



**Tails of Hope**  
...a different kind of rescue

*The latest and greatest from Tails of Hope...*

# Paw Prints

*Spring, 2016*

## Calendar



## UPCOMING Events

### Mt. Airy Flea Market

Mt. Airy, MD  
April 23, 8:00am-3:00pm

### MD Dog Fest

La Plata, MD  
May 14 and 15

### Tails of Hope Picnic

Ballenger Park, Frederick, MD  
May 21, 12:00pm-4:00pm



## Helping Hands

### ToH Donations 4/15-3/16

**\$19,527.16**

*Medical, Rescue,  
Spay & Neuter Sponsorship*

**6,038**

*Pounds of food / litter*

**97**

*Animals Helped*

## Happy Tails: Poe

**B**ruised, battered, and emaciated, with a badly injured leg, lung worms, and mange, Poe, formerly Red, somehow found himself in a rural kill shelter. When Tails of Hope saw his before photo, right, we wanted to help this poor, senior guy, so we donated \$500 to his care. Poe was pulled by a local rescue group, the Paws Squad, and was nursed back to health, which unfortunately included the amputation of his leg.

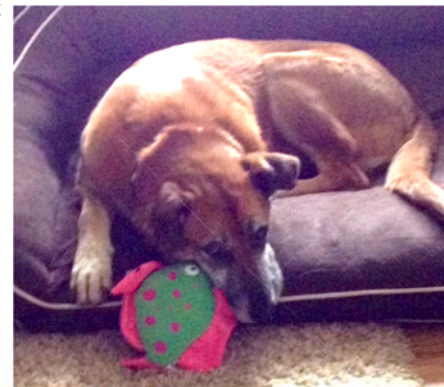


When his now adoptive mom Tracey saw him, she knew she wanted to make him a part of her home. "I didn't think anyone else would adopt him," Tracey said. "I love big, old dogs, especially ones who you just know have had a hard life." Tracey tells us that Poe has adjusted quite well in their home. "He is wonderful. He has perfect manners, as I've found most older dogs that I've adopted do. He was completely house-broken, doesn't chew, and he prefers his bed over the sofa (which my husband likes)."

We asked what made Tracey change his name from Red to Poe. She said it's short for Pogo stick, as his spring-like back leg now resembles. His amputation hasn't hindered him at all—he gets along just fine without his leg. In fact, he chases squirrels up trees then will stand at the bottom looking straight up for hours on end.

Poe lives with cats, horses, llamas, alpacas and a goat and he gets along fine with everyone. Tracey tells us that he is, "very smart. He was recently taught to sit and stay when any door opens instead of bolting through."

Tracey wanted to note that, "he would not be alive and happy today, if it were not for all of the great and caring people and organizations helping out dogs like him." Our heartfelt thanks to Tracey and her family for opening their hearts and their homes to this dear boy. Poe's life might have ended tragically, but instead, he will live out the rest of his days surrounded by comfort and love. A Happy Tail indeed!



*The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated." — Mahatma Gandhi*



