



"The Kennel of Hope"

# Tails of Hope

The Newsletter of Animals in Distress  
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VOL. XXIX No. 6

JUNE 2024

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## A Perfect Day

Did you ever attend an event where everything is so positive and loving that you can't stop smiling about it, even the day after? Well, that is how some of us feel after this year's Alumni Day. What a wonderful gathering of people and animals and good will and love and decency and kindness... The list goes on and on. Once a year, the first Sunday in June, Animals in Distress has what is the equivalent of a homecoming for its friends, supporters, adopting families, and others who share our mission and our work.



The June 2024 celebration was as close to perfect as it could be. Volunteers like Kelly Hartnett, Linda Hoffert, and Bob Johnson did countless hours of work to get everything set up. Loyal volunteers baked goodies, set up the basket social, cooked food, and, in countless other ways, made the day happen. It's hard to even know how to express what a great effort everybody puts in to making this day special and memorable.

do what they do because they love doing it, and because they love us.



Thank you to everyone who attended and participated in any way. And a very special thank you to people who have adopted from us, who stay loyal to our organization, and who bring their animals back so that we all can see the ultimate success of our efforts. Seeing so many dogs, (cats seldom come because it's too active and unsettling for them), who are so loved and well cared for by their owners is the absolute best thing ever. Some of these dogs are with us for quite a long time before they get home. One of those is Mocha. This German shepherd mix is middle-age, and has a touch of arthritis. She was with us for four years. Longtime dog adopter Trish and Ed Agnoli (right) adopted her, and she is blossoming in their loving care. Another dog with a sad story, a Chinese crested named Littles, who had lost her protective brother and her home and her owner, returned for a visit with her adopters, Marilyn and Richard Jacobs. Littles (left) is reborn. She is so happy with her family, and has finally found peace and stability in her life.



Mocha



Littles

The pictures that Lowell Linde took (see page 5) say better than words can how special Alumni Day was. We all are so busy these days, and it was wonderful to be able to just be present in the moment with all the positive energy at that event. Of course, it is equally special to hold the event in the courtyard, which is bordered on one side by the cat kennel with hundreds of cats, and on the other side with the dogs. It's like the two wings of the building embrace the event and embrace the people who are attending and who make it all possible. And that includes you, our friends and supporters.

*Even though some of our friends could not attend Alumni Day this year, they really were here in heart and spirit. Never, ever forget that everything we accomplish is due to the support and love and hard work of our friends, our Board members, and our many volunteers. We thank you from the bottom of our hearts.*

The highlight of the afternoon was a surprise program to acknowledge over four decades of dedication and service by Board member Rose Yanger. Rose (left) has served on the Board longer than any other living person. She was involved at our old kennel off of Race Street in Allentown, behind the Lehigh Valley airport, and has been a hard-working and dedicated part of our history.



Rose

Lois

President Lois Gadek shared information that most people don't know, such as Rose being a clown for children's parties, doing funny pranks, establishing our friendship with Bobby Gunther Walsh from the first year he was involved at radio station WAEB in the Lehigh Valley, and the list goes on and on. Thousands of thank you letters, coordinating the Take a Pet to Dinner program, helping at just about every major event, and the list goes on and on. Rose was totally taken by surprise. She was not expecting this. If she knew what we were up to, she probably would've found an excuse not to come out in the courtyard where everyone was gathered. That's how Rose is. She's not looking for the spotlight. She does what she does out of the goodness of her heart.

In keeping with the celebration of love, we want to thank Donna Fisher and friends Regina and Al for providing music for the event. You can tell how much they enjoy being part of the day, and that makes their efforts even more special. They

## *Kayla Now Enjoys Walking*

If you know anything about cats, you know how important their claws are for exercise, mobility, and well-being. Cats, by their very nature, are dependent on the claws and toes on their feet for their balance, their mobility, and their safety. When anything happens to affect the health and welfare of their feet and claws, they are in serious trouble—and, usually, significant pain.

We received a desperate call for help from a woman in Texas. Her brother had died unexpectedly, and her brother's 10 year old cat was locked in the apartment with no one to care for it. Due to the distance and logistical issues, the situation was getting desperate. So, we decided to help the poor cat before it starved to death—or the landlord threw it out in the street as he had been threatening to do.

