



"The Kennel of Hope"

Tails of Hope

The Newsletter of Animals in Distress
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VOL. XXIX No. 3

MARCH 2026

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Have you ever thrown a stone into a pond? When the stone hits the water, it creates an endless production of little circles that go out and out and out into the pond until they disappear. That phenomenon is symbolic of what an act of kindness is like. The act of kindness, like saving an abandoned and hopeless animal, is the stone. When we rescue the animal, there are immediate circles that we can see that are created by that initial act of kindness. The animal gets medical help and shelter and food and care. But then the circles continue. People, for example, might read the story of that particular animal and want to help save other animals like that one. And because the animal survives in most cases, another stone is the life of that animal as it evolves. And in a Shelter setting, where we are trying to find good loving forever homes for all of our animals, the circle that is the most gratifying ultimately is the one where the animal goes into a home. But it all starts with an act of kindness. And then others join in with other acts of kindness, and eventually, in most cases, wonderful things happen. The message is sent. The message is received. And the world is a kinder and better place as a result.

In that spirit, we are providing an update on a kitten we rescued last August. It was only about four weeks old and in horrible condition.



Something unknown had happened to its hind leg and he literally had no hind leg. It had been cut off somehow. He was so little at four weeks that it's amazing he could even survive, but he was dragging himself around looking for something to eat. When we got the call about Kenny as we named him, we were stunned to see his condition and took him to the vet right away of course. Despite a huge amount of intestinal parasites and dehydration, Kenny seemed determined to live. Over the course of several months, Kenny did survive. For the first few months, experienced foster mom Rose Yanger took care of him in her home. Kenny survived but did not thrive. He was slow to put on weight and slow to develop. In fact, when he first came to us, he only weighed .6 pounds. Imagine that. This little guy could fit in the palm of your hand. And yet he had a will to live. We could not let him die without trying to save him.

Due to the exceptional care that he received from Rose, our staff and our excellent veterinary support team, Kenny survived. Missing a leg of course. But spunky as all get out. And this is where the story becomes even more special. Those circles we talked about, created by that initial act of kindness, continued to blossom. We have a wonderful family who visits regularly and volunteers in both the cat and dog kennels. They fell in love with Kenny. A lot of people won't consider an animal that isn't perfect. They don't want the old ones, the blind ones, the diabetic ones, the ones missing limbs, etc. But love and kindness enable us to look past what isn't perfect, and see all the wonderful things that are there despite some sort of limitation. And that's what the Ward family did with Kenny. They adopted him. And they were so excited to do that. They to this day keep

thanking us for such a wonderful new member of their family. Of course, it is all of us who should be thanking them for giving Kenny a forever home.

We wanted to share some pictures with Kenny in his new home. He is blossoming. It's as if, despite all the pain and suffering and fear of his past, he has moved on. With the support of all those who help us do our work, all those who keep us in their prayers, Kenny has been saved and has been provided with the best gift in the world --- a family who loves him. He is amazing. As you can see from these photos, he has settled right in. It's as if they've had him forever.



And that's the power of love and kindness. Love and kindness can erase sorrow and give hope to those who desperately need a chance. And remember, all of this starts with the initial act of kindness, with the stone first thrown into the pond that creates all those ripples of kindness... It's a power that is within each of us, and it is a power that is multiplied over and over again by all the people who make Animals in Distress possible.



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CHINESE AUCTION | REFRESHMENTS | 50/50 RAFFLE | DOOR PRIZES

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TO BENEFIT

ANIMALS IN DISTRESS SATURDAY, MAY 2

DOORS OPEN 11:30 AM | BINGO STARTS 1PM | 130 TICKETS AVAILABLE

\$30 FOR 20 GAMES

4 SPECIAL GAME PACK IS \$5

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FOR MORE INFO:

CALL KELLY AT 610-762-8553 OR EMAIL KHART70906@AOL.COM
OR GET YOUR TICKET AT ANIMALS IN DISTRESS

The Circle of Love Continues

Over the almost 5 decades of our existence, many people have volunteered and donated and made our work possible. We never stop appreciating those people because without them, we would not have been able to save the thousands of animals we have.

