



# Angel Ridge Pet Gazette

Animal Rescue

## Miracles on a Shoestring

Nancy Shannon

“It haunts me....

I go into an empty building or an open field looking for the kittens that I can hear crying for help. I can hear them, but I can't find them. When I sleep, I dream of them. “

(Barb Brown, ARAR Cat Care Coordinator)



So, we pull out all of the stops to find them. We bring in the man with the chainsaw to cut down the wall or ceiling. An army of volunteers to walk carefully, and listen closely for their cries, sometimes setting humane traps for them.

We cannot save them all, but we have saved a lot of them. We have many more resources now than when we started cat rescue. We use all of the resources at our disposal and we partner with other cat rescues and organizations in the community to perform miracles...on a shoe-string.

Angel Ridge animal Rescue was started in 2000, caring for rescue dogs and horses. Barb Brown and her husband, John, were dedicated dog walking volunteers. They began to notice another species in dire need of rescue and care. They started taking care of the feral cats that had taken up residence on the Angel Ridge farm property.

What is now the cat program of Angel Ridge Animal Rescue, began with the feeding and trapping of 40 cats on the property, and the half empty hayloft became the shelter for many of them. From there, an empty horse stall was converted into “kitty digs”, and was equipped with a fan in the summer, and a plug-in heater in the winter. Every cat had enough food, a soft bed and music played softly on the radio for them.

Somewhere around 2013, I was persuaded that our cats really needed better creature comforts, and we moved our cat operation into the backroom of our donated construction trailer that served as our business office. We were “paw to elbow “, so to speak for two years, sharing the limited space. Two years later in 2015, the two-story caretaker apartment in the horse barn became vacant. Bailey’s Cat Haven and the beginning of our expanded cat rescue department had begun.

Summer 2022

**WELCOME TO OUR  
SANCTUARY!**

Miracles on a  
Shoestring ~ 1

“Syd” Our Kid  
~ 3

Kitten  
Shower ~ 3

Livin’ Like a  
Rock Star ~ 4

Wish List ~ 5

Lullabies for  
Lola ~ 6

Gathering of  
Guardian Angels  
~ 7

This past spring, the cat volunteers were asked to assist in the rescue of cats and kittens from a Section 8 housing complex in the South Hills area of Pittsburgh. Some of the cats and kittens were hiding in a garage, with a roof ready to collapse onto them. Last year, a Washington County trailer park begged us for our help. We were given space in an empty trailer to shelter the cats rescued there, until they could receive veterinary care. So, in addition to the volunteers providing cat care at Baileys at Angel Ridge Animal Rescue, we had to recruit other volunteers to provide the same care at this second location. An ongoing rescue situation began this spring and summer of what we believe to be dozens of cats and kittens left behind, when the owner of a home died unexpectedly in Scenery Hill, Washington County. Barb Brown tells us: "These kittens were rescued from the Scenery Hill house and we are looking for others. They were found in the attic between the insulation and the roof. We had to pull them out. We could hear them crying. We believe that the mother cat could not reach them to feed them, as they had fallen down very far. They are undernourished for their age. I am currently syringe feeding them in my home."



**Butters, Waffles and Mocha, Barb's bottle babies from Scenery Hill rescue**

On some occasions we find a mother cat who is nursing her litter, and we rescue them all, but it doesn't always work out that way. Many times, we only find the very young kittens and there is no mother around. These litters need to be bottle fed if they are to survive. Consider the skill, time, and dedication of the cat care volunteers to help these kittens survive.

This "army" of special kitten care people are our fosters. Without them, most of the abandoned kittens that we find would not survive. At this writing, the Angel Ridge Animal Rescue program has 24 foster families caring for 78 kittens and 14 adult cats. There are approximately 25 other adult cats that are sheltered at Bailey's. There are currently 49 cat care volunteers.

Barb has also partnered with the businesses and groups that we need to do this lifesaving work. Veterinary and spay and neuter services are provided by Fix UR Cat in Canonsburg, at discounted prices. Angel Ridge Animal Rescue and Fix UR Cat have worked closely with one another for several years on cat rescue and fund raising. Both groups have prospered greatly through this collaboration.

Pet Supplies Plus, in McMurray, has allowed us to keep some cats and kittens in cages in their store, and they are all adopted quickly. Petco, in Washington, and Pet Supplies Plus have allowed us to do offsite adoptions out of their stores and have generously donated food and supplies for our cats. Petco Love, Petco's charitable foundation, has been generous to Angel Ridge Animal Rescue with financial grants throughout the years. Last year we were able to adopt 242 cats and kittens to wonderful homes. We have saved the lives of thousands of cats and kittens, and often times, we were the only cat rescue organization that answered our communities' call for help. The catalyst for all of these cat and kitten rescues is our Cat Care Coordinator, Barb Brown. She is a quiet, but effective leader who is driven to save as many cats and kittens as she can. In her words, "It haunts me.... once I see a situation, I cannot walk away."

