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Dear Tobi Lynne,

[Almost Home Dog Rescue of Ohio, Inc.](#) (AHDRO) was formed in December of 2003. Our mission is:

to provide homeless collies, shelties and other family friendly dogs a safe haven where they will receive medical care, nutrition and love until an approved home is found

to reduce the number of unwanted pets by altering all dogs in our rehoming program

to educate the public about the importance of altering pets

and to explain that owning a pet is a lifelong commitment.



[Learn about other ways you can help AHDRO](#)
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Why We Do What We Do

Reese had formerly belonged to a breeder in Kentucky. He had a terrible case of demodectic mange, so she had left him out in the hot summer sun behind her barn until she could take him to be euthanized.

We brought him in and Dr. Bater cared for him. She initially thought he only had a few days to live. His entire body was hot to the touch and an inflamed mess; he had to have mediated baths every other day.

Reese never wagged his tail and showed no emotion. Volunteers made him a "coat" to wear while he was healing. He was terrified of people, and it took months to socialize Reese and teach him how to play.

He slowly recovered and learned to trust his people. Today he is a happy, healthy dog with a wonderful personality!

For more stories, visit Almost Home's [Before and After Gallery](#).

Girl Scout Troop 806 Makes and Donates Blankets - and Love!



AHDRO was delighted to be the recipient of dog blankets made by Girl Scout Troop 806 as part of a recent service project. The blankets were donated at a special meet n' greet at Dublin Coffman Park on January 6th.

Troop Leader Susan Mahoney said the girls chose Almost Home based on a recommendation from Tami Boroff, the mother of one of the Scouts. Tami knew someone who had volunteered for Almost Home and she knew that the dogs would appreciate the blankets.

Originally, Susan had considered donating the blankets to the homeless, but she really wanted the girls to have a personal feel for where their creations would go and make a connection between their work and the recipients. Susan said the girls chose to give the blankets to animals, and from there it was a short journey to Almost Home.

Six teams of two girls participated, cutting and tying the blankets together. The girls included Alessandra , Ava, Emma, Emma Kate, Anna B, Anna S., Sidney B, Sydney W, Hannah, Katherine, Ally and Ella.

At the meet n' greet the fosters, dogs and the girls got to mingle and spend time together. The girls were able to give their blankets to the dog of their choice and everyone had a great time. Representing AHDRO were Cheryl Rakich, Charlene Molnar, Carol Mondillo, Susan Montgomery, Liz Sayers, Jacqueline Kloos and Michelle Kloos.

As you can see in the pictures, the girls had a great time and the foster dogs are loving their blankets. Thank you Troop 806 for all of your hard work and service efforts.

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IMPORTANT NOTICE Concerning the Availability of Heartworm Prevention Medicines

Interceptor, the heartworm prevention that is recommended to many of the herding groups, has not been manufactured for about seven months now. Some vets are now recommending Trifexis as their first choice, except for dogs with liver disease, seizures or dogs on Prozac. This product prevents heartworm disease, treats and controls adult hookworm, roundworm and whipworm infections and kills fleas. Revolution, Heartguard and Iverhart are also alternatives.

The dose is important. Your vet may recommend that a lower dose be administered than what is suggested on the label. As always, check with your vet which brand and dose is best for your particular dog and the importance of a MDR1 test.

For more information on these medicines:

www.trifexis.com

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Heartworm Prevention

By Cheryl Bricker

I remember cringing at another high vet bill. Don't get me wrong, I know the yearly check ups and immunizations are necessary for a variety of health reasons, and they are worth every penny. The flea and tick prevention are especially beneficial along any coastal, bay or lake line areas. But the heartworm prevention? I was a little leery if my dogs needed it, especially in the winter months. I mean, do dogs really get this disease in our area? Do I really need this added expense? Truth is, according to the American Heartworm Society, there are more than one million dogs currently infected with heartworms in the U.S. And it can be deadly.

