

KAR Friends

November 2013



Dear Reader,

November is **Adopt-a-Senior Pet Month** and KAR has some terrific older animals looking for loving homes and human companionship: Skylar, Callie, Riley, Ester, Petey, Oscar and Polly. Learn more about each of these adoptable senior pets in this issue.

Also this month, we have heartwarming tales on Kat and Cloverlily Rose, senior pets that found their forever homes and are experiencing the good life in their twilight years.

From all of us at Kalamazoo Animal Rescue, have a safe and blessed Thanksgiving holiday!

Danielle Wallis
KAR President

Lynn Bolhuis
KAR Friends Editor

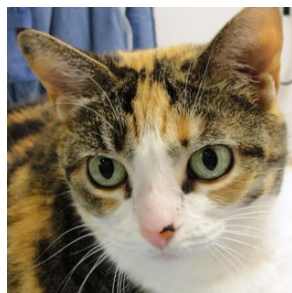
P.S. Our **Special Fall Edition** newsletter containing more great rescue stories and news is available now. [Check it out here!](#)

Adoptable Senior Pets

By Kim Bourner

KAR doesn't give up on a cat or dog because of age. Mature pets deserve a second chance in life and we have several seniors looking for forever homes. Perhaps you can make their dreams come true and their golden years bright.

[Callie](#)



Female, 10 years old, Domestic Short Hair, Calico Mix

Callie had a home for ten years but when her owner passed away, there was no place for her. Between Portage Animal Hospital and KAR, she has a second chance. She has a beautiful fur coat and the personality to go with it. Callie prefers to be the only cat in the household, but

she adores children and plenty of attention. Please consider enhancing your home with this enchanting feline.

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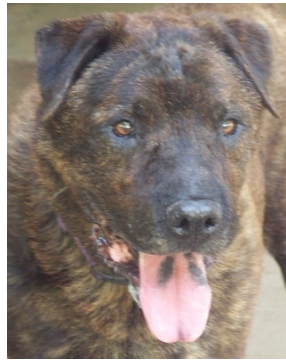


[View Past Issues Here](#)

Riley

Male, 9 years old, Shar Pei and Chesapeake Bay Retriever Mix

Riley knows what he wants out of life: Love! Few people are so focused on a single goal for their life and stay on the path of achievement, so this gentleman is to be respected. He was found by a dog lover, but she was already at her limit. While seeking someone to take him in, she was impressed by his affection. This sweetheart is available and ready to sweeten up your home.



Ester



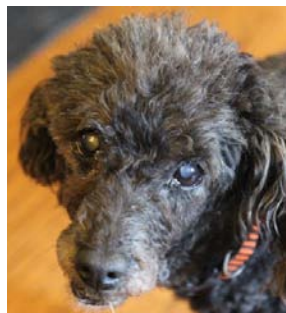
Female, 10 years old, Domestic Short Hair-White Mix

Have you ever had a bad week, month or year? We don't know how long it was bad for Ester, but we do know that one-on-one, she's grateful to be safe and secure in a quiet and loving home. The oddity of this little lady is that she's sweet as pie at the veterinarian's office, but it took her a few weeks and her own personal space to adjust to the hustle and bustle of her foster home where there are many cats and dogs. Is your home quiet and in need of some well-earned affection? Ester would be happy to be your friend and spend her days thanking you for your goodness.

Petey

Male, 10 years old, Poodle

On a bad day, have you found it difficult to be kind to others? I sure have. Petey, on the other hand, despite having been hit by a car and homeless, was kind and gentle to his caregivers in his time of need. Petey found both sanctuary and the medical assistance he needed through KAR. He is doing well and is ready for a home where he can show off his warm spirit. If you have a home where he could be the only pet, it would be most appreciated by Petey.



Oscar

Male, 9 years old, Domestic Short Hair-Black and White Mix

Oscar is an apocalypse-ready cat who has seen it all and survived. He and his siblings were rescued from a house fire by a fireman. He received medical attention and is a healthy, happy, one-

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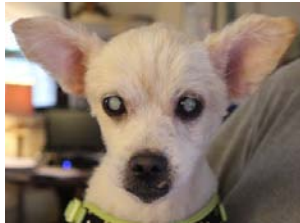
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eyed cat who has mastered the art of energy conservation—naps. This survivor is looking for a home and a cozy place to snooze. Could it be with you?

Polly

Female, 10 years old, Pomeranian and Terrier Mix



A Good Samaritan found this sweet girl and contacted KAR on her behalf. Polly was welcomed into the rescue and has not stopped showing her gratitude to her foster mom. She would like to thank a forever family soon. Polly has cataracts and requires drops to keep what remains of her sight. If you are in need of a special little companion to provide unconditional love from this day forward, please consider welcoming Polly into your home.