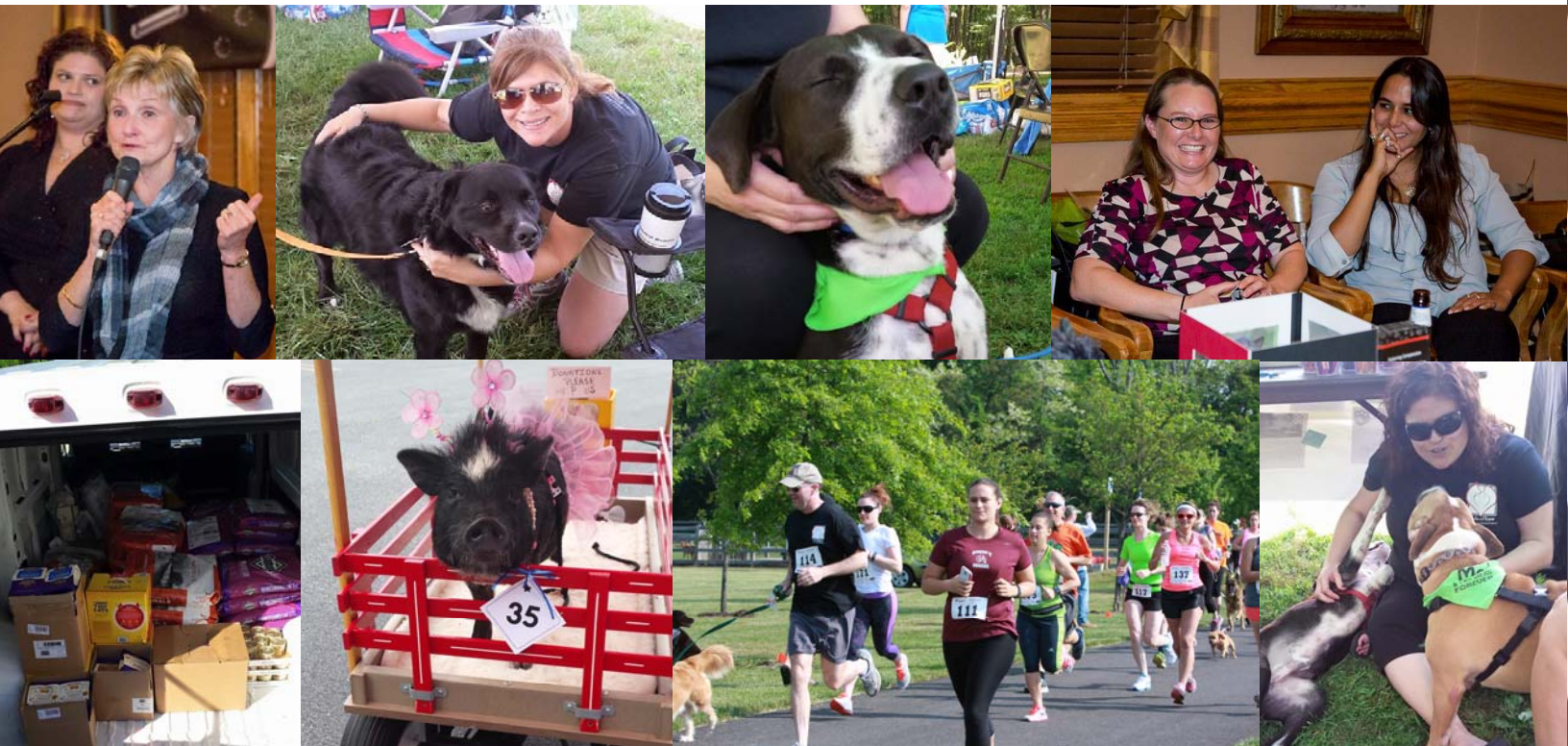


## What a Year!

In the past year, we've been kissed by Pitties, petted pet pigs, and had our banner peed on by multiple doggie friends. We've been slobbered on, covered in dog hair, and jumped on. We've haggled at flea markets, been drowned out by the noise at music fests, driven golf carts at charity events, and were blown away by the wind at pet parades. We've driven hundreds of miles to make deliveries to shelters, loaded up hundreds of pounds of food, and spent hundreds of hours making homemade treats and tug toys to sell.

We did it all for the animals, and we were only able to do it all because of YOU!

We almost never raise a ton of money at these events, but we do them to get the word out about the Tails of Hope mission. The folks we meet are always curious about what we do, and they are always enthusiastic when we explain why we're a "different kind of rescue". Here are some of our favorite pics from events this past year...





*Tails of Hope*

# POOCH PICNIC!

*Saturday, May 21  
12:00pm-4:00pm*

*Ballenger Park  
Frederick, MD*

*Adults, kids, and dogs—all are welcome! We've reserved the pavilion right next to the dog park, so please consider bringing your furry friends as well!*

*For the dogs (contests)*

*Best Kisser  
Best Dressed  
Miss or Mr. Congeniality  
Best Tail Wag  
Most Photogenic  
Best Trick  
Best Bark  
Best Look-Alike*

*For the humans*

*Games & activities  
Pie & Cake Auction  
Raffles  
Fun and friendship!*

*On the Menu:*

*Veggie Burgers  
Caprese Sandwiches  
Grilled Cheese Sandwiches  
Potato, Pasta, and Bean Salads  
Raw Veggies and Dip  
Fruit Salad  
Baked Goods for Dessert  
Chips and Candy for the Kids  
Homemade Frozen Yogurt  
for the Pups  
Water, Iced Tea, Soda*

*Tickets:*

*\$15 Adults  
\$7 Kids 4-10  
Free Kids 3 & under (and dogs!)  
Click [HERE](#) to purchase tickets*



# A Second Chance at Life!

A large part of Tails of Hope's mission is to provide medical sponsorship to shelter animals in need. Shelter resources are quite limited, and animals who are ill or injured are often euthanized because there are no funds to provide for their care. We firmly believe that these animals deserve a second chance at life, and want to be there to help the ones who need it the most. Here are just a few of the animals for whom we've provided medical assistance over the past year.

