



Tails of Hope

"The Kennel of Hope"

The Newsletter of Animals in Distress
P.O. Box 609 Coopersburg, PA 18036

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Editor: LOIS GADEK

The Gift of Time, the Gift of Life Can you believe that we are almost through October by now? The autumn leaves are falling, and cooler air is a refreshing signal that the season is moving forward. Whether we like it or not, Mother Nature has the final say. The natural cycle of things reminds us that life is a process and not a destination. Change is inevitable, as are birth and death. What we do with the precious time we have been given between birth and death is our choice. We can waste it, or we can do something that matters—to us and to others.

Many of the people involved with Animals in Distress have chosen to use some of their precious time to help others. In our case, we help the most friendless and hopeless cats and dogs. They would have no hope without us. Through our collective actions, we have saved thousands of lives since our founding in 1977 as one of less than a dozen no kill shelters in the United States (if not the whole world).

Walking through our shelter and looking at the 300+ animals presently living there is a very humbling experience. These animals would be dead if not for all of us. They have no home, if we don't offer them one. They have no life, if we don't keep our work going.

We are mindful that many people—our supporters, our volunteers, our kennel staff—work together to make Animals in Distress a refuge and sanctuary for those who most desperately need us.

This newsletter will share information about events, rescues, and other news to let you know what we are doing to raise money so we can save more animals. We have listed dates for our upcoming events, including those for the holidays, and apologize if you are not yet in the holiday spirit! We hope that by giving you the dates in advance, you can mark your calendars now. Our Tribute event in particular displays the tributes at Holiday Open House on December 4, so we want to give you time to get those tributes to us so we can prepare them for display by December 4 and all through the month of December.

Every dollar raised goes to help the animals. No one is paid for anything other than animal care, and not one dollar of tax money has ever been received by us. So we count on you, our friends, for our existence. We want you to know how much you mean to us and the animals we have rescued.

Emmy Lou

A man showed up at our door on his way to work. When he stopped for gas, he noticed a black gym bag on the side of the highway.

When he went to investigate, he discovered a white cat with black markings stuffed inside the bag. We rushed the cat to our veterinarian. The poor cat was terrified. Her starved condition and scared behavior, which was somewhat aggressive, made us think that she needed some time to calm down. She gladly ate the food she was offered, finally having a full belly after God only knows how long,



Imagine the surprise in the vet hospital when they came in the next morning and found that she had given birth to a kitten! During the day, she delivered two more.

After her kittens were delivered, she became the sweetest, most loving cat. We named her Emmy Lou. She loves people, loves to be petted, and would enjoy pets even while she was nursing her babies. After a few days, one of the babies died. A second baby died two days later. One has survived.

Imagine, if you can, the monster who stuffed a pregnant, starving cat in a duffel bag and left it along the highway.

There must be a special place in Hell for people who are so cruel.

One of our favorite events is the *Blessing of the Animals.* The people attending the Blessing understand what a precious gift our pets are. And everyone attending the Blessing, with or without their pets, is very special to us. This year, due to the miserable weather, fewer than the usual number of people attended, but almost 100 pets whose owners could not be present, were blessed as well. You see, people and animals can be present in our hearts, even though they can't be physically present. We all have felt that pets who have passed on are still very much present in our lives. There is a kind of existence that transcends our physical bodies, and lives in the heart and soul.

We would like to express our appreciation to all the volunteers who made yummy food. Also, our deep gratitude to Pastor John Cordes, for officiating at the Blessing this year. Pastor Sharon O'Connor, who has been doing the Blessing for over 25 years, had some last minute health issues but is doing better. Pastor John filled in on short notice, and was so gracious about everything.

We also want to remind everyone that the over 300 animals living in our shelter were also blessed by Pastor John. We never want to forget to include them in the Blessing. This is their home. We are their family. Until they get adopted, this is their only home and we are their only family. We can't take them all home with us, as much as we would like to, but we know that they are in a good place. And the animals know that they are loved.



Thanks to Jack Lehr Electric for conducting a fun Cutest Dog Contest



"I am the winner!!" ★

A similar event for the *Cutest Cat* has started in October, so visit Jack Lehr Electric on Facebook to enter your cat.

through their social media outlets. Ed Lehr came up with the idea to honor National Dog Day and decided to partner with Animals in Distress. Over 350 people entered pictures, and the winning picture is of a very cute pup named Mya, a 16 week old beagle owned by Jennifer Serfass. Several pictures of our shelter dogs were also posted. There were no entry fees, so people could participate without any restrictions. Jack Lehr Electric knows and understands the importance of our rescue work, since they maintain our extensive HVAC system.



