

BARK Community Newsletter
June 2014

www.barkva.org

804-449-BARK

Bandit's Adoption and Rescue of K-9s

Kids Who Care

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Kids Who Care

Good morning,

I have attached a photo of Reese, Madison, & Taff B. They had a lemonade & cookie stand on May 24 and raised over \$50.00. They purchased dry/wet dog food, treats (bones), and little toys for BARK. My kids are 7 yrs. old. It never amazes me when they come up with ways to help others in our community.

Thanks for your time
Respectfully,

Amy B.



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Mark Your Calendar

BARK will be holding the next Pups on the Patio event on Friday, June 27th, from 5:30 pm to 8:00 pm. BARK volunteers, supporters, and some adoptable dogs will be on the patio of Bar Louie in Short Pump helping to raise money with some great raffle items for BARK dogs in need of extensive care. It's a great opportunity to bring your favorite 4-legged friend out for some great food, cold drinks, and good company - all for an amazing cause!

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Helping the Community: Adoption News

Most BARK dogs are rescued from local public shelters. These shelters are open admission facilities, meaning that they are required by law to accept all unwanted dogs, such as those picked up as strays or surrendered by owners. When public shelters run out of room to house the dogs, they sometimes euthanize as a means of population control.

BARK and other rescue groups offer lifesaving alternatives by transferring at risk dogs to their facilities, where they are housed until adoptive homes are found. In addition to finding forever homes, BARK vaccinates, spays/neuters each dog and provides appropriate veterinary care.

We are proud to report that **39** dogs found loving homes in May including Shirley, Trudy, Joe, Hobie, Jake, Honey Bear, Sky, Big Brenda, Bailey, Abby Rose, and Raleigh from our Oldies but Goodies program. If you'd like to keep up with the dogs adopted each week, please become a fan of BARK on Facebook at www.facebook.com/barkva.

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Adoption Spotlight: Agnes, Haggis, and Hoover

Dogs featured in the Adoption Spotlight were selected as personal favorites by BARK volunteers. We hope you enjoy reading their comments about these wonderful dogs. If you want to know more about a dog, [click here](#) for Petfinder bios.

If you are interested in meeting a dog featured in the adoption spotlight, please submit an application online at <http://www.barkva.org/AdoptionApplication.aspx>, send an email to adopt@barkva.org or call 804-449-BARK (2275).

“My favorite dog is Agnes,” says one volunteer. “She came in with her puppy Gage and had bad mange. Her fur is starting to grow back and she is just beautiful. She is a total sweetheart, she just likes to sit with someone and put her head in their lap. She loves to be petted and although timid at first will eventually come and cuddle. She needs a loving family that will sit with her and give her all the attention she needs. She obviously didn't come from a very good home and she deserves a place where she feels safe and loved.”

Agnes is a very pretty petite beagle mix. She gets along wonderfully with other dogs and enjoys being with you. She loves to get belly rubs, take a stroll and curl up next to you on the couch. Agnes is as sweet as can be and has the cutest little butt wiggle when she gets happy! She will be a wonderful, easy going companion. View Agnes' classified ad [here](#).



Agnes

Haggis is awesome, says his special BARK friend. “He’s a smart boy and full of personality. He’s very mellow and a bit on the chunky side but give him a toy, especially a rope toy and he plays like a puppy! If his kennelmate Chester takes the toy, Haggis laments with a couple of mournful barks. Other than when he wants his toy back, I haven’t heard him bark and that’s very unusual for a beagle! Haggis loves to be petted and talked to. He knows how to sit for a treat. Haggis deserves a forever home where he can be his wonderful, chilled-out self”.

Haggis is a sweet 5-year-old tri-colored Beagle. He is bit chunky at 31 pounds but that does not deter him from getting all the love and pets he can find. He is a smart, easy going boy who is full of personality. He gets along great with other dogs, loves children and knows how to sit for treats. He likes to take a stroll with you, then sit next to you to relax and cuddle. Haggis also loves to play with rope toys, they are his favorite! He simply lights up and starts to play like a puppy just at the sight of one. He will be a loyal, gentle companion!” View Haggis’s classified ad [here](#).



