

Among Friends

Winter 2012/Spring 2013

Volume 8, 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

Come visit us Monday-Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. to walk dogs, pet cats, adopt or just to check out the center.

Annual Events

8th Annual Holiday Pet Photos
Saturday, November 17th, 2012

10th Annual Garage Sale
Saturday, May 25th, 2013

4rd Annual 5K Pet Walk
Saturday, August 17th, 2013

**13th Annual Chili Cook Off
& Silent Auction**
Sunday, Oct. 27th, 2013

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!



With a Little Help From My Friends added an outside play area to the cat room this summer thanks to donated materials and volunteer hours. Needless to say the residents in the cat room are thrilled with the ability to get outside and enjoy the sights and smells of nature. While



inside they enjoy the boxes up on the walls that were built by Central Lake High School's shop class.

A beautiful gazebo crafted and shipped up from the Pennsylvania Amish was erected this summer in the Memorial Garden. Plants were donated from all over as the planting of the garden was started. The Memorial garden was Debbie Shannon's vision for a garden where visitors could sit and enjoy the surroundings and also a place to acknowledge memories of loved ones, animals and humans. Debbie died in 2003 unexpectedly from complications of cancer treatments and her family and friends donated the funds to make her vision a reality.



You can follow the progress of this wonderful facility on facebook or walhfmf.org Also feel free to call the Pet Crisis Center at 231-533-4070 or email us at walhfmf_4@hotmail.com.



ADOPT-A-PET!

Snuggles and Callie are sisters, 4 years old, spayed, front declawed and up to date on shots. They came into the center as their owner was passing away. These girls want to have the feeling of a loving home once again.

If that might be you or you're looking for a different friend, please contact WaLHFMF at 231-533-4070 or visit online at walhfmf.org.

President's Corner



The Pet Crisis Center took in two very darling little kittens, but then really what little kittens aren't darling. They are up for

adoption at the Center. Suzy and Albert need a forever home; hopefully we can find them that home.

Suzy came in because we had room for one more and Animal Control was overrun with kittens and had to euthanize that day. Some were not sick or mean but they were just unfortunately born in a county that doesn't do enough spay/neuter to stop this sad situation. If every man, woman and child in Antrim County took in five cats or kittens that would mean a family of three would have a household of fifteen cats. We still would not be ahead of the cat population in the county. I do not recommend taking five cats, that is not the solution. It is so sad that these little babies only get a short chance at life and their older counterpart have even a smaller chance of finding a home. The answer lies in us humans taking the responsibility that God gave us as caretakers of these animals. Get aggressive on spay neuter and we can tackle the problem before it's here. Just because the kittens you had all found homes doesn't mean we don't have a problem.

We are working with Cathy Peterson on a feral cat spay/neuter program and we have a spay/neuter program to help the public when funds are available. If you have a pet

that is not spayed or neutered call your local veterinarian and make that appointment today. Please



don't wait until there is just one more litter, one non-spayed or non-neutered cat literally means thousand, in two years. Please as a citizen in Antrim County do what you can to spread the importance of spay neuter for both cats and dogs. Donate to spay neuter clinics. Donate to WaLHFMMF's spay neuter program or the feral cat program. Go to

the animal shelter pick out an animal and offer to pay the spay neuter on that animal or help a neighbor get their pet spay/neuter. Talk to anyone who will listen. This is a horrible thing that we are letting go on in the community we live in, Antrim County is better than that. We are strong smart people that can put an end to this if we make it a priority. It is my priority! Is it yours? Let us hear from you. Let us know what you're doing. It's as simple spay/neuter. Do it today!

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
- Disposable gloves
- Extra large heavy trash bags
- Thick paper towels
- Laundry soap for front load washing machine
- Postage stamps
- 40" or larger flat screen for presentations
- Canister vacuum
- Artwork of pets
- Cat & Dog treats (nutritional ones)
- Recycled newspaper cat litter
- Money for pet supplies
- Motivated volunteers ☺

Bacteria, Antibiotics and the World at War

You are undoubtedly aware that the world is full of conflict. Violent conflict is occurring on nearly every continent of the planet. As an Army Officer, I am constantly reminded about the struggles and sacrifices made by our military service members and their families. There is another war raging that most people don't even think about and this one involves every animal and human on the planet; the fight against infectious disease. Our enemy is an army of bacteria, viruses, fungi. There are even Special Forces operatives called prions that we did not even know existed until recently.

