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Norwood Center pub crawl raises money for dogs

When one thinks “beer and dogs” they might recall a summertime barbeque.

On Dec. 6, beer and dogs joined forces in a completely different way. Locals Joe Greeley and Jennifer Pike hosted the Tail Trail Pub Crawl, a fundraiser for Labs4Rescue and NEADS, two non-profits that support man’s best friend.

“Joe often does these pub crawls, and I asked if he had come up with any charities. He said no. I’m a big dog person, so I suggested [Labs4Rescue](#), which I got my lab from,” Pike said. “They rescue a lot of labs from the south and transfer them to New England, where they find their forever homes.”

When Pike was searching for a new family pet, she found Labs4Rescue online. She fell in love with Geronimo and she adopted the dog. Sixteen months later, Geronimo is still an active part of her family. Pike recommended people looking for pets to first consider rescue animals.

“These rescue dogs aren’t going to find their forever home unless someone takes them in,” Pike said.

Greeley said it made sense to pair this charity up with [NEADS](#), Dogs for Deaf and Disabled Americans.

“I had read about NEADS, and the aspect of that organization which caught my eye is they’ve done a lot of work training service dogs for Boston Marathon victims. This organization had been instrumental in training service animals for them,” Greeley said. “It was an easy decision to put the two of them together.”

On Dec. 6, several dozen Norwood residents joined Greeley and Pike on their pub crawl, raising \$1,050 for the charities. That amount will be split evenly between the two groups, so each organization will receive an unrestricted check for \$525, Greeley said.

“It is an unusual way to get people together, break the ice and meet new people, and raise money, all for a good cause,” Greeley said.

The Tail Trail Pub Crawl started at Limey’s Pub in Norwood Center. Over the next three hours, the participants would make their way to Conrad’s, Napper Tandy’s, Lewis’ Bar & Grill, the Shamrock Pub and Irish Heaven. Despite some rainy weather, several dozen residents came out to drink and support charity.

“It can be a little different moving people from one bar to another. It’s like herding cats,” Greeley said.

Greeley signaled a cowbell each time it was time for the group to move, rung five minutes ahead of their intended departure.

Resident Jack McCarthy said he was having fun while supporting a good cause.

“It’s just a fun way to raise money. You get to meet some new people and the camaraderie of a moving celebration is always fun,” he said.

The group started and ended their day at Limey’s Pub, the latter including a raffle and silent auction items, which included a golf bag, Providence Bruins tickets and Boston Red Sox tickets.

“(Greeley) has done a lot with us, a lot of different fundraisers and pub crawls,” Limey’s Pub owner Brian Winstanley said. “We always try to do things for a good cause. The pub crawls are fun. You go from pub to pub, have a drink and end up here to have a bite to eat.”

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