I needed to understand the disease a little better. What I found out, in simple terms, was that a mosquito comes along and bites an infected dog sucking up baby heartworms. In about a month, these baby heartworms grow into teenage heartworms within the mosquito. Now, this isn't probably the best scenerio for the mosquito, but it is what the baby heartworms have been anticipating. The mosquito then bites another dog, infecting the new dog with now teenage heartworms that are ready to become adults. After six or seven months, the adult male and female heartworms are producing thousands of baby heartworms into the dog's entire system waiting for another mosquito to come along and start another cycle. Interesting enough, the baby heartworms can't mature into adult heartworms without passing through a mosquito first.

In the meantime, these adult heartworms grow about six inches long and live mostly in the heart and large blood vessel that brings oxygen rich blood from the lungs to the heart. Too many of these heartwoms can cause damage to your dog's heart and other vital organs

There are no symptoms at all until the disease is very advanced, so waiting for symptoms to develop is not a realistic alternative to prevention. And once it is diagnosed by a vet, the treatment is not pleasant and can be very expensive. And that is if it works at all.

I recently was in a veterinarian waiting area and saw a poster with a guy pictured waist down holding onto a leash with no dog on the other end. It read, "I never knew." with a comment about heartworm prevention. It shocked me a little because I know there are people that don't know. I used to be one of those people. I just didn't think it would happen to my dog - my buddy, my family member, my confidant. But it does happen. I certainly don't want that guilt on my end of the buddy bargain.

They promise to love, protect and adore us, we need to do the same and keep them healthy. So, of course, I always purchase the prevention meds and faithfully administer them. I am almost guaranteed they won't get this deadly disease. No dramatics now, just plain and simple.

Check with your vet if they feel it is acceptable to discontinue treatment during some of our frigid winter months. If you do, you will probably need to have them tested again prior to starting up the treatments before warmer weather. And even if you continue the treatments year round, some vets recommend testing every other year. Hold up your end of the Buddy Bargain and listen to your vet regarding your dogs and cats. Protect your pets like they would protect you.

*Photos from American Heartworm Society

For more information, check out <http://www.heartwormsociety.org>.

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Renew Your Kroger Plus Card - Community Awards And Benefit AHDRO

[Enroll](#) now for the 2011-2012 Kroger Community Rewards Program. All Participants must [re-enroll](#) each year to continue earning awards during the coming year.

Follow the links above for the Columbus area or [visit www.kroger.com](http://www.kroger.com).

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Attention Fosterers - Your Expenses May Be Deductible

Start out the new year with good record keeping for your income taxes next year - many of your expenses may be tax deductible. Check out the link below for more information. *One note - any expense for which you have been reimbursed doesn't count.*

[Tax breaks for pet foster parents ... Make sure you claim yours - Philadelphia Animal Welfare | Examiner.com](#)

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Featured Rescue

My name is Logan. Gosh has my life changed a lot. When I was first found, my tail had been cut off and was a bleeding stump. Then I was rescued by Almost Home and came to live in Dayton. My mom and dad, Charlene and Steve, have been taking such good care of me. They take me to the vet so my tail can feel better and to get rid of all the worms I had. They feed me lots of good food so I will gain weight and be healthy, and it's warm here and cozy. There are even other dogs to play with, a yard to go in, and a stoop outside to sit on.

I like to sleep on daddy Steve's chest on the sofa. And best of all, every single day mom Charlene tells me I am a GOOD boy and did nothing to deserve what happened to me. She promises that they will protect me from now on. I think she knows that I understand. That's what family is all about.

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Pharmacies now offering \$4 generics for common pet medications

By Robert Piehl

6.7 Billion Dollars. That's the size of the pet medication market in 2011. The rapid advances in the treatment of pet maladies have resulted in significant improvements in the treatment of previously hopeless conditions and these treatments and the new drugs available for them have steep price tags. With that kind of money in the wind, large retailers have zeroed in on the sales potential. In my lightly populated area, I found Walmart, Target, Walgreen's, CVS, Rite Aide, Meijer's and Martin's had entered the game at varying levels.