The war is real and has been ongoing since the beginning of time. The struggle is epic! We are heavily outnumbered and the enemy will never give up. Every day these invaders constantly change and mutate in order to beat our defenses. To make matters worse, our weapons are few and our ammunition is running low. There is good news, however, the weapons we do have are very good. And despite some really ugly battles – the plague of the middle ages, polio and AIDS come to mind – we have been holding our own for centuries.

Our primary weapons in this war are modern antibiotics. Since the inception of these medications in the early 1900s, we have changed the face of this war. For the first time ever, we've been able to destroy our enemy. Smallpox is gone and polio is rarely even heard of anymore. Antibiotics have clearly changed the face of disease in human and veterinary medicine.

We have some problems with antibiotics, however. First, antibiotics are really only useful against bacteria and fungi. We have very few antivirals, and the ones we do have are not that useful. Further, we've not invented any new types of antibiotics in decades. Most importantly, many of the antibiotics are no longer useful against our enemy – antibiotic resistance is a growing problem that has every healthcare provider deeply concerned. Presently there is a bit of panic going around. Everyone is blaming everyone else. Some are considering extreme actions to slow the problem of antibiotic resistance. The FDA is considering banning whole families of antibiotics in livestock production in order to preserve their use for humans only. In some European countries, the restrictions

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on antibiotics are so strict that the government monitors and follows every infection that a veterinarian treats with antibiotics. Even though these measures are extreme, the truth is, we do need to change the way we use antibiotics and we need to be much more responsible when we do use them. The pharmaceutical companies and researchers are feverishly working to develop new drugs to add to our cache of weapons. Human health care providers and veterinarians are developing new protocols to make better use of antibiotics. There are things that everyone who uses antibiotics can do to help.

In order to win this war, we need to rethink about how and when we use antibiotics. Are we making the best use of our antibiotic reserves? First, is there an actual need for an antibiotic? Why is the animal sick? Is there actually an infection present? Are we using the drug as it is designed to use? Most antibiotics require multiple doses and may require many days of therapy to work. Are we giving the medication a chance to work? As a general rule, we don't expect much change in a sick animal for 48-72 hours after we start medicating. If the animal has been given several different antibiotics for the same problem, there is a good chance that antibiotics are not the answer.

The best advice I can give is to realize your role as the intelligence officer in the battle. As a veterinarian, I depend on your observations to help decide about properly prescribing an antibiotic. You are also my only source of information on how your pet is doing while being treated. You can also help by following these "antibiotic rules of engagement": consult with your veterinarian early in the course of any disease, follow medication label instructions exactly, give the full course of medication and keep us apprised on how your pet is responding. Using our weapons and ammunition carefully will make sure we can stay in this fight for a long time and maybe even win the war someday.

*Dr. Chris Randall DVM
North Country Veterinarian Services
(231) 588-2190*



Bring it on!



In Memory Of

Sophie

Denny and Sherry Thompson

Frances Mary Rowe Spedding

Betsy Davidson

Sassy

Tom & Connie Kiessel

Sassy

Bill & Sue Johnson

Debbie Shannon

Love, Mom

Simba our Golden Retriever

Jerry and Janice Drost's

Sally Cherwinski

Mona Minish

Sophie

All of us that loved you

Debbie Shannon

We did it Debbie :))

Love your Family & Friends

Dale LaVanway

Gary and Vicki Gilbert

Mr. Snuggles

Charlene Rogers

**Amigo, our wonderful
Lab/Grayhound Friend**

Peter and Marilyn Gtylls

Lucky

Charlie Lundstron

**Patti Joseph and Buddie Swartz's
beloved rescue dog Davey**

Heather Knust

**Zoey, Kramer, and Oliver
Three rescue dogs that gave us
many years of fun and love**

Heather and Jim Knust

Don Juan

Fred and Deborah Goldenburg

**Donald R. Minish
Happy 59th Birthday Donnie!
(November 1st)**

Love, Carol Smith

In Honor Of

Fancy

Tom & Connie Kiessel

Fancy

Bill & Sue Johnson

Carson

Dewey Family

Gracie

Karin & Dave Harrison

Sadie our puppy

Linda and Tim Fox

Winnie

Besty Davidson and Sheryl Carton

TRIBUTE TO A BEST FRIEND

*Sunlight streams through window
panes onto a spot on the floor...
then I remember, it's where you used
to lie, but now you are no more.*

*Our feet walk down a hall of carpet,
and muted echoes sound...
then I remember, it's where your paws
would joyously abound.*

*A voice is heard along the road, and
up beyond the hill, then I remember,
it can't be yours... your
golden voice is still.*

*But I'll take that vacant spot of floor
and empty muted hall,
and lay them with the absent voice
and unused dish along the wall.*

*I'll wrap these treasured memories in
a blanket of my love, and keep
them for my best friend until
we meet above.*

~ Author Unknown

**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**

A small sampling of our vo



Barbara Faas comes to the center on Fridays with Lynn to help clean and love on the residents.