★
The company presented AID President Lois Gadek with a check for \$2,000.

Updates

Our definition of rescue includes a commitment to every animal, regardless of behavior, health issues, or age. Each life is precious. One animal is not more precious than another because it is young, or purebred, or "cute." Many of our rescues are not going to survive unless we help them. And this newsletter shares with our friends some of the rescues so you understand how important is your continuing support. We want to update you on some rescues we have told you about so you can see the impact that YOU are having.

Do you remember the sad story of Mercedes, a 6-8 week kitten we rescued from certain death on the streets? People saw her from time to time, but no one claimed her: she was Nobody's Cat. Where she slept was Nobody's concern. Whether she got food was Nobody's worry. She was a Nobody, almost invisible, certainly not worth anyone's effort.



The picture to the left shows her after one eyeball was removed. We are hoping that she can recover some vision in the other eye, but only time will tell

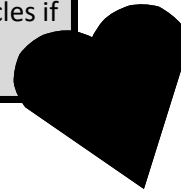
And next is a picture of Mercedes on the day she was adopted into a loving, forever home.



This is a picture of Mercedes when we first rescued her. She was literally blind and in great discomfort due to the infected and grotesque swelling and decay of both eyeballs.

Despite her condition, all she showed was trust and love. Such a sweet soul.

Happy endings don't happen without the help of all of us. We can often create miracles if we try.



Update on Flicker and Chloe

Our last newsletter told the story of two senior dogs who had been neglected for years by their elderly owner. Both dogs were under weight, dehydrated, and needed significant dental care as well as other medical issues that had to be addressed. Flicker was in the worse condition and had to be hospitalized for several days and given IV fluids. Flicker got strong enough to be sent home, and both dogs are doing much better. They are older dogs (Flicker is 13, and Chloe is 10), but there is no reason they can't have a nice retirement for many years to come. Old age is not a disease. Sadly, our society tries to hide signs of aging: Botox injections, face lifts, hair dying, makeup, etc. are all attempts to deny the

reality of the fact that we are older. Older pets are much more likely to wait and wait for someone to adopt them. And these two dogs are very bonded to each other. That makes getting a loving home for them even more challenging. We thought our friends would enjoy updated pictures of them in their Halloween costumes!



Flicker, pictured at left, is wearing a pink satin tutu rhinestone dress with matching beret. Chloe, pictured at right, has a Tinkerbell costume on.





Holiday Fun and *Fund-raisers*

100% of the proceeds benefit the no-kill sanctuary

ANIMALS IN DISTRESS

5075 Limeport Pike, Coopersburg, PA 18036

610-966-9383, website animalsindistresspa.org

Email: aidpa@enter.net

Happy Holidays Open House SUNDAY, Dec. 4, 12:00 to 4 pm.

Silent Auction (drawing that day at 4), Music, Craft and Gift Bazaar, Food and Beverages, Basket Social*

Fabulous selection of craft and gift items, baked goods (please deliver donated baked goods to the shelter by 4pm on December 3), and much, much more. *This event features the area's largest selection of items with a cat or dog motif, many one-of-a-kind.* All items are reasonably priced. ****Baskets filled with various items are needed and can be brought to the shelter by 4pm on December 3. They should have a value of at least \$10 and can be in any theme you choose: chocolate or coffee or tea lover, cat lover, bathroom, dog lover, etc. The baskets we have received in the past have been exceptional, with some worth \$75 or more.*** Drawing of the Basket Social Winners will be at 3 pm on Dec. 18.



Pet Photos with Santa Paws at the shelter, 1 to 3:30 pm, on Saturday, December 10--- and on Sunday, Dec. 18
--No appointments needed. People are welcome to pose with their pet.

Happy Holidays Gift Bazaar at the shelter, 1 to 4 pm, every Sat and Sun until Dec. 24 *Please stop by and do some last minute shopping, while also enjoying one of the area's greatest gift selections featuring cats and dogs. New items are added constantly.*

No worries about all the news reports of store shelves being empty and deliveries being held up on the docks. We have a lot of great items, many one-of-a-kind, so you can spend your money and save animals and avoid the stress of wondering when and if you can find just that special item that's being promoted during the holiday buying frenzy.

We also have our Tribute Program (details on pages 5-6) which provides a great alternative to focusing on material gift giving, and we also have an option of giving a sponsorship of one of our shelter animals as a gift (that's the gift that keeps on giving all year—details on page 3).



