

Among Friends

Winter 2013/Spring 2014

Volume 9, Issue 2

News, views and updates on animal issues in Antrim County



**WITH
A LITTLE
HELP FROM
MY FRIENDS**

WITH a LITTLE HELP FROM MY FRIENDS, INC.

With a Little Help From My Friends is a public charity. Organization identification number 38-3605652 section 501C (3). As a nonprofit WaLHFMF works on donations without county, state or federal funding.

3820 Ritt Road · Bellaire, MI 49615
(231) 533-4070
walhfmf_4@hotmail.com
walhfmf.org

Mission Statement

Protecting and teaching compassion for the animals in Antrim County.

Center Hours

Open Tue-Friday 10-1
Saturday 10-Noon
Closed Monday and Sunday

Annual Events

9th Annual Holiday Pet Photos
Saturday, November 16, 2013

11th Annual Garage Sale
Saturday, May 24th, 2014

5th Annual 5k Pet Run/Walk
Saturday, August 16, 2014

**14th Annual Chili Cook Off
and Silent Auction**
Sunday, October 26th, 2014

Look for other WaLHFMF events throughout the year.

WaLHFMF loves to hear from adults and kids! Send us your stories, jokes, drawings, and pictures.

WaLHFMF reserves the right, without further consideration, to use all entries in any publication, media and related promotions.

Keep a copy for yourself, entries can not be returned.

Visit our GREAT adoptable
PETS at Petfinder.com
and WaLHFMF.org
You can also Donate Online!



This summer the Pet Crisis Center had two very unique residents.

Thinking there was nothing more they could do for him, Maverick's owners sadly turn him into animal control hoping the center might have room for him. When Maverick came in he was throwing up every time he ate or drank water. Those of us at the center were as baffled as his owners. He was not gaining weight and weighed only 34 pounds at 9 months.

After several tests at North Country Veterinary Services it was determined that Maverick has Megaesophagus, something he was born with, no other underlying issues. What this means

is Maverick's esophagus is much larger than a normal esophagus. When he ate or drank it would sit in his esophagus with little making it to his stomach. Upon doing research on the condition we found Maverick would need what is called a Bailey Chair. This chair keeps him sitting upright so gravity pulls the food down to his stomach.

Bill Minish volunteered his time and skills to build Maverick's chair and a shelf for drinking water. Rochelle at Wags to Wiskers Pet Supplies called Anthony from Best Breed Pet Foods to find the ideal diet for him. Maverick learned his new way of eating, finally getting food to his stomach. He was feeling much better and gained 15lbs allowing him to get neutered before leaving the center.

Maverick was reunited with his family two months later to everyone's delight! He loves his family, never forgot his little girl and was extremely happy to go home!



Had Sylvia's owners taken her to the vet or brought her inside after she was hit by a car, she would not have required severe flea treatment and amputation of her back leg.

Sylvia came to the center from animal control and after evaluation it was decided that

surgery would be performed to remove her left hind leg. Thanks to a generous sponsor the surgery was covered and we could focus on her recovery.

Three months later Sylvia is running around the building spayed, up to date on shots and ready for adoption. She has a winning personality and will continue to be a volunteer favorite until she finds a home.



ADOPT-A-PET!

Chloe went to live with an older man after living in a hectic house with a dog and young children. Unfortunately, after just a few years living happily in her new home, Chloe's owner died. She would love a quite home where she could show off her true personality. Chloe is 6 years old, spayed, up to date on shots, and tested negative for FIV and FEL. Indoor home only please.

President's Corner



I am writing to you about something that is concerning me. There is a law in Michigan that says animal control no longer has to

deal with cats that are stray or feral.

Owner relinquished—to my understanding—can still come in but only by appointment and only if there is room. I don't understand the thinking behind this law. Cats are pets just like dogs. We are the voice for animals. Now it appears we are only the voice for the dogs. What happens to the injured and abandoned cats? Antrim County Animal Control is now adhering to this law. I understand their reasoning in this, what I don't understand is the law. It is inhumane and a cruel way for a lot of cats to die. It also comes at a time when Antrim County's cat population is high so it is a hard thing to understand.

I can't believe that we as taxpayers want to pay for animal control to just handle dogs. Leaving the cats to be shot, starve to death, have no shelter or lie alongside the road injured alone to die in pain. I will write to everyone from the governor to the commissioners in order to change this law. I hope you will too.

