

BARK Community Newsletter
October 2011

www.barkva.org

804-449-BARK

Bandit's Adoption and Rescue of K-9s

[We Need Fosters!](#)

[Halloween Pet Tips](#)

[Upcoming Fundraisers and Adoption Events](#)

[Morgan's All Natural Pet Products](#)

[Helping the Community: Adoption News](#)

[A Little Help From His Friends](#)

[Adoption Spotlight: Yogi and Bear, Scott and Sylvia](#)

[Volunteer Corner: We Need You!](#)

[Notes from the Farm: by Rolph](#)

[Doggone Good News](#)

[In Memoriam](#)

[Happy Tails...Waggin' Good News!](#)

[Ways to Donate to BARK](#)

Happy  Halloween

We Need Fosters!

A foster home is a safe haven where dogs recover from the trauma of their past, learn new social skills, and prepare for life with adoptive families. There is no better way to show your compassion for our fur friends than to foster. Fostering is a big responsibility but nothing is more gratifying than watching a once homeless animal blossom under your loving care. When you take a rescued animal into your home, you become a hero to that animal and to all of us who care about him. To become a foster parent, please complete our online [application](#) or contact Vickie at vlfahed@gmail.com.

Heartworm positive dogs need your help! BARK currently has at least **19** dogs that have tested positive for heartworms, a potentially life-threatening disease. Unfortunately, these dogs are not able to be put up for adoption until they've received their treatment and, in order to do so, they desperately need to find a temporary foster home. Please consider opening your heart and home to one of these deserving dogs for the 5-6 week treatment period. Please consider **Magic** especially, as she is a strong positive (worst case!). She has been in a temporary foster and was fabulous in the house and with other dogs!

All you need to do is provide a safe, calm, loving environment and BARK will take care of the rest (treatment costs, food, etc.). We have dogs of all sizes/breeds that need this treatment, some of which have been waiting for more than 6 months! If you or someone you know would like to help, please email foster@barkva.org. Thank you in advance for helping these sweethearts!!!



 Magic



 Doogie



 Carson



 Olive



 Vanessa



 Carl



 Patty



 Caroline



 Dusty



 Ralph



 Angel



 Diva



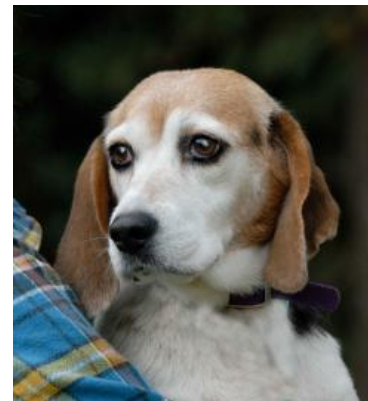
 Nutmeg



 Freckles



 Dolly



 Juliet

Also in need, but not pictured: Kimmie, Jasmine (small terrier mix), Bear 2 (rottie),

Sweet Nick needs a foster to save his sight! Nick is a very sweet natured and friendly dog who appears to be very puppy like, but is actually about a year and half year old, full grown and weighs about 55 pounds. He was found as a stray by animal control. This sweetie was roaming around eating trash trying to survive on his own. Animal control took him to the shelter, but no one came looking for him, and fortunately this boy was rescued by BARK. He's a really fun and social dog who just loves to be with people and also is great being with other dogs.

While Nick is available for adoption, he has some issues with his eyes (juvenile cataracts) which are affecting his vision and it appears to be getting worse. We can get Nick the surgery he needs to hopefully save his sight and keep the condition from worsening, but he needs a foster home that can help him through his recovery. This is truly just a matter of ensuring he gets his eye drops after surgery. This sweet boy is too young to be blind simply because we couldn't find someone to help him! Please consider opening your heart and home to Nick!!!