STOP Holiday Stress!

Let's be realistic: the holidays are a mixed blessing. Many people become exhausted (and sick) by running around buying gifts and all that goes with them (wrapping, delivering, paying for, returning, etc.) Many people spend too much, eat too much, and have too much. In the process of celebrating the holidays, we sometimes minimize or even forget the meaning of the holidays, which are a time for giving, not getting; a time for being grateful for what we have--our health, our loved ones, our other blessings.

Let's make a deal: if you consider sharing your holiday celebration with the animals at the shelter, you will receive in return: less stress and work for you, more time for what really matters, tax deductible holiday "spending," and the knowledge that you have helped those who will not have any holiday at all, without your help.

Further, those who receive your gifts will know that they are being honored in the best way possible: by having good done for others, in their name, in their honor. What better way to honor the memory of a loved one? In this Holiday Fundraising brochure are all sorts of gift ideas. Please consider them as part of your holiday giving. You and the gift recipients will feel great by giving and receiving such gifts, and so will the homeless animals at our shelter. Remember: 100% of all money donated--and all money raised through such fundraisers--goes directly to care for the 350+ animals housed at Animals in Distress, over the holidays as well as during the rest of the year.



Share your gift giving with our animals

Help us decorate the shelter for the holidays and do something special as well. In all Tribute categories, the person's or pet's name(s) will be printed on velvet ribbons attached to the Holiday Tributes. The display will be unveiled at the Christmas Open House on December 2 and continue through the New Year. A personalized announcement of your thoughtful gift will be mailed directly to each recipient you designate on the enclosed form. If you prefer, we will send the announcements to you so you can deliver them personally.

Please consider honoring a family, friend, business, or special pet or person by selecting one or more of these very special donor holiday options:

Poinsettia Tribute with Name of Person/Pet Honored--\$35

Special Ornament with Name Honored--\$75

Special Wreath with Name(s) Honored--\$250

Please designate your instructions on the form below and mail your instructions to the P.O. Box on the form. The Holiday Tributes will be displayed at the December Open House and will remain on display until after the New Year. Please allow our volunteers adequate time to process your request. Tribute requests postmarked by December 10 will be guaranteed to arrive where designated before December 25. Tributes received after that time will be processed as soon as possible, and displayed at the shelter immediately after we receive them.

For more info: contact our web site at animalsindistresspa.org, email aidpa@enter.net, or call 610-966-9383.



HOLIDAY TRIBUTES FORM

detach and return to : HOLIDAY, Animals in Distress, P.O. Box 609,
Coopersburg, PA 18036

Your Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____



List the following as **Memorials**
(indicate if a pet or a person) for
Poinsettias

If you want us to mail an announcement directly
to the recipient(s), please supply the mailing
address below (attach separate sheets of paper if
you prefer):



List the following as **In Honor** of
(indicate if a pet or a person) for
Poinsettias

Total Enclosed at \$35 each: \$ _____

For Poinsettia Tributes

If you want the announcements mailed
directly **TO YOU**, check this box []



List the following as **Tributes or Memorials** (indicate if a pet or person) for **Special Ornaments @ \$75**

_____ indicate which are tributes/which are memorials



List the following as **Tributes or Memorials** (indicate if a pet or person) for **Special Wreaths @ \$250**

_____ indicate which are tributes/which are memorials

If you want the announcements mailed directly **TO YOU**, check this box. []

If you want us to mail an announcement directly to the recipient(s), please supply the mailing address(es)
(attach separate sheets of paper if needed): _____

Total Enclosed: Number _____ Special Ornaments at \$75 each: \$ _____

Number _____ Special Wreaths at \$250 each: \$ _____

Total Enclosed for Ornaments and Wreaths: \$ _____

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

Enclosed is my donation of \$ _____ to provide Hope for animals like Flicker, Chloe, Mercedes, Emmy Lou and her baby, and so many others. who need a second chance in a world that seldom gives second chances. They depend on us for their lives.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

