



KALAMAZOO ANIMAL RESCUE

Phone: (269) 226-8570

KAR Friends

October 2014

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Dear Reader,

Leaves are falling, pumpkins are everywhere and some of you may be looking for the perfect Halloween costume for your dog or cat. With the fall season in full swing, we want to celebrate October which is Adopt a Shelter Pet month, National Pit Bull Awareness month and Feral Cat month.

KAR is pleased to highlight our very special rescues from Animal Services and our adoptable pit bulls and feral cats. As you will see, KAR has been busy as always trying to save as many lives as we can and to help these precious pets find their forever homes!

Danielle Wallis
KAR President

Dinner Auction 2014

A Fundraiser to Support Our Furry Friends

Kalamazoo Animal Rescue organizes a dinner and auction to raise money for the benefit of our animals. This is our biggest fundraising event of the year! The proceeds help to pay the expenses associated with rescuing our furry friends, 450-500 cats and dogs each year, and placing them into loving homes.

Don't miss out on an evening of fun-filled shopping opportunities, dinner, great entertainment and much, much more. Make your reservation today!

KAR is still in need of items for the auction. Check out our [wish list](#) here.



[View Past Issues Here](#)

KALAMAZOO ANIMAL RESCUE

Dinner Auction 2014

Food! Fun! Drinks!
Live and Silent Auctions
Professional Entertainment:
Tony Fields and Doug Decker

Where: Gull Lake Country Club
9725 West Gull Lake Drive, Richland, Michigan
Date: Sunday, November 9th
Time: 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Dinner and Entertainment begin at 5:30 p.m.
Cost: \$35 per person. Visa and MasterCard accepted.

For Reservations Call: 269-629-9714



Kalamazoo Animal Rescue • P.O. Box 3295 • Kalamazoo, Michigan 49003

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KAR and Animal Services

Working Together to Save Animals

By Sue Brodasky

Kalamazoo Animal Rescue has a long standing and mutually beneficial partnership with Kalamazoo County Animal Services and Enforcement (AS). Therefore we would like to take time to acknowledge the services AS provides our County and thank the people of the agency.

As mandated by law, Animal Services is required to impound stray and abandoned dogs. While there are no legal requirements for AS to house cats, they shelter them as well as other animals such as rabbits, small mammals, rodents, birds, lizards, and sometimes livestock (e.g., horses, goats, cows, chickens). In addition to animals being surrendered to the shelter, AS officers respond to the following animal reports:

- Dogs that are loose and running at large
- Dogs that are stray, but currently confined
- Cats that are stray and are live-trapped or currently confined
- Livestock that is loose and running at large
- Livestock that is stray and currently confined
- Sick or injured animals of any kind
- Deceased domestic animals within 24 hours of death

According to State Law, AS holds stray animals for seven days after which time the animal is put up for adoption. In order to make room for the steady influx of cats and dogs, they are forced to make very hard decisions about which animals live and die. In 2013, Animal Services accepted 1,357 dogs and 1,522 cats into its facility. AS offers a robust adoption program which boasts success rates of 25% of dogs and 22% of cats becoming beloved pets in a new home. Also by opening their doors to local rescue agencies an additional 13% of dogs and 12% of cats were transferred to no-kill¹ programs, such as KAR.

Often KAR receives calls for assistance from the AS staff for specific animals that have come into the shelter, which the staff know will only be successful by being placed in a foster home. Shelter staff reaches out to KAR and other rescue agencies in Kalamazoo whenever orphaned kittens or puppies turn up at the shelter, or if there is a pregnant cat or dog that needs a safe home environment to have and raise their litter. The hardest cases that AS must manage are the animals that come to them injured because their liabilities and funds to treat those animals are very limited. That's also where KAR and other rescue groups step in to assist by taking those animals and providing the care and respite they need through adoption.

