

News and Roos

from

Three Rivers Greyhounds

~~ DECEMBER 2019

ISSUE 33 ~~



Reflections on 2019, Looking towards 2020

Looking BackIt was September 2009 when TRG first came into existence. As a small group of women sat around the table contemplating how to get this group started, I remember thinking to myself, with some trepidation, can this area really support another Greyhound adoption group?

Well, 10 years and nearly 400 Greyhounds later, the answer is a resounding yes! It's been a labor of love for sure; we've had many good times and even hit some rough patches along the way, but it's been one of the most rewarding experiences of our lives.

At the time of this writing, 2019 has seen another 43 Greyhounds find their loving homes, and we're not quite through yet. Another 3 or 4 will find their way home for the holidays, and begin their new lives as cherished pets.
~ Ruth Scheller

Looking ForwardWe have had amazing success as a small and tireless group of volunteers who has never lost focus of the mission of finding forever homes for Greyhounds. The dogs have, and will, continue to come first in every decision made, from care to adoption.

Significant changes in the racing industry leading to track closures, will continue to result in increased expenses and demands for volunteer hours for TRG to successfully continue our mission. Transportation expenses are expected to rise as large numbers of dogs will be moved from states where racing has been discontinued to TRG for adoption. As the numbers of dogs available for adoption increase, TRG will assume more expenses and will require more volunteer hours as we commit to placing as many dogs as possible in forever homes.

We need your help! Your donations of money and time are needed now more than ever as we face challenges greater than ever before. If you have room for another Greyhound in your home and heart, now would be a wonderful time to adopt!

Thank you for all that you have done for the dogs and for your continued support as TRG moves into the new year! ~ Kyle Catanzarite



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Articles and news are welcomed for 'News and Roos'! Do you have a suggestion or an article to contribute? Please contact Louise at evans.louise.52@gmail.com





HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM THREE RIVERS GREYHOUNDS!



Moe, a 2019 TRG adoptee

With the holiday season upon us, Three Rivers Greyhounds (TRG) extends our thanks to all who have helped with our primary mission to promote the adoption and placement of retired racing greyhounds into loving homes. Many greyhounds are still waiting for a forever home.

- ◆ To date in 2019, we have placed **43** retired racing greyhounds into loving homes. Perhaps one of them is sleeping at your feet (or on your couch) right now!
- ◆ Expenses for preparing greyhounds for adoption continue to increase as there are now costs to transport greyhounds from Florida, plus providing vetting for spays/neuters, teeth cleaning, vaccinations, and treating greyhounds for parasites, etc.
- ◆ Medical expenses alone exceed the adoption fee. Total TRG costs from “track to couch” averaged **\$483** per greyhound in 2019. (TRG accepts any dog regardless of special needs or medical issues.)

2020 will bring additional challenges to greyhound adoption groups as Florida tracks discontinue greyhound racing, and other states consider the future of greyhound racing at their tracks.

TRG relies solely on donations to continue placing these loving greyhounds into forever homes. **Your year-end gift** to Three Rivers Greyhounds will provide the necessary funds to continue our mission.

Please consider a donation to help cover any of the following expenses for greyhounds that enter our adoption program in 2020:

- \$100** helps cover the cost of transporting one greyhound from Florida to TRG.
- \$50** helps cover parasite testing, treatment and preventative medications.
- \$25** helps cover the cost of a microchip, collar and leash.

As always, any amount that you choose to donate is greatly appreciated, and 100% of your donation is tax deductible and used solely for the greyhounds.

