

**Memorial and Honorary Gifts**

*By Lynn Bolhuis*

***Lovingly remember the dearly departed.  
Honor special accomplishments.  
Heartfelt gifts help homeless pets.***

KAR has graciously accepted memorial and honorarium gifts for many years. We want all our *KAR Friends* to know that they can make gifts of love on behalf of people and pets that have been such an important influence on their life. These contributions make it possible to help homeless cats and dogs receive the care they need until a permanent home can be found.

**Gifts In Memory**—recognize a pet, friend or family member that has recently passed away by making a contribution to KAR on their behalf. This loving legacy shows how much the person or pet being memorialized touched your life and how they live on in your heart.

To make a memorial gift, email or send a letter to KAR with:

- Name of the deceased
- Name of a friend or family member to the deceased, as well as their address, city, state and zip
- Donor name, address, city, state and zip
- Donation check made payable to KAR


**Gifts In Honor**—recognize a friend, family member or business for a special occasion such as a birthday or anniversary, or a special

accomplishment such as a graduation or promotion. Contributions are made to KAR in recognition of the honoree's achievement(s).

For an honorary gift, send the following to KAR:

- Honoree's name
- Honoree's address, city, state and zip
- Description of the occasion or achievement
- Donor's name, address, city, state and zip
- Donation check made payable to KAR

In return for your donation, KAR will mail a letter or card to honorarium recipients. The families of memorial recipients and contributors will receive a letter of acknowledgement from the rescue. We will also post memorials and honorariums to the KAR website in appreciation.

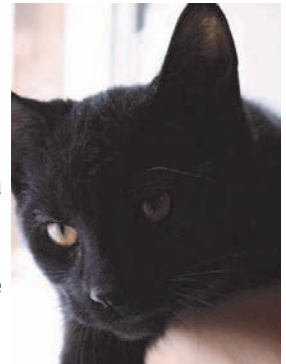
KAR is a federally recognized 501(c)(3) charitable organization and memorial and honorarium contributions are tax deductible. Send gifts in memory or in honor to Kalamazoo Animal Rescue at the address below. 

**FeLV+ Kitten Happy Tails: Keeley and Kiki**

*By Danielle Wallis*

Earlier this year we helped some fellow rescuers with kittens they saved while doing Trap Neuter Release (TNR) work in Kalamazoo. With any new intake, our rescue tests for Feline Leukemia (FeLV) and other contagious diseases at a cost of \$150-180 per cat.

Of the five beautiful three-month old kittens, the tiniest kitty, Keeley, tested FeLV positive. She was immediately separated from the others as this highly infectious disease is spread through bodily fluids in litter boxes and dishes. Keeley went to live in a different foster home and was for the first time in her life, alone. FeLV is



only spread between felines, so Keeley began to enjoy the resident dogs and made friends quickly. She may have been tiny but was not fearful of the dogs that were 20 times her size!

Many rescues would give up hope of finding a FeLV+ kitten a home, but not KAR. We began thinking outside the box and making her illness a positive for potential

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## Keeley and Kiki (continued)

owners: Keeley would be a great companion for a family with a dog. We also contacted previous adopters who had given loving homes to other felines with FeLV.

Keeley was fortunate to find a forever home with Liz and two FeLV+ kitties that she adopted from us last year. Sam Sam and Dar Dar both accepted Keeley into their home, allowing their mom (who cooks chicken and scrambled eggs for them each day) to share her attention with this very loving little lady. At night Keeley loves to snuggle with her mom in her bed and by day she chases her brothers up and down the stairs!

Like a scene from the movie *Groundhog Day*, just one week later, Keeley's sister, Kiki, had her second combo test come back FeLV+. A little black kitten with golden eyes was condemned to the same fate: a life of solitude until a forever home was found. The pressure was on once again. Having just contacted all our previous adopters, we knew there was no luck here so we posted great pictures and a video to our website along with her description.

Kiki was just as friendly and loving with people as Keeley. She



was also confident around dogs and her favorite game was to play fetch with them at her foster home! After five weeks of waiting patiently, her family found her. Her new mom said that she "always had a soft spot for the underdog and loved her personality." Kiki was adopted in March to an amazing family who wanted to adopt a cat who needed a chance. Kiki lives with a six-year-old boy and a Rottweiler mix that is about the same age.

KAR would like to thank these special adopters who not only adopted rescued kittens, but ones that comes with challenges that they are willing to face. This reinforces our beliefs that there is a home for every dog and cat out there, and if we are patient we will find them. We will stand by that belief and keep working until there are no homeless animals left to save. Your donations help to keep us going. 🐾

## Community Fundraising Efforts

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

- Kalamazoo Humane Society
- Petco
- PetSmart
- Pfizer
- Sticks and Stones
- Evelyn Sweet
- United Way
- Zoetis

## Summer Safety for Pets

By Karren Jensen

Before you know it the sultry heat of summer will be upon us and it will be time to consider the needs of our pets. Just as humans need to take precautions to stay safe and healthy in the summer months, our furry friends need special care to keep from suffering any heat related health problems. Here are four important considerations to help give your pets a safe summer.

**Hydration:** Humans are constantly warned against

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## 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 safe 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.