As part of their adoption program, Animal Services utilizes two specific volunteer groups, Kalamazoo Humane Society (KHS) and Save Our Strays (SOS). SOS volunteer work primarily consists of visiting AS once a week to photograph the adoptable animals housed there. Those dynamic photos, of some very needy cats and dogs, are uploaded to the international adoption website Petfinder™ in hopes of increasing chances for adoption. Additionally the photos are used to produce a public access program televised throughout the county featuring each of the animals available for adoption at the shelter. Even though photography is the primary volunteer role, SOS also prides itself on assisting AS whenever there is a need. SOS is vital in organizing and assisting in the transportation and handling of AS animals to adoption events throughout Kalamazoo County. The KHS volunteers staff the shelter kennels the one night a week that AS is open late. In addition they make sure all the animals attending adoption events are bathed in order to put their best "paw" forward when participating in public events.

Pets of the Month



[Bailey](#)



[Ayla](#)

Welcome New Volunteers

- Kevin Pounders
- Danny Reid
- Carri Timmons

Presently, most people do not obtain their pets from shelters, but rather from pet stores, the internet, friends, breeders, or other sources. Contrary to popular beliefs, animals most frequently find themselves in shelters due to owner-related issues rather than any issue or problem presented by the pet.

The enforcement duties of Animal Services encompass citations and filing criminal charges for a large number of offenses, such as:

- Dog at large
- Failure to buy/provide proof of dog license
- Failure to Rabies vaccinate
- Failure to wear dog license
- Livestock at large

Criminal charges can be filed for both Misdemeanors and Felonies. AS officers are Peace Officers which have been deputized by the County of Kalamazoo; however, they do not have arrest authority. AS works closely with other local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies on cases ranging from no dog license to felony animal cruelty, including but not limited to:

- Animal bite cases
- Inspection of kennels licensed in Michigan
- Complaints of animal cruelty
- Investigation of unhealthy or inhumane conditions
- Suspicion of dog fighting

These emotionally demanding tasking and physically grueling job responsibilities are carried out by some of the most caring and compassionate staff. KAR extends our thanks to them for their service to Kalamazoo County and all the animals of our County.

Footnote:

- 1 A “no-kill” shelter is an animal shelter that does not kill animals who can be adopted or when the shelter is full, reserving euthanasia for animals that are terminally ill or considered dangerous.

Animal Spotlights

Adoptable Dogs and Cats

By Kristina Ramsdell, Karren Jensen and Andrew Domino

Kalamazoo Animal Rescue has a number of pets that have come to us from the local shelter, are pit bull terrier mixes or have feral roots, in honor of our theme this month. All of these dogs and cats are looking for forever homes.

[Scooter](#)

Male, 6 months, Orange Tabby

You'd never know Scooter was born into a feral cat colony in the Marshall area. He's a six-month old who loves playing and chasing. He wandered into a family's yard one day and that started his adventures with KAR. An injury meant Scooter had some trouble eating when he first came to the rescue, but he was friendly even with his veterinarian, and now he has no problem eating and playing. Scooter spent a little time with a family in early September but was returned to KAR due to allergies. Scooter gets along with cats and dogs, and is quick to respond to any attention—even when getting his nails cut



Adoption Events



October 18th and 25th
November 1st and 15th



November 8th

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

and his hair brushed. Scooter is looking for the purr-fect home where he can always find love and affection!

Dallas

Male, 1 year, Boxer/American Bulldog Mix

Howdy! Just like the southern town I was named after I've got plenty of charm. I'm a happy guy who knows a few tricks of my own including sit, shake and other paw. In my last home I was a bit of an outlaw. You see, I've got a lot of energy and I'm smarter than your average pup, that paired with not being neutered equaled a lot of time on the road and a few too many trips to "jail." Unfortunately, the last time I wasn't bailed out. Luckily I was spotted by my friends at KAR who came to Animal Services and let me join their posse. After being neutered and getting the exercise/training I so desperately needed I've decided to quit my wandering ways and look for a family to settle down with. Come meet me and I'll be sure to lasso your heart!

