

Among Friends

Summer 2016

Volume 12, Issue 1

News, views and updates from the Pet Crisis Center



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

Facebook.com/walhfmfpetcrisiscenter

Mission Statement

Protecting and teaching compassion for the animals in Antrim County.

Center Hours

Tuesday - Saturday 10-Noon

Afternoons by appointment

Closed Monday and Sunday

Annual Events

Cider Tasting and Auction

Thursday, September 8th, 2016

16th Annual Chili Cook Off and Silent Auction

Sunday, October 30th, 2016

14th Annual Garage Sale

Saturday, June 10, 2017

Look for other WaLHFMF events throughout the year.

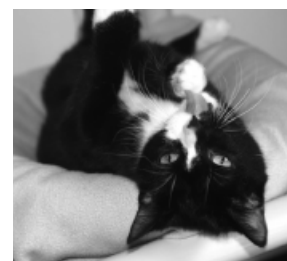
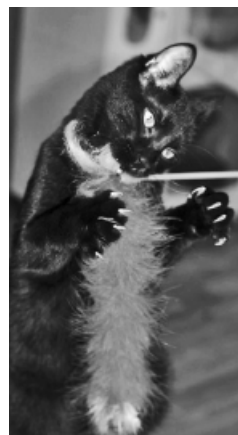
WaLHFMF loves to hear from adults and kids! Send us your stories, jokes, drawings, and pictures.

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!



ADOPT-A-PET!

Happy

Happy was born May 2nd and is now up for adoption. She spends her days playing with siblings and snuggling at nap time with Doc, Sleepy and Bashful all of whom are looking for homes as well. The kittens have all been tested for FeLV and FIV and started their kitten shots. Indoor home only please.

In The Night Nursery

written by Carol Chacon, Volunteer

There is a special magic in the small hours. Peter visits Wendy and takes the children to Neverland in the glow of the midnight sky. Max conquers the Wild Things in the shadow of the moon. Shakespeare knew that the tolling of the midnight bells called forth the ghosts of Elsinor and the Fairy Folk of the Athenian woodlands. All children have a deep sense of this magic and beg their nannies to allow them to stay up to see just what happens when the clock strikes twelve. Or so it was in the stories I loved as a child. As an adult, much of that magic has worn off—generally speaking, I am tucked in my bed long before midnight, even on New Year's Eve! Long ago there were night feedings for my own tiny babies—literally, now, in another century. However, in the past few years I have regained some of the magic of the night by fostering bottle-feeding kittens from our local shelters. I am certain that bottle feeding any orphaned creature, puppies, fawns, piglets, would make me feel as I do when I hold my newborn charges gently in my hand—I have not had the privilege of bottle feeding any newborn other than kittens—but it is an experience I highly recommend for anyone who would like to discover or reclaim the magic of new life in the early hours of the new day.

This year my first pair of bottle babies came to me from Antrim County Animal Control. The wonderful Ellen had been feeding both Rosie and Gertie (as they came to be known) along with an orphaned calf around the clock for nearly three weeks. She was, understandably, in need of some respite care herself. That is

when I stepped in and gleefully took charge of these two beautiful babies. Both girls, Rosie and Gertie came from separate litters. Rosie is a most unusual pale grey, long-haired kitten whose “roots” are dark grey, giving her a very fashionable ombre look. She was rescued at one day old from an aggressive feral mother. She was injured in a very sensitive spot and sported a broken or bent tail that makes her look a bit like a rather chubby bobcat or bunny. Ellen had taken such good care of this little flower that she came to me quite on the mend and ready to grow! Her companion, Gertie, is a beautiful soft greyish black little lady, with enormous eyes and an enormous purr to match. At age three weeks, Gertie's personality was already beginning to be evident. So tiny that she could hardly crawl over the rolled up towel that formed a bed in the kitty playpen, she would alternately nurse on her bottle and give me head butts and nose rubs. She was, at that age, a squeaker. While her step-sibling, Rosie, meowed quite loudly for attention, Gertie simply uttered a croaky squeak! For nine days and nights these two ladies occupied my “nursery”—a largish laundry room which is warm, dark and quiet. Capable of being closed off from the rest of the house, the room is a perfect place to nurture young kittens who have not yet begun to explore the environment outside of the play pen. It also keeps Rocky, my 14-year-old Maine Coon, only semi-aware of their presence. A plus for all of us! Kitten feeding during daylight hours is often accompanied by the whirr and swish of laundry. Rather than disturbing the room's tenants, the repetitive noises and accompanying warmth seem to contribute to deep sleep.