[\(Return to Top\)](#)

Halloween Pet Tips Courtesy of the ASPCA

Halloween can be a traumatic and even dangerous time for your pets. The ASPCA would like to offer some common-sense tips to help you protect them:

- Don't leave your pets out in the yard on Halloween: there are plenty of stories of vicious pranksters who have teased, injured, stolen, even killed pets on this night.
- Trick-or-treat candies are not for pets: chocolate is poisonous to a lot of animals, and tin foil and cellophane candy wrappers can be hazardous if swallowed.
- Be careful of pets around a lit pumpkin: pets may knock it over and cause a fire. Curious kittens especially run the risk of getting burned.
- Don't dress the dog in costume unless you know he loves it. Otherwise, it puts a lot of stress on the animal.
- If you do dress up your dog, make sure the costume isn't constricting, annoying or unsafe.
- Be careful not to obstruct his or her vision; even the sweetest dogs can get snappy when they can't see what's going on around them.
- All but the most social dogs should be kept in a separate room during trick-or-treat visiting hours; too many strangers in strange garb can be scary for a dog.
- Be careful your cat or dog doesn't dart out through an open door.

While this can be a fun time for people and pets alike, remember that your pets are depending on you to keep them safe from the more dangerous goblins and ghouls that this holiday brings.



[\(Return to Top\)](#)

Upcoming Fundraisers and Adoption Events

Friday, October 21st from 4:00 to 8:00 pm is another Pups on the Patio event at Bar Louie in Short Pump (11788 West Broad Street, Richmond). Bring your favorite four-legged friend out to Bar Louie's gorgeous patio for some great food, good friends and an amazing cause - raising money for BARK dogs in need of extensive veterinary care. This month's featured dog is Max, who will be undergoing surgery to repair a torn ACL. Funds from the event will help cover the cost of Max's surgery! These events have been a huge success and raised a lot of money for the BARK pups - plus they're great fun! And remember, it's almost Halloween, so costumes are highly encouraged and there will be prizes for the best costumes. BARK fosters and adopters - this is a great way to showcase your dogs!



Sunday, October 23rd Join the University of Richmond's BARK Club for their HOWL-o-ween Dog Walk at Westhampton Lake from 12:00 to 3:00 pm. All proceeds benefit BARK. Bring your (costumed) dog or just come to see. There will be raffles, costume contests and more!

HOWLOWEEN
DOG WALK

You are invited to attend by
University of Richmond's BARK Club.

The event will take place
Sunday, October 23rd
12pm-3pm
at
Westhampton Lake

All proceeds benefit BARK!

Bzzzz.
Bring your (costumed!) dog if you have one or just come to see! There will be raffles, costume contests and more!

Saturday, October 29th – Join some of BARK's adoptable dogs at Chesterfield County's Canine Carnival from 11:00 am until 4:00 pm at the county fairgrounds. There will be a costume contest, music, food, pet-product vendors and various rescue organizations. For more information, visit the county website at www.chesterfield.gov/CanineCarnival/. If you can help with the event, please email Terri at tmcd107@aol.com. *We need volunteers to help transport BARK's dogs as well as help at the actual event!*

Friday, November 4th - Sunday, November 6th is the Equine Extravaganza Horse and Canine Expo at the Meadow Event Park in Doswell. This is a new event for BARK, and a **huge** opportunity to raise awareness of our organization and promote adoption of our deserving dogs. The exact times of BARK's participation is based on our ability to get volunteers so please consider helping out for a few hours! For more information on the event itself, visit <http://www.equineextravaganza.com/>. If you can help with any portion of the event or need more information about exact times of participation, please email Terri at tmcd107@aol.com. *Volunteers and volunteer leaders needed!*

Thursday, November 10th – Join us at California Pizza Kitchen at Short Pump Town Center and 20% of your check will be donated to BARK. Just present this flyer any time on the 10th to support BARK and our great dogs. (Note: You can download the full-sized flyer from BARK's homepage www.barkva.org under “upcoming special events”.)

Join us at
California Pizza Kitchen
for a flavorful FUNdraising event!

