



Taranto's Pizza Sales to Go Towards Orphan Fund

It takes a special family to welcome three additional children into their family. The Woody family of Delaware hopes to do just that by bringing three Colombian sisters into their family, but still needs to raise \$18,000 to do so.

Saturday, Jan. 26 Taranto's Pizza will help the Woody's in their fundraising efforts by donating 20% of the proceeds from 11 am to midnight that day. The participating Taranto's branch is located at 1282 E. Powell Rd., west of Polaris Mall. The phone number is 614-841-2345. Additional donations can be made at the restaurant from the community that day.

Aaron and Melissa Woody and daughters Alexis and Elisa hosted the sisters, Judi, Jenni and Deysi, last summer through Kidsave. The organization focuses on finding families for older children from other countries. After hosting the children in their home for six weeks, the Woody's knew the trio was meant to become part of their family.

"We fell in love with these three girls and can't wait to bring them back into our home," Melissa said. "Even though the adoption isn't final, we already have a strong love for these children. It was so hard to see them board a plane back to Colombia last summer. These children deserve to have parents tucking them in bed every night and telling them how much they are loved."

The Woody's desire is to adopt all three girls and keep the three sisters together. The three have been in foster care for the past three years and risk being separated if not adopted soon.

"Through this process we've learned that adopting older children has its challenges, but the rewards are endless," Aaron added. "These children are loving, caring and deserve a family. We hope we can give them that."

To learn more about the girls, please visit the Orphan Outreach website at www.riverorphanoutreach.org.

If you would like to donate to Orphan Outreach for the Woody family, please send your donations to: The River, Orphan Outreach, 2419 RT. 42 N, Delaware, Ohio 43015. (Please put adoption in the memo line)

Acme Canine Needs Ditties for Better Doggies.

Teaching your dog to sit, roll over and play dead has long been easier said than done. And if tips from watching the Dog Whisperer haven't helped you meet these goals yet, you may want to write a little ditty about your doggy. If it's a catchy-enough tune, you could win free obedience training for your special four-legged friend.

OTBA member Acme Canine is in search of the perfect advertising jingle to promote its services and hopes to find it by holding a unique jingle contest. Rock, blues, jazz, country – the genre doesn't matter. But the message does.



Laura Pakis with her 3-year-old giant schnauzer Woofie.

Owner Laura Pakis is looking for a jingle that gets a simple point across - obedience training at Acme is fun. Mentioning their die-hard dedication to training and coaching couldn't hurt either. Nor could a few lines about their knowledge of canine learning theory, canine psychology and behavior modification through individualized counseling and instruction on proper dog handling skills.

Whatever the case, entrants should submit songs – 90 seconds or less – that describe what they love about Acme Canine. Songwriters will be judged on lyrics, originality and musicality. An on-leash obedience residency – a seven-to-10-day program worth about \$925 - will be offered to the winner's dog. The winner may also opt to donate the training to a rescue group or give it as a gift.

To enter the contest, songs can be sent in MP3 format to acmecanine.com/jingle or an audio cassette or CD can be sent to 1385 Franklin St., Lewis Center 43035. All submissions must be labeled with the songwriter's full name, phone number and e-mail address and the winner will be required to provide proof of identification.

Entrants must sign a waiver passing on all rights to Acme Canine. Entries are due by March 31 and by April 15 the catchiest tune will be broadcast across Columbus.

For inspiration in writing the perfect Acme Canine jingle, visit acmecanine.com or call 740-363-6889 for more information.

If you have news to share and would like to publish it in the OTBA Today newsletter, let us help you spread the word. Send your submissions to margarita@click2design.com.