— Continued on page 6



— Wish List —

Below is our summer 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 (989) 731-4200
- Heavy Duty Dog Chews
- Cat & Dog toys
- Cat & Dog treats (nutritional ones)
- Disposable Gloves—Large
- Extra large heavy trash bags
- Postage stamps
- Recycled newspaper cat litter
- Thick paper towels
- Medical services pre-paid at Antrim County Veterinary Services
- Money for pet supplies
- Motivated volunteers ☺

Check out our wish list on smile.amazon.com

(Look for this box on our website)

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

To cut costs and save funds for care of the animals at the Pet Crisis Center, we have discontinued inclusion of a donation envelope in the newsletter.

This DOES NOT mean we no longer need your financial support. Please, if you can donate, clip this form or send a note with your donation and include your information so we can send you a receipt. Thank you!

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____

Please mail your donation to:
WaLHFMF • 3820 Ritt Road • Bellaire, MI 49615





In Memory Of

Sparkey

Shirley Williams

Robert "Robbie" Reck

Steve and Lena Sliver

Gregory and Elisa Fleet

Tom and Marie Kamppinen

Fred and Christine Motz

Jill and Dan Weeks

Dine Reck

Lisa Davis

Steve and Lena Sliver

David Fischer and Deborah Kendregan

Joseph and Janine Cavanaugh

Mary and Robert Reck

Nancy Habdas

David Fischer

Jimmie and Susan Davis

James Reck

Arya and Mary Khoshnegah

Rick and Rebecca Whitherse

Margaret Jean Visley Jarecki

Betsy and Davidson and Sheryl Coston

Loving memory of Patrick Corbett

Davis and Davis Inc

Shay Memorial Foundation

Gary and Jan Johnson

Torch, Killians and Barley

Rick and Becky Whitherse

The dear little ones we have lost

Tom and Carol Artusi

Patches and Good Roo

Michael and Sandra Lininger

Kippy, Murphy, Oreo, Abbie, Jack and Stumper

Torch Lake Tree Pro – Michael and Lori Brandt

Josie and Joe Paulshock

Trudy Brown

Todd, Pete and Destiny

Sally Adamson

Corry

Vicki and Richard Olsafsky

Allen Clay

Shirley Jarecky

Caliph, TC and Flynn

Diane Stevens

Fletcher

Carl and Jim Hesser

Patches, A Rescue and Therapy Dog

Arlene Westhoven

Winnie – Creative Characters' Shop Girl

Jack Bodis

In Honor Of

Gilbert Richards Birthday

Michele Candy, Gil Richards III and Gilbert Richards IV

Merry Christmas Dad

Love Michele, Gil III and Gilbert IV

Merry Christmas Mom!

Jerry and Marcia

Merry Christmas to Betty and Joe Renner

Michele Renner

Merry Christmas Andie and Bret Dewey

Christine Dewey

Merry Christmas Carrie, Bret and Andie

David and Marianne Seidl

For all of you who do so much for the animals

Butch and Elizabeth Bartz

Sally Adamson

Lillian McLachlan

Connie Bigham

Ann and Max Schwandt

**Mona, Jenna, volunteers and Animal Control –
For having such kind hearts and for taking care of me
– Jasmine (Asia) until I found my forever home.**

John, Carol, Jasmine and Abby Taylor

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



Happy Endings & Happy Times Here at the Center!



Emma snagged herself a home after just a week at the center. The Drys family was happy to welcome her home.

