

KALAMAZOO ANIMAL RESCUE

KAR Friends

Special 2012 Spring Edition

KAR Volunteers Foster 11 Puppy Mill Dogs

By Lynn Bolhuis

You may have heard about the puppy mill raid in Allegan County in April where 353 dogs were rescued. Kalamazoo Animal Rescue was one of the local-area rescues responding to the call for help. Many of our volunteers dropped everything to assist the Allegan County shelter.

KAR dog foster volunteers opened their hearts and homes to eleven puppy mill dogs. Some of these pups were the sickest and in the poorest health. Most all of them had bad teeth due to improper care and poor diet; they had internal parasites including tape, whip, and hook worms; eye issues including dry eye, low tear production or loss of sight; and ear infections amongst the list of other maladies. Fortunately, all of the adult dogs tested negative for heartworm disease.

The puppy mill dogs are small breeds, mostly Shih Tzus. Once in foster homes, their personalities began to blossom, endearing them to their foster families and the folks that adopted them. Here is a little information about each of these precious pups.

Dogs Still Looking for Homes



Liam and his sister, **Delilah**, are around

three-years old. Both dogs have lost sight in their left eyes and have a dry eye condition requiring medicated drops daily. Delilah is very shy and dependent on her big brother. Liam, on the other hand, acts like a young pup who loves to run and play. These siblings are a delightful bonded pair that are looking for a new forever home where they can remain together.

Mabel is a sweetheart at around eight-years old. She came into KAR



with a yeast skin infection, bad teeth, dry eye, loaded with whip and tape worms, and pregnant. Mabel gave birth to two, healthy puppies on April 25th. After her babies are weaned, Mabel will be spayed and have dental work performed to remove several bad teeth. Then she will be ready for a new home of her very own. Potential adopters should know that Mabel loves to snuggle and be held. She also has dry eye and requires eye drops. Her puppies, Toby and Bella, have been adopted and will go to their new homes in June.

Dogs Who Have Found Homes

Pixie is a six-year old blonde bombshell, very sweet and a quick

learner to boot. She came into the rescue with a bad ear infection, dry eye, several bad teeth that



needed to be removed, internal parasites, and possibly pregnant (turns out she wasn't). This lovely lady found a great home with a wonderful family that is continuing to help her adjust to being a family pet. Pixie loves to sleep with the son, has a canine sibling, and is living the good life in her new forever home.

Doodle Bug is cute as a button at around five-years old. She came in with several bad teeth that had to be removed, an ear infection,



internal parasites, and dry eye. Doodle is a petite little girl who can be very timid at first, but loves people once she gets to know them. Her new forever home includes furry friends, a cat and canine companion, and a doting mom to care for her for the rest of her life.

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KAR Adoption Statistics

As of April 30th, 82 cats and 36 dogs have found their forever homes in 2012.

Puppy Mill Dogs *(continued)*

Zoey is about one to one-and-a-half years old. She came into KAR



relatively healthy except for her teeth which were in poor condition for her age, internal parasites, and dry eye. Zoey is a

happy and playful adolescent that enjoys running around outside. She requires additional socialization, help with potty training, and medication for her eyes. Zoey's new family is quite happy to continue helping her with all these things.

Benny is about two to three-years old. While he was among the healthiest of the dogs, he arrived



with internal parasites, an ear infection, and his teeth were not in the best condition either. Benny could be a bit timid at first but his foster family found him to

Community Fundraising Efforts

A sincere thank you to the following people, groups and businesses who recently held fundraisers to benefit Kalamazoo Animal Rescue:

- Keystone Community Bank
- Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
- Pedigree Foundation
- PetCo
- PetSmart Charities
- The United Way

be very playful and loving. He caught on quickly to crate and house training, showing what a smart little boy he is. Benny fits in very well with his new family and big brother, another Shih Tzu. They are all ecstatic to have him onboard.

Sophie is a cutie at two to three



years old. She was relatively healthy but had internal parasites, was under weight, and had poor teeth for her age. Sophie's biggest struggle was eating to

gain weight. She required a special "people food" concoction with

healthy ingredients mixed in. Sophie has had a lot of adjustments to make in her transition from puppy mill dog to family pet. She is still skittish when presented with new situations, but is learning that the world has great things to offer even though they may be scary at first. Sophie has a new family with a stay-at-home parent and older children that will provide her with lots of activity and snuggles.



Hank is another adorable, three-year old. He, like his companions, arrived with internal parasites, poor teeth, and an

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.