What we discovered was a cat whose feet were grotesque. The nails had not been trimmed back in a very long time. The apartment had no furniture or bedding in it, and the cat was unable to claw a surface that would help wear down its claws. Some of the nails had curled around and around into the foot of the cat. Other nails were super enlarged, making it next to impossible for the cat to walk on its paws. The amount of pain and discomfort that animal must have endured for years defies description.



In addition, the cat, named Kayla, also had significant damaged and rotting teeth and infected, painful gums. Clearly, this poor animal did not know what it was like to be without pain for many years.

Every step it took, each time it tried to eat—just the thought causes us to cringe.



*Because people like you support our Radiothon and our efforts all year, we were able to save Kayla and get all of her medical needs taken care of. Here is a picture of Kayla, sleeping peacefully in our cat kennel, without pain or discomfort. Her owner obviously was on hard times for many years, but he must have loved his cat. He just couldn't do better for her. We hope he can see her, wherever he is, and know that Kayla is being taken care of and is in a safe, loving place. Kayla was with him until he took his last breath, and we are amazed that she has been able to survive such trauma, pain, and hardship and still stay a sweet, affectionate, and trusting soul.*



**If you are donating items for the Silent Auction and/or the Basket Social, please drop them off by July 13. Best hours are 1-4 on Sat and Sun, and 6-8 on Monday nights. If you need to make special arrangements or have questions, please contact Kelly at: phone—610-762-8553 or email — khart70906@aol.com.**

## **UPCOMING:**

**INDOOR YARD SALE**, at Animals in Distress, **Saturday, August 17, 8-noon**. If you want to rent a space or have questions, please contact Kelly at: phone—610-762-8553 or email — khart70906@aol.com

**BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS**—**Sunday, October 6**, at *Animals in Distress*—formal blessing is at 2:30. All pets attending will receive a St. Francis of Assisi medal as well as an individual blessing.

**WAG WALK**—**October date to be determined**, at Lake Nockamixon. Details in the next newsletter. Start collecting sponsorship money now. Participants bringing in the most money will receive special prizes. Registration at the marina at 10:30 am.

## Good News



In last month's newsletter, we featured the theme of bonded pairs of animals who had to be adopted out together. We are very happy to report that one of the bonded pairs, brother and sister shiitzus Chloe and Ozzy, were adopted by a loving family who had never had two dogs at the same time. The two dogs are enjoying their new home and the beautiful garden lovingly tended to by the couple.

Also, Mocha, a German shepherd mix who had been with us for 4 years, was adopted from us in January. She returned for Alumni Day and looked so happy and content. You could tell how much she loves our shelter staff and volunteers because she was so happy to see them. BUT she was also happy to go home with her very special family.



Sometimes, we think that the biggest gift we can give to our rescued animals, in addition to love and a safe place to be, is TIME. It takes time to heal, time to trust, and, in both of these cases, time to find a forever home. Time for someone to see how wonderful they are. Time to be discovered.

Those who support our work have given animals like these the gift of life, the gift of hope, and the gift of time.



Imagine how surprised a work crew was at a construction site, when they were getting ready to start up a big piece of machinery, and discovered five tiny kittens huddled in the bowels of the machine. Had they not seen those kittens before they started the machine, the poor kittens would've suffered a horrible death.

**Surprise!**

When we rescued those kittens, they smelled of machine oil. There was no sign of the mother cat, and the kittens were way too young to survive on their own. Construction sites are very dangerous places for people, and also for animals. It's very possible the mother was killed by one of the large machines. Anyway, emergency measures were in order, so Kelly Hartnett took the kittens home with her to feed them every couple of hours around the clock until Rose was able to get the kittens into her foster care. We are very pleased to say that all five kittens have survived, and they actually attended our Alumni Day. We had them in our office, so

they wouldn't get too much activity, but invited people to come and look at the babies. Nothing speaks louder about the value of our life saving work than looking, face-to-face, at the animals who have been saved. So many of them had special needs and were in crisis of some kind. So many of them would not have survived except for Animals in Distress and all the people who make our work possible.