Just bring in this flyer, present it to your server, and **20%** of your check will be donated to our organization. Purchases include dine-in, take-out, catering and alcoholic beverages!

Fundraiser in support of
BARK
Thursday, November 10, 2011
(All Day)

California Pizza Kitchen
Short Pump Town Center • 11800 West Broad St.
(Across from Dick's Sporting Goods)
804.364.9047

Go to cpk.com to view our pizzas, pastas, salads, appetizers & desserts. You can even order online!

Join the
CPK Adventure Club
at cpk.com and receive
\$5 off your next visit!



Eligible groups include non-profit schools and 501c organizations. Donation amount excludes proceeds from tax, gratuity, gift card and retail purchases. Valid for dine-in, take-out, online orders, catering or curbside service. Alcoholic beverages included. Not valid on delivery. Event proceeds void if flyers are distributed in or near the restaurant. Manager, please attach this flyer to the guest check.

Join us at
California Pizza Kitchen
for a flavorful FUNdraising event!

Just bring in this flyer, present it to your server, and **20%** of your check will be donated to our organization. Purchases include dine-in, take-out, catering and alcoholic beverages!

Fundraiser in support of
BARK
Thursday, November 10, 2011
(All Day)

California Pizza Kitchen
Short Pump Town Center • 11800 West Broad St.
(Across from Dick's Sporting Goods)
804.364.9047

Go to cpk.com to view our pizzas, pastas, salads, appetizers & desserts. You can even order online!

Join the
CPK Adventure Club
at cpk.com and receive
\$5 off your next visit!



Eligible groups include non-profit schools and 501c organizations. Donation amount excludes proceeds from tax, gratuity, gift card and retail purchases. Valid for dine-in, take-out, online orders, catering or curbside service. Alcoholic beverages included. Not valid on delivery. Event proceeds void if flyers are distributed in or near the restaurant. Manager, please attach this flyer to the guest check.

[\(Return to Top\)](#)



Morgan's All Natural Pet Products

"Morgan's All Natural" pet care products are formulated to soothe and calm skin irritations while maintaining a shiny, healthy coat. pH balanced for all breeds. Safe for daily use.

- Clementine Zest & Lemongrass Doggie Shampoo
- Lavender & Mint Doggie Shampoo
- Crushed Organic Lavender & Rosemary Dry
- Dog/Cat Shampoo
- Crushed Organic Lavender & Rosemary Leave-on Doggie Conditioner

"Morgan's All Natural" pet products donates \$1.00 of each product sold to BARK Rescue.

Email: morgansallnatural@hotmail.com

[\(Return to Top\)](#)

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 **41** dogs found loving homes in August. 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.

New Adoption Venue

We are pleased to announce our new weekly adoption venue at the Petco next to Trader Joe's in Short Pump. We will be there every Sunday from noon until 3:00 pm with lots of dogs to fall in love with. Please come join us and find your new best friend!

[\(Return to Top\)](#)

A Little Help From His Friends...

To give potential adopters insight into our dogs personalities and preferences, each month we ask volunteers, the people who know the dogs best, to “vote” for their favorite dog. We ask them to share stories of working with and spending time with the dogs and to explain what makes “their” dog deserving of his or her very own forever home. Does he walk well on a leash? Can he sit or shake? Does he love the water? We then publish the information we receive in the Adoption Spotlight portion of the monthly newsletter and incorporate the volunteers’ descriptions into the dogs’ Petfinder bios.

When we sent out our request for votes last month, we were excited and pleased to receive this response from volunteer Janine Hoefler:

Hi Robin,

My family loves the idea of your deserving dog descriptions. It is a great way of doing a writing exercise for my kids, who love being at BARK.