If credit card**: Card number _____

***Only Mastercard, VISA, & Discover card are accepted, please.*

Exp. Date _____

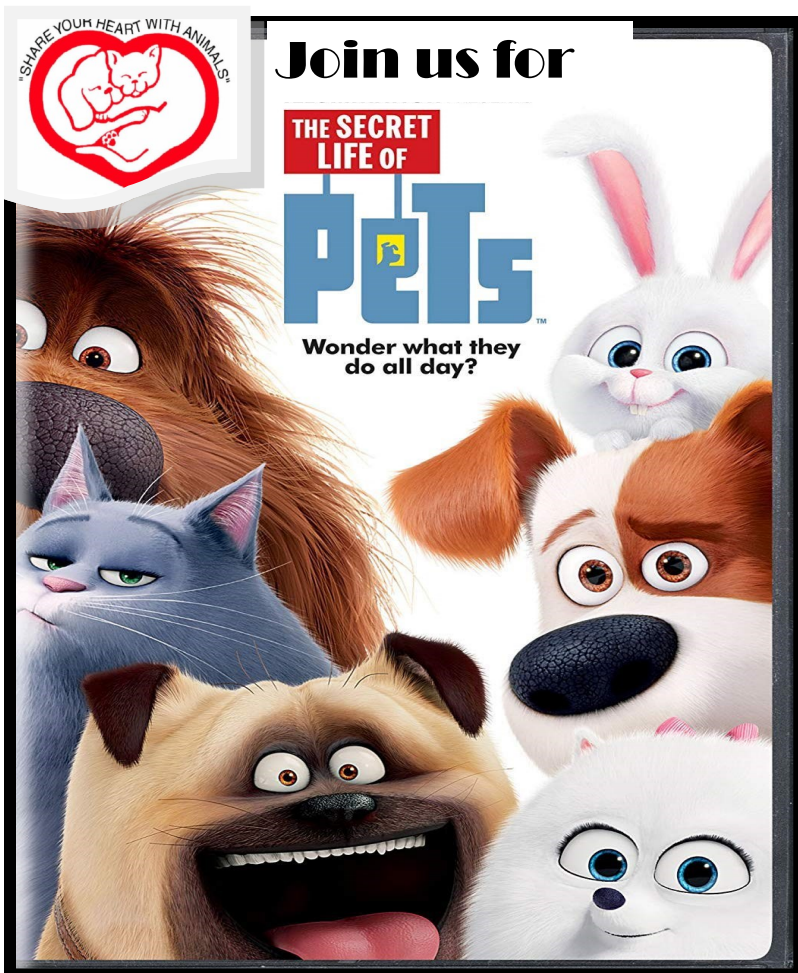
Name on card _____

Signature of cardholder _____

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



Emmy Lou and her baby thank you for caring...and for their lives.



A Fun Afternoon and A FUNdraiser

for the Animals on
Saturday, November 5

Enjoy the movie

The Secret Life of Pets

at the Emmaus Theater.

Tickets are only \$5.00. All ticket sales proceeds go to the shelter.

Doors open at 12:30. The movie starts at 1.

Thanks to Fox & Roach Realtors for sponsoring this event!.

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P.O. BOX 609
COOPERSBURG, PA 18036

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Lehigh Valley, PA
Permit No. 271

DATED MATERIAL . . . PLEASE RUSH

Current Resident

Mark Your Calendar

Holiday Open House—Sunday, Dec. 4,
noon to 4 pm Food, fabulous basket social, craft
and gift items, good company! Basket Social
continues thru Dec. 18. Great prices and many
one-of-a-kind items.



**Reminder: Wag Walk Walkathon will be held on
Saturday, October 29** at Lake Nockamixon,
Quakertown. Registration form and details are available
at the shelter and posted on our website at:
animalsindistresspa.org. Contact Kelly for more details
at khart70906@aol.com or by phone at 610-762-8553

Watch out...Santa Paws may be checking to see if you've been naughty or nice (we know you've been nice, of course)! You've been so nice that we are offering a really great selection of gift items at low, low prices.

Pet Photos with Santa Paws—1 to 3:30 pm on Saturday,
Dec. 10 and Sunday, Dec. 18. No appointments needed.
Holiday Craft and Gift Bazaar—1 to 4 pm every Saturday, &
Sunday thru Dec. 24.

**Check our website at
animalsindistresspa.org
for latest event updates.**

The holidays remind many of us of our childhood, and some of us experience mixed emotions as we think back to our youth and past holidays—people and pets now gone, special moments, the wonder that is only possible in childhood. What we are now is, in part, determined by our past.

Christmas isn't about shopping and getting gifts. It's about Love...and Hope...and a kinder, better world for ALL creatures great and small. Over 300 animals at Animals in Distress have a safe and loving home at the shelter for as long as they need it. We honor the Christmas spirit every day of the year....and are so grateful to you for making all of what we do possible.

See you at the movies on November 5!!

