

Emails to Heaven, Inc  
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Emails to Heaven Newsletter  
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May 10, 2024

## ETH News

### Memorial Plaza

In 2023, Washington County Agricultural Fair launched a Memorial Plaza at their Arden Mine entrance as part of its 225th anniversary celebrations. Engraved bricks will make up the plaza floor which will be comprised of 4x8 inch and 8x8 inch bricks engraved with family names, memorial tributes, business and organization names or quotes. The 4x8 bricks are \$225 and the 8x8 bricks are \$425. To place a brick order visit the Washington County Fair office, call 724-225-7718 or purchase online at <https://www.bricksrus.com/donorsite/washfair225>. This is just another way to honor the memory of a loved one or a beloved pet.

### When Pets Grieve

While researching information for the pet loss support group, I had asked a question on Bing on how do animals grieve. There was a lot of information but nothing specific at first about our pets so I kept searching several pages of links and found this information.

#### How to help a pet who is grieving:

Pets can experience grief and loss, just like humans. If you have a pet that is grieving here are some tips that might help.

**Be present:** Spend time with your pet and offer them comfort and support.

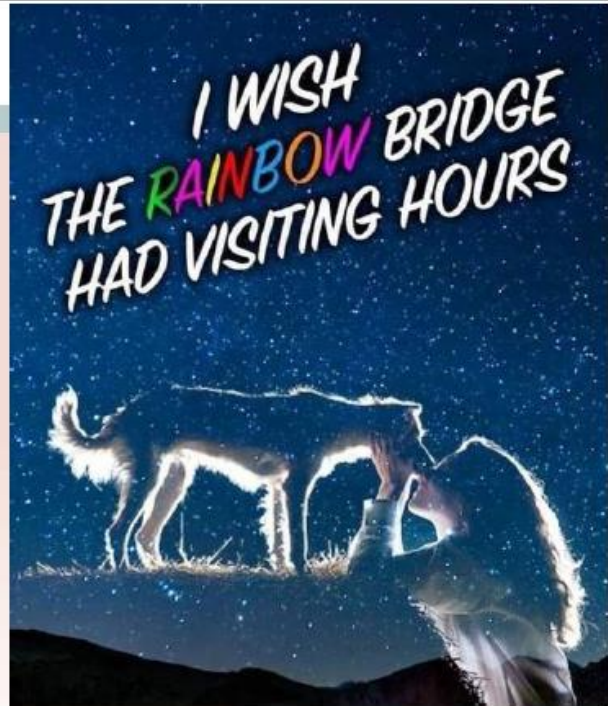
**Maintain routine:** Keep your pet's routine as consistent as possible to provide them with a sense of stability.

**Keep them occupied:** Provide your pet with toys and activities to keep them occupied and distracted.

**Spend time outdoors:** Take your pet for walks or spend time outside with them to help them feel better.

**Be patient:** Grieving is a process that takes time. Be patient with your pet and give them the time they need to heal.

It's important to remember that pets grieve differently from humans, and there is no one-size-fits-all approach to helping them cope with loss. If you are concerned about your pet's well-being, consider consulting with a veterinarian or animal behaviorist.



#### Inside this issue

Memorial Plaza

When Pets Grieve

National Day

Mingo Cemetery

Remembering Mom

Mothers of the Animal Kingdom

Plant Guide for Pet Parents

The Beauty on Earth—  
Part 1

Food for Thought—  
Greater Pittsburgh Food Bank

Feeding Pets of the Homeless

Good Deed and Veterinary Assistance Programs

Animal Comedians

# <sup>2</sup> NATIONAL DAY CALENDAR

## National Day

In April, I reapplied for my National Day that I have been working on since November 2022.

I resubmitted it as National Surviving Spouses Day. It stated 4-6 weeks but I will only be notified if my day is approved.

Not sure what it takes to get a day approved as special as this one since it is my 3rd submission to them. Some of the days that I reviewed on their website are just plain stupid and basically have no meaning. Not sure how

you celebrate an inanimate object but I guess people celebrate just about anything as long as it is making someone money. What happened to caring about others and helping those who need support every now and then?



*"If there ever comes a day where we can't be together, keep me in your heart. I'll stay there forever. "*

### Just The Facts

Revolutionary War soldiers buried in Mingo Cemetery

- James Kerr Sr. died Feb. 25, 1825
- Nathaniel Porter died Sept. 9, 1818
- John Gaston died Sept. 10, 1825
- Thomas Herron died Sept. 29, 1832
- Gen. John Hamilton died Aug. 22, 1831
- Capt. James McFarlane died July 17, 1794
- James Moss died Dec. 15, 1827
- Jacob McVay date of death unknown
- Daniel Huston died March 12, 1846

(Source: Mingo Cemetery)

### Mingo Cemetery

Mingo Cemetery is the oldest cemetery in Washington Co. Some of the graves date back to the late 1700's as you can see to the left where it lists the Revolutionary War soldiers buried there.

The cost to care for this cemetery is \$17,000 a year. I hope to donate to them again this year through my husband's grant program since they struggle to meet that expense each year.

Michael used to take care of the maintenance at the Oakdale cemetery. He took pride in making sure the cemetery was always presentable. Never a stone with blades of grass surrounding it. He used to tell me that a cemetery should be the most beautiful place to visit. I would like to keep his impression of what a cemetery should look like by helping those cemeteries that are struggling with the cost of their annual upkeep.