Unfortunately, this year, two of our most loyal and dedicated volunteers will be unable to participate in the Radiothon. Bev and Denny Repsher have been important parts of our family for a long time, and Denny has experienced some severe health problems lately. He has been in various facilities because of the need to have proper rehab and also more care than his wife Bev can provide. We tell you this for two reasons. First of all, we love them and miss them. They have been such an important part of each Radiothon, and things just won't be the same without them. Second of all, we wanted to share some of their story because they have adopted six dogs from us over the decades, and all of those dogs became pet therapy dogs.

Bev and Denny made incredible investments of time and energy in taking their dogs into nursing homes and rehab facilities and other such places in order to cheer up the residents. There's something about a happy dog bouncing into a room with its tail wagging and a big doggy grin on its face that lifts the heart and brings a smile to almost every face.

Those of us who know dogs will understand the importance of dogs in so many different roles, from the military to search and rescue to therapy to just being our heartfelt companions. What makes the situation even more special is when the dog involved has been saved from death and neglect by an organization like ours. Animals who have been discarded as worthless trash deserve a chance to be loved and to blossom. And in that blossoming, they develop their full potential. And many of those animals actually give back to humans. Many of those animals, whose lives were considered worthless, become angels in fur who walk the Earth and bring joy and compassion and understanding.

What's special about this whole situation with Bev and Denny is that the last dog they adopted from us, a collie

mix named Chance, is bringing the circle around and again and again. If you recall, in the story on Kenny, we talked about how one act of kindness is like a stone thrown into a pond. All the circles develop from the displaced water resulting from the stone being thrown. Those circles expand beyond what we can see. We don't know where all those circles are going, but we know that they started with

the first stone thrown into the water. And that's what acts of kindness and compassion are like. We initiate that throw, but sometimes the repercussions are greater than anything we can imagine.

So we come back to Bev and Denny and their AID dog Chance. Just to remind you, Chance was found thrown to the bottom of steps in an old house. He had a broken leg and was left to die. No food, no water, just pain and loneliness in the darkness.

Chance, thanks to all the people who support us, survived and became an absolutely gorgeous and happy boy. When Bev and Denny adopted him, they of course were giving the same loving home to him that they gave to all the other dogs they have adopted from us. And now Chance visits

Denny like their previous dogs have visited so many others in similar situations. ❤️

Chance is so happy to see his dad. And his dad is so happy to see his "boy." And the circles expand from there. Other residents of the facility, and staff members, smile with joy when Chance walks in. He brings that doggy joy to so many people when he comes to visit his dad.

Some of you know Bev and Denny. Please feel free to send them a message of encouragement. You can email or snail mail such messages to us and we will see that they reach Bev and Denny. But the bottom line is this... Chance was saved because of all of our friends who make our work possible. He became part of Bev and Denny's family, as have all the AID dogs they have rescued before that. But then Chance has risen to the occasion, as their other dogs have, and given back to the people who need him. It's full circle. An act of kindness saved Chance. That has led to other acts of kindness as the circle of kindness and love keeps growing.

Never forget, dear friends, that you make those circles happen. Each time you send in a donation, each time you volunteer, each time you do anything to help the shelter, you are throwing those stones of kindness into the pond and creating ripples that will go on and on and on. That's such a wonderful power to have, and we all have it.



Bev and Denny will be celebrating their 58th wedding anniversary this month!

WAEB 790 AM Radiothon to benefit Animals in Distress, July 13-19.

Donations for Challenge Hours are needed now. Please contact us if you can help at aidpa@enter.net for email or call Rose Yanger at 610-759-2819. Donations during the on-air portion of the Radiothon are encouraged when people know that they can make every dollar they donate double or triple its value during these Challenge Hours. It's amazing to see how much more we can raise when people know that their dollars are being doubled or tripled during a Challenge Hour!! ***PLEASE consider donating early so we can start with a good amount toward our final total.*** The minimum amount for a Challenge Hour is \$500. Businesses will get on air credit for their donations, and individuals can honor or remember a loved one by offering a Challenge. *Please mark "Challenge" on your donation so we can credit it to the proper account.*

*Every dollar matters.
Thank you for 49+ years
of your support and for
your faith in a kinder,
more loving world.*

This is our biggest fundraiser and is essential to our ability to continue our work.

