



"The Kennel of Hope"

Tails of Hope

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

SEPTEMBER 2024

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An Update on taking a chance on Chance

The last newsletter mentioned a recent rescue of a puppy we named Chance. His owners left this six month old shepherd mix in a dark cold basement of the house they abandoned. No food or water. No bed. Just cold concrete. Worse yet, he had little chance of being discovered because few people would go down the rickety steps through the trap door into this dungeon.

When Chance was seen by a man inspecting the house for a clean out, he brought Chance to us. He could not take him home, and he could not leave him there to die. We are going to share a picture with you of the condition Chance was in when the man first spotted him in the darkness. Chance was huddled in a dark corner between the old refrigerator and the concrete wall. His head was down, and his expression was one of fear and desolation. What had he done in his six months of life to deserve this slow and miserable death?



It took him a little while to settle in at the shelter. When he realized that no one was going to hurt him, he soon showed the sweet and social personality that he is. Our big concern was that he was limping. We got him to the vet and had him x-rayed. Sadly, his leg was badly broken and required the services of an orthopedic surgeon to repair it. Our guess is that the people threw him down the steps into the basement, and broke his leg as a result.

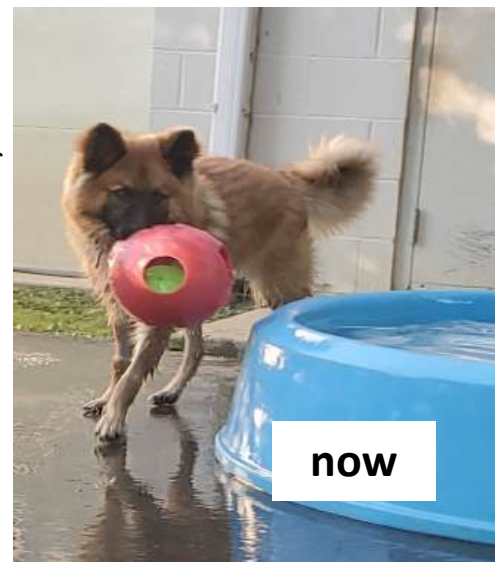
It would certainly be cheaper to just amputate the whole leg. That would certainly remove the pain he was in and give him a decent life, as many three

legged animals have shown. But we wanted to try to give Chance as normal a life as possible. After all, he was just a puppy who had already gone through such sadness and pain in his short life. He deserved better than that.

Thanks to all the people who believe in our work and who support our mission, we were able to give Chance the surgery and the recuperation time he needed to make a full recovery. We invite all of our friends to meet him so they can see for themselves what their donations and support and prayers have accomplished. We literally cannot do this alone. Our hearts want to, but practically speaking, there are bills to be paid. Miracles like this don't happen by wishing them into existence. They require resources.

We keep reminding our friends in our newsletters, how important they are to everything that we do. We understand that many people would find it emotionally difficult to do these rescues directly. But for us, who do the rescues, it would be heartbreaking if we did the rescue but couldn't help the animal. It's difficult to even imagine the desperation we would feel if we couldn't do anything to help these animals.

Sometimes, love alone isn't enough. Love needs action, and we have to have the resources to get humane outcomes for animals like Chance and so many others.



Roger Deserved Better

Roger is a dramatic reason for why we need funds to support Veterinary care. These animals will not survive without medical help.

A very kind lady found a very sick, emaciated, brown tiger cat lying on her back porch. He was close to unresponsive. Didn't move. Could hardly lift his head. While most people would not do anything about this except say "oh, that's too bad," these people knew they had to get him to a veterinarian right away. They raced him to an emergency clinic who prescribed some antibiotics to try to deal with his severe congestion and weakness. The kind people could not continue to take care of him because of the huge expense, so we took him immediately to our veterinarian.

First of all, he had a huge hole in his right cheek. It appeared to be a deep puncture wound, probably from the tooth of another animal. He was severely congested and struggled to breathe. His back legs and rear end were covered in fly eggs, which would eventually become maggots that would then eat him alive. He even struggled to try to take any nutrition. He was clearly dying. We named him Roger.

On further inspection, the vet found that the hole in his cheek went completely through to the inside of his mouth. In the back of his mouth, towards his throat on the right side, was a large mass. Thankfully, that turned out to be due to severe infection, and not cancer. A biopsy was done of the facial wound, and he needed dental surgery in the back area of his mouth to remove some teeth and some roots which were massively infected.

He has had loose stools and trouble with the wound healing. His cheek continues to ooze blood and has

burst open more than once with nonstop bleeding. Bloodwork shows he has a blood clotting problem, which creates the risk of hemorrhaging, either from that wound or someplace else.

Everyone was assuming that a cat with these problems in this condition was probably an older cat. Maybe on his last legs. But Roger is estimated by the vet to be only four years old. Obviously, he has had a very hard life.