Haggis

Hoover's volunteer friend says this about him, "Hoover is a sweet, loveable beagle boy. In my mind, he's the most loveable dog at the kennels right now. Whenever I go into his kennel, he comes right up to me and snuggles. He just wants to be hugged and loved. He's small and easy to handle. He seems to get along with other dogs. This little man just wants a person and home to love and call his own. Is there space next to you on your chair for this sweet guy?"

Hoover is a small 21- pound "beagle classic". He's about 5 years old, and is happy to be called to play. He is great with other dogs and a really sweet little beagle boy. He loves running around and playing. He has quite a personality and when fully engaged, will give you a snort that will make you laugh. If you are a beagle person, Hoover is the beagle for you. If you are not a beagle person - Hoover will make you become one! View Hoover's classified ad [here](#).



Hoover

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Volunteer Corner

Volunteer Wish List

This month we especially need:

- Donations of **canned dog food!** We are in really short supply!
- Evening feeders at the Ashland farm, volunteers for cleaning kennels, and office help (call Linda Lane at 804-883-7740).



Monthly Meetings

BARK holds monthly meetings at the new spay/neuter clinic (12300 Farrington Road, Ashland, VA) on the second Monday of every month. Please check the BARK home page for confirmation of the exact date! The meetings begin at 7:00 pm. Topics include such items as how to make BARK better, Fundraising, Clinic and Marketing the Clinic to bring in business, Adoption Success Stories, Issues from the Farm, as well as open discussions. Please plan to attend!

Doggie Stories

We need your DOGGIE story too! Since BARK has so many dogs, it is difficult for volunteers to get to know each of them in the limited time they share at the farm or at an adoption stand. In an effort to better showcase some of the wonderful dogs currently awaiting their forever homes, we are asking volunteers to share their stories of working with spending time with the BARK dogs. Please “vote” for your favorite dog and explain what makes “your” dog deserving of his or her very own forever home. Does he walk well on a leash? Does he know how to sit or shake? Does he love the water? How does he act with volunteers and other dogs? Can she fetch? Is he a good kisser? The “winning” dogs, along with the volunteer descriptions, will be featured in the adoption spotlight portion of upcoming BARK newsletters. These stories will help readers get to know the dogs and hopefully generate adoption interest. Plus, they’re a lot of fun to read! Remember, your personal experiences could make a difference in the life of a very deserving BARK dog. Submit your “votes” to robin@barkva.org.

FARM DOGGIES NEED MORE HOUSEKEEPERS and FRIENDS!!!

What better time than now - while we are all considering how we can improve ourselves, our lives and our little part of the world - to make a resolution to help the less fortunate! I have a terrific suggestion. Why not start volunteering at BARK! You will make a difference in the lives of many homeless dogs! BARK dogs are safe under our care, no matter how long it takes to find them a forever home, and they are always welcomed back should the need arise. Once a BARK dog always a BARK dog. Rescue dogs are grateful for everything they receive and will spend the remainder of their lives showing their appreciation.

Did you know that on any given day in the STATE OF VIRGINIA ALONE there are approximately 6,900 dogs in animal pounds? This does not include those dogs at rescue groups like ours. Here are a few more statistics about dogs that will knock your socks off:

Did you know that in Virginia during 2012 -

36,542 dogs were surrendered by their owner

56,800 strays were caught and taken to the pound

24,200 were reclaimed by their owner

44,566 were adopted

900 died in the pound, all alone

27,500 were euthanized for whatever reason?

So, the more volunteers we have, the more dogs we can rescue. But it takes a lot of work and we need help. Come alone, bring a friend or make it a family endeavor. You will have fun, learn about caring for and working with dogs and just enjoy their great personalities in a pretty rural setting. There are lots of activities that are very helpful: cleaning, walking, feeding, helping with medicines, grooming, even laundry! WE ALSO REALLY NEED DONATIONS AND FOSTER FAMILIES!!! Foster dogs get adopted much more quickly. Many dogs are calmer and better socialized when they can stay in a home instead of the shelter. There are loads of ways to help!