Thanks for listening,
Heather Knust
President



— Wish List —

Below is our winter wish list for items the sanctuary will need to keep stocked. Any donation is appreciated and needed!

- Wags to Wiskers Pet Supplies Gaylord gift cards www.wagstowiskersgaylord.com or (989) 731-4200
- Cat beds
- Cat & Dog toys
- Cat & Dog treats (nutritional ones)
- Dishwasher
- Dishwasher tabs
- Extra large heavy trash bags
- Fleece blankets or material
- Money for pet supplies
- Postage stamps
- Recycled newspaper cat litter
- Thick paper towels
- 40" or larger flat screen for presentations
- Pre-pay at North Country Veterinary for medical expenses
- Motivated volunteers ☺

*I get by with
a little help from
my friends...*

~John Lennon

Caring for our geriatric pets

Our pets, inevitably, get older. They do so much faster than we would like them to. It's important to recognize that pets are aging, so we can provide the extra care they need to live a long, enjoyable life. As a general rule, when a pet is about 7 years old, we need to start considering some of the aging related needs of our pets

Here are a few things to keep in mind as our dogs and cats start to get a little gray.

We need to realize our pet's relative age. The old rule stating 1 human year is equivalent to 7 dog years isn't quite accurate. The age equivalencies vary by species, size and even breed. For instance a cat or 15 pound dog that is 10 years old is about 56 years old in dog years. A 50-pound dog would be closer to 65 in dog years; very large breeds may be almost 80.

Our pet's weight is important at any age, but becomes particularly important, as our pets get older. Dogs and cats, like people, have slower metabolisms as they age. This means they have to eat less and exercise more to maintain the same body condition. We all know how hard that can be without a bit of prompting. Being overweight places extra strain on joints, tendons, ligaments, and organs such as the heart. A controlled study comparing sets of littermates showed that an ideal weight dog should live an average of two years longer than an overweight dog under the same conditions. Most quality, age-specific pet foods will have less calories for older pets as well as other specific ingredients useful to an older pet's well being. Lowering the number of calories your older pet consumes as well as encouraging pain free exercise can help keep your pet at a healthy weight and feeling young as they age.

In order to make sure our pets can exercise, play, get up the stairs, get into the litter box, or up on their favorite furniture pain free, we need to recognize early signs of osteoarthritis. We have all known someone with arthritis. I'm sure we all realize that it is painful long before one visibly has

– Continued on page 3

ADOPT-A-PET!

Conrad is a 10 month old hound mix and one happy puppy. He is neutered and up to date on shots. Conrad is a true sweetheart who loves cats, kids and other dogs. He has lots of energy and wants an active home. A fenced in yard is required for adoption



– Continued from page 2

trouble getting up from sitting down or walking across the room. This is true for our pets as well; they just aren't able to tell us it hurts. Subtle signs may be dogs not wanting to play as long, becoming less willing to walk as far or taking longer to get comfortable. In cats this may be spending less time playing during the day and more time sleeping, or no longer frequenting higher perches they once enjoyed. There are a variety of treatment options that can help pets maintain their quality of life as they age including pain medications, joint /cartilage supplements, regenerative therapy and physical therapy plans. If you are unsure if your pet is suffering from osteoarthritis, ask your veterinarian to assess your pet. They can tell you how to keep your older furry friends playful and pain free.

Unfortunately with increased age comes an increased incidence of age related illness. Degenerative conditions, organ dysfunction, some metabolic diseases, and cancer are all more common in older pets. This is not the time in our pets' lives to be content to dismiss abnormalities as "just getting older," this is the time to be increasingly vigilant. Small, gradual changes may be hard to notice or easy to overlook, but they can be signs of a more serious illness brewing. Remember our pets can't tell us what's wrong, subtle changes in behavior are the only way they can communicate that something isn't right. Changes in weight, activity level, or temperament should not be taken lightly.

Regular 6 month visits to your veterinarian for check-ups (that's 2 to 4 years in dog years), as well as screening blood tests can help identify problems before they become too serious to manage.

These are a few things to keep in mind if you look over to find your puppy or kitten is long past being a youngster. Remember: age is not a disease, but it does require some special considerations. Proper preventive care and vigilance can help your pet live a long and happy life.