Please participate in our fundraisers and help us raise the funds necessary to continue to do our work. Our monthly costs are climbing at an alarming rate, and we are deeply concerned about this. All creatures great and small deserve our Love and a second chance. And with your love and support, we can continue to save lives and bring hope to those who are forlorn and afraid.

We have never taken one dollar of "public" money from local, state, or federal governments, and rely solely on our incredible volunteers, fundraisers, and your donations for everything that we can accomplish—together!

Animals in Distress Membership Renewal/Enrollment Form

Please detach or copy this coupon and return it, along with a stamped, self-addressed envelope, and your membership fee to:
Membership, Animals in Distress, P.O. Box 609, Coopersburg, PA 18036

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Check enclosed for \$ _____ OR

Credit Card: MasterCard, Discover or VISA (circle one)

Card Number _____ Exp. Date _____

Name on card _____

Authorized Signature _____

Please enroll/renew (circle one) my 2026 AID Membership in the following category (select one):

- Life - \$250 (once payable)
- Senior (65 and older) - \$10
- Sustaining - \$50
- Active - \$20
- Corporate - \$500

If this is a gift membership, include name and address here: _____

Many thanks to our friends at Embassy Bank for setting up a collection of needed items as well as monetary donations at some of their locations. The response from their customers and friends was overwhelmingly positive.



Justen Bennett of Embassy Bank presents AID Treasurer Sharon Werner with some donations



Thanks to the S Lehigh Dems for conducting a collection of items for us in celebration of Share Your Hearts With Animals theme, around Valentine's Day.



AID Board member Cheryl Miller (left) opens a huge card signed by many of the volunteers who helped make their collection for us possible.





Our logo is a heart with a dog and cat sleeping together. It says share your heart with animals. For the months of February thru June, anyone giving a \$35 donation can have a personalized heart hung in our Hospitality Center. It can be in honor of a pet, in memory of a pet, or in memory or honor of a special person.

We will send an acknowledgement of your thoughtfulness.

Just fill out the form below and we'll do the rest. These hearts make very nice gifts for birthdays, anniversaries, Happy Easter, Happy Spring, Happy Mother's Day, etc.



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

Your Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone () _____ Email _____

Please allow at least 2 weeks for processing.

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

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

List the following as **OTHER**: birthday, anniversary, graduation, Mother's Day, wedding, etc.

Check this box if you want the announcements mailed directly to you.

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

Total Enclosed at \$35 each: \$ _____

.....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 Chance and Kenny 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.



Kenny and his Friends Thank You for Caring

Check is Enclosed or Charge my Credit Card

Card Number _____ Exp. Date _____

Name on card (print) _____ Signature _____

Thank You for Lending Many Friendly Paws a Helping Hand!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Membership Campaign—new and renewals, see form in this newsletter

Yard Sale, Sunday, April 18, from 8am to Noon, at the Animals in Distress Shelter, 5075 Limeport Pike, Coopersburg. Rain or shine. You can reserve a table spot for \$10. Contact Kelly for more info: email: khart70906@aol.com or cell: 610-762-8553.

Saturday, Saturday April 25, Iron Pigs website or our website animalsindistresspa.org for more info.

Vera Bradley/Longaberger Basket Bingo, May 2—See poster in this newsletter for details. To sponsor a prize for the Bingo, donate \$50 and get your name as a sponsor in the event program. Contact Kelly for details: call 610-762-8553 or email khart70906@aol.com. Please share the poster and make copies as needed.

49th Alumni Day Pets and People Party , Sunday, June 7 Celebration at the shelter—noon to 4 pm. Do not miss this major celebration of our lifesaving work!! Details in upcoming newsletter and on our website.

WAEB Radiothon—biggest fundraiser of the year—**July 13-19,** details to follow

2026 Volunteer Orientation Schedule, April, 28, July 28, and October 27—7pm, at Animals in Distress, 5075 Limeport Pike, Coopersburg, PA. Visit us or our website for directions and Volunteer Application. Volunteers help with fundraising, cleaning, maintenance, bake sales, tending and mowing grass, etc. in addition to working with the dogs and cats.

ANIMALS IN DISTRESS
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COOPERSBURG, PA 18036

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Happy Spring

