Happy Tails!
A Diamonds in the Ruff Publication

It's purr-fectly entertaining!

Helping those who need it most!

DITR always has a soft spot for those animals that are sick or in need of a little extra care. Recently DITR has seen the need for homes for puppies and dogs suffering from mange. Mange is a skin disease caused by tiny mites, commonly found in companion canines. Some are normal while others are not. An exact cause of mange is unknown. The symptoms of mange depend on which type of mite is present.

Sarcoptic mange is transferred easily between hosts. It can result in restlessness and frantic scratching, symptoms which generally appear one week after exposure. It also can result in hair loss, reddened skin, body sores and scabs. The most commonly affected areas are a dog’s ears, elbows, face and legs, but it can rapidly spread to the entire body. When passed to humans, sarcoptic mange causes a rash of red bumps, similar to mosquito bites.

All dogs raised normally by their mothers have demodectic mange mites, which are transferred from mother to pup via cuddling. Most dogs never suffer any consequences. There are three types of demodectic mange that affect canines; it cannot be transmitted to humans or to cats. Localized cases result in isolated scaly bald patches creating a polka-dot appearance. Generalized demodectic mange, in contrast, affects larger areas of skin or a dog’s entire body. Demodectic pododermatitis is confined to the foot and accompanied by bacterial infections.

Depending on the type of mange and the breed of your dog, medication may be given orally or applied topically, by injection, or via shampoo and dip. For sarcoptic mange, the first step in the treatment is isolating your dog to prevent the spread. All bedding, collars and fabric-based toys should be thoroughly cleaned, but preferably replaced. For treating demodectic mange, medications and managing physiological stress are essential. Some infected dogs may also require special treatment - such as medicated shampoos - for secondary skin infections.

Please note, many skin treatments can be toxic to dogs and should not be repeated frequently, so please check with your vet before beginning any treatment program for mange.

Welcome to the DITR family:

Harper Chance
Sheena Jack
Baxter Daphne
Skittlez Norm
Carl Rinnie
Chester Stanley
Lacey and her 10 puppies

Lexie Tiger
Snowflake Bella
Panda Odessa
Darwin Charlie the pooch
Bella Charlie the kitten

Dobby Update
Community Events
Fundraisers
Success Stories

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Volunteer Spotlight: Kelly Naylor

1) Do you have any pets? I’ll go in order of age. Thomas is my 17 year old neurotic tuxedo cat. He hates change with a passion. It causes him to rip out his hair and pee everywhere. So, fostering puppies, remodeling, doing repairs around the house, not folding up a blanket and putting it back after watching a movie on the couch have made him quite bald and me go through a lot of paper towels and petzyme.

Top Shelf’s Captain Morgan AKC, CGC, TDI is my 9 year old yellow lab. (CGC=Canine Good Citizen TDI=Therapy Dogs International) She is a dream. She will do a minute sit or down stay with me leaving the room. She was trained with the thought that my Grandmother would have to move in with me and will assist you in getting up out of a chair, back up 10 feet on command to get out of your way rather than go around her.

And of course the infamous Morris the Moose!! He turned 2 in December and is a Hellhound! He was meant to be my dog and I knew I was in trouble when I received the text from Maria that we were getting a pregnant Labrador. He has had more training hours spent on him than Morgan and still cannot do a sit or down stay! Yet, everyone adores him and finds his naughtiness part of his charm. He is like living with a spoiled rotten, temper tantrum throwing toddler. His latest escapades include eating cookie dough (with a metal measuring spoon included) and drinking pop...He really needs his own column in the newsletter!

2) How long have you been involved with DITR? and 3) What’s your favorite DITR memory?
I’ll combine 2 & 3. In March of 2012 I was hanging out with my friend Kyla and her mother who had lost her dog. She said she was ready for another Boston. The next morning I saw a post shared by JoAnne Ruppel Frawley (Wilson Dog Paddle) from DITR about Boston pups up for adoption. I shared the post and they adopted Paddy, now Tucker.

Because of this I was now aware of DITR and called looking for help with a community cat that had kittens in my yard. I then asked if any help was needed and began volunteering in May 2012. I was unemployed at the time and had lots of time to give. My friend Kyla then came along with me to see what I did at the rescue and ended up meeting Valentino and falling in love and becoming a part of DITR.

Just goes to show how 1 person sharing 1 post changed so much. That one post led to 3 pets being adopted, 2 volunteers/fosters.

4) What is your favorite TV show/movie? Tobi Wan Kenobi knows that the answer to this could only be Star Wars! My first 2 fosters were named for Star Wars characters (Mara) Jade and Princess Allana (Solo).