*Dr. Brandon Hajdo-Fernandez, DVM
North Country Veterinary Service
Ellsworth, Michigan
(231) 588-2190*



In Memory Of

Otis Richards 1994-2013

Kirby and Helen Richards

Amber "Angel" who went to doggie heaven Sept. 11th

Kathleen McKean and Al Marien

Ozzy

Maryanne and Duane Jorgensen

Koko Bartz

Russ and Vivian Cecil

Butch (aka Shadow) on of the 40 cats rescued

Fred Holies

Bill Smith our beloved owner

*Caramel and Logan, we are safe now
in a new loving home*

Those who have left paw prints on our hearts...

*Great Lakes Pet Memorial and
Crematory*

Muffy, my beloved Shih-tzu who I miss dearly

Rosemary Sloat

Arthur

Shirley Wolfe

In memory of Alan Childs

Richard Waffle

Butch Waffle

Central Lake Class of 58'

Tom and Connie Kiessel

Judi and Dan Giddings

Bob and Wendy Smith

John and Carol Stoutjesdyk

Bill and Mona Minish

Of our dear Golden Retriever,

Sammy

Arlene Westhoven

In Honor Of

Tom (Reye) Dolinka's 11th Birthday

Nancey Rye and Rob Dolinka

Anne Miller

Mollie Baker

Eric and Jodi Kucera

Shirley Altman

Marianne Reye

Elizabeth Locricchio

Happy 50th Birthday Bill and Cathy

The Minish Family

Brian and Lisa Rathke

Your Moka friends and family

Chris and Merrie Corbett

Anonymous

Molly

John and Judy Flisnik

My friend Betsy Davidson's wonderful critter Winnie.

Sherley Joerecki

Happy Birthday Dad

Gilbert Richards and Michell Candy

Leaving a Legacy to the Pet Crisis Center

What is it that you want to be remembered for? Is your love of animals one of them? A bequest is an easy way to do that. This can be made through your will or trust in any of these ways:

- Specific dollar amount
- Percentage of your estate
- Specific assets
- Residue of your estate

For more information contact
With a Little Help From My
Friends at 231-533-4070

**Send your donation and In Memory Of or In Honor Of to:
With a Little Help From My Friends
3820 Ritt Road · Bellaire, Michigan 49615**



Some of our Happy Endings and Good Deeds!



Tom Dolinka had his 11th birthday party at the Great Wolf Lodge on Sunday September 22, 2013 and invited his 5th grade class from Pathfinder School. He asked for donations in lieu of birthday gifts and received \$196.00 for the pet crisis center.



Kingston (aka Mike) (left) seen here cuddling with his brother Walker is enjoying his life with the Haggard Family



Tom and Sarah Juntune came to the center and fell in love with not one, not two, but three pets! Since they had an empty house, Roscoe was adopted along with two feline friends, Carmel and Logan. They now share the job of looking over their new family, two and four legged.



Emmy (aka Janice) and Oscar went to the live with the Hector Family and now enjoy playtime and lazy afternoons.



Andy was showcased in the last newsletter and has since found a great home with the Poniatoski family.



Emjay now enjoys lazy days at the Gorter's home when she is not camping or hiking through the woods.



Maggie was lucky enough to be adopted by the Gerner Family with big sister Sadie to help her grow into a great dog.

AmeriCorps NCC took time to visit the center this summer and help out in the gardens and with the animals!



Queen (below) shares her castle with very patient Robin Moyer.



Sawyer (bottom) was a welcomed addition to Tabby and Dan Stilson's beagle crew.



Gus supervises from his pillows as Sam Burns creates lesson plans and grades papers for her class. Gus gets an A+ in finding his perfect home.



Minnie (aka Lydia) is now a resident at the Brown house spending her days playing with her feline sister Pearl (pictured on the right) when she is not snuggling with her "parents".



Ricky is enjoying his new life watching over the Cullen house.



Bailey (aka Candy) found love with Doreen Lautner and her family. She now gets all the attention she so deserves.



Shannon has taken over not only Lori Kriebel and Dave Eichenberg's hearts but their couch as well.



Bryce loves his new home with the Stanichuk family which includes bedtime stories and a warm bed with his own little boy.

Sam and Jo Hoiles' house was not complete without a black cat. Mustang has done a great job filling that void.



Grand Traverse Industries of Mancelona weekly visits to the center are welcomed by the animals.



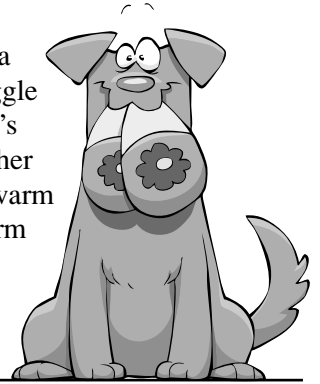
The cats love the play tower constructed by Central Lake High School Shop Class with funds donated by Sam and Jo Hoiles. The center cats send out a BIG thank you to all of them!!