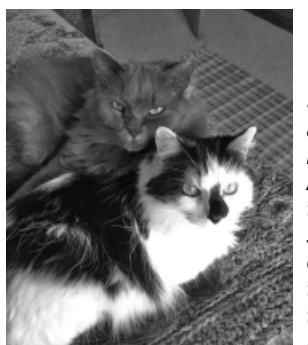


Brody (now Morrison) is living the lavish life with his Rabbit sister Peanut.

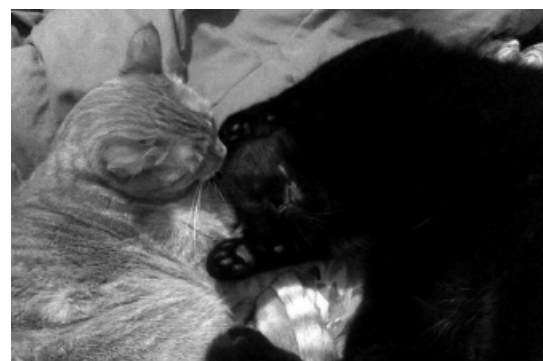
Fernando left the center as just a wee puppy and look at him now. He has filled out into such a big boy, nice job Micheals' family.



Mink is a spoiled kitty in the Halsler home.



Smokey and Stella both Alumni of the center spend their days together at the Caspo household.



After a year at the center Jake found his way to the Moreys and to a new friend. Weeks later Jake's brother Jack joined his new family.



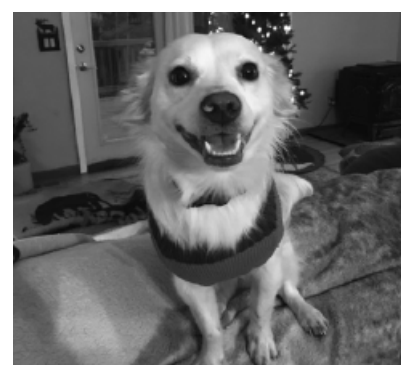
Abby welcome sister Asia (now Jasmine) into the Taylor home and they have been best friends ever since.



Keeka (now Samantha) found her match at the Steadman home and when she is not playing in the yard she is taking long naps on the couch.



Katie and Tink made quick friends and were adopted together to the Campbell family.



Ronny is one happy dog as part of the Muneio family.



A big thank you to Tommy Stremlow who asked for supplies for the center for his 5th birthday. Tommy and his Mom Jackie adopted Russel from the center, summer 2014, they all stopped by to help donate the presents! Thanks Tommy.



May won over the Buriend family and their Corgi, talk about happy ever after!



Last fall, four darling tiger striped kittens came to the Center. Known as the "nut litter" because of their names, they left two by two. First, Victoria Farnco and Chuck Hall brought their brindle bulldog, Bosco, in to find him some kitten siblings. Happily, they left with a boy and girl, Pecan and Cashew. Now renamed Lucy and Lennon, they have formed a bond with their canine brother and are living happily ever after.

Not a week later, the Caughell family brought their brindle bulldog, Winston, to the Center to find him some kitties to love. Peanut and Pistachio, now called Ella and Levi, have a new best friend in Winston. Winston reports that he really loves his little siblings!

Such happy endings for both families! The bulldogs have kitties to love, and the "nuts" have snuggly bulldog brothers. We have a story of matching homes—such unusual coincidences really make everyone at the Center smile!



Buddy the beagle won over everyone at the center so it was no surprise that William and Priscilla Wagner fell in love with him!



Luke will never be forgotten! Now this goofball is a proud member of the Dexter family.



Caesar has been welcomed into the Golden family pride and is quickly learning the ropes from his brother and sister.





Blair is 1 year old and looking to be an only pet. She wants to be the center of attention and snuggle with her humans. Blair is up to date on shots, tested negative for FeLV and FIV and spayed. Indoor home only please.



Vinny is the sweetest boy you will meet! He is looking for a home that will take him on adventures and then snuggle with him on the couch. Vinny is good with dogs, cats and kids. He is 2 years old, neutered, heartworm tested and up to date on shots. A fenced in yard is required for adoption.