This is probably the mantra of many dedicated animal rescuers. It is Barb's mantra and it is my mantra. So we continue on, sometimes on a "wing and a prayer", but always working on the miracles that we can make happen to save precious lives every day.

# Lots of Love for Syd, “Our Kid”

3

They were still grieving over the loss of their German Shorthair Pointer in February. None the less, Arlene and Gene Then visited the ARAR website, impressed by the wonderful experience their son, Matt, had in the adoption of Darby from us in 2020. The Thens spotted two-year old hound mix, Andi, who had been a stray in WV. Andi's sweet face reminded them of their beloved dog that had passed. Wasting no time, Arlene and Gene headed to ARAR for a meet-and-greet. Said Arlene, “We knew that she was the girl to fill the hole in our broken hearts, and that she did.”

The Angel Ridge Adoption Counselors were somewhat concerned about this retired couple's ability to handle the strong and spirited Andi. So, Andi went home with the Thens, and we all hoped that things would work out. Andi made herself completely “at home”, bonding with the sixteen-year-old Puggle, Ralphie, and equally senior cat, Louise. The age difference in the pets made no difference when it came time to play or cuddle. This trio became quite the “Three Amigos”. Andi never did respond to her name, so the Thens paid tribute to her awesomeness by giving her the female version of the name of their favorite athlete, the Penguin's Sidney Crosby. Andi is now Sydney, or Syd, “our kid”, for short.

The Thens are so in love with Syd. She brings them joy and fun every day. They see the gratitude that Syd has in her heart for the chance at a wonderful new life.



Arlene tells us:

*“We are most definitely proponents of adoption. Over many, many years we have adopted our dogs from shelters. They have all rewarded us with more love than we could possibly give in return. We would say to anyone thinking of a new friend and family member, please give a shelter dog a try. You will be amazed by the love and appreciation they give in return for finding a “forever home”.”*



## A Kitten Shower

~ Please Join Angel Ridge Animal Rescue ~

Sunday, July 10 from 1 to 4 at Pet Supplies Plus, McMurray, Rt. 19  
Bring a gift to help us shower this year's kittens with cozy comforts and a great start on life. Meet some of our kittens ready for adoption.  
Enjoy refreshments and learn how you can volunteer with kittens.

### **Some gift ideas –**

Fancy Feast canned kitten food, KMR powder, purr pillows, Royal Canin mother and baby canned kitten food, mother and baby dry Royal Canin dry kitten food, kitten toys, small stuffed animals, baby blankets, paper litter or non- scoopable unscented litter, small litter pans, litter scoops

Bring your gift with you or purchase at Pet Supplies Plus on the day of the shower. See you there!





# From Death's Doorstep to Livin' Like a Rock Star

## ...the story of Duddie

He had the hardest of lives... living on the streets where only a very few survive. He begged for food and affection. He looked after the weaker ones within his colony. But Duddie found himself on death's doorstep, not once, but twice. First when he was intentionally poisoned, and survived, and then to have his throat slit open.

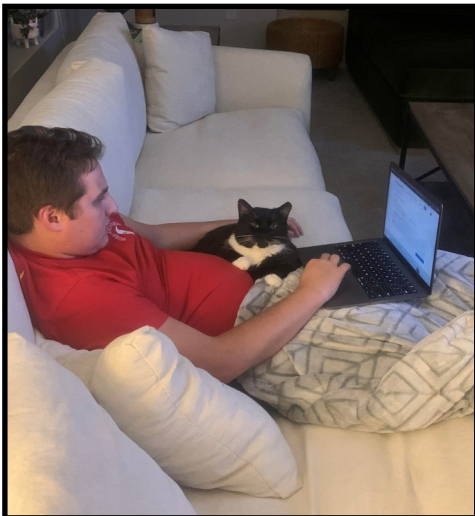
Angel Ridge cat volunteer, Kelly Smith, rescued Duddie and cared for him until he was well enough to come to Angel Ridge Animal Rescue. Duddie's throat injury meant that he could only eat wet food. He was also diagnosed as FIV positive, a condition also called feline AIDS.

In the fall of 2019, Elise Mowrey, a volunteer who came to be known as Duddie's fairy godmother, took a liking to Duddie very quickly. In fact, Duddie had stolen her heart. But Duddie also had an extra special place in the hearts of all of the Angel Ridge Animal Rescue cat volunteers because of the horrible trauma that he had endured throughout his short life. He instantly bonded with another FIV positive cat, Cheshire, and they became best friends. They touched paws through their cages and enjoyed roaming outside their cages, running around and playing. Duddie's story touched the hearts of everyone who came to visit the shelter. Unfortunately, he was often overlooked by potential adopters because of the special needs he would require, being FIV positive and on the restricted wet food only diet.