We appreciate all the help we can get and so do the dogs! Thanks for thinking about this and please pass it on to others. You can contact me, Linda Lane at: billindaphoto@mindspring.com or call me at 804-883-7740 to set-up a time to try volunteering, consider fostering or arrange to drop off donated supplies.

Please come out and help. We'll work with your schedule and time constraints. With the constant change of schedules and the juggling of jobs and children and "LIFE", we are constantly looking to replace volunteers. The regular long term kennel keepers who clean the kennels and care for the dogs find themselves needing more cleaners. We have walkers, but not so many cleaners. So if you can spare some time, enough to do even just 4-6 kennels, once a week or so, please call Linda at 883-7740 and we'll welcome you with open arms.

Volunteer Groups

The good news is that we have so many new and wonderful groups volunteering. The not so good news is that sometimes too many show up at the same time. So, all groups must be scheduled before they can visit the farm (experienced or not) to walk and/or help take care of the kennels. We are limiting the number of visiting groups on any one day for the safety of all. Please contact Carol Murray at murrsan@verizon.net to arrange a date.

Current Schedule for Kennel and Dog Care

Our flexible work schedule has proven a success. It allows volunteers, once they are trained, to clean any time during the day on which they have enlisted. Only experienced volunteers can come alone. Grab a friend or family member if you are new or come at a time while other volunteers are there. Volunteers are there at irregular times throughout the day but we do not have volunteers there all day long. Surely one of those times will work with your schedule.

Every New Volunteer will receive an "Informational Package" by e-mail and every volunteer must have an Orientation, provide their paper work to a crew lead at the farm (not only on line), and read the required material. Orientations are scheduled on a one by one basis. Children under 16 must be supervised by an adult. If 16 or older, the young person must have written permission to volunteer and be a very responsible young adult. For any questions or to schedule an Orientation contact Linda Lane at billindaphoto@mindspring.com or (804)883-7740.

Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays: Volunteers are there at various times between 8:00 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. (Fridays start at about 10:30 a.m.) We have morning, late afternoon and evening crews on these days. BUT we do not have volunteers there throughout the day.

Tuesdays and Thursdays: Volunteers start arriving in the afternoon, clean their row or two and then others come later after work to finish up. Again, flexibility is the key to caring for the dogs and kennels.

Saturdays: Volunteers start coming anywhere from 10:30 a.m. (or earlier). If you are with a group, please make sure we know your group plans on coming out (see above). Also, Bob could use help loading and unloading dogs for the adoption outings.

Sundays: We never seem to have as much help on Sundays as Saturdays. All the above for Saturdays holds true for Sundays except they start a little later.

Remember, the dogs depend on us. We are all they have until a forever home is found for them. Won't you consider giving them a little part of your week – just a couple of hours or so? The dogs would love you for it and so would we! Hope to hear from you.

New Kennel Guidelines

Because we are concerned about the safety of all including the dogs, we are putting some new guidelines in place. Actually they are not totally new -we just need to make sure everyone abides by them.

1. No one under the age of 16 may walk on the LONG trail without the presence of a parent and without explicit permission from a crew lead. Any exception to this can only be made through the crew lead.
2. Children under the age of 16 may not be left alone at the shelter to walk dogs at any time. A parent must be with them, helping them get in and out of kennels and making sure they know how to handle the dogs. Very experienced volunteers are the exception. Again, this is at the discretion of the crew lead. It is not wise to have youngsters running in and out of kennels or up and down the aisles for obvious reasons. It just gets too chaotic and causes the dogs to become too rambunctious and excitable not to mention noisy. Please make sure you read the attached guidelines for walking if you have not already and read them to your children.
3. Groups that come to help walk dogs need to make sure that there are enough adults to supervise the young people at all times. Please stay with them and help them get the dogs in and out of kennels, leash them properly, follow the walking precautions/ rules and stay safe – dog and child.
4. If you groom the dogs, PLEASE put all grooming tools back where they belong AFTER cleaning all the dog hair off the brushes and combs.