We couldn't fulfill this part of our mission without your support. While some of the images are hard to look at, we feel it's important to share these stories. If you feel moved to help us continue offering assistance to animals like the ones you see below, please consider a donation to our medical fund by clicking [HERE](#).



Harriet, severe head wound



King, attacked by alligator



Toby, hit by a car



Charlotte, hit by car & stomach surgery



Sue, gunshot wound



Raleigh, hit by a car



Bunny,  
heartworm  
treatment



Mercy, eye tumor removal



Maisie, used as bait dog, injuries to tongue & legs





Walter, surgery for amputation



Big John, kidney failure



Justin, pellet gun injuries



Scarlett, severe neglect



Al, broken hip



Leo, skin issues, leg and ear surgeries



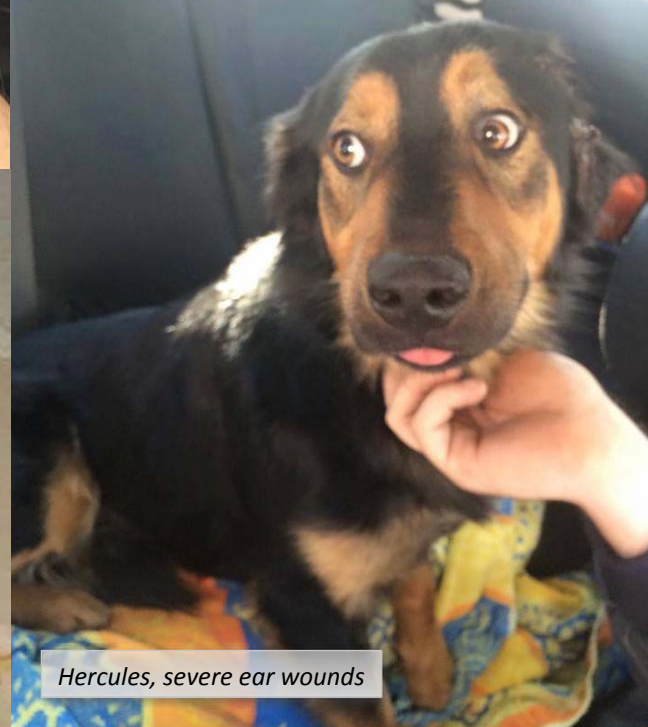
Archie, severe head wound



Valerie, Surgery



Denver, hind end paralysis



Hercules, severe ear wounds



# Waste Not, Want Not

**W**hen Kyle Young, of Costco in Beltsville, MD, approached us about donating pet products to Tails of Hope, we were thrilled to accept. Since starting our new mission in April of last year, we have distributed over 6,000 pounds of food, treats, and litter to shelters in Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, and North Carolina, and Kyle and Costco have played an integral role in those donations. We wanted to talk to him about the program.

## **How did Costco's donation program come to be?**

Costco's donation program is a direct result of both bulk wholesale setting, which causes a great deal of items damaged on the floor that are deemed unsellable, as well as our very liberal return policy. All of the items that are able to be siphoned into the donation program would otherwise be directly thrown away or put into our HazMat



disposal program, which would in turn cost the company quite a bit more than being able to donate it to organizations in need who can use these items for their intended purposes. It aids the company financially and pushes these products into the hands of those truly in need with the ability to administer them directly.

## **What inspired you to start the program?**

When I inherited my current position with Costco it became readily prevalent that the sheer amount of waste we were producing was unfathomable. After a minimal amount of research into our corporate policies I found that quite a large portion of the items were eligible for donation as long as the recipients were non-profit organizations. It was very distressing on my end of things to be

the individual directly throwing this perfectly usable (albeit unsellable) merchandise directly into the garbage.

## **Did you run into any obstacles?**

Thankfully, with a direct liaison from Redeemer Lutheran Church, contacting these organizations was a breeze. Marlene Young, a local resident and member of Redeemer, did a huge amount of legwork in identifying organizations in need that were right here on our doorstep. Thankfully Mrs. Young is able to make weekly pick-ups and Redeemer is kind enough to act as a halfway point for stockpiling a lot of the items so that the organizations are able to come pick up at their convenience. Mrs. Young's diligence, dedication, and donation of her time, is nothing short of truly impressive. As much as I have been able to do here on my end of things, none of it would be remotely possible without her sacrifices of time and effort week after week.

