



Phone: (269) 226-8570

KAR Friends - April 2019

Dear Readers;

It's spring, right? And soon will be the kittens and puppies! It's also Heartworm Awareness Month, and every month needs to be spay/neuter month too. Fortunately, Kalamazoo Animal Rescue will once again be taking part in the [Bissell Pet Foundation's Empty the Shelters adoption event](#). For details, please check out our [Events page](#). This month we're also discussing what to do (or, more importantly, not to do about baby animals in the wild and spotlighting two wonderful adoptable pets, Mario and Vladimir.

Speaking of [Heartworm Awareness month](#) ... As we know, warm weather and sunshine bring the pesky mosquitos that can carry heartworm larvae and infect other animals when bitten. Be sure to talk to your vet about heartworm prevention options to protect your furry friends, both indoor and outdoor. Remember: an ounce of prevention can save a life!

Please feel free to share this issue with friends and family. We appreciate your continued support of KAR's mission to help homeless, stray, and abandoned cats and dogs. Together we make a difference!

Sincerely,

Pat Hollahan
KAR Friends Editor

Rescuing Wild Babies

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**Pets of the Month**Read [Alice's](#) Story

By Karren Jensen

Among all animal lovers, there is a strong urge to rescue and nurture any creature in need, especially if that animal is young and vulnerable. A favorite childhood fantasy centers on taking in and raising a young animal who is not normally kept as a pet but who becomes the rescuer's special friend. How delightful to cuddle your own fawn, bunny, or baby squirrel who will give you lifelong gratitude for the timely intervention which saved that little one's life. As deeply as the notion of these special friendships is ingrained in the happy daydreams of our childhood, the reality is quite different.



Here are a few things to consider if you are tempted to remove a wild animal from what might appear to be a dangerous situation:

- **It this furry baby really abandoned?** Wild moms keep their little ones hidden for long periods of time while going off to forage for food. The mother must be healthy and well fed to nurture her babies and leaving them in a safe place to await her return is a natural part of their lives. The adorable



Read [Bunny's Story](#)

Upcoming Events

- Apr. 23, **MVPets**
Westnedge Ave.
- May 4, **Empty The Shelters**
Bissell Pet Foundation
- May 11, **KHS Dog Walk**
- May 11, **Chowhound**
Drake Rd.
- May 18, **PetSmart**
W. Main St.

For details on these and other upcoming events, please [see our Events page](#) on the KAR website.

KAR Links

- [VOLUNTEER](#)
- [Become a Foster Family](#)
- [Adoptable Dogs](#)
- [Adoptable Cats](#)
- [Adoptable Kittens](#)
- [Special Needs Pets](#)
- [Senior Cat Companions](#)
- [KAR Website](#)
- [Donate Today!](#)

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little fawn nestled under your bushes most likely has an attentive and protective mom who will be distraught to return and find her young one missing. The behavior of the young animal should be assessed before attempting to remove it from its hiding place. [Here are some tips for identifying a baby animal in need.](#)

- [There are regulations against removing animals from the wild because a well-meaning but inexperienced rescuer is likely to place the creature in mortal danger.](#) The best and safest way to help an animal who really does need rescuing is to surrender the at-risk animal to a trained and licensed wild animal rehabilitation facility. Even with the most loving intentions, those of us who lack of training and animal expertise are more likely to do more harm than good for the wild baby you want to save.
- It is commendable to love and support wildlife and to want to ensure the survival of the familiar creatures who enrich your life. **For the safety and health of your family, the animals, and yourself, the best idea is to enjoy wildlife from a respectful distance.** Among other problems, wild animals who lose their fear of humans are often made vulnerable to dangers from unkind people or animal predators which more wary creatures have the sense to avoid.

It is a great joy to observe wild animal families in the spring as a part of nature's renewal after the rigors of winter. Using care and good judgment, we can help to ensure that the furry and feathered neighbors who enrich our world are able to bring us happiness without sacrificing their safety.

Additional Resources:

- [Wildlife Rescue Guide](#)
- [How to tell if baby animals are orphaned, injured or perfectly fine](#)
- [Michigan Licensed Rehabilitators](#)

Doggie Den

Animal Spotlight ~ Oh Mario!



By Pat Hollahan

Mario is a three-year-old Chihuahua mix. As you can see from his photo, he's a very appealing boy with beautiful brown eyes and a handsome coat.



Mario has had a rough start in life, but he's a good boy who likes to play with stuffed toys and loves to be cuddled. He'll be happy to sit in your lap or beside you on the couch or your favorite chair. And he's a great conversationalist. When you're not around, he's more than okay with hanging out in his crate, overnight or while you're away from home.

He'll be happy to sit in your lap or beside you on the couch or your favorite chair. And he's a great conversationalist. When you're not around, he's more than okay with hanging out in his crate, overnight or while you're away from home.

Mario would be happier in a home with a fenced yard and cats rather than other dogs as companions. He's still a bit scared of new situations, so he'll do well with a patient and understanding family who give him plenty of positive reinforcement.

If you'd like to learn more about Mario, check out his profile [HERE](#) ... and maybe even fill out an application!

Cat's Corner

Animal Spotlight ~ Vladimir The Great



By Vladimir, as told to...

Vladimir is an older gentleman kitty who is, as you can see, very handsome and dignified. He's also quite the talker, so he dictated this autobiography for our use:



Hi there, friend! My name is Vladimir and I know we haven't even met yet, but I already know I like you. **I'm a big friendly guy who loves spending my day snuggling, lounging, being petted, and eating.** I've been known to sing a sad aria or two if I feel like I've been alone for too long but I can be independent if I have to be. I currently live with other cats and dogs so I can learn to love some siblings. I'm very gentle with kids and I don't even mind if they pull my tail, though I really hope they won't do that forever! I'm a little clumsy and my foster parents say I'm bow-legged. I don't know what that means, though, because I can jump around and climb stairs just fine. My foster home is much nicer than the forest I was found in but I'm ready for my forever home now. I'm a little older but I still know how to have a good time and I don't even notice my senior status. I have no interest in scratching furniture or even my scratching post - basking in a sunny window is much more my style! If you're looking for a fuzzy pal to be by your side and share snuggles, I could be the cat for you. I hope you'll consider me as you look to expand your family.

If you'd like to meet this special guy, please [go to his webpage](#)

Special Event

KHS Dog Walk and K-9 Festival



Date: Saturday, May 11th
Time: 9:00am to 2:00pm
Place: Prairie View County Park, Vicksburg ([map and directions](#))



Come join the fun at the 2019 Dog Walk! KAR has supported the Annual Dog Walk for a number of years and we are looking forward to having a great time again this year. Be sure to stop by to visit and see our adoptable dogs hoping to find their forever homes.

You may register online, by mail, in person, or by phone. [Visit the KHS website](#) for more details and a schedule of the day's events.

About Us

Kalamazoo Animal Rescue is an all-volunteer, federally recognized 501(c)(3) charitable organization that was founded in 1991 and is funded entirely through donations from the public.

KAR is dedicated to providing refuge to homeless, stray and abandoned cats and dogs in Kalamazoo and the surrounding communities.

Our volunteers give their time and energy to the efforts of rescuing animals and helping them to find permanent, committed and life-long homes.

Visit our website [here](#) for more KAR information!



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