Volunteer News:

Kennel Volunteer Programs:

Thanks to a core of volunteers, we are constantly improving the **Quality of Life** for our dogs. Here are our volunteer needs:

- ◆ Walking and Exercising Program
- ◆ Kennel/Shelter Care and Maintenance
- ◆ Volunteer Follow Up
- ◆ Special Projects/Facilities
- ◆ Feeding
- ◆ Transport
- ◆ Groups and Community Service
- ◆ Medical Care
- ◆ Intake

If interested, please complete a volunteer inquiry form on our website: www.barkva.org. Please note that the majority of our volunteers work full-time jobs in addition to the time they dedicate to BARK. Please allow up to 2 weeks to receive a response to a volunteer application submitted online.

Welcome to newcomers *Brandon Arnold, Keith Ayotte, Paisley Batty, Sarah Black, Eleanor Campbell, Jenna & Bari Cohen, Patty Crowder, Antoine Cruz, Rebecca Falter, Ashlee Glover, Megha & Ashutosh Gupta, Beanie Hakki, Samantha Hess, Jolisa Jackson, Gregory Marcin, Maria Martinez, Lashlee McCray, Liam Patterson, Shelby Patty, Sophia Quach, Morgan Quinn, Lynn, Kristen & Kayla Tambellini, Carrie Terbush, Hailey Thomas, Josane Wagner, Stephanie Walsh, Thomas White, Janet Wingfield and Kelsey Wooldridge.*

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Notes From the Farm: By Rolph

Hi there friends!

May was a pretty exciting month here at the BARK farm! BARK was one of many local organizations that participated in a huge, national adoption event for Maddie's Day. On one day only, BARK adopters had their adoption fee waived and BARK received a subsidy for dogs rescued from local animal shelters. This was definitely a win-win for the BARK dogs - they got great homes, adopters had even more incentive to adopt, and BARK received a generous subsidy. The greatest part about the adoption event was that almost 10 fosters adopted their dogs - many of whom had been in foster for more than a year! It was so exciting, especially for dogs like Trudy and Shy Joe - dogs that truly belonged in their foster home!

We also kicked off our annual Pups on the Patio events - held monthly at Bar Louie in Richmond. We had some awesome items that we raffled off and raised some money for BARK dogs in need of extensive vet care. A huge thank you to everyone who donated and we hope you'll join us on Friday, June 27th for our next one!

Lastly, I wanted to send a special shout out and thank you to Bill Reister, Peggy Fore, and Amanda Taylor for helping to weed whack and mow the outside play pens and the trails! We sure appreciate everything you do for us!

Until next time...



Rolph

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Happy Tails...Waggin' Good News

Dash is doing well and just finished his first obedience course (see photo, kinda blurry). He's still got a ways to go on some things, but is very smart and listens well (when he wants to :)

He and Sophie are getting along great and it's very cute to watch them chase each other around the yard, or to watch him clean her face (for like, an hour).

Anyway, I hope things are going well and you have many more adoptions in your future. Take care. I'll email you more updates soon.

Theo



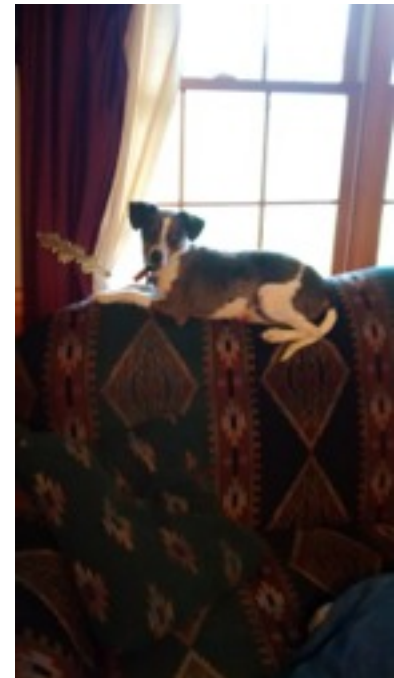
Dash



Here's a great picture of Leo, who graduated from one of our prison programs in his forever home. His parents absolutely love him!