## **What feedback have you received?**

The feedback has been fantastic. The outreach to these organizations that are doing an immeasurable amount of good in

the community has not gone unappreciated. Along with Tails of Hope, our single warehouse is able to service roughly ten or so non-profits in the area. One of the organizations that we have been able to divert substantial amounts of unsellable merchandise to is the DC Diaper Bank. We also donate to St. Anne's Center for Children, Sacred Heart Home, PG Crisis, Lutheran Mission Society, as well as Lutheran Social Services, all organizations that are doing tremendous work in the community. It's been a blessing to have all of this fall into my lap in such a way that all I am is a conduit for the people actually doing the important work. These organizations have sent personalized thank you letters to my team here at Costco, which are extremely appreciated, but in a sense



*Kyle and Marlene Young load her car with items from Costco's donation program*

unnecessary seeing as how they are the ones putting all of this to good use. I've got the easiest and smallest hand in all of it; it's these organizations and individuals receiving it that are putting in the long hard hours making sure these items find those who so desperately need them.

With the cooperation and generosity of Costco in realizing that, even though these items may not be able to be sold under our quality parameters, it doesn't mean that they are no longer of any use. With their foresight we have been able to turn waste into widespread aid. All the way from animals to the elderly, the outreach would not be possible without the hard work of Mrs. Young and every single employee and volunteer of these organizations. It's also a load off of my conscience not having to throw these items of value into the garbage when there are so many in need. It helps my department stay clean and organized and is budget-friendly for Costco. I feel consistently thankful that there are so many people who make this type of work possible. Those are the individuals that deserve the thanks and accolades.

*Tails of Hope thanks Kyle, Mrs. Young, and Costco, for your tireless efforts to help those in need! We are also blessed to have regular donations of high-quality pet foods from our friends at **Dogs and Company** in Columbia, MD. They have been wonderfully loyal Tails of Hope supporters through the years. We are very grateful for their contributions!*

*Without these organizations and the generosity of our amazing Tails of Hope Supporters, we've been able to feed a lot of hungry shelter animals!*

# Miracle Cure-All for Pets!

If you could do something for your pets that would...

- ✓ Eliminate bad behavior
- ✓ Improve health
- ✓ Extend their lifespan
- ✓ Save on costs
- ✓ Reduce the number of euthanized pets

...would you do it?

What is this miracle cure of which we speak?

It's simple: **spay and neuter!**

The Spay and Neuter portion of Tails of Hope's mission is so near and dear to us, as we know it's the **only** way to prevent the euthanasia of the millions of pets who lose their lives in shelters across our county every year.

## **Bad Behavior**

Unaltered pets have often been found to be more destructive than those who are altered, causing expensive damage to the home. Male pets who have not been neutered usually have a tendency to mark their territory as well. Other unwanted behaviors that can be curbed by spay and neuter include roaming, aggression, excessive barking, mounting, and other dominance-related behaviors.

## **Improve Health**

Studies have shown that spayed females have less risk of developing uterine cancer, while neutering a male dog eliminates the change of testicular cancer, and is thought to lower the risk of prostate cancer as well.

## **Increase lifespan**

A 2013 USA Today article reported on a study that found that altered dogs tend to live longer than unaltered pets, 18% longer for male dogs and 23% longer for female dogs.

## **Save on costs**

While there is an initial cost for spay or neuter surgery, the long terms savings can far outweigh that cost. Medical treatment for reproductive cancers is very costly, and aggression leading to fights between unaltered pets can also bring about unanticipated veterinary bills.

## **Reduce number of euthanized pets**

An estimated 8 million animals will enter US shelters over the next year.

## **Half won't make it out alive.**

The **ONLY** way to change this statistic is to implement aggressive spay and neuter campaigns all over the country. Tails of Hope has joined the fight and will keep working until euthanasia due to overcrowding is a thing of the past!



# Pet IQ?

*How well do you know our furry friends? Test your knowledge with this pet-friendly quiz. Answers, below.*

1. Adult dogs have how many teeth?  
A) 24 B) 38 C) 42 D) 32
2. A cat has how many whiskers, on average?  
A) 8 B) 12 C) 16 D) 24
3. Which dog yodels instead of barks?  
A) Komondor B) Otterhound  
C) Basenji D) Basset Hound
4. A term for a group of kittens is:  
A) Kaggle B) Kindle  
C) Nook D) Kaboodle
5. What is the name of the dog on the front of the Cracker Jack box?  
A) Jack B) Max C) Bingo D) Fido
6. What's it called when a cat rubs the side of his or her head on you or on furniture?  
A) Beaning B) Bunting  
C) Brocking D) Tagging
7. Which TV series had a dog named K9 who was also a robot?  
A) Full House B) Star Trek  
C) Doctor Who D) Law & Order
8. Cats can't taste this:  
A) Sour B) Sweet C) Bitter D) Salt
9. All dogs are generally believed to be descended from what prehistoric animal?  
A: Thylacoleonidae B:Thylacosmilus  
C: Tomarctu D: Proailurus
10. People have about 650 skeletal muscles. How many do cats have?  
A) 500 B) 650 C) 800