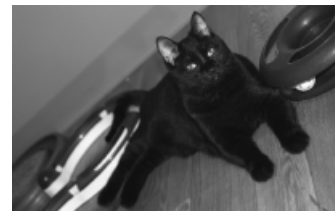
Kitten season is in full swing. These little ones are the second litter at the center this year. Doc, Bashful, Sleepy and Happy were born May 4th They have been tested for FeLV and FIV, have their first kitten shot and are ready for homes! These are not the only kittens at the center, stop by and make a new friend!



Frenchie is representing her sisters, one of three matching black girls all looking for homes. She loves to nap on your lap and race around after toys. Frenchie was born the end of March, has started kitten shots, and tested negative for FeLV and FIV. Indoor home only please.



Trina is a lovely 2 year old affectionate cat who loves to talk to the volunteers. Trina is spayed, up to date on shots and tested negative for FeLV and FIV. As always indoor home only please!



Wink is a playful 1 year old neutered male. He has a great time watching the volunteers and playing in the ball pit with his feline friends. Wink is up to date on shots and tested negative for FeLV and FIV. Indoor home only please.

ADOPT-A-PET!

In The Night Nursery

– Continued from page 2

I find myself drifting off as I hold furry bundles close to me as we consume bottle after bottle of kitten replacement milk. I make myself a comfy nest of pillows and blankets on the floor next to the playpen so it is hard to resist the urge to follow suit when tiny eyes begin to close and little bodies relax into sleep.

But it is in the small hours of the morning when the true magic occurs. I set my phone alarm and tuck it under my pillow so as to not wake the sleeping husband and cat. Just as when my own children were babies, I am often awake before the alarm buzzes. Sleepily I fix the formula—making sure it is just a bit warmer than body temperature. Not sure of the exact temperature of a momma cats belly, I go for warmer than my wrist. Usually when I open the nursery door, the babies are awake but quiet. Turning on a small lamp changes all of that in a hurry! Mewling voices beg for food...now, now, now, MEOW! I alternate first feeders so that no one's whiskers are out of joint and revel in the almost frantic suckling that ensues. Perhaps the most enchanting part of watching kittens nurse is how their tiny ears, not yet completely unfolded, and spider web thin whiskers twitch in time

to the sucks. Sleep vanishes, at least for a while, as both babies nurse and then wrestle on my lap. It doesn't take long before yawning starts. We all begin to fade and, almost reluctantly, I tuck my little charges into their warm clean bed, turn off the nightlight and head back to my own bed, only to find that Rocky is firmly planted on my pillow.

Fast forward six hours and I am typing this column in between feeding my newest foster kitties, Maisie and Polly. Rescued at just one day old, they have been in the gentle care of a wonderful volunteer whose experiences with cows and horses has been modified to very good use nurturing these two tiny lives. These two little girls are just three weeks old, with the semi-folded ears and hazy blue eyes of the very young. They will stay in my care for at least two weeks until they are able to consume a mixture of kitten milk and canned kitten food and, sometimes reluctantly, give up the bottle. For now, I am delighted to have the opportunity to know two more baby cats, as my son used to call them. We will spend precious hours getting to know each other's quirks. Already I see that Polly, a beautiful black medium haired lady, enjoys belly rubs. Today at our first feeding she had just finished her bottle, burped (yes, just like a human baby) and rolled over on my lap with all

four feet in the air. I gave a gentle rub to her belly fur and immediately she relaxed and looked at me with complete pleasure in her eyes. After a few minutes of rubbing she folded herself into an origami version of cat and went to sleep. Maisie, an unusually marked tortoiseshell kitty with one almost completely white foot, seems to prefer climbing under my arm and then immediately falling asleep. It is, however, too early to tell where the next two weeks will take us. Only two feedings behind us, we are off to a great start. The next feeding is scheduled for 11 P.M. and I am already looking forward to some kitten magic in the dimly lit laundry room.