Ellen

Female, 1 year, Grey Tabby

This beautiful Manx girl with the cute little tail will win your heart the way she won the hearts of the folks at Animal Services. She was so sweet and loving that the shelter contacted KAR to see if Ellen could become a foster kitty to give her more time to find her forever home. Ellen loves attention and will talk to you, reaching out her paws to let you know she wants to be picked up and cuddled. Ellen has lived with other cats, dogs, and kids and she loves them all. This striking young lady will make a perfect addition to your family as a loving and lovable companion!

Waldo

Male, 1 year, Pit Bull Terrier Mix

Where's Waldo? Why, I'm right here! From what I've heard you humans have been looking for me for a while. You may have spotted me at Animal Services. I was, after all, there for 82 days. That's a good chunk of my young life. Luckily, you can stop your search because I'm here with my friends at KAR. I love everybody but can get a little too excited, nothing training can't fix though. I'm good with cats, older kids and walking on leashes. You name it, I love it! Now that you know how to find me, come meet me. I sure have been looking for YOU for a while!

Liam

Male, 2 years, Pomeranian

After a life spent loose I was finally picked up by some nice officers at Animal Services. From there my foster mom took me in and introduced me to a whole other way of living. Since moving in I've done well adjusting. I don't mind cats or dogs, in fact, I love to play with them! I'm crate trained but could use some training to finish housebreaking. For such a little guy I've sure got a lot of love to give. Given the choice, I'd like to find a human with the same characteristics as me, loving and playful. Also, someone who is home a lot, I really enjoy being with my humans. Oh! And a fenced in back yard so I can play safely. Come meet me and see if we're a match!



KAR Links

- [Volunteer](#)
- [Become a Foster Family](#)
- [Adoptable Dogs](#)
- [Adoptable Cats](#)
- [Adoptable Kittens](#)
- [Special Needs Pets](#)
- [Senior Cat Companions](#)
- [KAR Website](#)



[Donate Today!](#)

[Petal](#) and [Blossom](#)

Females, 2 and 3 years, Chihuahuas

Petal is big sister to Blossom and these happy little girls are looking for a forever home together. They entertain each other, sleep together and eat together! They are crate trained and litter-box trained, and would be ideal for most any living arrangement including an apartment. The shelter staff fell in love with their sweet personalities and asked KAR to help these girls find a home together. Petal and Blossom will touch your heart and give you two times the love in return!



[Chi Chi](#)

Male, 2 years, Chihuahua

It's been a long and hard road to get where I'm at today. I was transferred from the animal shelter and tested positive for heartworm upon my intake. Now that I've completed treatment I'm ready for my next step, finding a family of my own. I enjoy spending time with people and dogs alike. I'm a sweet guy with a gentle disposition. At such a young age I've got a lot of life ahead of me, won't you consider spending it with me!



[Rajah](#)

Male, 3 years, Tiger Mix

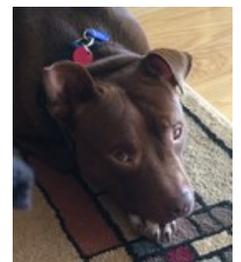
If you've ever dreamed of petting a tiger, Rajah is your guy. This regal fellow started life as one of numerous cats in the possession of a hoarder. Struggling to survive under such conditions shows that Rajah is a brave survivor but he is a lover, too. This beautiful tiger kitty would love to spend the rest of his life indoors being adored by his people. He gets along well with other cats but would like his next family to be much smaller than the poorly cared for hoard he grew up with. Rajah would also like to keep his claws as he is a perfect gentleman with them and only scratches on his kitty scratching post. This lovely boy is waiting to be your new best friend!



[Hershey](#)

Male, 3 years, Pit Bull Terrier

At the ripe age of three, I'm past the puppy stage and am more of a mellow guy who enjoys naps on the rug and a good belly rub or two. Don't get me wrong though, I still have a playful side. I'm not big on squeaky toys or fetch, but throw me a stuffed toy or a bone and I'll be your best friend. I get my name from my chocolate color and my foster mom says it also works for my sweet personality. I don't ask for much, just love and rubs. Come meet me and I'll make your life a little sweeter!



