

# News and Roos

from  
**Three Rivers Greyhounds**

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As we begin a new year, I would like to thank everyone who helped make 2017 one of the most successful years in Three Rivers Greyhounds' history. Not only did we place more Greyhounds (48!) in their forever homes than in any previous year, our amazing volunteers also shattered all expectations with the most successful fundraising year to date.

Whether you are a new adopter, a new or long-time volunteer, or one of our many generous benefactors, TRG owes its success to each and every one of you. Our mission of educating the public about the wonderful world of Greyhounds is only possible with your dedication and support.

On behalf of the entire Board of Directors, we thank you from the bottom of our hearts. Let's keep the momentum going in 2018; there are still plenty of deserving Greyhounds waiting to show off their Olympic caliber roaching skills – maybe even on a couch near you!

*~Ruth Scheller, TRG president*



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## TRG Board

Ruth Scheller – President  
Kyle Catanzarite – Vice President  
Sue Yanakos – Treasurer  
Louise Evans – Secretary  
Beverly Stulen – Director

Maryann Flot –Volunteer Coordinator

[info@gpatrg.org](mailto:info@gpatrg.org)

Three Rivers Greyhounds is a 501c3 non-profit organization. Your contribution to Three Rivers Greyhounds in 2018 will be fully tax deductible and 100% of your donation will be used to benefit the greyhounds.



## *Cory's Story*

*This is Cory's Story (formerly Courageous Crunch). It is a saga of Courage, Compassion, Recovery and Love.*

**COURAGE** We first met Courageous Crunch, a very handsome four year old brindle greyhound, when he entered the Three Rivers Greyhound adoption program last July. He came from the Wheeling 4L4H (Four Legs For Hounds) program after surgery to repair a broken right rear leg. Soon after arriving at TRG, issues began to affect his injured leg and it was determined that the hardware in his leg had to be removed. While waiting in Wheeling for over three months for the surgery, Crunch developed a life-threatening infection in his leg and his survival was uncertain. It was determined that to save his life, his leg must be amputated. That surgery occurred on October 25<sup>th</sup>. The courage came from a dog that wouldn't give up no matter the pain or the odds that were not in his favor for survival from the racing injury and the infection that followed.

**COMPASSION** The compassion came from the team of medical professionals who gave Cory a chance to survive and provided loving care throughout his saga. Thanks to the expert care from the veterinary staff at The Ohio State University School of Veterinary Medicine, the vet student who fostered him during his recovery period, and Dr. Lori Bohenko, the Wheeling Island track vet and founder of the 4L4H program, Cory was healing.

**RECOVERY** The good news is that Cory made a complete recovery. In spite of overwhelming odds, he was now ready to return to Three Rivers to find a forever home. On December 15, after weeks of uncertainty, we drove to OSU in Columbus to bring Cory to his forever home with us. Our concerns regarding his mobility were unfounded as he walked without assistance, could do stairs and by Christmas, was running in the snow. He can climb into the car with the help of a ramp and exhibits no fear when trying something new.

Cory bonded quickly with his older greyhound brother, Ollie, and joyfully greeted all new visitors to our home. While not earning any babysitter awards, Ollie watched as Cory removed the ornaments one-by-one from the Christmas tree and placed them on his bed. Having Cory in our lives has been an amazing journey—he really lives up to his name “Courageous” Cory. There is not a squeaky toy that he doesn't love, the deep snow is his playground, and no matter how hard Ollie tries to lure him, Cory will not give up the favored bed.

**LOVE** The love comes from our hearts and from the joy Cory gives us. On October 2<sup>nd</sup> our beloved five year old greyhound, Piper, tragically and suddenly passed away. We needed that love as much as Cory did. We consider ourselves so blessed to have found this wonderful grey, who after much adversity, has made a full recovery and just loves his new life. Our hearts are overflowing, and our floors are covered with squeaky toys. It doesn't get any better than this.