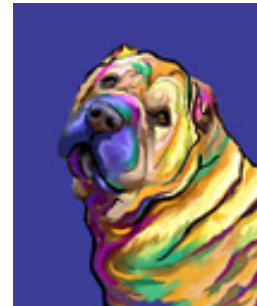
I am an established oil painter, photographer in the area. Would you like a small (9 x 12") donated unframed painting of the dog who wins the "descriptive" contest? It might be an extra incentive for the dog and be a fun thing to add to it.

*I paint in various styles and it would be a fun way I could contribute.
I included a colored pencil sketch, one of our paintings and a painting we did for a client who collects contemporary art, so you could get an idea of the work.*

Thanks so much for all you do! Let me know if this would help out.

Sincerely,

Janine Hoefler



Of course, we lost no time taking Janine up on her offer. We asked her and her family to choose the lucky dog she would paint and here is their response:

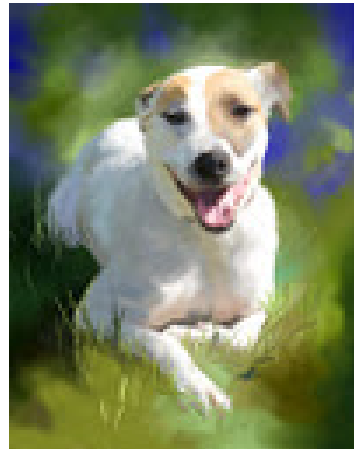
Milton was a beautiful surprise when my family met him! He was just the most beautiful dog to walk. He would walk along pleasantly, and not pull, and then he would also stop to relax and take breaks. He was a joy to play with and was friendly and very gentle around my children. He didn't fuss when there was a commotion going outside with lots of people in the immediate area and even stopped for awhile for me to take his photo, from which I made this small painting. He is a great dog!

I included the painting that I made of him; hope that can help you. If anyone adopts him, I'll give them an 11 x 14" painting for them to keep.

Thanks so much for all you do!

Sincerely,

Janine Hoefler



For those who haven't met Milton, he is a 2 ½-year old Jack Russell Terrier mix who has been with us since a young pup. He's practically spent all of his life at BARK and needs to know there's a home for him somewhere out there, and some special person or family to love him. Milton is full grown and weighs about 40 pounds. He is still very much a puppy at heart and he loves to play with you and with his toys. He gets along well with most female dogs. Milton likes to run and explore, and he would love a home that could give him play time and a safe place to run or to go for walks. Milton went into a home very briefly and we found out that he did not do very well with cats, so it's best he be adopted into a home without them. He was great in every other way and the family just fell in love with him. He is good in a crate and great on leash. If you would like to learn more about Milton, please submit an application online at www.barkva.org, send an email to adopt@barkva.org or call 804-449-BARK (2275). Thank you, Janine and the entire Hoefler family, for helping us showcase Milton in such a unique way.

[\(Return to Top\)](#)

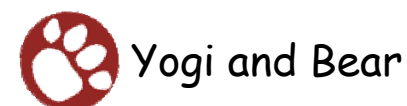
Adoption Spotlight: Yogi and Bear, Scott and Sylvia

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).

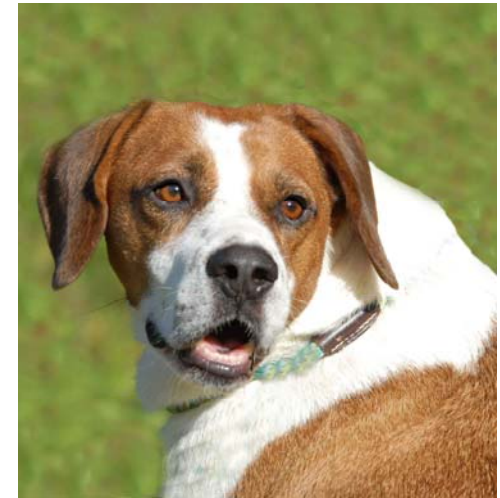
Yogi and his best buddy Bear are brothers, turned in by their owners to a shelter. They are said to be Chesapeake Bay retriever mixes. Both males are about two years old and medium/large in size. Yogi weighs about 57 pounds and is the smaller of the two. He is the calmer and more submissive in behavior of the pair, but both boys are bonded to one another and have been together up until now. Yogi can be strong on leash, and pulls a little bit, but is doing well lately on his walks with volunteers. He gets excited to be out and about with people but settles down nicely once he's been out for a bit, and he enjoys being petted and having his belly rubbed. He'll do just about anything for cookies or treats and will be a fun dog to train. Yogi is a friendly and sweet dog who is good with people and with other dogs. Bear weighs about 66 pounds and is the larger of the two. He definitely is the more outgoing and dominant in behavior. Bear is also strong on leash, but is doing well leash walking with volunteers, which he just loves! He also gets excited to be out and about with people but settles down nicely once he's been out for a bit. Bear is a friendly dog who is good with people and with other dogs. Both of these boys have nice, fun loving personalities and will make nice companions.

Yogi and Bear's volunteer friends say this about them: "Bear is a big, beautiful, sweet dog. Wonderful brownish red coat that is very soft. He loves to be hugged on and talked to sweetly. Even though Bear is a big boy, he is very gentle. He takes treats very gently. He listens when you ask him to get back from the gate and he's working on the 'sit' command. Yogi is a bit smaller and thinner than his brother Bear and has the markings of a reddish Siberian husky. Yogi is not as assertive as Bear but wants the same attention--he loves to be hugged and talked to. Yogi is very gentle as well and also takes treats softly. He listens well too. It's a treat every week to hug Bear under one arm and Yogi under the other and nuzzle their soft coats."



Scott appears to be a Boxer/Hound mix. He is about 3 years old and weighs in at 48 pounds. Scott gets along well with female dogs, but not male dogs. He is quite friendly and has a medium energy level. Scott didn't receive a lot of attention before coming to BARK, and he's hoping to make up for lost time in a new and loving family. He is dreaming of finding a home soon and a nice family to share his affection with. He is one sweet boy!

Scott's volunteer friend describes him like this: "Scott is a perfect companion for someone needing a loving, calm, patient, sweet friend. He always gave me a hopeful face when I approached his kennel and walked so calmly and predictably. During our rest breaks to give him some petting time, he was so appreciative for the warmth and love. At the end of our walks, he gave me yet another hopeful face and wagged goodbye. He was also a great dog for my kids to walk. With a dependable name like Scott - how can he ever do wrong?!"



Scott



Sylvia is a Belgian Malinois mix estimated to have been born in July 2010. She was underweight when she came into our rescue, but now is a healthy weight of around 50 to 55 pounds. She is extremely energetic and would benefit from some obedience training and someone to work with her. She is eager to please and would make a nice companion to an active family. Sylvia's volunteer friend describes her like this: "Sylvia is a high intensity, energetic girl and she is trying so hard to please. Following the Dog Whisperer's advice, I try to be very calm around her and only pay attention when she is acting calm. She is learning that she gets petted and sweet talked when she sits and doesn't jump. She really, really tries to keep her butt on the ground and sit so she can get positive feedback. She really needs a home that will take the time to help her use up her energy and train her. She is so eager to please, I think she would do well in training classes. Patience is needed with Sylvia though as she gets so excited that she will bark at you for attention."



Sylvia

[\(Return to Top\)](#)

Volunteer Corner

Volunteer Wish List

This month we especially need:

- **Donations of wet and dry dog food**
- Experienced dog handlers at the Short Pump adoption stand
- Evening feeders at the Ashland farm (call Linda Lane at 804-883-7740)
- Fosters for dogs of all shapes, ages and sizes (email Vickie Fahed: vlfahed@gmail.com)

Monthly Meetings

BARK holds monthly meetings at the new spay/neuter clinic (12300 Farrington Road, Ashland, VA) every second Thursday of every month. The meetings begin at 7 pm and food and drinks are provided. 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!!!