Basically, if a chain store near you has a pharmacy, it is more than likely you will be able to buy at least some of your pets' medications at a deep discount from your vet's prices. There are also a large number of on-line sources for prescription meds. Here, as with the big box and chain store sources, you should do some on-line comparison shopping as the prices vary widely.

Virtually all of the chain pharmacies, grocery/pharmacies and big box stores will fill any veterinarian prescription with a human equivalent drug and dosage. If there is a generic available, the prescription is eligible for the pharmacy discount program, the most famous being the \$4 for a 30 day supply-\$10 for a 90 day supply programs at Walmart and Target. Both stores have impressive lists of drugs in these discount programs (Walmart close to 200) and Target has a list specific to dog medicines. Some chain pharmacies require you to join their membership drug program in order to get pet meds. Besides the cost of the membership (unless you already have a family membership), the discounts don't appear to be quite as deep as the big box stores.

[Read more...](#)

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Rescues in Flight

By Cheryl Bricker

Bob Born from Zionsville, Indiana, just north of Indianapolis, is not your typical dog rescuer. Many volunteers transport kill-shelter animals from Point A to Point B in joining legs across cities by car in order to reach a safe environment, eventually a forever home. Although Born has transported animals by ground for about five years, he discovered that there was a strong need for volunteers to drive these legs in the Indianapolis area. Four years ago, he decided to fill that void by flying them to their destination with his private plane eliminating many, if not all, legs of ground transportation.

Born is a retired Air Traffic Controller and loves to fly. He also adores dogs, especially those in need along with his wife, Beth and son, Jacob. He has fostered over 150 dogs and currently has seven dogs of his own and two fosters. They all reside in a subdivision, as he notes, with great neighbors. These dogs are considered the welcoming committee and canine counselors for the new arrivals Born brings home. Their stay can be anywhere from a couple of nights to a few months. All those wagging tails have been a source of comfort over the years after a long tedious day.

[Read more...](#)

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AHDRO 2011 Reunion a Great Time for All

Over 95 adopters, fosters and volunteers and their dogs attended the 2011 Reunion held this year at the Companion Club Dog Park. Along with good food and good fun, there were raffles, contests, a group photo, an award presentation and more. Bill Allen did a training demonstration and answered questions from attendees and a great time was had by all. If you couldn't make it this year, we hope to see you in 2013.

"We had a wonderful time and loved seeing all of those happy doggies you folks found happy homes! Thanks so much for the award presentation for Nick, Elizabeth is telling everyone her Nick got an award, she is very proud! We love the picture, award and frame you folks put together it has a place of honor on our mantle! We will keep in touch and I am certain I will have more Nick stories to share! Take Care!" - Debbi and

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Legislative Updates

The 129th Ohio General Assembly continues in recess through March 12th.

2012 ballot initiative, Ohio Dog Auctions Act - The Ohio Dog Auctions Act would enact Section 955.54 of the Ohio Revised Code to make it unlawful for any person to auction, as defined in R. C. 4707.01, or raffle a dog within Ohio for any purpose. It would also prohibit bringing into the state for purposes of sale or trade a dog acquired through an auction or raffle in another jurisdiction. The Ohio Attorney General would have authority to investigate, conciliate and prosecute alleged violations of the Act. The Attorney General or any resident of the state could bring a civil action to enjoin a violation of the Act. A first conviction under the Act would be punishable as a minor misdemeanor and each subsequent conviction as a fourth degree misdemeanor.

STATUS: The Secretary of State has certified 118,115 signatures from Ohio registered voters, which exceeds the 115,570 signatures required to move forward with the 2012 ballot initiative. The Ohio General Assembly will have until April 2 to pass the proposed law (see attached template which can be used to write your legislators). If they do not, CBODA will move forward with plans to bring the citizens-initiated statute to the voters in November.

SB 130 (aka Ohio 'Puppy Mill' bill) - To amend sections 955.02, 955.10, 955.12, 955.20, 955.26, and 1901.183 and to enact sections 956.01 to 956.06 and 956.08 to 956.21 of the Revised Code to regulate certain dog breeding kennels, dog retailers, and animal rescues for dogs.