Leo



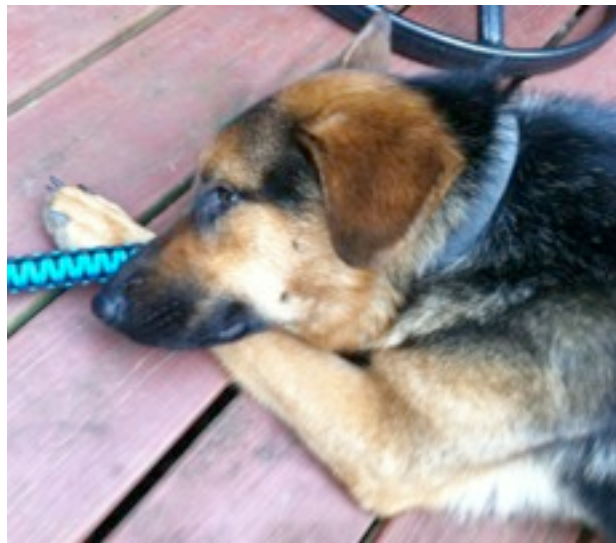
Here's a great picture of Max enjoying his new life full of sporting events and his new forever home!



Max



Rikki is having so much fun already and now tired out after a long day!

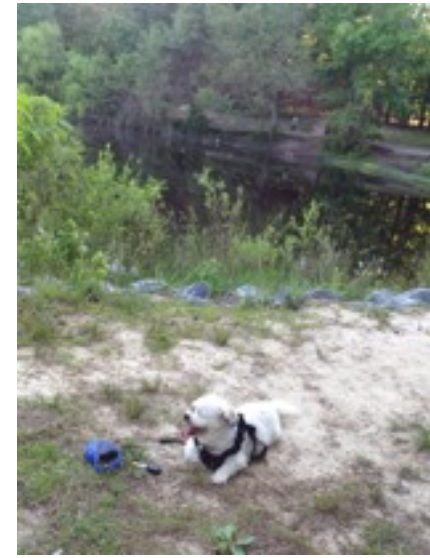
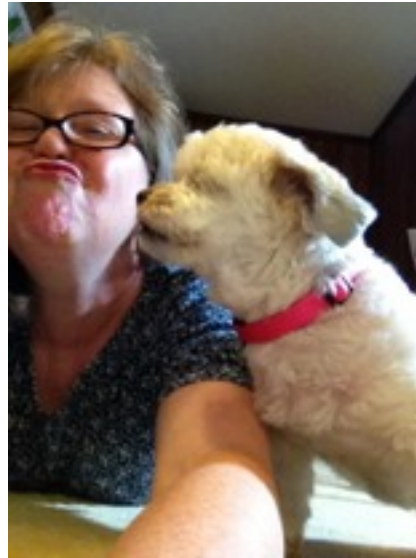


Rikki

Here's a great picture of Tilly with her new mom!

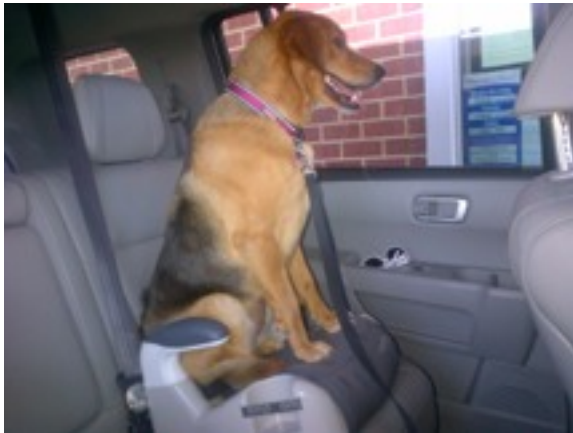


Tilly



Attached are a few pictures of Bella and the girls. Enjoy and feel free to share on your site.