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

We are pleased that our flexible work schedule has proven a success. Once a volunteer receives an Orientation and gets a little experience, he/she can come on out and clean when it is convenient on the day they have chosen to volunteer – morning, noon or night. We prefer no one come alone unless very experienced and that you let the crew lead know your schedule beforehand. Having a buddy system makes it more fun anyways. Grab a friend or family member. Volunteers are there 7 days a week at various times throughout the day, so we are sure one of those times will work for you. Everyone must have an Orientation, hand in their paper work to a crew lead at the farm (not only on line), and read the required material before becoming a volunteer. Orientations are scheduled with a crew lead at a mutually convenient time. Children under 14 must be supervised by an adult. If 14 or older, the young person must have written permission to volunteer and be a very responsible young adult. Everyone is required to read the guidelines for both cleaning kennels and walking dogs.

Every New Volunteer will receive an "Informational Package" by e-mail. Contact information for crew leads is included in along with the required reading, the application/waiver and directions. If you misplace that contact information, write Linda at



billindaphoto@mindspring.com or (804)883-7740 before coming out and she'll let the crew leads know and send you another copy. Additionally, please make sure you don't forget to mark the two chalk type boards: one for the row(s) you cleaned and one for dogs you walked; this helps the volunteers who come after you know what is left to be done. You'll learn of this during the Orientation.

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.

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:

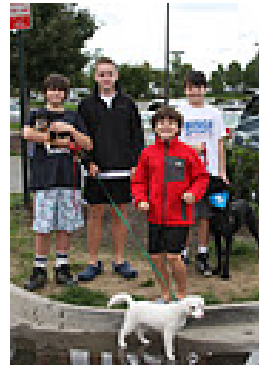
- ❖ Walking and Exercising Program
- ❖ Kennel/Shelter Care and Maintenance
- ❖ Volunteer Follow Up
- ❖ Special Projects/Facilities
- ❖ Feeding
- ❖ Transport
- ❖ Groups and Community Service
- ❖ Medical Care
- ❖ Intake

If interested, please complete a volunteer inquiry form on our website: www.barkva.org.

Welcome to newcomers Angel Eutsler and Rachel Manning.

Thank you

- ❖ Thank you to Cindy Harris, who organized our first online auction and raised more than \$4400 for the doggies!
- ❖ Thank you to Jackson Burcher, Jens Ames, and Will Mayes, who asked friends and family for donations to BARK instead of birthday presents for themselves. We are proud that these generous young men are part of the BARK family.



At BARK's adoption stand,
from left to right, Jackson
Burcher, Jens Ames, David
Mayes, and Will Mayes!

THANK YOU!!!

[\(Return to Top\)](#)

Notes from the Farm: by Rolph

Happy Howl-o-ween Everyone!!!

My friends and I have been keeping busy at the BARK farm...we've been going on lots of outings to adoption stands and special events, and I hear there are a lot more to come in the next few weeks (including some Halloween costume contests – yippee!). We have a lot of friends out there trying to do things to raise money for us BARK dogs, so please support them! That means we will definitely need some volunteers to help take care of us, so if you can lend a hand, check out the upcoming events and let the volunteers know.

My friend Linda asked me to pass along a special request for volunteers at the Ashland farm, especially during the week. In the summer months we have lots of help because folks are out of school (teachers and kids alike), but now many of them are no longer available and the volunteers are really short handed. So, if you have a few hours to spare during the week, please give her a call (804-883-7740) or shoot her an email (billindaphoto@mindspring.com). I promise I'll make it worth your while!

Lastly, I'm pleased to announce that the new Jessica Beath Spay/Neuter Clinic at the Farrington Firehouse is officially open! This is a great opportunity for BARK because it will help my new four-legged friends be ready for adoption so much faster (no more making appointments at another clinic) and is a great resource for other rescues and the general public. Where else can you get your dog spayed for only \$60??? So, please check out their website (www.jessicabeathclinic.org) and pass along the information to family and friends who could use this great, low-cost service!

