sit around debating what to do. If such animals are to have any chance, they need medical care right away. No guarantee of outcome, but at least a chance—which is what they would not get elsewhere.

The orange cat, whom we named Thomas, was rushed to our vet and spent several days in the hospital so they could manage his pain, change his bandages, and work on trying to save his feet from amputation. He also had wounds on other parts of his body, parasites, and severe upper respiratory and eye infections. We have decided not to share pictures of his condition for fear people would get too upset.

As you can see, the donations we get from all of YOU are the difference between pain and death, or life and hope. Thomas and many of our other rescues have experienced more pain and fear than some of us experience in a lifetime, and they just need someone to step up and save them. **That someone is YOU.**

### **Nominations for the Board:**

The Nominating Committee invites members in good standing to nominate candidates for service on the shelter's Board of Trustees for 2022. Board members are unpaid, are expected to donate an average of 10 hours per week, and participate in various areas of administration and fund raising. To nominate someone, including yourself, send the candidate's resume, a letter specifying what area(s) the candidate is prepared to serve in, and a letter from the candidate expressing ability to serve, and mail the nomination to: Nominating Committee, Animals in Distress, P.O. Box 609, Coopersburg, PA 18036. Nominations must be received by Oct. 14.

## ANIMALS IN DISTRESS

P.O. BOX 609  
COOPERSBURG, PA 18036

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
P A I D  
Lehigh Valley, PA  
Permit No. 271

DATED MATERIAL . . . PLEASE RUSH

Current Resident

## Save These Dates



**Kennel of Hope Yard Sale**, Saturday, Sept. 18, 8am-12pm—at *Animals in Distress*—rain or shine! You may rent a table space for only \$10. Bring your own table and canopy. Contact Kelly at 610-762-8553 with questions or to reserve a space. You really should stop by and take advantage of many great items we will offer, many from gift shops that closed, all at reasonable prices. 100% of the money raised will go to help the shelter animals, so you can shop without guilt!!!!



**Blessing of the Animals** Our annual Blessing of the Animals Ceremony will be held at 2:30 pm on Sunday, October 3, at our shelter. This very special day will include a memorable service highlighted by live music and thoughtful readings and reflections on the joy pets bring into our lives. Each pet that is blessed will receive a St. Francis medal. **Also, if you can't attend the Blessing, you may send in the name of your pet(s) on the donation coupon on page 7, and those pets will be included in a special blessing at the event.**

**Wag Walk Walkathon** Saturday, October 30 (rain date Oct. 31) at beautiful Lake Nockamixon, Quakertown—the full brochure is included in this newsletter. The event is fun and great exercise, plus it raises much needed funds for our sanctuary. And people can come without pets too. *Cat owners are also welcome, even if the cats prefer to lounge at home! Various games will entertain pets and people until the actual Walk begins.*