One kind deed leads to another, and Rose, who works at Renaissance Senior Homes, recently took the kittens to work and shared them with some of the elderly residents there. Many of them had pets years ago, and holding a tiny kitten in their hands brings back all the sweet memories of pets they had before.



# ***The Difference Caring People Can Make***

A nice elderly woman who had been feeding stray cats in her area, showed up with a cat whose tail had been bitten through the bone, and part of its tail had already fallen off. The nice lady had been feeding a colony of outdoor cats and had already taken this female to be spayed and gotten her vaccines. Now the poor cat, who she named PawPaw, was in serious trouble. Our veterinarian said that PawPaw is only about a year old and very friendly. The lady who had been feeding the stray cats had taken her to an emergency vet hospital, but she could not afford the thousands of dollars to amputate the tail. She was heartbroken. She couldn't let the cat suffer, and she could not afford thousands in vet care, and she was unable to add PawPaw to her household of cats that she had already rescued. In addition, the lady has many health issues. Her only option was to euthanize the cat so at least it didn't suffer anymore.

Our veterinarian examined PawPaw and despite the miserable condition of the cat, she did not even have to sedate PawPaw to evaluate her wounds and figure out how to proceed. Obviously, amputation would be required along with follow up antibiotics and pain medication and wound dressings.



PawPaw returned to the shelter for a short time, but a recheck showed that the tail was still rotting away. So a second surgery was needed to remove all but about an inch of her tail.

PawPaw is recovering very well and has been at the Veterinary Hospital so long, and has become so attached to the staff there, and is so friendly to everybody, that they have offered to adopt her. She will no longer be living out on the streets, a victim vulnerable to whatever misery comes her way.

**There are many kind and decent people in the world, but we don't hear about most of them. It is so easy to get disheartened and frustrated and depressed when listening to all of the cruelty and violence and antagonism in the news cycle. In contrast: Here is an example of good news, of caring people, and a life saved from misery and suffering. These kinds of stories do not have happy endings if we don't tap into the goodness that is in the hearts of most of us.**



**NOW: with Dr. Renee Ziegler who is adopting PawPaw.**

**PawPaw represents all the shelter and rescued cats who just need a chance. They just need a friend who will help them through their tough times. PawPaw also reflects all the cats who are living out there now, who are not truly feral cats. They are just pets who have been betrayed by their owners.**

***Bless everyone who has been kind to a stray or homeless and unwanted creature, for they are among the many angels walking the Earth among us.***





ALUMNI DAY 2024





## Radiothon Week July 8-14: Events and Information

**Monday through Friday,**

**July 8--12, Listen to The News Radio 790**

**WAEB Radiothon on the Bobby Gunther Walsh Show, which airs weekdays from 5 to 10 am.** Listen at these times for latest news, prizes, events,

updates, and rescue stories.

AID President Lois Gadek will be calling in every half hour with stories of rescues that explain why donations are urgently needed for our life saving work.

Service Electric Channel 50 televises Bobby's show from 5-10 am. For updates on the Radiothon and other information, visit Gunther's page at [WAEB.com](http://WAEB.com) or our website at [animalsindistresspa.org](http://animalsindistresspa.org).

**Pledge line during the show,**  
**from 6-10 am, is 610-841-4999.**

Over the weekend, July 13 & 14, Bobby will be on air live from remote location on Saturday, and from our shelter all day on Sunday. Three hours of live broadcast from the shelter will be from 1-3 and 4-5 on Sunday.

**Pledge line to call on Saturday and Sunday is**  
**610-966-9383 from 8am to 6 pm.**



**Sunday, July 14, at the shelter:**

**Continental Breakfast** starts at 8 with pastries and coffee/tea.

**Picnic Lunch starts around 11:30,** featuring hot dogs donated by Yocco's, burgers, various munchies from Herr's, plus beverages, desserts etc.

Music compliments of **DJ Tony Bronico**

Live broadcast for 2 hours, from 1-3 pm, has been underwritten by **Res-Q Natural Supplements**, who are also offering a raffle for 2 Res-Q baskets.