Simba enjoys Lynn Beebe's attention during cleaning time.

Denny Thompson walked Ebby at the 3rd Annual 5k Pet Run/Walk during Rubbery Ducky Days in Bellaire. Ebby was a resident at the center during that time.



Laurel Burke and Sheri Thompson put in many hours creating, planting and taking care of the Memorial Garden.



Carrie Dewey along with Brett and Andie put in many hours at the center getting just the right shot that will showcase the residents there. Their dedication has brought many adoptions!



Maureen Frey is a summer resident who began volunteering at the center this summer. As you can tell the cats are happy she has!



Thank you to the Grand Traverse Industries volunteers. Andy (above), Rusty Pontz (center photo) helps keep the cat room clean and Todd (right).



Dottie Lualdi cleans at the center and one of the favorite things she does for the center is steam clean the floors.



Volunteers & happy endings!



Sam rules the house and his yard. Sam is loved and fills a big void in the Guthrie house.

"Ebby is doing great in her new home. She gets along wonderfully with her sister Taffy who is also a rescue dog from Antrim County Animal Shelter." Ebby and Taffy are loved by Bob and Jan Massey.



When Sophie (aka Maggie - on the right) is not playing with her new friend Bonnie she is snuggled up with her family. Sophie and Bonnie are loved by Patti Barraw and Steve Dawson.



"She definitely rules the roost! We love her very much. We are happy she is a part of our family!" Fancy is loved by Tom and Connie Kiessel.



"Carson (left) came home with us in June. Oscar has finally surrendered to persistent avoidance tactics, and now they chase each other through the house daily!" Carson and Oscar are loved by the Dewey family.



"Tomkin (aka Tommy) is settling in nicely, sleeps on the bed, meeting new people slowly, even sleeps with the two cats on the bed, we may need a bigger bed! We love him, he is always so happy to see us come home no matter how long or short we've been gone!" Tomkin is loved by Kathy Noeris and Charley Brace.

Sweetie loves her only cat home and being loved by Marilyn Murray.



From the Front Lines

by Jenna Minish, Center Coordinator

As I head towards my one year anniversary as center coordinator, I realize what an amazing community we live in. The support by volunteers is astonishing, and the animals have also noticed.

Snow, sleet or shine Denny Thompson is here to walk his four legged friends, and he is not the only one. The Dewey family bundles up to walk the dogs every Saturday before they spend quality time in the cat room. The dogs are beyond excited to see them each walk through the door, because they know what their smiling faces mean.

While summering here, Maureen Frey dedicated time to the cat room and brought in many more volunteers. There is something to be said for someone who loves to deep clean... Dottie Lualdi has taken the time to care for not only the animals, but the floors. All the muddy dogs love her clean floors.

Grand Traverse Industries has made the commitment along with Wendy Godbold and Rusty Pontz to be here twice a week to clean and socialize with the animals. These wonderful individuals treat their volunteer time as a job, and the animals just love them for it. Lynn Beebe and Barbra Faas spend their Friday mornings cleaning the cat room and giving all their furry friends some love and attention.

The inside of the building has been given lots of attention but the volunteers have not forgotten about the gardens. Laurel Burk has taken time to not only design the gazebo garden, but has spent many hours in the sun planting and tending to the garden. She was not alone, Sherri Thompson got her hands dirty planting the many donated flowers as well as moving around rocks and bark.

Many of the pictures and captions that have taken over our Facebook and Petfinder sites are thanks to the commitment of Carrie Dewey. She spends her time getting the perfect shot for each adoptable animal. Many of them can thank her for helping find their new home.

These wonderful people just scratch the surface of who have come out in the last year to show their support to the animals. The Center runs smoothly because of their support and dedication to the animals.

Debbie's Garden

Flashback, it is 1965. I am 16 years old and the world is full of promise for me. Who knew they would find me writing this tribute to my friend, Debbie Shannon 44 years later.