Pet Years vs. Human Years

Age Comparisons

By Katie Drenth

It's a common oversimplification that one year of your pet's life is equal to seven years of your life. Cats and dogs mature more quickly and within their first year of life have already reached adulthood. While size, breed and lifestyle (indoor versus outdoor) factor into the rate of aging, this chart offers is a good indicator for age comparisons between you and your furry friends.

Additional Resources

- [Dog age calculator with breed selector](#)
- [Indoor vs. Outdoor cat age comparison](#)

AGE	dog's age in human years				AGE	cat's age in human years
	0-20 lbs	20-50 lbs	50-90 lbs	>90 lbs		
1	7	7	8	9	1	7
2	13	14	16	18	2	13
3	20	21	24	26	3	20
4	26	27	31	34	4	26
5	33	34	38	41	5	33
6	40	42	45	49	6	40
7	44	47	50	56	7	44
8	48	51	55	64	8	48
9	52	56	61	71	9	52
10	56	60	66	78	10	56
11	60	65	72	86	11	60
12	64	69	77	93	12	64
13	68	74	82	101	13	68
14	72	78	88	108	14	72
15	76	83	93	115	15	76
16	80	87	99	123	16	80
17	84	92	104	131	17	84
18	88	96	109	139	18	88
19	92	101	115		19	92
20	96	105	120		20	96
21	100	109	126		21	100
22	104	113	130		22	104
23	108	117			23	108
24	112	120			24	112
25	116	124			25	116

color key
adult
senior
geriatric

[\(click to enlarge chart\)](#)

UPCOMING ADOPTION EVENTS



November 23rd and 30th
December 7th



December 14th



December 15th

Visit the [Events](#) page on our website for upcoming adoption and other special events.

Doggie Den

Happy Tail ~ Cloverlily Rose

By Lynn Bolhuis



Cloverlily Rose came into the rescue in April. She and her son, Chi Chi, were taken to Animal Services when their owner was no longer able to care for them. When the shelter reached capacity, they put out a call for help and a KAR foster home took in mother and son to save them from being euthanized.

Cloverlily is an eleven-year old, purebred Chihuahua. She was adopted in late July by a wonderful couple who really like older dogs and they wanted a companion for their other dog. Cloverlily fit the bill and they recently told us that “she is doing great” in her forever home. This sweet little senior has loving humans to provide her with



laps to cuddle in any time she wants. She also has a doggy pal to hang out with and snooze together.

According to Cloverlily’s foster mom, “This is just wonderful. It proves that an aging pet can still be adopted and have some

happy years ahead of them with the right adopter. To quote a line from one of my favorite books about a cockroach and a cat who thinks she was Cleopatra in a past life, *There’s dance in the old dame yet!*”

BLAST FROM THE PAST

We love senior pets!
Here are a couple more great articles to check out:

[Senior pets need homes too](#)

[Ask the Vet: Adopting a senior pet](#)

CONNECT WITH KAR

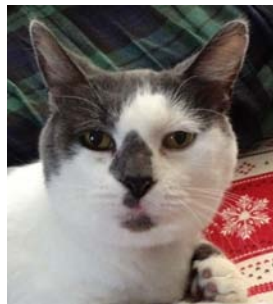


[Find us on Facebook](#)

Cat’s Corner

Happy Tail ~ Kat

By Danielle Wallis



Last Thanksgiving, things were looking very bleak for this senior feline. Kat was saved from a sad situation where he had once been a much loved pet.

Unfortunately, his owners had more than their fair share of health issues and he found himself living outside and fending for himself. It was not his fault, he done nothing wrong; they simply could not care for him as they once had.

A KAR foster home was alerted to his plight, but they were not certain that Kat was friendly or would be able to live indoors. He had been alone with only family friends coming by infrequently to feed him. They knew he must be hungry so he was easy to catch.

WELCOME NEW KAR VOLUNTEER

Lori Verburg

Once in his foster home, Kat hid in the basement. His foster mom knew that it would take time for him to trust, and to get used to the other animals and small children in the household. Within a week Kat was happily coming to his foster family for cuddles and licking them in appreciation for having been saved!

Kat waited out the summer in his foster home, going to weekly adoption events with no interest. His foster mom originally thought he would need a quiet home but it became apparent that he loved children. By October, Kat went to his forever home with the Carter family and his name was changed to Riker. He now “presides over the house” and “expects a nightly scratching!” The family put their trust in the foster home’s matchmaking abilities and it worked out great! “I want to say thank you again. We had over looked Riker because of his age but once the thought was put in my head to give him a chance because he was so good with young kids. I am super glad we gave him a chance he is exactly what we wanted.”

This Thanksgiving Riker is right where he should be, with a loving family once again. KAR is so happy to have helped make this happen and so are his new people! Please don’t overlook a cat based on age alone.