Kathleen



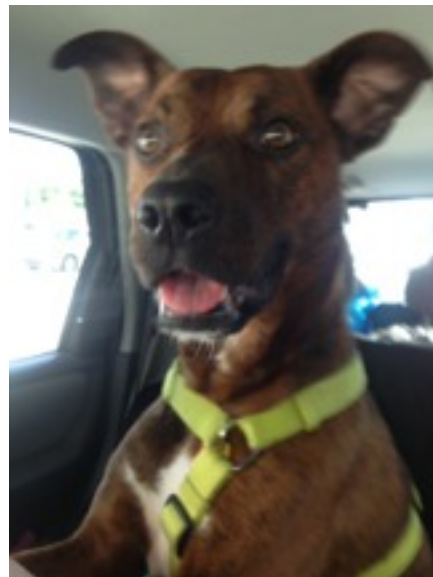
Bella

Jake is doing very well in his new home. He's pretty well adjusted to our cats and to life as a city dog, but we try to take him out to the country for hikes and lake trips (although he's still getting his sea legs) on weekends. He still loves to get his paws in the grass and run around. He's definitely a lover; he always has to be next to and preferably touching someone in the house, and he wants to greet everyone he sees on his walks.

I think the biggest sign that he's getting comfortable is that he's actually made some dog friends. His best friend right now is my boyfriend's parents dog, Chance. He's still a little insecure around bigger dogs (and he freaks out on this bear statue that's down the street from us :)), but we're working on socializing him with some trusted bigger dogs. I was hoping to attach a family portrait for your newsletter, but I couldn't get one together (maybe later), so i just attached some ones of jake and one of him with his new best friend. I'd love to see the newsletter when it comes out, and let me know if you need anymore information for it.

If you or anyone at BARK ever wants to catch up with Jake, just let me know, and we could always meet up. Like I said, we are always trying to get him together with other dogs that we can trust to try to socialize him (so he will stop freaking out when he sees big dogs on his walks), so if you know of anyone who would like to meet up and bring their dog, that would be great, too!

*Best,
Chelsea*



Jake

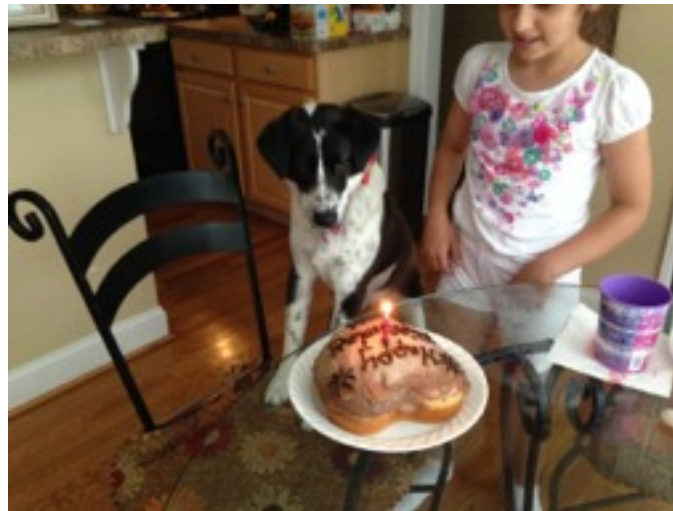
Here's a great picture of two adopted BARK dogs, Butterscotch and Kyle, hanging out together!



Butterscotch
& Kyle



Here's a great picture of Sadie (now Lacy) enjoying her 1st "birthday" in her forever home!