Elise told me, "I counted down the minutes until I graduated and had my own pet friendly apartment so I could adopt Duddie. I told my friends and family that if Duddie did not have a home by the time I graduated, I could adopt him and I would take him home with me. Exactly one year after he came to the shelter, Duddie came home with me to his forever home. That was October 11th, 2021."

Duddie quickly adapted to his new luxurious life, and is a very pampered kitty who lives large in the Lawrenceville neighborhood of Pittsburgh. Even though he lived outside for a long time, he never attempts to leave his comfy "pad". Rock star Duddie is far too comfortable on his favorite chaise lounge while basking in the sun, or lying on his heated blanket. He enjoys his broth treats, playing with all of his new toys, and watching TV all day long. He is a big fan of the television show "Real Housewives." Duddie likes to sit next to his dad while he works from home. Elise tells us, "Duddie can't get enough attention and struts his Rockstar stuff whenever we have visitors. It is hard to believe that he ever lived such a harsh life outside. It is also hard to imagine a time when we didn't have Duddie in our lives."

Rock on, Duddie!



Duddie and his Dad



Duddie enjoying an evening of TV.

*Note his Christmas stocking waiting for Santa's visit*

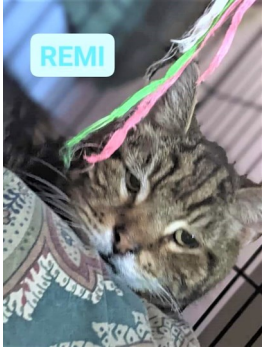
Cat & Kitten

Fosters Needed



Fosters are especially needed for the rescue kittens. Kittens must live in a foster home until they are 12 weeks old. We provide supplies, expertise and support. If you are interested or have questions, please contact Barb at [jacob.75293@aol.com](mailto:jacob.75293@aol.com).

## Saving Seniors with Broken Hearts



Remi

So often, Angel Ridge Animal Rescue and other shelters are asked to admit senior dogs and cats to their shelter. It is a heartbreaking experience for the pets and for us. These pets were once beloved members of the family and developed a close bond with their family members. We see them grieve - some cry when they are alone, some hide in a corner of their cage, and some do not want to eat. Their hearts have been broken.

People coming to the shelter usually gravitate to the kittens and younger cats. They have no idea of the love and adoration that they are missing by not considering an older cat.



Chloe

Angel Ridge Animal Rescue has two older cats looking for love, once again. Remi, age 14, came to us when his owner became ill and could no longer care for him. He is very loving and craves attention. Chloe, age 15, was adopted from our shelter in 2008, and returned to us when her owner died. Chloe is a spunky girl with quite the personality. Both Remi and Chloe have sponsors for their adoption fee, but an approved application is required.

You will not regret opening your hearts to these precious kitties.

To meet Remi or Chloe, contact Barb Brown at [jacob75293@aol.com](mailto:jacob75293@aol.com).



### **Angel Ridge Wish List**

Our needs are great for the volume of animals we care for at Angel Ridge.

Monetary donations are welcome as well as these products used daily at our shelter.

Fancy Feast Canned kitten food - chicken or turkey  
 Royal Canin Canned Mommy & Baby / kitten food  
 Pro Plan canned kitten food - liver and chicken  
 KMR Milk replacer powder - 1st step  
 Inaba Churu cat treats  
 Frontline Plus for cats  
 Frontline Gold for cats  
 Wet Swiffer Pads  
 Clorox Spray and Wipes  
 Trash Bags

Frontline Plus for dogs  
 Purina One Dog food  
 Greenies Dental Chews  
 Martingale collar w quick snap buckle  
 Anti allergen and medicated pet shampoo  
 Copy paper  
 Postage stamps  
 HE liquid laundry detergent  
 Canon 245 & 246 Ink cartridges



AMAZON.COM  
**Amazon.com: Angel Ridge animal Rescue: Angel Ridge Wish List**  
 Amazon.com Universal Wishlist for Angel Ridge animal Rescue.

**ORDER DIRECTLY ON AMAZON** <https://tinyurl.com/5dv4br8s>

and deliver to 390 Old Hickory Ridge Rd, Washington, PA 15301

# Seeking Sweet Lullabies for Lola

Lola came to us shortly before Easter. A Humane Police Officer found her wandering aimlessly at a campground in the Laurel Highlands. What made this cruel abandonment even worse is the fact that Lola is totally blind, unable to fend for herself. This sweet, probably 5 year old Sharpei, had some other physical issues. She tested positive for Lyme disease and had a bad skin and urinary tract infection. Lola was taken into the home of Val, our kennel supervisor, which is located on the Angel Ridge property. Our volunteers soon learned that Lola's other senses were amazing. On her daily walks down our lane, she could not see the horses in the fields on the side of her, but she could sense them and would pull her walkers over to the fence to be closer to them. On June 2nd, Lola had an enucleation ( removal ) of both eyes at the specialty vet, PVSEC. The glaucoma in one eye, and entropion in the other eye, were painful conditions that medicines could barely alleviate. Lola was returned to Val's home for a post- op recovery.

