



## KAR Friends ~ December 2017

Dear Reader;

Somehow it's gotten to be December again, and we're in or heading rapidly into all those end-of-the-year holidays. The days are growing shorter (but not for long!) and we're seeing winter weather, though right now it seems to be swinging merrily between freeze and thaw, snow and rain. But we know it's Michigan and all of us, two-footed and four-footed alike, are hardy folk.

Of course, the end of the calendar year can also mean a time to reflect on the year that's past and to make plans for the year to come. For those of us who like to make New Year's resolutions, Kim Bourner offers some lighthearted suggestions for pets and their people. We're also delighted to share two cheery Happy Tails about a dog and a cat who have found their forever homes and brought their own special joy to the lucky folks who adopted them.

As we close out 2017, all of us at KAR would like to extend special thanks to the many adopters, sponsors, donors and volunteers who have pitched in to help Kalamazoo Animal Rescue over the last year. Best wishes to you, your family and your beloved pets for a wonderful, peaceful holiday season!

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,

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### Our Sponsors



## New Year's Resolutions: From Both Sides



By Kim Bourner

To My Pet:



- I will not wrap you in Christmas tree lights for a photo shoot ... again. And I will protect the cords from your teeth and you from electrocution.
- I will not make you wear booties, because I will only buy ice melt that is pet friendly (and in summer I will not put anything on the lawn that could hurt you). We will work together to remove all of the snow balls from your feet for more bonding time.
- I will not bring into the house plants that can hurt you, such as amaryllis, crocus, azalea, chrysanthemum, lilies, oleander, or tulips. It would be great if you would please consider tossing up any grass you eat outside and not inside on the rugs or in the laundry basket.
- I will provide you with heartworm and flea and tick prevention, according to the vet's schedule. Like it or not, this is good for you.
- When I sing in the shower, I promise to no longer hit those notes that hurt your ears and give you a headache. I continue to love you to the moon and back!

To My Person:



### Pets of the Month



Read [Grayson's](#) Story



Read [Lilly's](#) Story

### Upcoming Events

- December 23 ;  
PetSmart
- December 30 ;  
MV Pets on  
Westnedge

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

### KAR Links

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

- I will wait until 6:01 a.m. before licking the tip of your nose and stepping on your face as a reminder to prepare my gourmet breakfast ... now.
- I will attempt to wipe my feet on the doormat to clean them when they're muddy instead of running into the living room and wiping them on your Turkish rug, although it is so very soft on my tender paws.
- I will try, really hard, not to break any more lamps when a fly is flitting around the light and begging me to attack and eat it.
- I will work on not screeching like a howler monkey for the first 30 seconds of our separation when you close the bathroom door. All bets are off at 31 seconds.
- I will not hold grudges against you for more than a day at a time when you don't feed me things that might kill me, such as alcohol, avocados, chocolate, coffee, garlic, grapes, macadamia nuts, moldy foods, mushrooms, mustard, onions, raisins, rhubarb, salt, tea, walnuts, xylitol, and yeast dough. I know you love me, and I love you too!

### Additional Resources:

- [American Veterinary Medical Foundation](#)
- [HSUS poisonous foods](#)

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## Doggie Den

Dog Happy T ail ~ Frankie: One Lucky Guy!



By Karren Jensen

Have you ever thought about adopting a senior dog? Many people just love the excitement of a new puppy, watching the little babe grow and develop. For some adopters, however, an older pet is the



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- [Donate Today!](#)

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**perfect match for their home.** When adopter Linda went looking for a new canine friend to add to her family following the loss of her cherished George, Frankie tugged at her heart. He was much like George and yet had his own distinctive personality.

Frankie had come into KAR as a senior gentleman of nine years and was fostered by longtime volunteer and animal-lover Dusty. Frankie had settled right in at his foster home, charming his foster mom with his shy but sweet personality and perfect doggy manners. This loving little guy was crate-trained and housebroken, needing little more than affection and reassurance to keep him feeling happy. And when Linda came along, well, the rest is history!

Frankie's new mom reports that he he is doing fine and enjoys the companionship of his new sister Bailey, a four-year-old Chihuahua rescue pooch. The two fur babies both share a bed with mom and love to cuddle. Frankie is so looking forward to his first Christmas in his new home.

Because he is fortunate to find a loving home where he can bask in the attention and reassurance he needs, he has been renamed "Lucky." Frankie/Lucky takes his job as a companion very seriously and fulfills his duties of giving and receiving love to the best of his ability every day. In fact, Linda reports that he is so happy to see her whenever she returns home that little Lucky wags his tail hard enough to wag it right off! Lucky and Bailey want to show off their Christmas finery in this holiday photo. Merry Christmas, Lucky, and we wish you a Happy New Year in your new home with your little sister and loving family!

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## Cat's Corner

Cat Happy Tail ~ Tiana



By Pat Hollahan

Once there was a charming tabby kitten named Ginny

Weasley, whose captivating eyes caught the heart of Kaili B. Kaili was mourning the loss of her beloved companion Mariah and looking for a new best friend. Kaili spotted Ginny's picture on the KAR website and arranged to meet her at



an adoption event. It was love at first sight for both of them and Kaili took the kitten (now named Tiana, from the Disney movie about the princess and the frog) home the next day.



They've been through a lot together in Tiana's six years - their first apartment, the adoption of a puppy sister named Chloe for Tiana, and some very rough times. As Kaili says: "Tiana has been my shining light through everything. I don't know if I believe in soul mates in the traditional romantic sense,

but I do believe that Tiana is my soul mate. She is my companion, my sidekick, my baby girl. We have developed our own language; basically she knows how to tell me what she wants, and I know how to understand her. She sleeps in bed with me every night; she's always right by my side awake or asleep. I love her every bit as much today as I loved her as a kitten. I think despite our personal struggles, despite the fact that I couldn't always give her the very, very best as I had envisioned a fairy tale in my head for her, she really does have a happy tail. And I have a happy tail because I have her."

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## Year In Review



Kalamazoo  
Animal Rescue  
has placed 590  
cats and  
74 dogs in  
permanent  
homes in 2017.

These adoptions  
would not be  
possible without  
the generous  
financial support  
of our donors. Our special spring and fall newsletters  
brought in approximately \$14,000 and our Dinner  
Auction event held last month raised about  
\$15,000.



***These fundraising efforts supply food and medical care for over 600 cats and 100 dogs each year.*** To give you an idea of how important donations are to KAR, our veterinary bills have exceeded \$123,000 so far in 2017 and adoption fees have covered about \$66,000 of that amount. We do everything possible to stretch our financial resources and support our volunteers who work tirelessly to save the lives of homeless, stray, and abandoned cats and dogs.

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 happy ever after. If you would like to help, you may make an online donation [here](#) or you can mail a check to:

Kalamazoo Animal Rescue  
PO Box 3295  
Kalamazoo, MI 49003

You can also participate in other programs that earn money for KAR and our rescued pets at no cost to you. These programs include: BISSELL's Partners for Pets, Harding's Markets, ResQ Walk, AmazonSmile, GoodSearch, iGive, eBay GivingWorks, PayPal Giving Fund, and Advia

Credit Union. Check out the [Donations page on our website](#) for more details.

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## 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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