Well, until next time...



Rolph

[\(Return to Top\)](#)

Doggone Good News: Courtesy of care2.com

<http://www.care2.com/causes/thundershirt-calms-dogs-with-fear-and-anxiety.html>

My daughter and I craned our necks out of the car window yesterday to see a double rainbow as we drove along the puddle-filled streets of our sleepy New England community. In the wake of mild thunderstorm we were having a wonderful time, yet I couldn't help wondering how many of the homes we passed contained a [quivering dog](#).

The truth is that for every one of us who loves a good storm, there's at least one who fears it. And when it comes to the canine community, a good clang in the clouds can feel like a gun shot.

I recently received a follow-up email from a woman whose recently rescued [puppy mill](#) dog Abby had never been sheltered from a storm. For her entire life as a breeding mom, Abby and her puppies had seen them head on through the bars of the cage. And even now in the safety of her new home, the sounds would send her spinning. But thanks to a relatively new product called the Thundershirt, her fear is beginning to subside.

Abby actually wears her shirt quite often as a method of calming her overall anxiety, not just during thunderstorms. Check out her picture [here](#)! The snugly fitted shirt has an effect similar to the swaddling of a new born baby, and pet parents are raving about the impact it's having on their dogs.

Separation anxiety, fear of fireworks and overall nervousness are all coming under control with the use of this new pet care tool. During an age when many veterinarians are pushing Prozac and other drugs to 'calm' dogs in emotional distress, it's exciting to see such promising results from a more natural alternative. [The shirt runs about \\$40 and comes in an array of colors.](#)



[\(Return to Top\)](#)

In Memoriam

Hello All,

It is with a heavy heart that I must tell you of the sudden passing of my wonderful BARK rottie Justamere Zahm, RA (aka Bruno). He was taken away too soon and it hurts a lot. I know his girlfriend, Kussen (aka Lucy) is really going to miss him.

Pat



[\(Return to Top\)](#)

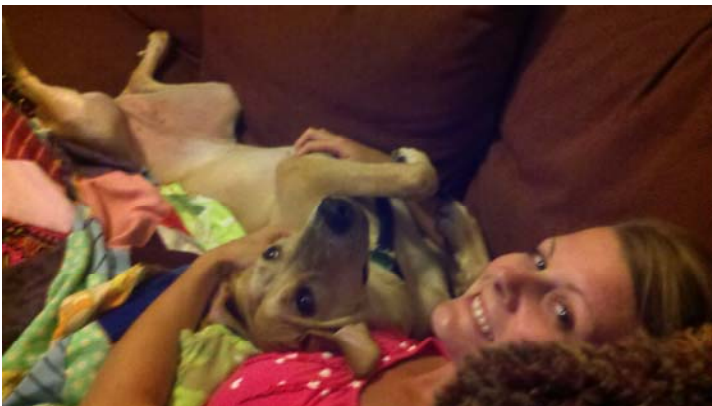


Happy Tails...Waggin' Good News



Elaine has adjusted nicely and has become part of the family. She is very intuitive and a smart girl. Besides a case of fleas and some yeast in her ears when we first got her she has been fine health wise.

Patrick



Elaine

Barnabas, aka Arthur, is a joy. We started by fostering as he went through some treatments, and decided we could not give him up. He came right in and made himself at home. He already has a place on the couch, plays tag and tug-of-war with his sisters, and even has bonded with the alpha girl. He is loving, dear, and has such gentle eyes. He can also be a true goofball. We adore him and are so thankful we can offer him a forever home!

