

KAR Friends.....

Fall/Winter 2018 Edition

KAR'S OFFICE MEDICAL PROGRAM: AN INVESTMENT IN THE FUTURE

By Karren Jensen

At KAR we have a passion for living out our belief that every pet deserves a second chance, so we try to rescue and rehome as many of these precious cats and dogs as our resources will allow. Beginning as an in-home program with all our rescued animals housed in the private homes of dedicated volunteers, we expanded our capacity in 2015 by opening space in our office for shelter care when we faced a high demand and a shortage of foster homes. This has led to an even more robust program in which we have been able to help many more animals and place them with loving families.

Still, our funds are often stretched to the limit as we attempt to save as many lives as we can. How can anybody turn away from the suffering experienced every day by loving pets who have given their best to their families but may find themselves homeless through no fault of their own? Our largest expense is the medical care often required by our rescues. In spite of the generosity of local veterinary clinics, we struggle to cover these costs. Faced with the need to come up with innovative solutions to reduce our medical costs, the KAR governing board decided to create a veterinary service facility right in our shelter. We are pleased to present this development to you, our loyal supporters who exercise their passion for animals by investing in our work.

KAR Friends is an 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 copy, go to our website and subscribe today!



Dr. Kathleen Corbett at work at the KAR office


The in-office medical care room was created from one of our former group shelter rooms for cats. It has been refitted with all the necessary equipment and furnishings to allow us to offer quality veterinary care to our rescued animals. The treatment room is kept locked and is accessed only by our doctor and the staff of trained volunteers who assist her. The facility provides a safe and sterile environment for surgical procedures, such as spay (hysterectomy) and neuter surgeries. All our pets must be surgically sterilized prior to being adopted,

helping us to ensure that they do not create another generation of uncared-for cats and dogs.

Dr. Kathleen Corbett brings years of private practice, extensive medical expertise, and a love for her patients to her work with KAR's rescued animals. On a recent Sunday when I visited the facility, Dr. Corbett was performing surgical sterilization procedures on a dozen or more kittens who were ready for adoption. Each little one received tender care and would soon be awake and playing again. In addition to the surgical procedures, Dr. Corbett can also assess the health of our office cats and prescribe medications as needed for health conditions that might require treatment. This is a tremendous resource, helping us to use our funds to impact the lives of many more at-risk pets.



One of our little patients

Once again, we want to thank the faithful donors who make possible our work of helping needy pets so they can bring love and companionship to new families. We are pleased to be able to partner with you in giving hope and better lives to these precious animals. 

CAT HAPPY TAIL ~ SIMBA'S JOURNEY By Karren Jensen

Most of Simba's past was a mystery when his owner reluctantly relinquished him to KAR. Simba's owner had rescued the elderly stray from a rough life outdoors. Unfortunately, his rescuer's work situation required a move out the country, so Simba came to KAR still struggling with health problems resulting from the years of neglect and abuse common to strays. Simba was very thin, with tattered ears and a rough-looking gray and white coat. As his adopter says, "underneath that tough guy appearance ... this tabby wants love and attention just as much as any other cat."

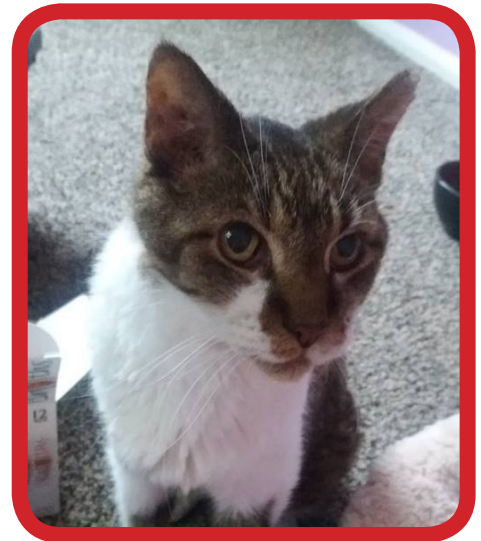


Simba

Simba settled into his new life with KAR, waiting patiently for a new home while being loved and nurtured by his caregivers at our shelter facility. It is always worrying when an older animal without the irresistible cuteness of a kitten comes into our care because these loving and precious pets are often overlooked. We watched and hoped, noting Simba's progress in gaining weight and looking healthier.

At long last, our dear senior kitty caught the eye of adopter Cobhan, who has given Simba a new lease on life, resulting in a healthier weight and a soft glossy coat. Cobhan describes Simba's new life this way: "His favorite

thing in the world is drinking fresh cold water out of the faucet and he is not shy about letting you know when he would like some. After getting a nice cold drink he enjoys staring out the window and feeling the wind come in, which reminds him of his streetwise youth. After reminiscing, Simba enjoys taking catnaps with anybody who will snuggle with him, preferably by your side on the sofa or



Simba Striking a Pose

by your feet to share the evening news broadcast. Mr. Simba also enjoys the company of other felines if a human is unavailable and takes pleasure in the reminder that his glory days are not yet behind him."