Adopt

If you or someone you know is looking for a furry companion please consider adopting from KAR. All foster animals live in private homes until adopted. To see the available cats and dogs, visit www.kalamazooanimalrescue.org.

Other Ways to Help

- Donations to help us pay vet bills
- Cat and dog food
- Cat litter
- Dog crates and cat carriers

KAR Friends

Looking for great tips and information on caring for pets? **KAR Friends** provides helpful pet-related articles, heartwarming dog and cat rescue stories, news about upcoming events, and valuable coupons and special offers from area sponsors. Previous issues are archived on the KAR website. To receive your own personalized copy, go to our website and subscribe today!



ear infection. Hank proved to be a star with crate and potty training, and will dance with joy to show how happy he is. Though he was a little shy around strangers, he loved to follow his foster mom around and especially liked spending time on her lap. Hank went to his new forever home on Mother's Day, complete with doggie playmates and human laps to nap upon.

Odie is a playful, friendly, and social pup at almost a year old. He likes to play with other dogs, loves



to be held and sleep on laps, and he does an endearing little dance to show how much he's missed you. Odie arrived

into KAR with ear issues, yeast and a slight bacterial infection. He proved himself to be one smart cookie, learning to climb stairs

quickly. Potty training and learning not to jump up on people will take more practice. Odie was adopted by a wonderful family with a young daughter and another small doggie pal for him to play with.

Oliver is a very playful and rambunctious puppy at around four-months old. Our best guess is that



he is a Shih Tzu and Poodle mix. Oliver came into the rescue with ear issues and a loss of fur in some areas. He learned to climb stairs like a

champ and continues to work on his house training and manners. Oliver loves to cuddle with his people and watch TV. This adorable pup was adopted by Cindy, who is only too happy to shower him with love and attention. Their plans are to garden together, run a home business, and

take a trip to Paris in the future. Oo-la-la!

These eleven puppy mill dogs found refuge in Kalamazoo Animal Rescue where they received the veterinary care they needed to restore them to a healthy state. As the newsletter is released, three dogs are still waiting to be adopted: Liam, Delilah, and Mabel. They are looking for forever homes and families that will care for them and love them for the rest of their lives. You can learn more about these dogs on the KAR website.

Saving homeless cats and dogs is not possible without the financial support of the community and friends of KAR. The puppy mill dogs incurred a lot of medical expenses. Please consider using the donation coupon below to make a tax-deductible donation that will allow us to continue helping precious pups like these from Allegan County and others just like them. 🐾

Cat and Dog Foster Volunteers Needed

KAR needs people who are willing to open their hearts and homes to animals in need until a forever home can be found. Food, supplies and vet care are provided by KAR. New foster volunteers receive training and mentoring from experienced volunteers. For more information and to fill out a volunteer application, visit our website at www.kalamazooanimalrescue.org and click on Volunteer Now.

I want to help Kalamazoo Animal Rescue care for the puppy mill pets, and other homeless dogs and cats. Here is my tax-deductible donation.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please make your check payable to: Kalamazoo Animal Rescue Amount enclosed: \$ _____

Mail this coupon with your check to: Kalamazoo Animal Rescue • P.O. Box 3295 • Kalamazoo, MI 49003

Rusty Chillin' In His New Home

Rusty came into KAR earlier this year. He was found alongside the road where sadly, a sibling had already been hit and killed by a car. The young fellow stayed in a foster home for several months until being adopted in March. The daughter of Rusty's new family sent us an update to let us know how he is doing in his forever home.

"Rusty is a spoiled little boy that is loved very much by my parents. He is my dad's best friend even though he wasn't thrilled with the



fact that Rusty had a stub tail, possibly the result of an accident that happened at birth. But that doesn't matter any longer. Dad likes to play poker and Rusty likes to sit in his lap while he plays. My mom also loves it when

Rusty sits with her in a chair while she knits.

Tiana, a cat that I adopted from KAR in October 2011, is quite fond of the little guy and just adores him! She

isn't too thrilled when he 'steals' her toys but she's learning to share. Tiana and Rusty play all of the time and are usually in the same room together. At night, it's hard to get her to stay in bed because she's too interested in playing with Rusty.

Rusty is a special little guy. We are thrilled to have him in our home and love him very much. And, he seems very happy to be here.

Thank you KAR for taking him in, placing him into a foster home, and keeping him safe. We admire you and all your volunteers for the help you provide to animals like Rusty!" 🐾



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