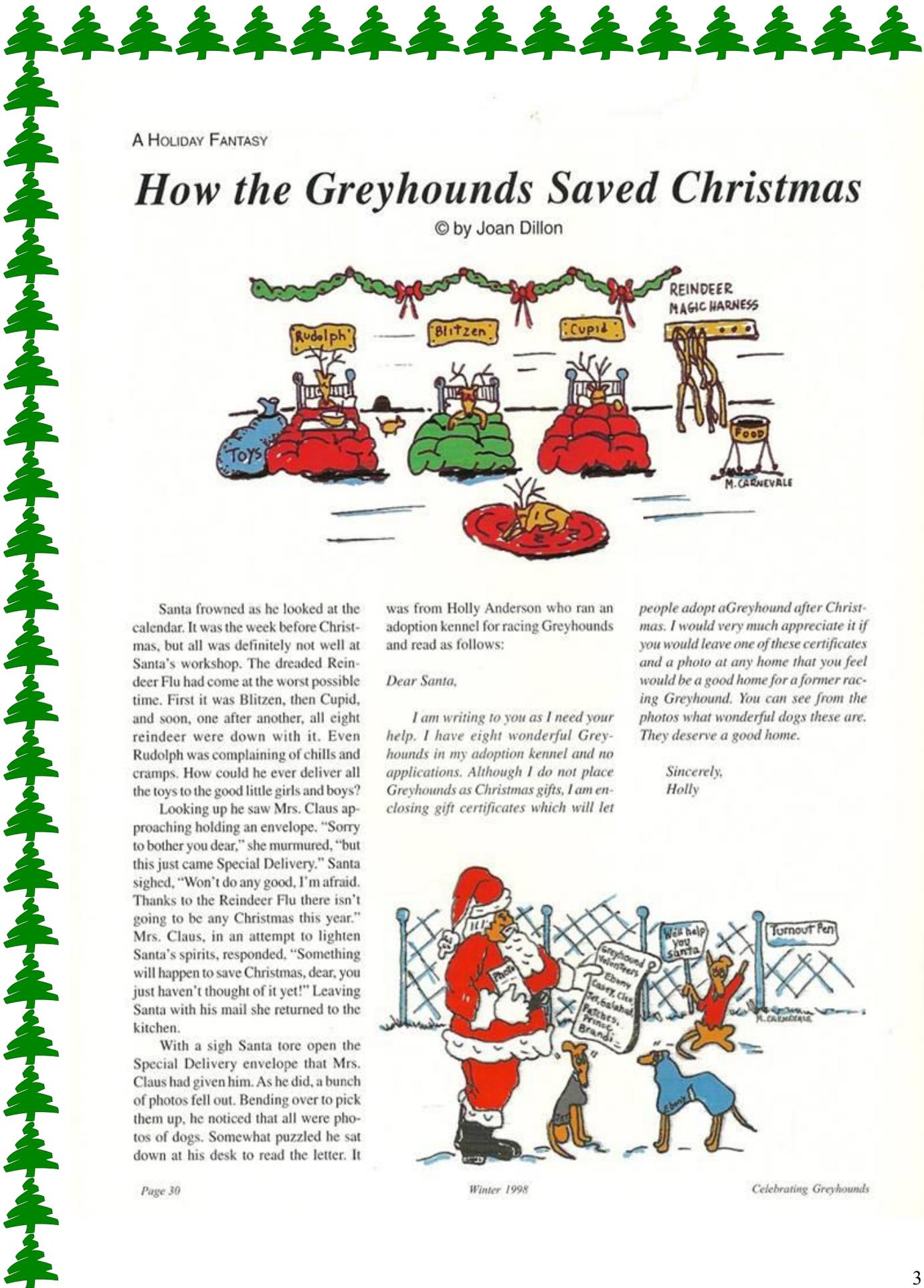
Please mail your donation to Three Rivers Greyhounds, P.O. Box 101033, Pittsburgh, PA 15237. We will acknowledge your gift in our Spring 2020 newsletter. You can also donate via our website (www.gpatrg.org) using the “Donate” button.

The Board of Three Rivers Greyhounds wishes you and your loved ones a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy 2020!

Ruth Scheller, President
Sue Yanakos, Treasurer
Bev Stulen, Director

Kyle Catanzarite, Vice President
Louise Evans, Secretary

**** Please feel free to share this appeal with your family and friends who understand your passion for greyhounds and might wish to donate to our group. ****



A HOLIDAY FANTASY

How the Greyhounds Saved Christmas

© by Joan Dillon



Santa frowned as he looked at the calendar. It was the week before Christmas, but all was definitely not well at Santa's workshop. The dreaded Reindeer Flu had come at the worst possible time. First it was Blitzen, then Cupid, and soon, one after another, all eight reindeer were down with it. Even Rudolph was complaining of chills and cramps. How could he ever deliver all the toys to the good little girls and boys?