*~ Maryann and Vince Flot*



*Thank you to everyone who donated to the Holiday campaign for the Hounds. Your gift will help Three Rivers Greyhounds to continue our mission of placing retired racing greyhounds into forever homes.*

Kathy and Joe Boback, in honor of Wild Lady Gaga  
Paul and Diane Passantino, in honor of Bella and Annie  
Vince and Maryann Flot in honor of Ollie and Cory, in memory of Sierra and Piper  
Bob And Kyle Catanzarite, in memory of Finn  
Alice L. Angelo, in honor of Bella Rose  
Ferd and Debbie Reetz  
J-J &D Service  
Diane Windhorst  
Jennifer Krandel Schreier in honor of Sophie  
Linda Kostka in memory of Greycie  
Winfield Smathers  
Ruth Scheller in memory of Stewie  
Elizabeth Wallace, in honor of Elizabeth Watson  
Manny and Carla DiNatale  
Fran Iafolla in honor of Honey Girl and Ernie  
Joy Vonholle  
Pauline Peters  
Nancy Bailie on behalf of Erek Bylinowski  
Rachel Marini  
Anthony Lucarelli  
Anna Hillwig  
Dawn Rush, in memory of Elizabeth (Rocktachel) Watson  
Joan Burkart  
Arno Punstel  
Jim Evans  
Anne Hillwig



*Three Rivers Greyhounds would also like to thank the following for their donations received since the last newsletter.*

Noelle Petach, in memory of Stanley Brauch  
Darlene and Matt Callihan, in memory of greyhound Katie Rose  
Maryann and Vince Flot, in memory of greyhound Stewie Scheller  
Shari Bruschi, in memory of greyhound Uhaul Woody  
Bill and Sue Yanakos, in memory of greyhound Promise  
Bev Stulen, in memory of Promise Yanakos  
Clyde Flora, in memory of Buck  
Ruth Scheller, in memory of Tom Griffith  
Christopher Page, in memory of Tom Griffith's father, from the App Integration Team  
Joanna Stone, in memory of greyhound Django, a very good boy  
Nittany Greyhounds

*Thank you to those that have sponsored greyhounds on the TRG website.*

John Sebak Insurance  
Rebecca Molczan

Natalya Bertram  
Arno Punstel and Tom Cortina



*Remembering those Hounds that have crossed the Bridge ...*

Harry, loved by Darlene and Matt Callihan  
Stewie, loved by Ruth Scheller  
Promise, loved by Bill and Sue Yanakos  
Finn, loved by Kyle and Bob Catanzarite  
Piper, loved by Maryann and Vince Flot  
Oliver, loved by the Powell family  
Fly, loved by Amy and Jeff Leyland  
Bella, loved by Diane and Paul Passantino  
Bing, loved by Jim Evans  
Frank, loved by Carol and Joe Kubiak  
Dalton, loved by Robyn Carmen, Jeanne Callow and Family  
Django, loved by Jennifer and Dave Kent



*ANNUAL ROCK N' ROOS  
will be held MAY 20<sup>th</sup>*

- ◆ Mark Your Calendars for our annual reunion.
- ◆ It will be held Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup> from 3-6 pm
- ◆ New location – A.W. Beattie Career Center, Allison Park
- ◆ More space, everything will be indoors, no rain to run from!
- ◆ Food, vendors, raffles, fun for hounds and humans!
- ◆ Cost \$15 per person; 10 & under are free

CHECK YOUR EMAIL OR FACEBOOK FOR MORE DETAILS  
AS WE GET CLOSER TO THE EVENT!

*More Events Planned to benefit TRG in the coming months!*

- ◆ *Mad Mex fundraiser, August 2018*
- ◆ *Fall For Animals, October 6, 7, 2018*





*A Quick Recap of 2017 Events.....  
These activities benefited  
greyhounds who were adopted  
through TRG.*