From the Front Lines

by Jenna Minish, Center Coordinator

What a fantastic summer we had at the center! Not only was it filled with adoptions but the smiling faces of volunteers. I cannot begin to tell you how blessed we are by the wonderful volunteers that give their time to come clean and engage with the animals. As the colder weather approaches and the desire to hermit strengthens, the center turns to one quite place. Everyone needs some encouragement to go out into the cold but what better way to get you motivated then the thought of wagging tales and purring felines.

Break out this winter; come enjoy a winter wonderland, walk a dog, snuggle with the cats, or get your clean on. It's always easier to clean somewhere other than home! Not only do we have a warm building but tea and hot cocoa to warm you up. Bring your slippers, I won't judge as you might see me in mine!



Logan's Story

On the night of March 12, 2012 my 11 yr. old husky Logan was in his kennel where he liked to spend his nights. During that night an unknown person attacked him with is what to be believed battery acid, blinding him and severely burning his face. I found him the next morning about 9 a.m. and rushed him to the vet where he was treated.

Being unsure of the exact nature of the substance, it could not be neutralized right away and continued to burn for three more days. First it was a small area on his muzzle, but it spread until it had burned most of the right side of his face. Once we were able to get the burning under control, Logan began his slow recovery. He was treated with steroids, antibiotics & some strong pain meds. He was recovering very well, to the point of almost a full recovery. But sadly the medications that helped him recover so well, then had a adverse affect on his liver & kidneys, which started to fail. He lived very comfortably for the next several months but then the vet told us about his organs shutting down. As time passed, we knew that we would have to let him go. The night of July 9, 2012, Logan curled up at my feet as he always did while I worked on his page and went to sleep. When it was his supper time, my wife Nancy placed his food in front of him but got no reaction..... he had passed away very peacefully in his sleep with his head resting on my foot.

We buried him the next day under a spreading apple tree where we have buried all of our pets that came before him... Logan was the sweetest dog and one of the best sled dogs we ever had, and is missed dearly by all of us.

Although what happened to Logan was a terrible ordeal, we have a chance to turn it into something positive for other animals. There are now two Facebook pages: Logan Falks fan page and Logan's Law, followers are in the millions, from all around the world.

Matt & Nancy Falk



Logan's Law Update

Logan's Law will establish the first State Animal Abusers registries in the United States. It has been introduced in the Michigan House of Representatives.

Currently, only three counties in New York State have a mandatory database where persons convicted of the crime of animal abuse or neglect must register. Michigan would become the first state to enact such a law.

Logan's Law: The Proposed State Animal Abusers Registry

This is a bipartisan effort that we hope will gather broad grassroots support from animal lovers across the state of Michigan.

House Bill 4534 is sponsored by Representative Paul Muxlow, a Republican from the 83rd District. House Bill 4535 is sponsored by Representative Harvey Santana, a Democrat from the 9th District. Together, the bills would establish a statewide registry to protect animals from abuse and neglect. Any person convicted of a crime against an animal would have to register for a five-year period. All citizens would have access to the registry and could make sure that no pet they are selling or offering for adoption would go to a convicted animal abuser. Animal shelters would be mandated to use the registry before letting any of their animals be adopted. The registry would be paid for by the fees attached to the penalties for those convicted of animal abuse or neglect.

Reprint of Representative Harvey Santana's Brochure supporting Logan's Law. For more information, go to Logan's Law Facebook page.

On October 15, 2013 Logan's Law unanimously passed the Senate Judiciary Committee. Next stop the Senate floor for a vote.

Many Thanks to our Hardworking Volunteers for all the time, love, and tears they give for the cause.

And to the following businesses and individuals.