Looking up he saw Mrs. Claus approaching holding an envelope. "Sorry to bother you dear," she murmured, "but this just came Special Delivery." Santa sighed, "Won't do any good, I'm afraid. Thanks to the Reindeer Flu there isn't going to be any Christmas this year." Mrs. Claus, in an attempt to lighten Santa's spirits, responded, "Something will happen to save Christmas, dear, you just haven't thought of it yet!" Leaving Santa with his mail she returned to the kitchen.

With a sigh Santa tore open the Special Delivery envelope that Mrs. Claus had given him. As he did, a bunch of photos fell out. Bending over to pick them up, he noticed that all were photos of dogs. Somewhat puzzled he sat down at his desk to read the letter. It

was from Holly Anderson who ran an adoption kennel for racing Greyhounds and read as follows:

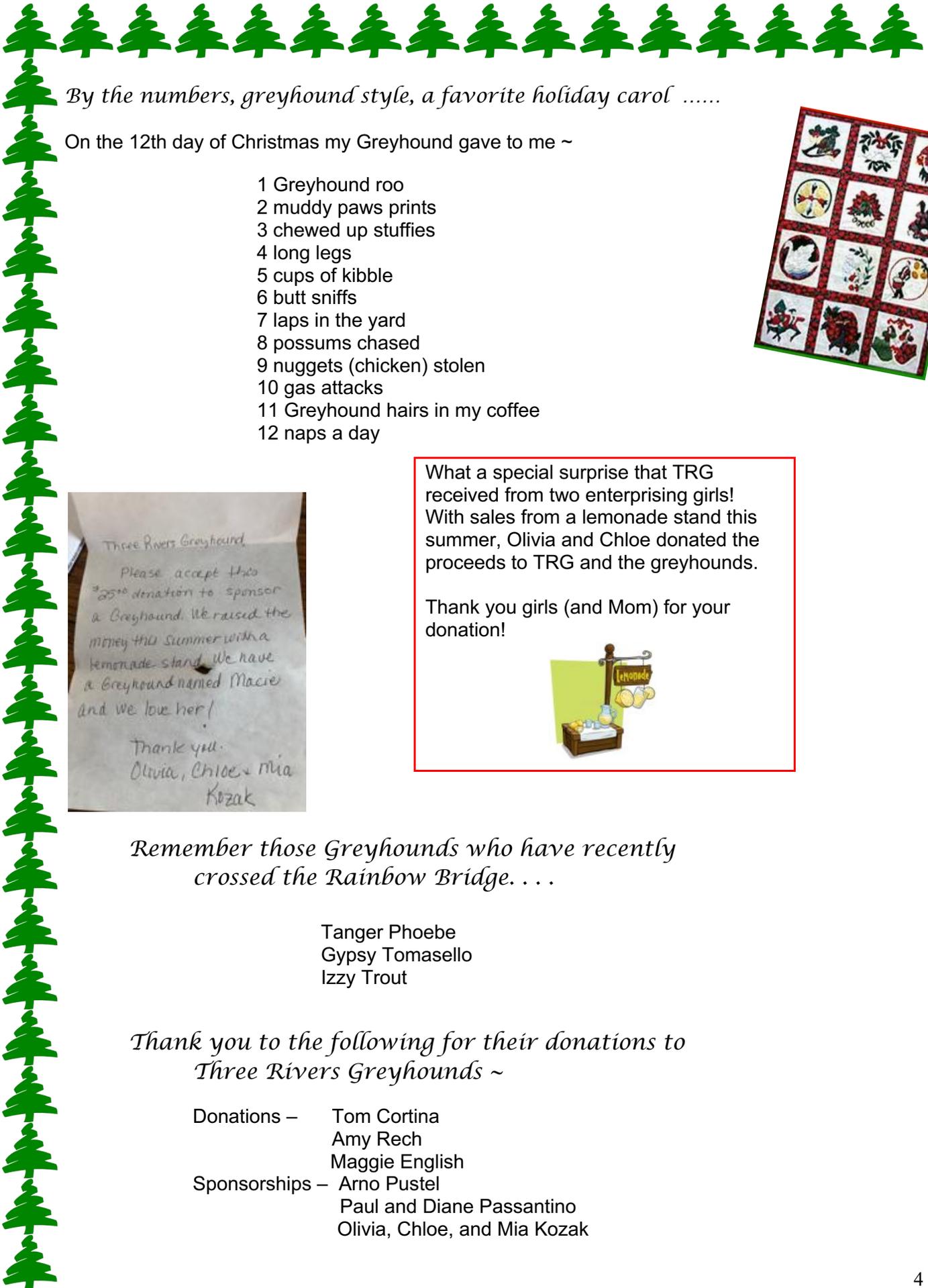
Dear Santa,

I am writing to you as I need your help. I have eight wonderful Greyhounds in my adoption kennel and no applications. Although I do not place Greyhounds as Christmas gifts, I am enclosing gift certificates which will let