- Painting With a Twist, Robinson Twp, hosted by Leanne McConnell --- TRG received \$517.70
- Tailgating for the Hounds at Domenico's, Cranberry Twp – TRG net proceeds were \$515.66
- Disney Raffle – 4 ParkHopper tickets – TRG sold all 200 raffle tickets, total proceeds \$2,000; special thanks to Maryann Flot for her over-the-top sales of these tickets.
- “Nickels for Non-Profits” Whole Foods month, we received \$5287, plus an additional \$152 from a tailgate M&G at their South Hills store in Upper St. Clair; special thanks to Sue Yanakos
- Holiday Meet and Greet, led by Joe Kubiak & volunteers, \$2250 in donations received at Pittsburgh Mills mall.
- Meet & Grets held at many locations monthly throughout 2017 plus Atria's, PNC Kids Sundays, Fall for Animals totaled \$6945.45; special thanks to Joe Kubiak for setting up the special event M&G's.

Total expenses for each dog adopted through TRG's program in 2017 was \$527 per dog. As you can see that far exceeds the adoption donation we received for each greyhound, so fundraising is a key component to continuing our mission of placing more retired racing greyhounds into their forever homes.



### *Another Shoe Drive!!*

Did you participate in last year's shoe drive? If not, you have a chance to rid your closet of those shoes that no longer fit, are the wrong style etc.

TRG is working cooperatively with another greyhound adoption group to help them with their fundraising efforts. The shoe drive will begin in March.

TRG will be sending out an email with more information and drop-off locations for the shoes. All types of shoes, men's, women's, and children's shoes are accepted.

Watch your email or check out our facebook page for information on this activity.



If in error, we have omitted your name, a donation, etc., please contact us so that we may correctly acknowledge all who have helped further TRG's mission. Thank you for your understanding.

## *Fruits and Veggies – Canine Do's and Don'ts*



Wondering what veggies and fruits are okay and nutritious to offer your greyhound? With spring and summer approaching, and more fresh offerings available, take a look to see what your pooch could enjoy safely.

Take a look at the list below – some on the list can actually be toxic to your hound, so use caution before offering your pet a sample.

**Apples** ~ Dogs can eat apples. Apples are an excellent source of vitamins A and C, as well as fiber for your dog, and also make a perfect snack for senior dogs. Make sure to remove the seeds and core first.

**Bananas** ~ In moderation, bananas are a great low-calorie treat for dogs. Because of their high sugar content, bananas should be given as a treat, not part of your dog's regular diet.

**Blueberries** ~ Dogs can eat blueberries. A superfood rich in antioxidants, which prevent cell damage in humans and canines alike, blueberries are packed with fiber and phytochemicals as well.

**Cantaloupe** ~ Packed with nutrients, low in calories, this melon is a great source of water and fiber. However, it is high in sugar, and should be shared in moderation.

**Cranberries** ~ cranberries are OK for dogs to eat. Both cranberries and dried cranberries are safe to feed to dogs in small quantities. Moderation is important as too many cranberries can lead to an upset stomach.



**Raspberries** ~Raspberries are fine in moderation. Raspberries are especially good for senior dogs because they have anti-inflammatory properties, which can help take pain and pressure from joints. However, they do contain slight amounts of the toxin **Xylitol**, so limit your dog to less than a cup of raspberries at a time.

**Watermelon** ~ Watermelon is OK for dogs to eat. Remove the rind and seeds first, as they can cause intestinal blockage, but watermelon is otherwise safe for dogs.

### **JUST SAY NO!!**

**Avocado** ~ **NO**, dogs should not eat avocado. While avocado may be a healthy snack for dog owners, it should not be given to dogs at all. The pit, skin, and leaves of avocados contain persin, a toxin that often causes vomiting and diarrhea in dogs.

**Cherries** ~ **NO**, dogs shouldn't eat cherries. With the exception of the fleshy part around the seed, cherry plants contain cyanide and are toxic to dogs.

**Grapes** ~ **NO, NO**, dogs should **never** eat grapes. Grapes and raisins have both proved to be very toxic for dogs no matter the dog's breed, sex, or age. In fact, grapes are so toxic that they can lead to acute sudden kidney failure.

Source: American Kennel Club article. View complete article at link below.

<http://www.akc.org/content/health/articles/fruits-vegetables-dogs-can-and-cant-eat/>