A \$2500 Challenge hour sponsored by **Jon Campbell Team brokered by Real Realty** is being broadcast live from 4-5. If you can't attend in person, you can listen in to find out why your donations are so important. It is such a luxury to have enough time to talk in depth about what we do, and to possibly interview visitors who have adopted from us or who donate their time and money because they see firsthand what the Radiothon means to us in saving precious lives.

**Live Broadcasts from Remote Locations on**

**Saturday, July 13** Stop by, meet Bobby, make a pledge.



**Allentown Farmer's Market 8am-4 pm**

Sponsored by Mr. Bill's Poultry

**Also on Saturday, July 13 (1-4) and Sunday,**

**July 14 (9-5pm) at the shelter:**

**Silent Auction & Basket Social**

***Pledges may be made or dropped off at the shelter all day Sunday.***

***Special thanks to the Vinart Auto***

***Dealerships, Lehigh Valley Acura, Honda, Hyundai, & Porsche Lehigh Valley, & Mercedes Benz of the Lehigh Valley, for sponsoring the Radiothon AND for covering the cost of food we will be serving our guests. Their kindness reflects the commitment to the community of this incredible organization, a blessing to the Lehigh Valley and beyond.***



***Thanks to Ironton Telephone for helping to set up phone lines off site at the shelter and at the station.***

***PLEDGE LINE TO CALL ON SATURDAY & SUNDAY, 8AM-6 PM, is 610-966-9383.***

Please detach this coupon and return it to: RADIOTHON, ANIMALS IN DISTRESS, P.O BOX 609, COOPERSBURG, PA 18036

Enclosed is my donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to help save lives of desperate animals like PawPaw, Kayla, Mocha, Ozzy, Chloe and so many others, who seldom get a second chance in a world that seldom gives second chances.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number and/or email if you win a prize \_\_\_\_\_

Check this box if this donation is payment for a pledge you already phoned in: [ ]

Check this box if you do not want a receipt for your donation: [ ]

Please indicate one: [ ] Check enclosed OR Enter Credit card (MC, Visa, Discover)

info below:

Name on card \_\_\_\_\_

Card number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp date \_\_\_\_\_

Your signature \_\_\_\_\_

Phone if paying by credit card \_\_\_\_\_

*We can't help animals like these without people like YOU. Thanks for caring when many just turn away and try to ignore the great need for Kindness to all creatures great and small.. You make all the difference—more than you can know.*

NEW: Those who prefer can donate by clicking on this QR code



## ***Incentive Prize Highlights***

*We know that you donate only to help needy animals. However, due to the generosity of the following businesses and individuals, we are able to offer these incentive prizes in various categories. This list is not inclusive, since many more prizes will be added as the Radiothon progresses. Please support the businesses mentioned in this newsletter.*

**Donors of \$100 or more** are eligible for a drawing to win one of these fabulous prizes:

***\$500 Gift Certificate to Joe Mascari's Carpets and Rugs International of Allentown***

***\$500 Gift Certificate from Hager Furniture in Palmerton***

***Gas Grill from Lehigh Supply Appliance of Bethlehem***

***A 14k yellow gold custom made Kitty Cat Diamond necklace from Westgate Jewelers of Bethlehem, valued at \$1,000***

***\$250 Gift Certificate to the Historic Hotel Bethlehem***

***A piece of jewelry valued at \$500 donated by Westgate Jewelers***

**Donors of \$50 or more** are eligible for a drawing to win one of the following:

***Passes for Golf at Wedgewood Golf Course***

***And Other Gift Certificates and Gift Items to be announced later***

**Donors of \$25 or more** are eligible for a drawing to win one of the following:

***Dinner with Bobby Gunther Walsh compliments of the Historic Hotel Bethlehem,***

***Great Allentown Fair tickets to various shows, Iron Pigs tickets***

# ANIMALS IN DISTRESS

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*Rescue isn't just  
a word. It's a  
promise.*



*This is Tori, abandoned  
and left to starve. She  
suffered an injury to her  
ear.*

**Everybody's talking  
about the WAEB  
790AM Radiothon,  
starting July 8. 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](http://animalsindistresspa.org) for news  
and updates. And to make a donation!

Pledge line in studio is 610-841-4999, Monday thru Friday.  
Shelter pledge line over the weekend is 610-966-9383, Sat  
and Sun 8am-6pm.