people adopt a Greyhound after Christmas. I would very much appreciate it if you would leave one of these certificates and a photo at any home that you feel would be a good home for a former racing Greyhound. You can see from the photos what wonderful dogs these are. They deserve a good home.

Sincerely,
Holly

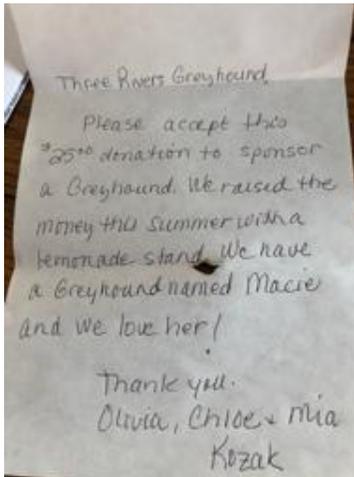




By the numbers, greyhound style, a favorite holiday carol

On the 12th day of Christmas my Greyhound gave to me ~

- 1 Greyhound roo
- 2 muddy paws prints
- 3 chewed up stuffies
- 4 long legs
- 5 cups of kibble
- 6 butt sniffs
- 7 laps in the yard
- 8 possums chased
- 9 nuggets (chicken) stolen
- 10 gas attacks
- 11 Greyhound hairs in my coffee
- 12 naps a day



What a special surprise that TRG received from two enterprising girls! With sales from a lemonade stand this summer, Olivia and Chloe donated the proceeds to TRG and the greyhounds.

Thank you girls (and Mom) for your donation!

