

KAR Friends

July 2013



Dear Reader,

Summer is a wonderful time to get outside and have some fun! We have some great destinations—from trails to beaches—for you to explore with your doggie friends. And of course, we haven't forgotten about our feline friends. Find out how you can bring some of the outdoors in for your kitty.

This month's *Animal Spotlights* highlight two of our amazing foster animals: Dana; a sweet black lab mix and Carmen; a momma kitty whose babies have all left the nest—both are looking for their forever homes.

As always, thank you for your continued support and for your love of animals. Stay cool and have fun this summer!

Danielle Wallis
KAR President

Lynn Bolhuis
KAR Friends Editor

P.S. There is a special fundraiser to benefit KAR at Olga's Kitchen in the Crossroads Mall on Saturday, July 27th. Bring in a [copy of the special flyer](#) and a percentage of your bill will be donated to the rescue.

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Explore Nature With Your Pets

By Danielle Wallis



Piper exploring! See her bio [here](#).

Explore the outdoors with your pets this summer!

The usual ideas immediately spring to mind. Yes walks and runs with our dogs are awesome but our pets get bored just like we do. They sniff the same patch, mailbox or street light every day and go to the same spot to poop ... BORING! Let's stimulate our dogs as well as ourselves by exploring some new trails and parks—the car ride alone may be exciting enough



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for most pets—but the chance to savor new smells and make new friends will be the icing on the cake! Choose a different park, perhaps not every day but maybe each weekend throughout the summer. Check out these lists of parks in [Portage](#) and [Kalamazoo](#) that allow dogs on leashes.

Okay, if you are one of those people that are already doing that then how about really shaking things up! Have a high energy dog? How about cycling or roller skating with your dog? [Bicentennial Park](#) in Portage offers a great track for doing exactly that! You can teach an old dog a new trick and you can learn right alongside him!

Looking for great places where your dog can enjoy the water? Here are the [top 10 beach hotspots](#) for you and your best buddy. It will give him a good work out whilst keeping him cool and hydrated through the summer months! Check out *Doggie Den* for more dog-friendly beaches in Southwest Michigan.

Ever consider taking your dog along on the family getaway? There are lots of awesome places to stay with your pooch not too far from your door step. Just think of the money you would save on pet sitters and that would cover any additional charge there would be on your room. Many small towns in and around the State of Michigan are pet friendly. Traverse City, Petosky, Charlevoix and Mackinaw are just a few places up north that have some great pet-friendly hotels. Dogs are even welcome on the ferry ride to Mackinaw Island.

Looking for something a little more inside your comfort zone? How about setting up a doggie play date? Have a friend with a dog that yours could play with for a few hours? Do a swap and let the furry kids play!

Cats, we haven't forgotten about you! If you are an outdoor or indoor/outdoor kitty, chances are you get as much *nature* as you need on your own and probably wouldn't want us humans cramping your style. However, if you are one of those cats that are sensible and like to stay right next to mom and dad 24/7 then we have some tips. How about buying the kitty some new bird feeders and putting them near windows for them to watch? You could also bring the outdoors in and create a nature playground with great new smells and textures using sticks, rocks, grasses or even logs for them to climb and scratch.

This summer shake things up and make life interesting for YOU and YOUR PETS!

OUR SPONSORS

(click the ads to visit their websites)



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Animal Spotlights

Darling Dana

By Katie Drenth



Dana is a four-year-old black Labrador Retriever mix. She is as happy as can be in her foster home, but her dream is to find a forever home and family to love and care for her.

If you're looking for a friendly dog that is good with people and other pooches, here's your gal! Dana is easy going, sweet, good with kids—from tiny babies to older children, and is very intelligent. She is a quick study and already knows a lot of

commands like "sit," "shake," "down" and "heel."

What does this darling girl love the most? Belly rubs. Her foster mom says that she is a "big baby for a belly rub."

Dana has a condition called epulis/ameloblastoma. This doesn't require any long-term care and isn't anticipated to alter her life in any way. She is a loving dog that really deserves to be part of a family and shouldn't be overlooked because of this condition.

If you're interested in making Dana's dream for a forever home come true, meet her at an adoption event. You can also read more about her and watch the fun video of Dana on her [bio page](#).

A Communique From Carmen

By Kim Bourner



There is love in the world! I know this because I was welcomed into KAR awhile back when I desperately needed shelter. I was pregnant and in need of some tender loving care, and found it here in the rescue.

I gave birth to eight adorable kittens, cared for them as only a mother could, and am now ready to start the next adventure in my life. I am hoping that it is in a home where perhaps I am the only fuzzy, four-legged

friend. Dogs are just not my thing, and other cats haven't always been kind to me. Perhaps one day I will appreciate other friendly felines, but it may take me awhile to adjust. Children tend to bring out a desire to jump, but I don't feel like jumping around adults.

I adore humans, especially women, and I am ready to give forever love to a kind person. If you like to pet kitties and are ready to find appreciation in return, then I'm your girl! Check out my [bio page](#) to learn more about me.

UPCOMING ADOPTION EVENTS



July 27th
August 3rd and 17th



August 10th

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

Cat's Corner

7 Ways to Bring Nature Inside

By Kim Bourner



Meet Lady Bug! Read all about her [here](#).

Nature is a wondrous thing. There is so much to explore in the great outdoors, smells to take in, sights to see, and textures to be discovered. However, the out-of-doors can be a hazard to pets with vehicular traffic and predators to worry about. To enhance the life of your furry friends, bring a little nature inside the home.