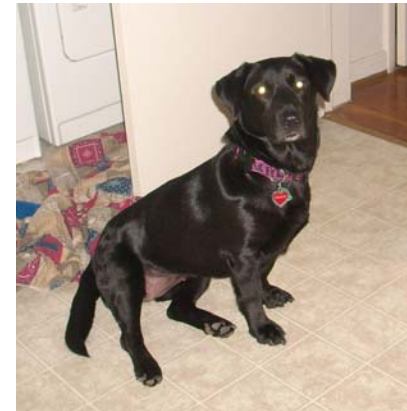
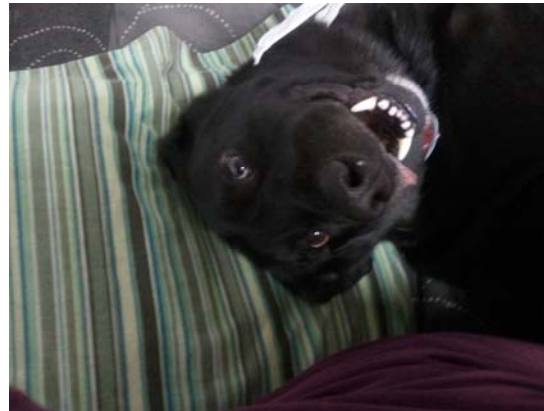
Thanks, Jean



Just checking in to say that Gracie (Chris) is doing wonderful and is a happy tail waggin' buddle of joy. We love her so much! She still enjoys doggie daycare once a week, chasing rabbits and squirrels in the backyard, and napping on top of any available air conditioning vent. I've enclosed some pictures for your enjoyment!

Thanks again!

Stephan & Phannetta



We have renamed Della and call her Ivy (because she grew on us so quickly). We absolutely love her and so does Gunnar. They were fast friends the first night we brought her home, and continue to be each other's shadows. She seems to be so very happy here with us! She is a quick learner and mastered "sit" and "come" in about 10 minutes. She is the perfect addition to our family. We thank you for all of your hard work and dedication to save and find homes for such wonderful animals.

Thanks so much!
Megan & Ed



Ivy

Hi I just wanted to let you know how well Beemer adjusted to his new home. He is very much loved, we put pee pads down as soon as we got him home and within a ½ hr he was going on the pee pads. He has a little mis-hap every once in awhile but his training is coming along great. He loves water, I've been keeping him out of it since he was neutered but it is all I can do to stop him from jumping in the bath with my 2 ½ yr old. I also have to lift his water every once in awhile because he wants to play in it. He already follows me everywhere and is getting a lot of attention. We are very fortunate to have him. Thank everyone at BARK for me.

Tanya



Beemer

Isabel (we changed her name from Hannah) graduated from her puppy education class last night. She does NOT like to have her picture taken, but I am sending a couple of pictures taken yesterday. She weighs over 20 pounds now, and her feet are pretty big, so she's got some more growing to do. She is a happy girl, and we are so glad we could give her a home.

Kimberly



Isabel

I just wanted to let you know that we are so in love with little Benni. He is doing great in his new home and we have enjoyed watching him explore his new surroundings. He and his sister, Kilty, are doing well together too. He has really latched on to me and follows me all over the house and yard. In other words, we couldn't be happier.

Jean (no picture included)

We have decided to call him Ansel -means God's protection. Kirk and Kitty just didn't do it. What a champ - our 3 yr old grandson came for dinner Sat night and Ansel walked right up and licked his face. Then Alexander wanted to hold the leash and walk him to the barn – about 500ft. That dear dog shortened his stride and meandered right along – never pulled - was positively a beautiful moment. We had him in stall for several periods today. He barked some but there was no way he could get out. He and our old dog seem good - neither are territorial. Our Ilse is smiling down from heaven. Many thanks to you and all the volunteers. Will get pictures to you.

Wendy (no picture included)

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

[\(Return to Top\)](#)

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

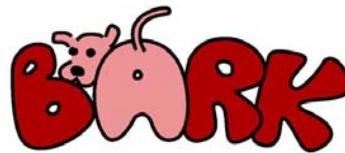
- \$100
- \$125
- Other _____

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.

[\(Return to Top\)](#)