Sometimes, the most surprising thing about the rescues we do is the attitude of the animal who has been through hell and suffered so much. Despite everything he has been through, Roger remains such a sweet soul. He loves having his head scratched. At first, when approached, he felt he had to hiss, just in case we were going to hurt him. But now he understands that hissing is not needed. Getting his head and ears scratched is a very good thing!



Our hopes and prayers are that Roger will have a future. He will have a life that he could never have imagined. He will be safe, he will be fed and taken care of medically, and he will be loved. He will know Peace. He will know Hope. He will know what it is like to matter. Animals like Roger are not garbage. They are not worthless. They are victims of human irresponsibility and cruelty. Too many people blame the animals who are struggling to stay alive after humans have failed them. We look at it differently. Those animals have been failed by humans, sometimes over and over again, but they will not be failed by us and all the people who support our work. ***That is the promise we make.***

That is the commitment we keep. That is why we are called the Kennel of Hope.



Jack Lehr Electric Company representatives presented AID President Lois Gadek with a check for \$2,000.

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

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. Hundreds of people entered pictures, and the winning picture shows the adorable 2024 winner, Cocopuff, with her loving owner Hannah Sommers. 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.

Of course, all the dogs entered had already won the best prize ever: a loving forever home.

The picture on the right shows Cocopuff and 14 year old AID shelter cat Pearl having a discussion about the Cutest Cat Contest that starts October 1. To enter your cute kitties, visit Jack Lehr Electric on Facebook to participate. The Jack Lehr Facebook page is <https://www.facebook.com/jacklehrheating>

The winner will receive some prizes and our sanctuary will receive another \$2,000 from Jack Lehr.



See you soon...



Lower Milford Township Festival, September 28 from 11 to 5—enjoy a true country festival, with food, music, local vendors, craftsmen, —a family event for young and old! Held at the municipal building, 7606 Chestnut Hill Church Rd. off of Limeport Pike, Coopersburg



Cutest Cat Contest, starts October 1—visit the Jack Lehr Electric Facebook page to get instructions for posting your pictures. The winner will get a writeup and photo in our newsletter and the Jack Lehr postings, along with some prizes. Plus Animals in Distress will receive a \$2,000 donation from Jack Lehr Electric.

The Jack Lehr Facebook page is <https://www.facebook.com/jacklehrheating>



Blessing of the Animals Our annual Blessing of the Animals Ceremony will be held at 2:30 pm on Sunday, October 6, 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 Sunday, October 13 (rain date Oct. 20) at beautiful Lake Nockamixon, Quakertown—the full flyer is included this newsletter, and you can access it online at our website: animalsindistresspa.org. 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.*



Volunteer Orientation, Tuesday, October 22, at the Animals in Distress shelter 5075 Limeport Pike, Coopersburg, PA 18036. Orientation begins at 7pm. You can fill out an application form early by requesting one when you're visiting us or by email, or by visiting our website at animalsindistresspa.org. We rely on our volunteers for our existence and need volunteers in almost any category you can think of.

.....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 Roger, Chance, and others like them can get a second chance in a world that seldom gives second chances. Thank you for caring.

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 (Visa, Mastercard, Discover)

Card Number _____ Exp. Date _____

Name on card (print) _____

Signature _____



*Chance says
Thank You for
my leg and for
my life.*



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!

And the Winners Are....!

Although our 2024 WAEB Radiothon is over, we wanted to announce the winners of various incentive prizes that were awarded during a drawing several weeks after the Radiothon. We always wait a few weeks for this drawing so donors have a chance to pay their pledges and get included in the drawings in several categories.

Dinner with Gunther was won by Lowell Linde of Zionsville, Donna & Stephen Sydorak of Bethlehem, and John Laird of Nazareth. Tickets and prizes to the **Allentown Fair** shows were won by Carl & Rose Vega of Bethlehem, Richard Ott of Bethlehem, John Brown of Northampton, and Raymond Ivanitch of Bethlehem.

A \$250 gift certificate to the **Hotel Bethlehem** will be enjoyed by lucky Michael & Shirley Adams of Germansville. Sharon Lamm of Allentown won a \$500 gift certificate donated by **Hager Furniture** of

Palmerton, and a \$500 gift certificate from **Joe Mascari's Carpets and Rugs International** was won by Susan Tilli of Bethlehem.

Marla Burke of Quakertown will be making delicious food on the gas grill donated by **Lehigh Supply Appliances**. Barry & Judy Woolbert of Mertztown will be playing golf at **Wedgewood Golf Course**.

Iron Pigs tickets were won by Judith McDonald of Emmaus. Tickets to the **Lehigh Valley Zoo** were won by Bruce & Kim Talipan of Danielsville.

A man's watch donated by **Westgate Jewelers of Bethlehem** was won by Sandy Evans of Orefield. And a \$1,000 diamond kitty cat necklace created and donated by **Westgate Jewelers** of Bethlehem was won by Jeff Benner of Bethlehem.

Please support the businesses who make our Radiothon possible!

ANIMALS IN DISTRESS

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