[Buster](#)

Male, 8 years, Chihuahua

I'm a spunky older man with a passion for snuggling. In fact, my foster mom says if she had to describe me with one word that'd be it, snuggler! I'm pretty much bomb proof. I don't mind cats, dogs, car rides or being left alone for short periods of time. I love to be petted and lean into your touch. Since I'm housebroken and pretty quiet, I'll quickly fit right in and will even sleep with you if you'll let me. Come meet me and apply to take home your very own love bug!



Connect With KAR



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Doggie Den

Happy Tails ~ Dexter and Maddie

By Kim Bourner

Many of the dogs coming into Kalamazoo Animal Rescue were formerly residents of Animal Services. Two such dogs were Dexter and Maddie. Both had problems finding forever homes: These furry friends were fairly high energy and needed much training with consistent, positive reinforcement. These traits can make it challenging for dogs to be adopted. Yet, they both overcame these obstacles three times: With the hearts of the staff at Animal Services, again in the rescue, and now in their forever homes.

Maddie is a muscular and graceful lady with snow white fur that is as soft as a bunny. She is full of energy and adores hugs. While in KAR, she had the opportunity to enjoy plenty of activity playing with volunteers and the staff at Camp Ravenwood Kennels. Once the playing was done, cuddling could begin with hugs and lap time. When her new family met her for the first time, she won their "hearts instantly."



Here is a quote from Maddie's original biography, "If you are looking for an AWESOME family dog look no further than our Maddie!" It was a three-month journey to get there, but this bundle of joy is now an awesome family dog with a mom, dad, two human brothers, and a kitty brother. She can run and walk with mom, play with her brothers, and cuddle with her dad. She and the cat, Kyo (pictured above), also adopted from the rescue, are working on becoming friends. Maddie is a fortunate girl and we are very happy for her.



Dexter is an incredibly handsome dog who loves to run, play and hug. He has fun playing with others, but he is also a connoisseur of your sole attention. There is a mischievous glint in his eyes that takes a special someone to help him understand boundaries. A possible explanation is that he was around one-year old when he ended up at the shelter, and there had been no one in his life to teach him manners at such an important age.

Fortunately, he was taken through an eight week basic obedience course while in KAR where he was found to be eager to learn and extremely smart.

To quote his new dad, "With a little patience and consistency, he has adjusted quite well, even though at one point I thought that I was going to return him back to KAR." He didn't come back, because Marco saw his potential and understood that stability would help him adjust. Dexter now has a dad to give him the time and guidance needed and a new brother, Rambo, who has become his best doggie pal. Marco knows that Dexter will "mature into a well-balanced dog." Dexter has found the perfect home for his exuberant and sweet spirit.

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

Cat's Corner

Happy Tail ~ Stephan'

In November 2010, one of our cat foster volunteers was at work when she got a call about a litter of "semi-feral" kittens. The Good Samaritan that came across them didn't think that they were old enough to eat on their own. The three kitties were brought to our volunteer in a box—hissing and spitting because they were frightened. Over the weekend our cat foster mom had a chance to work with the kittens and discovered they were far from being semi-feral—they were in fact very playful and happy little kitties! All three kittens were adopted.



A few months ago, the mom of Stephan' sent us an update about how her adorable orange and white tabby is doing. Stephan' is so named as "he became a lovable prince and charmer of a Frenchman, says Betty, his adopter. She adds, "Stephan' has grown into a cuddly, beautiful, and friendly big guy. Guests who enter our home are immediately greeted with 'hello-welcome to our home, and you may pet me if you like.'

Since I am now a widow, the joy of having Stephan' with me has filled my days with active playtime and gentleness. The magic of a loving pet has no measure. Thank you for your continuing care and fostering of animals. The good you do is beyond your knowledge because little is probably responded back to you. So, just know, this little/big guy is one of your huge success stories."

Special Thanks

The sixth annual Two Thumbs Up! Book Sale took place at Parchment Middle School on October 4th and over \$680 was raised. We appreciate the volunteers and members of the public who showed their support by attending the book sale. And we extend a very special thank you to the wonderful families who take on this project each year to raise money for KAR's furry friends.



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](#) for more KAR information!

