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Root Beer With Bark

June 12th, 2009 by Carolyn Graham

I've had a spotted mutt named Lonesome, a cockapoo named Tiger, a brownish-black dog named Venus and a border collie named Bongo. They were all amazing dogs, each special in her own crazy-dog ways. Tiger was loyal and friendly. Venus, fiercely athletic. Bongo was so smart it was like having another human in the house. Now we have Olive, a beautiful lab-pit bull cross whose energy almost matches the 4- and 8-year-olds she loves more than anything.

What these dogs have in common is that they were all rescued from either the side of the road or an animal shelter. That's why I couldn't resist the story of a new product called [Margo's Bark](#), a root beer created by a 7-year-old L.A. kid and his family who donate all the proceeds from the small business to animal rescue organizations and shelters.

The beverage began as an elementary school science project in spring of 2008 for 7-year-old Oscar Youd. He was assigned the task of creating carbonation, which he and his parents quickly turned into a tasty lesson in entrepreneurship and philanthropy. The science fair was a success, and the family developed the experimental brew into a tasty concoction, using cane sugar, molasses, vanilla and other natural ingredients. Oscar called it Margo's Bark, after the family's black lab-pit bull rescue, and now the Youds are on a mission to help other critters by donating all of the proceeds from the company to shelter organizations. Margo's Bark is available at Tender Greens, Larchmont Larder, [The Urban Pet](#) and other locations and will be available this summer at Whole Foods and Bristol Farms.