Simba's story, like many others, reminds us that every life matters and older pets have as much love to share as younger ones. Maybe you have it in your heart to bring joy to an older pet by taking him or her into your heart and home?

Thank you to Cobhan and ALL of our wonderful adopters from all of us at KAR! 🐾

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.

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

Connect with KAR



Like us on
FACEBOOK!

All pets shown with an asterisk() are adoptable at the time of the design of this publication. If interested in meeting them, please check our website!*



*Molly**

DOG HAPPY TAIL ~ MINNIE MAE

By Pat Hollahan

Sweet Minnie Mae was found abandoned at Tractor Supply by a pair of wonderful KAR volunteers. Her vet visit showed that she was around nine years old and was heartworm positive. She had to go through intensive treatment before she tested negative, but she has remained negative ever since.

Minnie's foster mom reports that "While she was with us, she was really best dog possible." In fact Minnie was a surrogate mama to several litters of kittens!

Minnie's adopter, Janna, felt that she and her family (two children, a dog, and two cats) had more love to give a pet, and she wanted that love to be given to a senior rescue dog. On a whim, Janna checked Petfinder one Saturday to see if there was anyone new. Minnie popped up first and she was at a meet-



Minnie Mae

and-greet event nearby that afternoon.

As Janna says, "It was honestly love at first sight. She was timid and a little frightened, but I felt like there was a strength and feistiness within her. I would have sat and snuggled with her through the entire event, but I felt like I needed to give others a chance in case Kelly didn't feel like we were the best fit for her." (They were, of course!)

According to Janna, "Now that Minnie is a part of our family it feels like she was always meant to be. I love her more than I even thought was possible. She loves to take walks. We have been working on strengthening her legs and her heart, trimming up her 'mom bod,' and learning to be a dog (so much sniffing, peeing, and chasing those

pesky squirrels!). When she gets tired, she enjoys riding in the baby bjorn! She also enjoys car rides. She has learned to stand on the center console so that she can see out the windows to wait for her family to come back to the car. What Minnie likes most, though, is eating and napping. She still does her happy dance when it's breakfast or dinner time. Her favorite places to nap are on the sofa on top of a blanket or pillow (while her family watches TV) or on a pillow in bed while her family sleeps. She gets super happy and playful when she meets new dog friends who are around her size, but is grumpy and bossy with bigger dogs and prefers to be held around them. She gives lots of kisses during snuggle time and in the morning. We can't imagine our life without Minnie. Just being with her and experiencing this life with her makes our hearts so happy." 🐾



*Kevin**

Adoption Statistics

So far this year, KAR has placed 558 cats and 47 dogs into loving and permanent homes.

In 2017, KAR placed 625 cats and 78 dogs into permanent homes.

I want to support KAR and give hope to homeless animals. A tax-deductible donation of \$20 can buy cat or dog food, \$50 purchases vaccines, and \$100 pays for one dog or two 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 • PO Box 3295 • Kalamazoo, MI 49003

SUPPORTING THE PETS IN THE KALAMAZOO ANIMAL RESCUE

By Kim Bourner

When I think about helping KAR's animals, fostering is the first thing that comes to mind. Over the years, however, I have found that while fostering is one way to help, there are numerous others.

While our foster parents tirelessly care for the furry friends who come into the rescue, they and the fur friends need all the support they can get. This support can come in the way of volunteering at the office, writing for social media and the newsletter, taking photos, and driving pets to appointments and events. Our volunteers also donate supplies, organize events, and provide financial support.

Since KAR is a non-profit, our only means of financial support is through adoption fees, donations, or grants. Our most significant expense is veterinary care, and adoption fees cover only about half of that. We are, of course, delighted to receive direct donations, but you can also help support KAR through programs such as AmazonSmile, Hardings Markets, BISSELL's Partners for Pets, ResQ Walk, GoodSearch, iGive, eBay GivingWorks, PayPal Giving Fund, and Advia Credit Union. Check out the Donations page on our website for more details.

If you have not done so already, please consider making a tax-deductible donation. Your financial gift will enable KAR to assist a homeless cat or an abandoned dog and give them a second chance to find their happily ever after. If you would like to help, you may make an online donation through our Donations page or you use the form within this newsletter. Thank you so much for supporting Kalamazoo Animal Rescue!

Community Fundraising Efforts

A sincere thank-you to these groups and businesses who held fundraisers to benefit KAR:

- Abraxas
- Chow Hound Pet Supplies
- Forensic Fluids Laboratories, Inc.
- J. M. Wilson Corporation
- The Kendall Group
- Make Studio Kalamazoo
- Nazarene Wee Care Center
- Sprinkle Road Tap House

KAR would also like to extend special thanks to our many individual and family donors.

FOSTERING SAVES LIVES!