STATUS: Ohio Senate Bill 130 passed the senate on 2/1/2012 and is heading to the house to go through the process there before becoming legislation

Sub HB 25 - To amend sections 955.11, 959.99, 2152.19, 2903.213, 2903.214, 2919.26, 3113.31, 4732.141, and 4757.33 and to enact section 4731.284 of the Revised Code to revise the penalties and sentencing provisions regarding violations of the cruelty to animals statutes, to include the protection of companion animals in temporary protection orders, domestic violence protection orders, anti-stalking protection orders, and related protection orders.

STATUS: STILL WAITING TO BE INTRODUCED/PASSED in the Senate.

Sub HB 108 (aka Nitro's Law) - To amend sections 959.131 and 959.99 of the Revised Code to specifically prohibit an owner of a kennel of dogs from committing cruel treatment of a companion animal and to give a prosecutor who prosecutes an owner of a kennel of dogs who commits cruel treatment of a companion animal discretion in prosecuting the owner for the offense.

STATUS: WAITING TO BE INTRODUCED/PASSED in the Senate.

HB 112/SB 140 - To enact section 2927.28 of the Revised Code to require the inclusion of a bittering agent in engine coolant and antifreeze.

STATUS: STILL WAITING TO BE PASSED on the House floor and STILL WAITING TO BE INTRODUCED/PASSED in the Senate.

Sub HB 138 - To amend sections 109.73, 317.08, 959.131, 1717.01, 1717.04, 1717.06, and 1717.09 of the Revised Code to require a person to file proof of successful completion of training with the county recorder prior to being appointed as a humane society agent and to require the revocation of an appointment under certain circumstances.

STATUS: STILL WAITING TO BE INTRODUCED/PASSED in the Senate.

HB 289 - To enact section 2907.13 of the Revised Code to make bestiality a criminal offense.

STATUS: STILL WAITING TO BE PASSED in the House Judiciary Committee, STILL WAITING TO BE PASSED on the House floor, STILL WAITING TO BE PASSED on the Senate floor.

HB 290 - To amend section 2903.13 of the Revised Code to specify that an assault against a dog warden, deputy dog warden, humane agent, or animal control officer is a felony of the fifth degree.

STATUS: STILL WAITING TO BE PASSED in the House Judiciary Committee, STILL WAITING TO BE PASSED on the House floor, and STILL WAITING TO BE INTRODUCED/PASSED in the Senate.

HB 300 - To amend sections 121.40, 955.261, 2913.01, 2913.02, 2921.321, and 3701.04, to enact sections 5502.281 and 5502.282, and to repeal section 121.404 of the Revised Code to provide protections for search and rescue dogs and to make changes to the law regarding emergency volunteers.

STATUS: STILL WAITING TO BE PASSED in the House Judiciary Committee, STILL WAITING TO BE PASSED on the House floor, and STILL WAITING TO BE INTRODUCED/PASSED in the Senate.

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Save the Dates ...

... and watch for more information to come your way!

Pars Fore Pets 2nd Annual Golf Outing - August 27, 2012 at Rattlesnake Ridge Golf Club

Almost Home Ohio's Annual Reunion - October 10, 2012 (tentative)

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Share Your Love - Fosters Needed

We can only rescue as many dogs as we can foster. With the economy the way it is, more people are surrendering and abandoning their dogs and shelters are getting filled, forcing them to euthanize more dogs.

Help us save dogs from high-kill shelters, take care of more surrendered and abandoned dogs and fulfill our vision of making life better for dogs.

If you are able to foster, please contact Carol Mondillo at cmondillo@columbus.rr.com.

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Bark Back

If you'd like to see your story or pictures of your adopted or fostered Almost Home dog in a newsletter, please send your information to me. If you have ideas for stories, or suggestions of things you'd like to see here, please let me know. This newsletter is for you.

Please share our updates with your friends, coworkers and family ... perhaps they'll decide to join us!

Thank you,

Tobi Lynne Breiholz, Webmaster
tlbreiholz@yahoo.com
Almost Home Dog Rescue of Ohio, Inc.
www.almosthomeohio.org

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