1. C (42)
2. D (24)
3. C (Basenji)
4. B (Kindle)
5. C (Bingo)
6. B (Bunting)
7. C (Doctor Who)
8. B (Sweet)
9. C (Tomarctu)
10. A (500)

**Answers:**



## Letter from the Directors

It's hard to believe that a year has passed since Sue and I became the co-directors of Tails of Hope--what a year it's been! When we shifted the mission of Tails of Hope away from animal intake to focus on spay and neuter, medical sponsorship, resource development for shelters in need, and humane education, we were apprehensive about the reception we would receive. But we've been overwhelmed and humbled by your outpouring of support and enthusiasm for the new mission.

As you'll see on the first page of this newsletter, in the year since we started our new mission, Tails of Hope has been able to donate quite a bit of food, treats, litter, and cash to shelter animals in need. We've also represented Tails of Hope at 15 events in Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, and Washington DC. We've sold t-shirts and totes, and made countless homemade treats and tug toys, the proceeds from which go directly to our mission. We've met so many folks who are like-minded when it comes to animals and who want to help. We've talked to adults, seniors, kids, and cuddled with dogs, cats, puppies, kittens, and even pigs in our travels, and we've loved every minute of it!

But absolutely NONE of this could have been possible without YOU, our amazing Tails of Hope supporters and friends! You've shown a tremendous amount of kindness, compassion, generosity, and support. We are truly grateful and lucky to have each of you as part of the Tails of Hope family.

In the coming year, it's our goal to expand our spay and neuter work and medical sponsorships. Additionally, we will be taking our mission into churches and schools with both faith-based and humane education programs. Finally, we hope to branch out in terms of our support of rural shelters, with the ultimate goal of helping shelters all across the country.

We are looking forward to year two of our new mission with excitement, enthusiasm, and HOPE! We hope you'll continue with us on this journey.

Warmly,  
*Kelly and Sue*

## Calling All Bakers!

Apple, Cherry, Pumpkin, Pecan, oh my—Pie!

Chocolate, Yellow, Lemon, Spice, what to bake? Cake!



We are looking for folks who are willing to donate pies and cakes to our Auction at the Tails of Hope Picnic on May 21. Homemade would be wonderful, but we'd welcome bakery goods as well. All of the proceeds from the auction will go towards our non-profit missions.

So put on those aprons, flour those boards, and dust off your grandma's recipes!

If you can help, please e-mail us at [info@tails-of-hope.org](mailto:info@tails-of-hope.org) by May 14. If you can't make the picnic but would still like to donate a pie or cake, we can arrange pick up. Non-cream pies and cakes are probably best since they will be on display at the picnic. Sugar and spice would be nice, but please, no snips and snails and puppy dog tails! :)

Thank you...

We're so grateful to each of you for your good thoughts, your financial support, and your words of encouragement. **Without you, there would be no Tails of Hope.** This story brings us comfort when we face the sheer number of animals who need help, every day. You've probably already heard it, but it bears repeating and we wanted to share it with you :)

### The Starfish

Once upon a time there was a wise man who used to go to the ocean to do his writing. He had a habit of walking on the beach before he began his work. One day he was walking along the shore. As he looked down the beach, he saw a human figure moving like a dancer. He smiled to himself to think of someone who would dance to the day. So he began to walk faster to catch up.

As he got closer, he saw that it was a young man and he wasn't dancing, but instead he was reaching down to the shore, picking up something and very gently throwing it into the ocean.

He called out, "Good morning! What are you doing?" The young man paused, looked up and replied, "Throwing starfish in the ocean." "I guess I should have asked, why are you throwing starfish in the ocean?" "The sun is up and the tide is going out. And if I don't throw them in they'll die."

"But, young man, don't you realize that there are miles and miles of beach and starfish all along it. You can't possibly make a difference!"

The young man listened politely. Then he bent down, picked up another starfish and threw it into the sea, past the breaking waves and said:

"It made a difference for that one."

Contact Us



**Tails of Hope**

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