



KAR Friends ~ November 2017

Dear Reader;

November is Thanksgiving month, and here in southwest Michigan we're thankful that the weather hasn't been worse (so far – we know what's coming!). As the year gets older, so to speak, we're reminded that **November is Adopt-A-Senior Pet Month and Kalamazoo Animal Rescue has several mature dogs and cats looking for forever homes.** My family prefers to adopt older cats and dogs, both because they are often harder to find homes for and, frankly, because we'd rather not deal with house-training and curtain-climbing. An adoptable mature dog, Winnie, and two senior cats, Michael and Topanga, are profiled below.

We at KAR are also very, very grateful for the many volunteers, attendees, sponsors and donors who helped to make the 2017 Kalamazoo Animal Rescue Dinner Auction a rousing success!

Best wishes to you, your family and your beloved pets for a very happy Thanksgiving!

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

Why Should I Adopt A Senior Pet?

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By Karren Jensen

Have you ever heard the expression "WYSIWYG"? This commonly used term translates to "what you see is what you get" and applies accurately to the adoption of a senior pet. Kittens and puppies are irresistibly cute and



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Pets of the Month



Read [Parker's Story](#)



Read [Banshee's Story](#)

Upcoming Events

- November 18 ; PetSmart
- November 25 ; MV Pets on Westnedge
- December 2 ; PetSmart

Please check the [KAR homepage](#) for other events as they are announced

full of energy but in many cases a youngster is just not a good fit for a particular home. While the little ones are adorable, they are also babies with lots of growing and learning to do before they become the self-reliant and calm pets that busy people often require (and, actually, many of us prefer). On the other hand, a senior cat or dog has usually already left the craziness of youth behind and has blossomed into an established adult personality. You know what to expect from an older pet with predictable behavior patterns and traits.

Cats' and dogs' personalities run the gamut from outgoing to shy, social to reserved, and playful to quiet. An older pet with a fully developed sense of self can be matched to the energy level and expectations of any home. A calm older cat or dog with experience being around young children is often a better match for a growing family than a kitten or puppy who is easily startled or frightened by the unpredictable exuberance of a toddler. Adult pets still have plenty of time left to be themselves and enjoy interacting with their human families, playing happily with toys or just hanging out where you are to keep you company. A cat-friendly older cat can be a great companion to any feline family members you may already have, while a more solitary adult cat is a quiet and undemanding friend to keep an older person from being lonely while not needing too much attention him- or herself. Likewise, a mature, companionable dog may bring joy and enthusiasm to a senior dog's golden years and a calm older dog who loves non-demanding walks and quiet attention can help an older human caretaker keep active.

Current vet care keeps our animal friends young and healthy well into middle age and beyond. Don't be afraid to adopt a "senior" cat or dog (7+ years of age) because these experienced but young-at-heart friends have plenty of quality living left to do. Please consider adopting an older pet when you are looking for a faithful companion and see how much fun a loving, mature fur person can bring into your life.

Additional Resources:

- [Adopt a Senior Pet Month](#)
- [Why adopt a senior dog](#)
- [Why adopt a senior cat](#)

Doggie Den

Animal Spotlight ~ Winnie



By Kim Bourner

Mature dogs have a lot to give. Although they may have scars from their life before the rescue, love can

KAR Links

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

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guide them into a new life with a new family. They are most often house-trained; they tend to have a calmer outlook on life because they've already experienced much, and they learn well when the love they seek is freely given.



One such dog is Winnie, a Chihuahua/terrier mix who has not had enough love in her life. She seeks attention most of the time, nearly begging for it, and can sometimes be a bit demanding. But she's also eager to return the affection you give her. In her five years, there's no telling what she's endured, but she's ready for a happy ending. She's already learning not to jump up on people, and with careful training, she'll master the finer points of sit and stay - and after that the sky's the limit! She'll be delighted to love you for the rest of her years.

If you want to learn more about Winnie, [check out her webpage](#) and fill out an application to meet her. You'll be glad you did.

Cat's Corner

Animal Spotlight ~ Michael and Topanga



By Karren Jensen

[Michael](#)

Male, 8 years old, DSH

Are you looking for a lovely older tiger gentleman who enjoys attention? Michael lives in our office facility and loves to have his caregivers stop by his cage to give him some attention. If you pass him by, he will chirp at you with his very distinctive raspy voice to let you know that you've missed the opportunity to get acquainted with a fun and friendly guy. Michael has had some differences of opinion with his cage mates but it isn't clear why and he doesn't seem to be aggressive or stressed by living in a room full of many cats in cages. Come meet Michael and see if he might be your new best friend.



[Topanga](#)

Female, 7 years old, DSH

This lovely mature calico lady lives at the Kalamazoo Cat

Café, where she greets new friends in her own shy but playful way. A soft and quiet kitty, Topanga is ready to settle into a new forever home, providing her family with a daily dose of feline beauty and affection.



If you want to learn more about Michael or Topanga, check out their webpages and fill out an application to meet him or her. You'll be glad you did.

Special Thanks



The annual KAR Dinner Auction is the highlight of our social year, and ***we would like to extend a special thank you to all the volunteers, attendees, sponsors and donors who have come together to make this event such a great success!***



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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