

Wyndmoor non-profit in 4th year of saving lives of pets

By Marianne Iaquinto

Mary Ann Caulk, of Northeast Philadelphia, is one of the many homebound clients who receive home-delivered pet food from Sam's Hope of Wyndmoor because they would not otherwise be able to feed their pets and

might have to surrender them to a shelter. Sam's Hope is currently celebrating its fourth anniversary.

Mary Ann is now able to feed her three dogs: 12-year-old Baby, 12-year-old Mugga and 8-year-old Donatello. Mary Ann is confined to a wheelchair due to multiple health issues, namely congenital heart disease. While her sister and daughter

are her primary caregivers; her three dogs provide her with endless love, entertainment and companionship.

All three dogs were long overdue for exams and vaccinations, had stinky breath, and their teeth were falling out. Baby, the older male, had a growth on his head, which he constantly scratched and caused to bleed. All three were seen by Sam's Hope partner vet for exams, vaccinations and blood work.

Blood work was perfect on all three dogs, so the following week they were all scheduled for much needed dentals. Baby had three badly infected teeth removed; Mugga had two infected teeth removed, and the youngest, Donatello, had the worst mouth and infections and needed three teeth removed.

Baby also had the growth on his head removed; it is benign. Mom sent the following text the day after their surgeries to Sam's Hope. "The dogs' teeth look wonderful, and their breath is good. I'm so happy! Thank you so very, very much. I can't explain how happy this makes me. God looks out for our four-legged babies and good people like you who help people like me and



Sandy and Garnet Spicer of West Philly can keep their beloved companion, Sage, thanks to Sam's Hope. "They have quite a story," said Marianne Iaquinto, founder of Sam's Hope. "It's very sad but amazing how they have gone on to help others."



Mary Ann Caulk, who is homebound, is able to feed her three dogs — 12-year-old Baby, 12-year-old Mugga and 8-year-old Donatello — thanks to Sam's Hope of Wyndmoor.

my babies."

It is hard to believe that four years have passed since we made our first pet food delivery to Jesus Focus Ministry food pantry on July 1, 2013. It is also hard to believe that we have come so far in such a short time. In our four years of operations we have awarded 210 Veterinary Care Assistance Grants to 132 dogs & 78 cats, distributed 225,000+ pounds of pet food, helping 21,000+ pets and 10,500+ families, and delivered pet food and supplies to 222 pets (139 cats and 83 dogs) of the homebound and elderly.

We still have a long way to go; we

have barely scratched the surface of the need that exists in our backyard, especially among the elderly. We thank all that have supported us through the past four years and have helped us get to this point. In order to grow, we need more supporters to join us in our mission of Keeping Southeastern PA's pets and their people together.

Together, we can make a real difference in the lives of pets and the people who love them

Marianne Iaquinto is the founder of Sam's Hope. For more information or to donate or volunteer, call 267-753-0510 or visit www.samshope.org

'It's about morality, not politics'

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to wear in Nazi-occupied countries) ... This is a 'stick your neck out moment!' There is no equivocating this. This is not a Jewish vs. non-Jewish issue. We need all voices to speak up! This is not the world I want my child to grow up in."

Rabbi Ettman wanted to be a rabbi since he was 12 years old, growing up in Simsbury, Connecticut, near Hartford. He grew up "in the Reform Movement and in a very Jewish home. There was always

Angeles, where he also received a master's degree in Hebrew Letters ... His rabbinic thesis entitled 'Stage of Torah: A Congregational Guide to Bibliodrama' melds his two great loves, theater and Judaism."

Every Saturday at 9 a.m. Rabbi Ettman leads a study of the Torah, which generally speaking is the first five books of the 24 books of the Tanakh (Hebrew bible). These five books are Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy. In the brochure for Congregation Or Ami there is a statement about the

awarded in 1901, as of 2013, 193 of the 855 Nobel honorees have been Jewish. That is 22%. Jews make up only 0.2% of the global population.)

Rabbi Ettman continued, "Every night I ask my 2½-year-old, 'What is the one thing you learned that is new today?' We always talk about something that we learned or something that was our favorite part of the day, not what we did. I do this to ingrain in her the idea that we are perpetually and continually learning."

Ben Patena, who co-wrote this arti-

PLATINUM PERFORMERS ON

HILL: A group of Philly's best jazz musicians will play the music of jazz legend Benny Golson, an 88-year-old Philly bebop jazz tenor saxophonist and composer, on Thursday, Aug 31, 7 to 10 p.m., at Platinum Grill, 7719 Crittenden St. in Market Square. More information at 215-479-9849.