Lola's surgery and related vet appointments cost several thousand dollars. We have been raising money, but we still have a shortfall of funds. Can you help us please? Any monies we receive in excess of Lola's bill will be used for other emergency surgeries. Lola is also ready for a loving home. We found that Lola is defensive around other dogs that come into her space, so she must be the only dog in the home. Lola is great with people, cats, and children. She loves to sit close to you while you rub her belly and back.

If you are interested in adopting Lola, you should contact our office at [aranres@yahoo.com](mailto:aranres@yahoo.com).

To donate for Lola's vet bills, or other emergency surgeries in the future, please use the donation form below & mark for emergency veterinary care. Thank you and God bless!



Lola after surgery



PLEASE HELP OUR ANGELS AT  
ANGEL RIDGE ANIMAL RESCUE

Mail this form and your donation to  
P.O. BOX 94, Meadowlands, PA 15347



NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to contribute \$\_\_\_\_\_ to:

(please choose one of these categories)

☐ General Contribution    ☐ Emergency Vet Care    ☐ Gathering of Guardian Angels Program (\$200 Annually or \$50 quarterly)

You can also donate through PayPal, [aranres@yahoo.com](mailto:aranres@yahoo.com)



## Our Gathering of Guardian Angels

Earlier in this newsletter, you read about our sweet dog, Lola, who came to us blind and with other physical problems. Lola was found by a Humane Police Officer who told us that if it were not for Angel Ridge Animal Rescue, Lola would never have had a chance at a new and happy life. Lola would have had to be euthanized.

In our cover story, you learned of the many sickly kittens and cats that we find. We get them the veterinary help that they need. Our philosophy is that an injury or sickness that can be healed is no reason to end an animal's life.

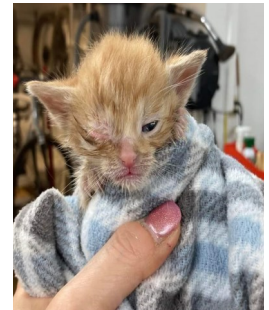
We have a special program of caring contributors named the Gathering of Guardian Angels. These Guardian Angels contribute \$50 quarterly or \$200 per year to this program.

The program is there to provide the funds for needed medicines or surgeries for the dogs, cats and kittens who come to us with extraordinary veterinary needs.

Please consider joining this elite group of contributors, "Angels" who provide the needed extra financial help for our "little angels." We don't ever want to refuse entry for a dog, cat or kitten to Angel Ridge Animal Rescue because we don't have the funds to heal them.

To join, mark the Gathering of Guardian Angels box on the donation form on page 6.

Thank you and God bless.



## WE NEED YOU!

Have you ever dreamed of making a difference in the life of a pet? Do you have lots of love to give?

Are you ready to start helping now?

Angel Ridge has so many ways you can get involved, through volunteering or fostering.

Please contact Volunteer Coordinator Rose @ [tomkorose@hky.com](mailto:tomkorose@hky.com) and start the journey!





Mail: P.O. Box 94, Meadowlands, PA 15347  
Site: 390 Old Hickory Ridge Rd., Washington, PA 15301  
724-229-7053 | [www.angelridgeanimalrescue.org](http://www.angelridgeanimalrescue.org)

## **CURRENT RESIDENT OR:**

### **Our Rescue Partner, Pet Supplies Plus**

In 2018, we began to feature our cats and kittens for adoption at PetValu, McMurray, now known as Pet Supplies Plus. We have a few of our cats and kittens there, ready for you to meet and take one or two home. Please stop by and visit.

Many thanks to Pet Supplies Plus, our dedicated rescue partner.

## **Calendar of Events**

**Off-site adoptions, dogs and cats,**

**PetSmart, first Saturday of the month 12- 3**

**Washington Petco, third Saturday of the month 12- 3**

**Kitten shower, Pet Supplies Plus McMurray, Sunday July 10th, 1- 4**

**WCCF Day of Giving, Thursday September 15 th**

**Apple Festival, October 1- 2, Hickory, PA**

**Pet Supplies Plus, every day, our cats and kittens for adoption**

**White Horse Brewery, Puppy, Pint & Wine Night~ second Wednesday of the month  
throughout the summer, 5-8**

**Silent Auction, November date TBD, more to follow on Facebook**

**The Washington County Community Foundation,**

**WCCF, Day of Giving is September 15th, 2022 - save the date!**