PETS OF THE MONTH



[Paisley](#)



[Callie](#)

Common Afflictions in Senior Pets

Dogs:

1. Arthritis
2. Dental Disease—common warning sign is Gingivitis
3. Diabetes—overweight and sedentary dogs are most at risk
4. Blindness—cataracts are an early sign
5. Kidney Disease
6. Cancer
7. Dementia or Canine Cognitive Dysfunction Syndrome (CDS)—similar to Alzheimer’s disease in humans

Cats:

1. Kidney Disease
2. Heart Disease—the most common being cardiomyopathy
3. Diabetes—overweight and sedentary cats are most at risk
4. Arthritis
5. Hyperthyroidism
6. Dental Disease
7. Cancer



See all of our adoptable [Cats](#), [Dogs](#) and [Kittens](#)!

Special Event

Black Friday Online Adoption Event

Rather than battling crowds the Friday after Thanksgiving, make it a Black Friday to remember by adopting a cat who needs a loving home. KAR is offering reduced adoption fees on all black or mostly black cats if an adoption application is submitted and approved between Friday, November 29th and Friday, December 6th.

Black cats located on the [Adoptable Cats](#) page of our website are \$30 (regularly \$60) and on the [Adoptable Kittens](#) page they are \$75 (regularly \$90). The adoption fee includes sterilization and all basic medical care.

Did you know that in Ireland, Great Britain, Scotland and Japan the black cat is a symbol of good luck or prosperity? Some even believe black cats have supernatural powers. Cat aficionados would say that black cats have the same power as all cats—the ability to provide loving companionship.

Here are our gorgeous black felines looking for their forever homes. Submit an [online application](#) if interested in more information.

Over 1 year old (\$30)

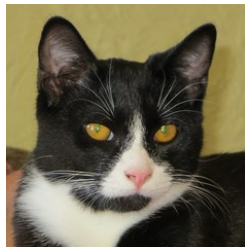


[Autumn](#)



[Oreo](#)

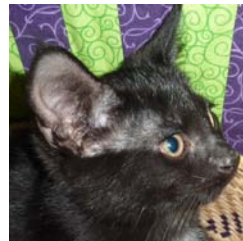
Under 1 year old (\$75)



[Charlie Chaplan](#)



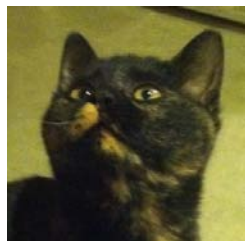
[Clyde](#)



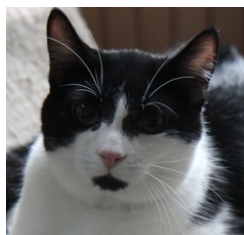
[Doritos](#)



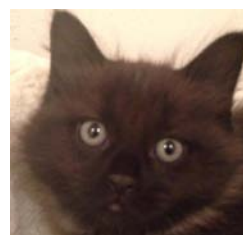
[Eva](#)



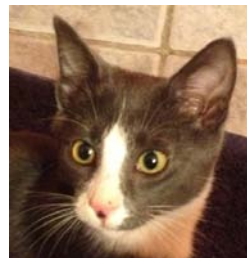
[Giselle](#)



[Gizmo](#)



[Otis](#)



[Toni Tuxedo](#)

KAR LINKS

- [Volunteer](#)
- Become a [foster family](#)
- [Senior Cat Companions](#)
- KAR [Website](#)



Make a [donation](#) and help KAR help animals!

Special Thanks



Danielle, KAR President and Rachael

A wonderful young lady, Rachael, raised \$346.65 at her lemonade stand during the downtown Kalamazoo Art Hop! Perhaps this aspiring animal rescuer and veterinarian will become president of KAR someday. We'd like to extend our gratitude to Rachael and her parents—the proprietors of Sticks & Stones—who have been huge supporters for many years. They have helped Kalamazoo Animal Rescue raise valuable donations through [special events](#) and with [donation boxes](#) placed in their business.

[MVPets](#) is a locally-owned pet store in Portage and they have been a long-term supporter of Kalamazoo Animal Rescue. This summer they asked their customers to “round up the change” and over \$541 was raised for our furry foster friends. Thanks so much to Nina Kiser for coordinating this fundraiser, and to the staff and customers of MVPets. Your generosity and love of animals is greatly appreciated.



Danielle and Karen from MVPets

CONTACT US

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[Questions or suggestions](#) for the newsletter?

Visit our [website](#)

About Us

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

KAR is dedicated to providing refuge to homeless, stray and abandoned cats and dogs in Southwest Michigan.

Our volunteers give their time and energy to the efforts of rescuing animals and helping them to find permanent homes.