Debbie, we had such fun times cruising Woodward Avenue and hanging out in those early years. I went off to nursing school and you moved to California. We drifted apart but fate brought us back together to rekindle our friendship. Miles apart I believe we became closer friends. When we did get together the visits were cherished even more.

Your diagnosis and fight against breast cancer made me realize how lucky I have been in my life. I have kept in touch with your family and am so lucky to be included in your dream of a garden at the WaLHFMMF's Pet Crisis Center.

I know you are in heaven watching over me here on earth and tending to my past cats in heaven. You are one of my angels and know why I'm still here. I only hope you will inspire me to fulfill my obligations here on earth.

*Thank you my friend!
Love, Marlene*

"I shall pass through this world but once, if therefore there be any kindness I can show, or any good thing. I can do, let me do it now. Let me not defer it or neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again."

Stephen Grellet (1773-1855)

ADOPT-A-PET!



Mickey is 4 years old, neutered and up to date on his shots. He is a loveable, playful beagle. His companion is Barney, 5 months old and also available for adoption from the center.



Suzy is 4 months old and full of energy. She also likes to be held.

She is available for adoption from the center.

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.

- **Nick Abney** for building the quarantine room window and **Alan Childs** for donating supplies.
- **Alden State Bank** for their many years of support.
- **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.
- **Antrim County Veterinarians** and their caring staff for taking care of the animals.
- **Central Lake High School Shop Class** for constructing the wall boxes in the cat room.
- 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.
- **Grand Travers Industires-Mancelona** for their volunteer hours.
- **Helena Township Hall** for sponsoring the Annual Chili Cook-Offs.
- Christian Randall DVM and Brandon Hajdo-Fernandez DVM and staff from **North Country Veterinary Services of Ellsworth** for all their dedicated work.
- **Bill Minish, Jr.** for constructing the outside cat area.
- **Village Markets** for support and donations of community cash.
- **Tammy Stead** of Bellaire for grooming the Center's pets.
- **Wags to Wiskers Pet Supplies** in Gaylord for their donations and support!
- **Mark Winn** for updating WaLHFMMF website.

ADOPT-A-PET!



Simba is 4 years old, spayed, up to date on her shots and front declawed. She is a talker and a snuggler. Simba is up for adoption at the Pet Crisis Center.

Nemo is also available for adoption at the Pet Crisis Center. Simba and Nemo are sisters.



Smokey is 4 years old, neutered and up to date on his shots. He has a great personality and is a wonderful cat. Smokey is available for adoption at the Pet Crisis Center.

Summer 2012 Donors of Fifty dollars +

Sally Adamson
Alden State Bank
Charles Andrews
Chuck and Lilo Atkinson
Marlene Attridge
Patrick Barraw
Brandt Fisher Alward and Pezzetti P.C.
Frederick and Carol Chacon
Carpet Barn Inc
J. P. Moragn Chase Foundation

Allan Childs
Chris & Merrie Corbett
Nancy DeWeese
Daniel and Carrie Dewey
Sophie DeWitt
Fischer Insurance
Maureen Frey
David and Karin Harrison
Grace Herta
Gary & Vicki Gilbert
William and Virginia Good
Jean Griffin
Peter Grylis
Matt and Deborah Knudstrup
Tom & Connie Kiessel
Jim and Heather Knust

Lyle Loveless Golf Outing
Dave and Joyce Looman
Robert and Janice Massey
Bruce and Lillian McLachlan
Maxwell Medals and Awards
Bill and Mona Minish
Lisa Morris
Gary and Sue Mortenson
North Country Cars and Credit/Cherie Hogan
Josephine Paulshock
Helen Postma
Daniel and Janice Proudfoot
D. David and Caroline Rogers
William and Karen Scadin

Eugene Seldon
Violet Shannon
Kurt and Kelly Shoecraft
Marjorie Stavrianos
Joan and Larry Stine
Stuff and Such/Pat Koch
Denny and Sheri Thompson
Two Seven Oh Inc.
Village Markets
Pamela and Todd Vitaz M. D.
Shirley Wolfe

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

John Lennon

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.

"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! ☺



3820 Ritt Road
Bellaire, Mi 49615



To contact us:
With a Little Help From My Friends
3820 Ritt Road
Bellaire, MI 49615
1-231-533-4070
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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Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Please make checks payable to: **With a Little Help From My Friends**

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