Here are seven ideas to entice your cat or dog to find more enjoyment indoors:

- Offer access to windows with cat trees or window beds.
- If you have a sliding patio door, place the dog bed in front of it for his viewing pleasure while you're at work.
- Hang bird feeders near windows that are animal accessible.
- Place a water fountain in your home that is safe for pets to drink from.
- Offer animal-friendly plants in pots around your home. Move them around to add a sense of adventure.
- Build a screened-in enclosure off the back of your home or make the balcony safe with additional screening.
- Bring in feathers that work both as decorations and toys for cats.

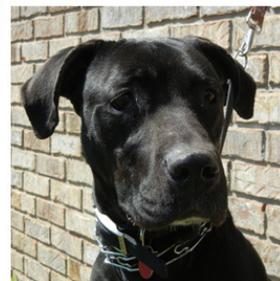
Over time, I have continued to add bits of nature to my home in safe ways for my "kids." The cats have access to a window. Since we don't have a window that reaches to the floor, we lock a screen door and leave the solid door open so the dog has fresh air and can hear outside noises.

I hope this springs some ideas for you. May your home be a happy and comfortable refuge for you and your pets.

Additional Resources

- [15 Ways to Bring Nature Indoors](#)
- [Bringing an Outside Cat Indoors](#)

PETS OF THE MONTH



[Dana](#)



[Fluffy](#)

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

Doggie Den

Dog-Friendly Beaches in Southwest Michigan

By Katie Drenth



Almost everyone enjoys a day at the beach—the warm sand, the cool water—so why not bring along your canine friend the next time you head to the shore? Not every beach is dog friendly so check the beaches rules before bringing along Fido.

Here are three dog-friendly beaches close to home where you can have some summertime fun with your pup!

Hagar Park Beach

Hagar Township, MI 49084 · (269) 849-0455

GPS: 42°00.520'N-86°32.940'W

Located 15 miles south of South Haven. Wooden stairs lead down to a secluded stretch along the sandy shore of Lake Michigan for you and your canine friends to enjoy. No public restroom facilities—port-a-johns are available—but located four minutes south is Roadside Park Beach that is equipped with public restrooms. There is also a small playground located above the beach. Please remember to clean-up after your pets.

Grand Mere State Park

Thornton Drive · Stevensville, MI 49127 · (269)426-4013

GPS: 42°00.520'N-86°32.940'W

Located 10 miles south of Benton Harbor. Grand Mere State Park boasts 1,000 acres of undeveloped woodlands and sand dunes, three geologically ancient lakes, hiking trails and one mile of beautiful Lake Michigan shoreline. There is about a half-mile moderate hike along and over the dunes to get to the secluded beach where you and your dog can play and swim. Please remember to clean-up after your pets.

Warren Dunes State Park

12032 Red Arrow Highway · Sawyer, MI 49125 · (269) 426-4013 ·

GPS: 41°54.103'N-86°36.070'W

Located 12 miles north of New Buffalo. Warren Dunes offers three miles of Lake Michigan shoreline, six hiking trails and dune formations rising 260 feet above Lake Michigan that offer spectacular views. Dogs are allowed on a two-mile stretch of the beach in a non-swimming area, but not on the dunes or public swimming area. Please remember to clean-up after your pets.

Additional Resources

- [Southwest Michigan Tourist Council: Dog-Friendly Info](#)
- [Lake Michigan Beaches](#)
- [Grand Mere State Park](#)
- [Warren Dunes State Park](#)

KAR LINKS

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



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

CONNECT WITH KAR



[Find us on Facebook](#) 

WANTED: Foster Homes

Kalamazoo Animal Rescue is always in need of cat and dog foster homes. Since we do not have a shelter, KAR relies on the generous volunteers who open their homes to animals in need. These animal lovers provide care and shelter, and are the first step at giving a dog or cat a new life. If you're interested in learning more about becoming a foster home, click on one of the flyers below or visit our [Volunteer](#) page.

CONTACT US
Kalamazoo Animal
Rescue
P.O. Box 3295
Kalamazoo, MI 49003

Phone: (269) 226-8570

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

Visit our [website](#)

**Save Lives!
Help Animals!
Rewarding Experience!**

There are too many homeless and unwanted animals and Kalamazoo Animal Rescue needs your help. We're currently seeking more volunteers willing to foster dogs and cats.

Food, Supplies, and Vet care are paid for by KAR.

- Supplies include: collars, tags, crates, carriers, food bowls, litter and litter boxes.



Learn more about becoming a foster volunteer at <http://www.kalamazooanimalrescue.org/> or stop by a local adoption event to talk with our volunteers about how you can help.

Foster Homes Needed!

KALAMAZOO ANIMAL RESCUE



**KITTEN AND CAT
FOSTER HOMES NEEDED!**

**Save Lives!
Help Animals!
Rewarding Experience!**

There are too many homeless and unwanted animals and Kalamazoo Animal Rescue needs your help. We're currently seeking more volunteers willing to foster kittens and cats.

No cost to you! Food, supplies, and vet care are paid for by KAR. Supplies include collars, tags, crates, carriers, food bowls, litter and litter boxes.

Do you have time to help a homeless kitten or cat find its forever home? Learn more about becoming a foster volunteer at www.kalamazooanimalrescue.org or stop by a local adoption event to talk with our volunteers about how you can help, or give us a call and leave a message at (269) 226-8570.

KALAMAZOO ANIMAL RESCUE

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.