For anyone who might be interested, most organizations are in great need of foster parents for the very young of several species. I can say from experience that the rewards are greater than the minor fatigue that sets in when a feeding occurs at 4 A.M. As a foster, you not only provide sustenance for a helpless baby whose very life depends upon the kindnesses of strangers, you give yourself the gift of slowing down and observing how strong is the will to survive. Rosie and Gertie joined the residents at the Pet Crisis Center Center where you can visit them, along with their step-sisters and brothers.

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.

- **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 outpouring of support!
- All the **Antrim County Restaurants** that kindly donate chili for our cook-off every October.
- **Antrim County Review** for their help with advertising.
- **Antrim County Veterinarians** for their dedication to the cause.
- **ASI Community Center** for being this year's garage sale location.
- **Bellaire Chamber** for continued support of all events.
- Jack Bodis of **Creative Characters** in Central Lake for his help in the formatting and printing of this newsletter.
- **Chris and Merrie Corbett** for their continued support.
- **Elk Rapids News** for their help with advertising.
- **GT Industries-Mancelona** for their volunteer hours.
- **Joel Morrison** who earned his Boy Scout Eagle Award renovating the trail here at the center.
- **Bridget Potter** requested donations to the center in lieu of birthday presents.
- **Specialty Silicone Fabricators** for collecting the most Village Markets Community Cash slips.
- **Tammy Stead** of Bellaire for grooming the center's pets.
- A big thank you to **Tommy Stremlow** who asked for supplies for the center for his 5th birthday.
- **Village Markets** for support and donations of community cash.
- **Wags to Wiskers Pet Supplies** in Gaylord for their donations and support!
- **The Dedicated Volunteers** who come out every week to clean.

Summer 2015 Donors of Fifty dollars +

Sally Adamson
Marlene Attridge
Butch and Cindy Bartz
Butch and Elizabeth Bartz
Gerald Levesque and Marica Bingham
Leslie and Kevin Blissett
Torch Lake Tree Pro – Michael and Lori Brandt
Trudy Brown
Amy and Andy Brown
Chris and Diane Brown
Marilyn Burfiend
William and Eileen Burges
Jim and Nancy Camilleri
Michele Candy
James and Jane Cerano
Carol and Frederick Chacon
Chris and Merrie Corbett
Betsy and Davidson and Sheryl Coston
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Arlene Westhoven
Rick and Becky Whiteherse
Bruce Wierman
James and Marilyn Wilson
Gary and Dorothy Wolf
Lynda Wolf

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



3820 Ritt Road
Bellaire, Mi 49615

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ORGANIZATION
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Central Lake, MI
PERMIT 22

Remember when you have
shopping to do –



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

For those in the Antrim County area...

If you save your receipts (including gas receipts)
from the Central Lake, Eastport, Elk Rapids and
Rapid City Village Markets, please mail them to:

WaLHFMF' Pet Crisis Center

3820 Ritt Road / Bellaire, MI 49615

*A portion of their Community Cash program
will be donated to the center.*

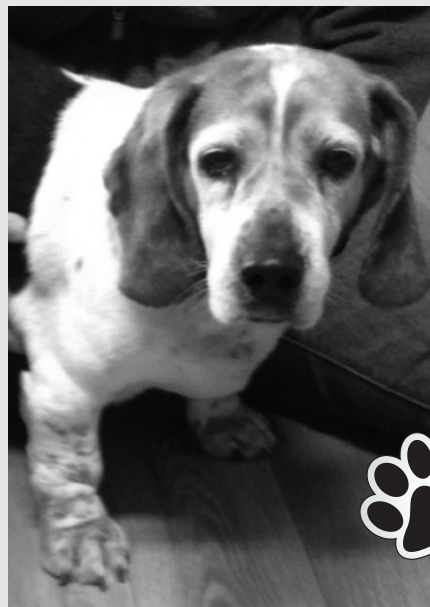
*"I am in favor of animal rights as well as human rights.
That is the way of a whole human being"*

—Abraham Lincoln



Please recycle, pass this newsletter on! ☺

ADOPT-A-PET!



*Katie is a 9 year old Beagle/Basset Hound. She loves to play
with Vinny and go on walks with the volunteers. Katie has
been heartworm tested, is spayed and up to date on shots.*

A fenced in yard is required for adoption.