- **AmeriCorps NCCC** for helping out with the 5k, cleaning and working in the garden.
- **Antrim County Animal Shelter** for their continued support.
- **Antrim County Businesses** for their support of the Silent Auction and other events.
- **Antrim County Residents** for their outpour of support!
- All the **Antrim County Restaurants** that kindly donate chili for our cook-off every October.
- **Antrim County Review** for their help with PR.
- **Bellaire Chamber** for their continued support of all events.
- Jack Bodis of **Creative Characters** in Central Lake for his help in the formatting and printing of this newsletter.
- **Carrie Dewey** for all the photos she takes of our adoptables and dedication to the animals.
- **Central Lake High Schools Shop Class** for constructing the play tower for the cat room.
- **GT Industries-Mancelona** for their volunteer hours.
- Christian Randall DVM, Brandon Hajdo-Fernandez DVM and staff from **North Country Veterinary Services of Ellsworth** for all their dedicated work.
- **Tammy Stead** of Bellaire for grooming the center's pets.
- **Village Markets** for support and donations of community cash.
- **Wags to Wiskers Pet Supplies** in Gaylord for their donations and support!
- **Mark Winn** for updating WaLHFMMF website.
- **Laurel Burke and Sherry Thompson** for their commitment to the garden all summer.

ADOPT-A-PET!



George is one handsome guy! He loves to play with cat toys and other animals. George is almost 2 years old and has tested negative for FIV, FeLV and FHW. He is up to date on shots and neutered.

I'm Dixie and have been at the center three months! I wouldn't have to be an only dog as I like friends, even cats! My favorite things are walks and car rides. I am 5 years old, spayed and up to date on shots. A fenced in yard is required for my adoption.



Pooh rode through the 5k with style! Volunteer Andie Dewey pushed Pooh in this "hand-crafted kitty stroller" for the 4th Annual 5k Pet Walk/Run Saturday August 17th.

Marlee and Murphy are 5 months old and are very curios kittens as you can see. The girls have been tested for FIV and FEL, spayed and are up to date on shots.



Bentley and Harley are the cutest pair!! They are 8 months old and love to race around and play but have no problem snuggling up for affection. The brothers have tested negative for FIV and FEL are up to date on shots and neutered.



Summer 2013 Donors of Fifty dollars +

Sally Adamson
Marlene Attridge
Amy Beehler
Beat the Barry Golf Tournament
Central Lake Class of 1958
Sophie De Witt
Nancy DeWeese
Nancey Rye and Rob Dolinka

Carla and James Gerner
Judi and Dan Giddings
Gary and Vicki Gilbert
William and Virginia Good
Dave Harrison
Jo and Sam Hoiles
John and Judy Flisnik
Maryanne and Duane Jorgensen
Tom and Sarah Juntune
Kaufman Wood Flooring Inc
Tom and Connie Kiessel
Joseph and Patricia Marion
Bill and Mona Minish

Robin Moyer
North Country Veterinary Services
Vicki and Rick Olsafsky
Michael and Cheryl Paul
Harriet Pellow
Susan and Lerry Ponemon
Gilbert Richards
Gilbert Richards and Michell Candy
Kirby and Helen Richards
Ronald and Sandra Robinson
Eugene Selden
Violet Shannon

Elizabeth Stanichuk
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Stuff and Such, Pat Koch
Edith Sullivan
Denny and Sherry Thompson
Barbra and Michael Tracy
Butch Waffle
Richard Waffle
Arlene Westhoven
Shirley Wolfe
Stuff and Such
Maureen and Ronald Yahrmatter

Thank You For Your Continued Support! Please accept our sincere apology if your name was inadvertently omitted.

Remember when you have shopping to do –

igive.com

With a Little Help From My Friends receives a portion of the sales from this site. Please give it a try, it doesn't cost you and WaLHFmf gets a donation!

You'll also find a link to this site on
walhfmf.org

Also

For those in the Antrim County area...

If you save your receipts (including gas receipts) from the Elk Rapids, Rapid City and Central Lake Village Markets, mail them to With a Little Help From My Friends. A portion of their Community Cash program will be donated to WaLHFmf.

Did you know many credit card companies allow you to turn your reward points into gift cards?!

You can then donate these gift cards to your favorite charity!

*"I am in favor of animal rights as well as human rights.
That is the way of a whole human being"*

—Abraham Lincoln



Please recycle, pass this newsletter on! ☺



**IN MEMORY OF
MAX
1997 - 2009**

To contact us:

With a Little Help From My Friends
3820 Ritt Road
Bellaire, MI 49615
1-251-533-4070
walhfmf_4@hotmail.com
http://www.walhfmf.org

**In Memory / In Honor Of
BRICK PAVER FUNDRAISER**

☐ **\$50 ea** – 4 x 8 Brick (up to 3 lines of copy)

☐ **\$100 ea** – 8 x 8 Brick (up to 6 lines of copy)

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