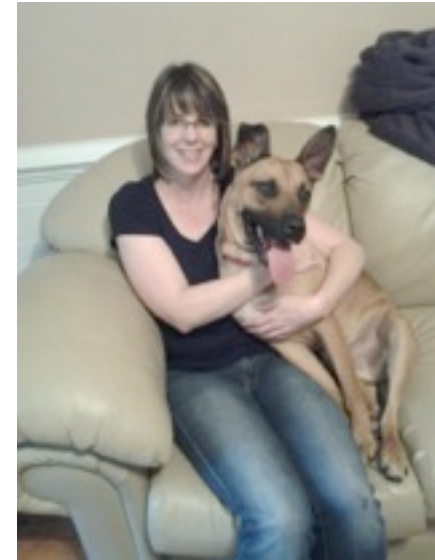


Lacy

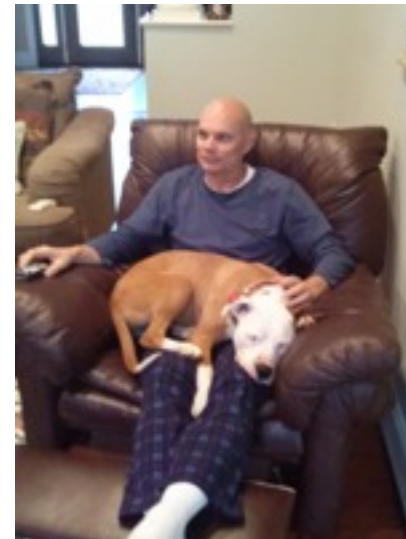
Here's a great picture of Remmy and his new mom in his forever home! That's one happy boy!



Remmy



Here are some great pictures of Sky in her forever home. This sweet girl waited over a year, but managed to find the perfect family!



Sky

If you have adopted a dog from BARK and have a Happy Tail or other contribution for the monthly newsletter, please forward it to robin@barkva.org.

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Anytime is a
good time to
donate to
BARK!

Bandit's Adoption and Rescue of K-9s

Bandit's Adoption and Rescue of K-9s is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization and all donations are tax-deductable. BARK is operated entirely by volunteers, so 100% of your donation will go to the dogs. Your donation will help fund spay/neuter operations, medical treatments, and daily care and feeding costs for the dogs at the Ashland farm and in BARK foster homes. You can mail your donation directly to the address below or make a secure donation online at www.barkva.org. Remember, every penny makes a difference in the life of a BARK dog!

Please accept my donation in the amount of:

- \$25
- \$50
- \$75

- \$100
- \$125
- Other _____

Gift given in honor of _____

Gift given in memory of _____

Name _____


Address _____



P.O. Box 1682
Glen Allen, VA 23060
info@barkva.org
804-449-BARK (2275)

Other Ways to Support

In addition to direct donations, there are numerous options that allow you to help support BARK and its mission. You can donate needed pet care items, purchase BARK merchandise or use a search engine that donates to BARK. Using these websites is super easy and a portion of your purchase will go directly to BARK. Please consider using these sites when shopping for your friends and loved ones this holiday season...

- ❖ In addition to monetary donations, is always in need of various pet care and administrative items. To view a complete inventory of “wish list” items, please visit <http://www.barkva.org/Volunteer.aspx>.
- ❖  merchandise, such as apparel for you and your pet, housewares, and bumper stickers are now available online at www.cafepress.com. Check it out!
- ❖ If you shop at Food Lion, BARK is now a charity with their MVP rewards. To register your MVP card, visit <http://www.foodlionmvpwards.com/>.
- ❖ **How can you make searching and shopping for that perfect gift even more perfect? Use iGive, where with ever transaction a portion goes to benefit BARK. Raise a penny (or more) per search and generate donations from any of the 730+ stores listed with iGive, ranging up to 26%. Also, check out the new searchable coupons and deals, where you will find all available, up to the minute offers and specials. Just visit www.igive.com.**
- ❖ GoodSearch.com is a new Yahoo-powered search engine that donates half its advertising revenue, about a penny per search, to the charities its users designate. Use it just as you would any search engine, get quality search results from Yahoo, and watch the donations add up! You can even set GoodSearch as your default search engine.

GoodShop.com is a new online shopping mall which donates up to 37 percent of each purchase to your favorite cause! Hundreds of great stores including Amazon, Target, Gap, Best Buy, eBay, Macy's and Barnes & Noble have teamed up with GoodShop and every time you place an order, you'll be supporting your favorite cause. So, by making your regular purchases through this site, you're helping take care of the dogs while they're waiting for their forever home!

Just go to www.goodsearch.com and be sure to enter  as the charity you want to support. And, be sure to spread the word! It's a super easy way to help support the organization.

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