



KAR Friends ~ August 2018

Dear Reader;

Somehow, it's gotten to be August again—late August at that—and the end of summer is just around the corner. But we haven't come to that corner yet, and we're going to make the most of what remains of summer! Still time to grill (dogs cheering because some of us aren't very good at getting cooked food from the grill to the platter) and swim and enjoy the long summer days with our furry friends, whether we're outdoors or indoors.

In our house, August is a special time to celebrate our dog's adoption day (we tell him it's his birthday, because to us it is!), so I'm very happy to call everyone's attention to our special adoptable dog, Mario. We're also featuring a special adoptable cat, Eileen, and including a useful article on giving medications to Fido or Fluffy if a four-footed family member has come down with something a bit more serious than the "end-of-the-summer" blahs.

Please feel free to share this issue with friends and family. We appreciate your continued support of KAR's mission to help homeless, stray, and abandoned cats and dogs. Together we make a difference!

Sincerely,

Pat Hollahan
KAR Friends Editor

In This Issue

- [Medicating Your Dog or Cat](#)
- [Doggie Den](#)
- [Cat's Corner](#)

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Medicating Your Dog or Cat

Some Helpful Tips



By Karren Jensen

In a perfect world, our pets would always be healthy and we would never face the daunting prospect of giving medication to a reluctant fur-baby.



Whether the medicine is needed for a simple issue or for a more serious problem, it is a good idea to



Pets of the Month



Read [Heather's](#) Story



Read [Mimi's](#) Story

Upcoming Events

- August 25, **MVPets**
on Westnedge Ave.

For details on these and other upcoming events, please [see our Events page](#) on the KAR website.

KAR Links

- [VOLUNTEER](#)
- [Become a Foster Family](#)
- [Adoptable Dogs](#)

have some ideas in your pet-parenting arsenal to deal safely and effectively with the task. Here are a few suggestions for giving medications to your pet, tailored to the type of pet and the kind of treatment needed.

Some tips for medicating a dog:

- Oral medications/pills: bribes are your best friend. Many dogs love treats such as hot dogs, cheese chunks or peanut butter. Hiding a pill in any of these tasty morsels can be a great way to get your canine friend to swallow the pill without tasting it. However, some dogs will manage to eat the treat and spit out the pill. In that case, another method is needed.
- When bribing fails, a pill placer (looks like a big syringe) can be a useful option. Ask your vet to show you how to open the dog's mouth and safely insert the pill.
- Oral medications/liquids: use a syringe (without a needle) and insert the medicine inside the dog's cheek along the side of the mouth rather than squirting the liquid into the center of his mouth. Be careful not to squirt the medication in a forceful way that might cause choking.
- Your vet is always a good resource for guidance in administering medicine and there are also numerous helpful videos online demonstrating medication techniques. Give your pet a treat or other positive reinforcement to make taking medication as pleasant as possible.

A few tips for medicating a cat:

- If the medication can be incorporated into food, try putting the liquid medication or smashed pill into a small amount of your cat's favorite wet food. Be sure that the medication is well mixed in with the food and make sure that all of the food is eaten so that the patient gets a full dose.
- A very combative cat can be wrapped in a towel to keep his legs secured before placing liquid medication or a pill in his mouth. A pill placer, which holds a pill in a rubber tip and looks like a very large syringe, is useful for keeping your fingers safe while placing a pill in your cat's mouth.
- As with dogs, cats should be given liquid medication in the pocket of their cheek along the outside of the teeth rather than having the solution squirted into the center of the mouth, where it might cause choking.
- Always consult with your vet for guidance on how to safely and effectively give your feline friend any prescribed medication.

Additional Resources:

- [Adoptable Cats](#)
- [Adoptable Kittens](#)
- [Special Needs Pets](#)
- [Senior Cat Companions](#)
- [KAR Website](#)
- [Donate Today!](#)

- [Giving medication to your dog](#)
- [Giving medication to your cat](#)

Newsletter Team

- Pat Hollahan, Editor
- Lynn Bolhuis
- Kim Bourner
- Kara Harmsen
- Karren Jensen
- Anna Kushner

[Email us](#) with any newsletter suggestions or questions!

Contact Us

Kalamazoo Animal Rescue
 P.O. Box 3295
 Kalamazoo, MI 49003
 (269) 226-8570



Doggie Den

Meet Mario!



By Pat Hollahan

"Mario, Mario, wherefore art thou Mario?"

Because, silly person, I'm not Romeo!



In real life, Mario is a lively and affectionate (and talkative) Chihuahua mix, about two and a half years old, who is learning all sorts of

Good Dog behavior with his foster mom, Kelly F. He's very responsive to positive cues and has learned the joys of a crate of his own and a regular potty schedule—and he loves his toy pumpkin! As Kelly says, "He is full of energy. He carries on great conversations. He loves to argue with you. When you call him and pat your legs, he literally will jump into your arms. He loves to snuggle in and hug. He loves to play keep-away from you."

Mario does well with small dogs and cats, but he is easily overwhelmed by large dogs and especially by negative reinforcement. The best family for this wonderful little guy will offer a loving and patient environment, with older children and adults, a fenced yard, and lots of positive reinforcement (and treats, Mario adds, don't forget the treats!).

If you'd like to know more about Mario or set up an appointment to meet him, please [check out his webpage](#).

Cat's Corner

Eileen, Our Sweetheart



By Kim Bourner

Eileen is a lovely blonde lady who's about two years old. She came to KAR from Calhoun County Animal Control, where she was dropped off with her eight kittens. Calhoun County AC then called KAR because they believed Eileen had a broken pelvis.

Not knowing fully what we were dealing with, one KAR

foster mom agreed to take the kittens as bottle babies while another foster took mama Eileen to the vet for evaluation. The examination revealed that Eileen doesn't have either a broken pelvis or a broken leg, though she does keep her right front leg tucked up tight to her chest, so she walks as a tripod. The vet thinks this is the result of a birth defect. She has a really cute flipped-back ear, probably also from birth.



After her vet visit, Eileen was delighted to be reunited with her kittens. This cat who came into the world with difficulty has made certain her own kittens are well cared for. She loves being a mom to her large litter. Her babies will be grown soon, and all of them will be ready for adoption.

Not having the use of one leg hasn't slowed Eileen down one little bit. She jumps and does everything a normal kitty would do. She will need a home without small children or large dogs, though, because she is easily knocked off balance, and the fewer stairs the better. She would be delighted to have a home with other cats, perhaps even one or two of her kittens.

This chill cat has much love to give. She gets along with everyone and loves being held or sitting in your lap. She especially loves to be cuddled close to your heart. She also holds her kittens close and purrs and hugs them. However, she only comes to you if you invite her and tell her she is welcome. Otherwise, she sits back and watches for your cues. Her foster mom isn't sure she's heard her meow even once, so if you enjoy the quiet, this is the cat for you.

If there is room in your home for a cat or three, please consider Eileen and her kits. [To learn more about Eileen or to fill out an application to meet her, please look for her in the Adoptable Cats section of the KAR website](#) in a couple of weeks.

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.



Visit our website [here](#) for more KAR information!



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