If you would like to help by making a donation to Michael's grant program, you can either make an online donation, or if you prefer to pay with a check, mail your check to the address on the first page of my newsletter. Thank you for your support. <sup>2</sup>



## Remembering Mom

On this Mother's Day, I want to remember my Mother who I miss every day.

My Mother passed away 2 1/2 months after my husband at the hands of others. Her cardiologist insisted he could give her 10 more years if she got a stent. But instead, he gave her 7 days. She had to have a cardiac cath first to make sure she was eligible for a stent. During the procedure they hit plaque that went to her brain which caused her to have a massive stroke and she died a week later. Losing my Mom right after losing my husband hit me hard because she was helping me cope with his death. If she was still here I know my life would be different. Mom, these flowers are for you and all the other Mothers who are in heaven. Happy Heavenly Mothers Day!



### Mothers of the Animal Kingdom



Be kind to all animals



## Plant Guide for Pet Parents

Here's a list of common plants dangerous to pets:

Here's a list of common pet -friendly plants

ZZ Plants  
 Aloe vera  
 Ivy  
 Holly  
 Daffodil  
 Baby's breath  
 Milkweed  
 Tulips  
 Chrysanthemum  
 Lavender  
 Oregano

Calathea  
 African violet  
 Spider plants  
 Haworthia zebra  
 Boston fern  
 Pilea plants  
 Echeveria succulents  
 Prayer plants  
 Cat grass  
 Basil  
 Sage  
 Thyme



Cat grass (In fact, if you're a cat owner, cat grass may even [help prevent hairballs in your cat's stomach and aid in their digestion](#))

## Food for Thought—Greater Pittsburgh Food Bank

I had the pleasure of being invited to another Zoom meeting with the Greater Pittsburgh Food Bank. This was my second meeting with them. I am trying to bring awareness that not all Surviving Spouses are Seniors and I feel those who are not Seniors should be added to their programs. Life is difficult after losing your spouse and every little bit helps.

### Collective Impact Process



**Food for Thought—continued**



*“We understand death only after it has placed its hands on someone we love”  
~ Anne L. DeStael*

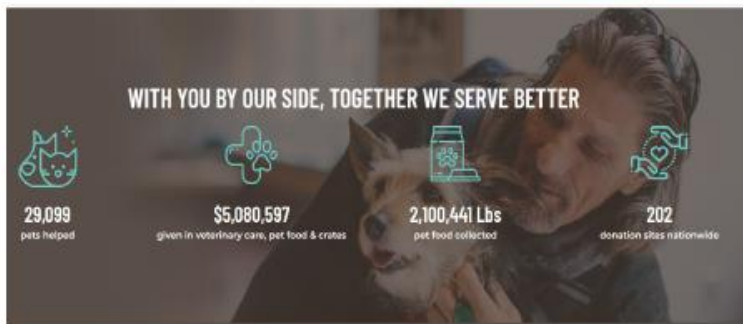
**Feeding Pets of the Homeless**

Feeding Pets of the Homeless is a nonprofit that I recently came across on Facebook. I am hoping to add this nonprofit to list that I currently donate to that supports our homeless through the Michael S Bertolino Foundation Grant Program . Each of these nonprofits have their own special mission and I know that my husband would want me to include this nonprofit as well.

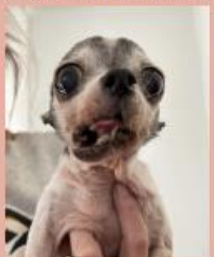


**Mission Statement**

Feeding Pets of the Homeless believes in the healing power of companion pets and of the human/animal bond which is very important in the lives of many homeless. They find solace, protection and companionship through their pets. They care for their pets on limited resources so they themselves have less. Our task, nationwide is to feed and provide basic emergency veterinary care to the pets and thus relieve the anguish and anxiety of the homeless who cannot provide for their pets.



This is Pandy—Before and After



### Good Deed and Veterinary Assistance Programs

I am pleased to announce that my nonprofit made a donation to the American Red Cross of SW Pennsylvania through my Good Deed Program. This is my first donation to them.

My Good Deed and Veterinary Assistance Programs helps those that do not fall under my Finley's Wish Program or Michael's Grant program. Below is a list of those nonprofits my programs have made a donation too so far:

Senior Hearts Rescue & Renewal to help with the veterinary care for a dog named Pandy.

Angel Ridge Animal Rescue to help with the veterinary care for two dogs, Brock and Charlie.

Triangle Beagle Rescue to help with the veterinary care for 4 puppies who were discarded in a dumpster like trash - Skye, Rocky, Sweetie and Zuma

Greater Pittsburgh Food Bank

American Red Cross of SW Pennsylvania



"Kindness doesn't cost a thing yet it is the richest gift you can give"

### Animal Comedians

Just something to make you smile. With all of the cruelty, hate and ugliness in our world today, I find comfort in the beauty that our world displays everyday which most might miss. From sharing Mothers of the Animal Kingdom, The Beauty on Earth series that I want to share in each newsletter (as long as I have the photos, which I have plenty of) or Animal Comedians, I hope you enjoy these photos as much as I do. I also share photos on my Facebook page.