## Adopt

If you or someone you know is looking for a furry companion please consider adopting from KAR. Animals live in private foster homes until adopted. To see the available cats and dogs, visit [www.kalamazooanimalrescue.org](http://www.kalamazooanimalrescue.org)

## Connect with KAR



## KAR Friends

Looking for great tips and information on caring for pets? **KAR Friends** is a monthly eNewsletter providing helpful pet-related articles, heartwarming rescue stories, news about upcoming events, 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!



## Pit Awareness: Piper and Dex

By Katie Drenth

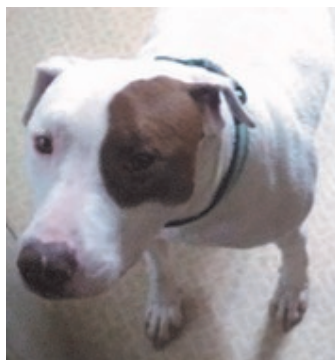
The term "pit bull" encompasses dogs whose breed origins include: American Staffordshire Terrier, Staffordshire Terrier, American Pit Bull Terrier, Bull Terrier, American Bull Dogs, any mix of these breeds or even dogs whose features resemble these breeds. DNA research has proven that pit bulls are quite often a mix of multiple breeds and that identifying any dog's breed solely by appearance is often inaccurate.

Sensationalized negative media, reckless owners and long-standing misconceptions have led to widespread discrimination against a breed once considered a powerful symbol of bravery and a beloved family pet. In truth, pit bulls are often outgoing, loyal, people loving, intelligent, eager-to-please and playful, just like KAR's current pit mix fosters Piper and Dex.

### Piper

*Pointer Mix—Three-years old*

Piper and her sister Rosie came into the rescue when they were just six-months old. Rosie found her forever home in 2012. Piper has had a difficult time finding her perfect match due to unwelcoming



furry family members in potential adoptive homes. Piper is a kind-hearted, sweet and well-trained girl that is very treat motivated. She learns quickly and understands sit, lie down and leave it. She is also crate trained. With her quiet and easy-going nature, she would do best in a quieter home where she is the only companion animal. Read more about Piper on KAR's website.

### Dex

*Staffordshire Bull Terrier/Spaniel Mix—Two-years old*

Sweet and friendly Dex was rescued from Animal Services days away from being euthanized simply because the facility was too full and he had been there for over two months. Dex is intelligent and has successfully attended obedience classes where he learned sit, down, come and wait. He's still a puppy at heart and is working on listening to

commands when he gets really excited. Dex is treat motivated and would love to have daily training sessions to show you what a great dog he is and how much he loves to learn. He is very



playful and loves cuddling with his foster mom after playtime. His active and energetic nature means he'd do well in a home without cats or small animals, because he gets a little too excited when he plays and forgets how much bigger he is! Dex would make a perfect exercise buddy and an awesome walking or running partner. He loves attention and wants to prove that he can master any task you set him to. Read more about Dex on the KAR website and blog.

Like any breed, pit bulls are not for everyone. Do your research and find out what type of dog is best for your family's lifestyle, then look at your local shelters and rescue groups to adopt your perfect canine companion. 🐾

### KAR Adoption Statistics

As of March 31st, 56 cats and 20 dogs have found their forever homes in 2014.

**I want to support KAR and give hope to homeless animals. A tax-deductible donation of \$20 buys dog or cat food for a month, \$50 buys 8 vaccines, and \$100 pays for 1 dog or 2 cat spays.**

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

## Summer Safety *(continued)*



becoming dehydrated during the hot summer months. The same principal applies to our pets, which have just as much need for water as we do. Don't leave your pet without

cool clean water any time of the day, whether indoors or out. In addition to offering plenty of fresh water, be sure to monitor your pet for signs of dehydration including loss of skin elasticity and lethargy. Check for skin elasticity by gently pinching the loose skin in several places to see whether it snaps back into place or stays in the "pinched" position, which is a sign of dehydration. If you have any doubts about your pet's condition, be sure to

consult your veterinary health care professional for advice.

**Food:** Pets need access to food that is safe from spoilage during the day. If you serve canned food during hot weather, only leave it out for a short time so that it can't spoil and cause illness. Dry food is more heat stable and safer to leave out if you will be gone for several hours.

**Shade/Shelter:** If you give your cat or dog access to the outdoors, you need to provide shade and shelter to avoid heat-related illnesses. For canines, an enclosed backyard with a dog house or other shaded shelter can be a safe environment as long as water and food are also available, and as long as you don't leave your dog unsupervised for long periods of time. Cats can be kept safe with an enclosure or "catio" (cat patio) or even a tie out harness for short periods of time. Felines can easily

jump any fence so letting your cat outside to run loose is not recommended. As with dogs, cats in safe enclosures should have access to food and water and plenty of shade.

**Supervision:** Your pet may be the apple of your eye but a roaming cat or dog can be exposed to danger from other animals or people. Supervision of your pet when outdoors and restriction of their movement to a small area is essential for keeping them safe.

Our furry friends can share our love for being outdoors in the summer months as long as we provide for their needs. Be sure to keep your pals safe to ensure a long and happy life together! 🐾