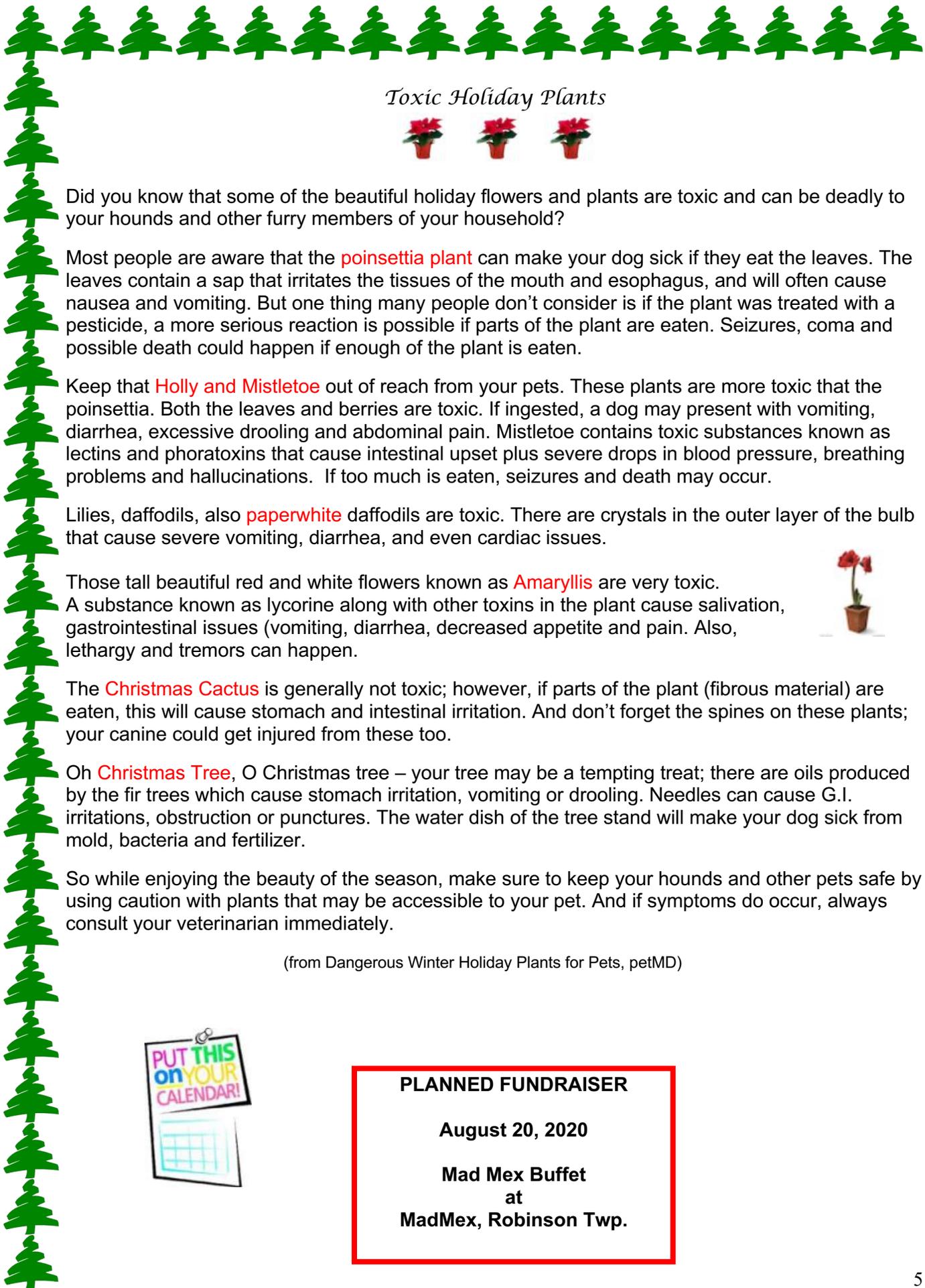


Remember those Greyhounds who have recently crossed the Rainbow Bridge. . . .

- Tanger Phoebe
- Gypsy Tomasello
- Izzy Trout

Thank you to the following for their donations to Three Rivers Greyhounds ~

- Donations – Tom Cortina
- Amy Rech
- Maggie English
- Sponsorships – Arno Pustel
- Paul and Diane Passantino
- Olivia, Chloe, and Mia Kozak



Toxic Holiday Plants



Did you know that some of the beautiful holiday flowers and plants are toxic and can be deadly to your hounds and other furry members of your household?

Most people are aware that the **poinsettia plant** can make your dog sick if they eat the leaves. The leaves contain a sap that irritates the tissues of the mouth and esophagus, and will often cause nausea and vomiting. But one thing many people don't consider is if the plant was treated with a pesticide, a more serious reaction is possible if parts of the plant are eaten. Seizures, coma and possible death could happen if enough of the plant is eaten.

Keep that **Holly and Mistletoe** out of reach from your pets. These plants are more toxic than the poinsettia. Both the leaves and berries are toxic. If ingested, a dog may present with vomiting, diarrhea, excessive drooling and abdominal pain. Mistletoe contains toxic substances known as lectins and phoratoxins that cause intestinal upset plus severe drops in blood pressure, breathing problems and hallucinations. If too much is eaten, seizures and death may occur.

Lilies, daffodils, also **paperwhite** daffodils are toxic. There are crystals in the outer layer of the bulb that cause severe vomiting, diarrhea, and even cardiac issues.

Those tall beautiful red and white flowers known as **Amaryllis** are very toxic. A substance known as lycorine along with other toxins in the plant cause salivation, gastrointestinal issues (vomiting, diarrhea, decreased appetite and pain). Also, lethargy and tremors can happen.



The **Christmas Cactus** is generally not toxic; however, if parts of the plant (fibrous material) are eaten, this will cause stomach and intestinal irritation. And don't forget the spines on these plants; your canine could get injured from these too.

Oh **Christmas Tree**, O Christmas tree – your tree may be a tempting treat; there are oils produced by the fir trees which cause stomach irritation, vomiting or drooling. Needles can cause G.I. irritations, obstruction or punctures. The water dish of the tree stand will make your dog sick from mold, bacteria and fertilizer.

So while enjoying the beauty of the season, make sure to keep your hounds and other pets safe by using caution with plants that may be accessible to your pet. And if symptoms do occur, always consult your veterinarian immediately.

(from Dangerous Winter Holiday Plants for Pets, petMD)



PLANNED FUNDRAISER

August 20, 2020

**Mad Mex Buffet
at
MadMex, Robinson Twp.**