5) Do you have any other hobbies? Dog Training! I love working with my dog. Whether on obedience, agility or anything really. Working my dog creates a stronger bond between us. I love to read and Morris was lucky he survived eating my Kindle. Did you know that Amazon will give you a discount on a replacement Kindle even when the dog chewed it?

6) A fun fact about you - I named both my Labradors in memory of my mother. Captain Morgan was her favorite drink, it worked out great that I got her from Top Shelf Kennels! And Morris the Moose was her favorite Christmas song. My first Labrador is buried with her. They passed away within 5 months of each other of the same disease.

Update from the Board

DITR desperately needs donations and successful fundraisers to help with outstanding vet bills. There have been several emergency procedures needed by some of our foster animals as well as Lacey’s surprise litter of ten pups and Bella’s future surgery!

We recently introduced a new fundraising committee to help drive events. Fundraisers in the works include a softball game against the Niagara County SPCA, a casino night, a comedy night, a 5K walk/run and our second annual St. Pawtty’s Day celebration! If you want to help, or have a fundraising suggestion, please let us know. Stay tuned!
Mikaela

Mikaela is about a year and a half old. She was found in the town of Lockport behind a woman's house. DITR took her in and she then had kittens. Mikaela got out the door of her foster home and then had another litter of kittens shortly after returning to DITR! We put her in another foster home with her second litter, where she was a great mom! Almost all of her kittens from both litters have been adopted and it is time for her to just enjoy life. She likes to lay in the sun and loves people, but is not a fan of dogs. She is pretty laid back and is just a great companion.

Roscoe

If you’re looking for a fun-loving pooch, Roscoe is your dog! He is a 2 year old Boxer/Lab mix that comes to DITR from an outdoor kennel in Kentucky.

Roscoe is as friendly as can be! He plays well with others, human and dog alike. He loves meeting new people and going on walks (we think it’s the new smells and the chance to meet new friends!). Roscoe is crate-trained and likes his little room—he’ll even nap in there during the day.

Dobby Update:

Remember how Dobbie was surrendered to DITR? It was unbeknownst to his dad and he missed him terribly. Dobbie’s dad refused to give up searching for him and happened to come across a Dobbie update on our Facebook page and found him!

Dobby is happy to be home (and chasing rabbits in the fields) and is being spoiled like crazy. Here he is with his dad watching the Sabres game - who knew he was such a hockey fan! We couldn’t be more excited about his happy ending! Happy tails, Dobbie!!
Happy Tails to some the following DITR rescues:

Caesar
Huck
Boa
Buell
Odo
Beauty
Baxter
Elsa
Stanley
Rinnie
Johnny
Jett
Hope
Padfoot
Patrick
Kenji
Stella
Pretzel
Vlad
Shadow
Lucy
Peanut
Suzie
Miracle
Maggie
Zero
Elwood
Grady
Jack
Liam
Elwood
Grady
Jack
Liam
Mason
Otto
Charming
Tiger
Hank
Daisy
Astor
Baby Boy
Chance
Chester
Joey

We’ve been so fortunate to save so many this quarter, sadly we can’t list them all!

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Community Events

Beginning on Saturday, January 10th, DITR will be at the Lockport PetSmart store every second Saturday of the month from 10am-2pm with some of our adoptables. On the last Saturday of every month, DITR will be at Clyde’s store in Wrights Corners from 10am-2pm. Stop out and see us or bring your foster for an outing! If you would like to volunteer at any of our community events or if you know of any community events DITR may be interested in participating at, please email us.

Fundraisers

Did you know there are ways you can donate to DITR besides donating money? DITR has the following ongoing fundraisers:

- **Cans and Bottle Drive:** just drop them off at any Bottle Junction location and tell them it’s for DITR!
- **Gust of Sun Winery:** crafts a special wine for DITR and donates a portion of the sales to us! So if you need a gift for a wine lover, consider Gust of Sun’s Diamond wine!
- **ResQwalk:** download this walking app and select DITR as your favorite walk to donate your miles. Those miles turn into shares of the weekly prize pot!
- **Amazon Smile:** order from Amazon and select DITR as a designated charity!
- **FreshScoop:** order cat items from FreshScoop.com and donate your Paw Points to DITR for future litter, cat food, cat toys, etc. purchases!

As always, monetary donations can be made to Diamonds in the Ruff at any time. Please email Diamonds to make a donation! Also, if you have any fundraising ideas or opportunities that Diamonds in the Ruff qualifies for or may be interested in, please contact us! Watch for new fundraisers, coming soon!

Success Stories

Happy Tails to some the following DITR rescues: