Reciprocal rescue

The Friends For the Dearborn Animal Shelter’s 11th annual Mutt Strut & Pet Expo (see details at left and on page 5) benefits rescued animals like our spokes-dog, Finley. During his stay at the shelter, Finley caught the eye of a college student, Colleen, who was looking for a service dog. Colleen lives with a psychiatric disability (general anxiety disorder) that causes severe, unpredictable panic attacks — and Finley has made all the difference. As she tells it, “Before Finley, I had to leave class when I had panic attacks and was not able to calm down for anywhere from an hour to an entire afternoon. With Finley’s help, I’ve been able to juggle a full credit load, my social life, an internship, a small business, and a research position. For me, that’s life-changing. Finley is part of me, and I never knew I could love anything as much as I love him.”

Join us for Mutt Strut on May 14 and help us change the lives not only of the animals we rescue but also of the people who adopt them! Pledge a Strutter or start your own online pledge-raising page at DearbornMuttStrut.com.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR
We appreciate your support of Friends events! View our complete calendar at DearbornAnimals.org.

SAT MAY 14 11th annual Mutt Strut & Pet Expo  Ford Field Park, Dearborn. 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Get details at DearbornMuttStrut.com.


SAT JUL 30 6th annual Abrahams’ Open House for Hope’s Heroes  510 Crescent Dr., Dearborn. 5–9 p.m. Community BBQ to benefit shelter animals with extraordinary medical needs.

SAT AUG 13 11th annual Bowl-4-Animal Rescue  Sponsored by Aleta Sill’s Bowling World and professional bowlers Aleta Sill and Michelle Mullen. Country Lanes, 30250 W. 9 Mile Rd., Farmington Hills. 7 p.m.

FRI OCT 28 16th annual Black Tie & Tails  Gala benefit: dinner, auctions, adoptable animals, and more! The Dearborn Inn, 20301 Oakwood Blvd. 7 p.m. – midnight.
COME SEE US!

Dearborn Animal Shelter
2661 Greenfield Road
Dearborn, Michigan 48120
313.943.2697 • fax 313.943.2262
friends@DearbornAnimals.org
DearbornAnimals.org

Adoption hours
Monday, Wednesday, Friday
10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Tuesday, Thursday
11 a.m. – 7 p.m.
Saturday
10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Closed Sundays

The Dearborn Animal Shelter is located about one mile south of Michigan Avenue (one-half mile south of Rotunda) on the west side of Greenfield.

Board of directors
Board Chair MaryAnn Wright
President Laurie Buhr
Treasurer & Financial Director Sophie Bozek
Medical Director Cheryl Good, DVM
Secretary Sue Ringey
Directors Lisa Bahash, Tom Clark, Fred B. Johns, David Kocab, Jackie Lovejoy, Peter Oleksiak, Richard Truett
City Liaison Cpl. Michael Nelson, Dearborn Police Department

Paw Prints is published by the Friends for the Dearborn Animal Shelter.
Editors Sue Cavallo, Kelle Sisung
Thanks To Pat Ludwig, Phyllis Moore, Kay Neff, Amy Spencer
Printed on recycled paper.

The Friends For the Dearborn Animal Shelter is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt, nonprofit organization (tax ID #38-3171570).

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Carhartt works hard for animals

Carhartt is known for rugged workwear that can stand up to even the toughest jobs, and its clothes — and employees — are living up to that standard!

Carhartt is the official outfitter of our Pit Crew, volunteers specially trained to enrich the lives of our shelter dogs. The company donated jeans, hoodies, T-shirts, and sweatshirts to keep our 12 core Pit Crew folks protected in all weather.

Last June, 15 Carhartt employees volunteered at the shelter for the company’s first-ever Day of Giving. We were in the midst of a major administrative move, which required hoisting office equipment, organizing supplies, and deep cleaning surfaces. Our Carhartt friends rolled up their sleeves and got to work, and later spent some quality time with our pups. Many thanks to everyone at this Dearborn-based company for their continued support!

Working Cat program pays off

Healthy cats that aren’t social enough to be house pets are getting a new lease on life through our free Working Cat program. Vetted and spayed/neutered, these felines are ideal for keeping barns and workplaces free of pests.

Since 2013, Sheila and Mark Shechter have hired eight of our kitties — Iggy (pictured), Tulip, Jazzy-Mae, Luna, Boo, Ivy, Milo, and Prada — for their 14-acre farm near Howell. Says Sheila: “The cats keep the barn rid of wildlife that may come in to live in the hay and get into the horse feed. The cats have plenty to do and never wander far. At dusk we ring a goat bell, and they all come running to eat a wet meal we prepare for them. The cats, horses, and dogs all get along. We have a perfect colony, and we are thrilled with each of them.”

Looking to hire a working cat or two? Call Heather Mehi at 313.943.2697, Ext. 3550.

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Vet clinics rise to the Challenge, raise $38K for our new building

Congratulations to Dearborn Family Pet Care for raising the most funds ($8,335) in last fall’s Veterinary Challenge! Seventeen clinics took part in this friendly competition to support our “Building a Home with Heart” capital campaign, collecting more than $38,400 for our new Animal Adoption & Education Center! Many thanks to each clinic and to our Veterinary Challenge sponsor — Royal Canin USA — who contributed $2,500 to the fundraiser.

Animal Friends Veterinary Hospital, Canton
Arbor Pointe Veterinary Hospital and Animal Pain Center, Canton
Caputo Animal Hospital, Dearborn Heights
Dearborn Family Pet Care
Dearborn Veterinary Hospital
Healing Care Animal Hospital, Allen Park
Lincoln Park Veterinary Hospital and Affiliated Veterinary Emergency Service, Allen Park
Midtown Animal Hospital, Trenton
Morrison Animal Hospital, Garden City
Riverview Animal Hospital
Southpointe Veterinary Hospital, Allen Park
St. Julian’s Cat Care, Dearborn
Unleashed Pet Care, Westland
VetSelect Animal Hospital of Commerce Township
VetSelect Animal Hospital of Dearborn
VetSelect Animal Hospital of Dearborn Heights
VetSelect Animal Hospital of Novi

Have an idea for your own fundraising challenge to support our new Home with Heart? Contact Development Director Kelle Sisung at 313.303.1770 or ksisung@DearbornAnimals.org.

Mamma mia! Big Heart goes to Pasta Pat

Pat D’Ambrosio, founder of Pat’s Paws-itively Pasta fundraising dinner, has earned the 2016 Big Heart Award, our top supporter honor. For the past two years, Pat has organized the Columbus Day dinner, donating all the food and cooking everything using his family’s secret recipe for sauce and meatballs! The benefit drew 250 people in 2015 and has raised more than $14,000 to date.

A member and past president of the Exchange Club of Dearborn, Pat initiated a street-collection drive in 2012 in which Exchange Club volunteers station themselves at key Dearborn intersections. Funds support our Mutt Strut & Pet Expo. Each year the total continues to grow, with more than $10,500 collected to date.

Honoring him with our top supporter award is our humble way of saying grazie mille (many thanks), Pat!
Protection for the future

Charitable gift and estate planning affords you peace of mind and security as you provide for yourself, your loved ones, and your charitable interests. The Friends are grateful to have an amazing Circle of Friends — donors who have formally notified us that they have included us in their will or have established a planned gift through a charitable annuity, life insurance, or retirement plan.

Circle of Friends members Gavin and Kathleen Haag (below, with their beloved Maggie) share why they’ve included the Friends in their estate planning: “Every day, the staff and volunteers tirelessly give their time, energy, unending love, and compassion to care for all of the animals. We strongly believe in and support [their] extraordinary efforts.”

To discuss planned giving opportunities with the Friends, contact Development Director Kelle Sisung at 313.303.1770 or ksisung@DearbornAnimals.org.

You brightened lives in 2015!

The Friends marked a successful 2015 thanks to you, our loyal and generous supporters. Without you, we could not do the important work of rescuing animals in need — animals like Shirley (above), the sweet, smart, deaf pup featured in our year-end holiday appeal. Shirley has since found a loving home, and we surpassed our holiday fundraising goal! Here are some of the other successes we achieved last year thanks to you:

- 2,469 animals were cared for at the Dearborn Animal Shelter — 1,420 cats + 921 dogs + 128 other species.
- 100% of all adoptable animals were saved, for the 15th straight year.
- 100% of animals adopted from our shelter were fully vaccinated, spayed or neutered, and microchipped for identification.
- 83% of our animals were placed — that is, adopted, transferred to another rescue group, or returned to their owners. (The national average is 64%, according to the ASPCA.)
- 569 of our animals received the extra care and love they needed thanks to 75 foster homes.
- 582 pets were spayed/neutered and 198 were microchipped through our low-cost community outreach programs.

Our 2015 annual report will be posted to DearbornAnimals.org later this year. Thank you for your continued support!
Pet Behavior Helpline now open

Are you having difficulty potty-training your pup? Is your cat suddenly refusing to use the litter box? The Friends’ free Pet Behavior Helpline may be able to assist! Call 313.355.7553 or email HelpMyDog@DearbornAnimals.org or HelpMyCat@DearbornAnimals.org; we will respond within 48 business hours.

“Behavioral issues” is one of the leading reasons why owners surrender their pets. Our Pet Behavior Helpline is designed to help keep pets “homed” and thus prevent additional unwanted animals in our community. The program is supervised by our certified professional dog trainer, Linda Thomas, LVT, CPDT-KA.

HAPPY TAILS: RHAPSODY

“I truly did ‘Meet [My] Best Friend at the Zoo.’ When Rhapy curled up in my arms, and rested her head on my hand, I was smitten. She has brought a new energy into my life and home. I really feel like she has rescued me too.” —Corinne G.

Vital, valuable volunteers

We love our amazing volunteers, and — we’re proud to say — the feeling is mutual! According to a recent Friends volunteer survey:

- 90% of our volunteers feel they are making a difference in the lives of shelter animals.
- 90% say they are proud to volunteer here.

Even more impressive, last year 78 active volunteers donated 17,314 hours — the equivalent value of $399,433 or 2,164 staff days!

We recognize these hardworking Friends at an annual volunteer party, replete with food, fun, and awards. Kudos to Gavin and Kathleen Haag, recipients of the 2015 Heart & Soul Award, our top volunteer honor! Visit our website to see all the winners.

If you’re looking for a rewarding volunteer opportunity, join our team! Learn more at DearbornAnimals.org, or contact Katie Johnson, director of volunteers: 313.943.2697, Ext. 3555, or volunteers@DearbornAnimals.org.

Join us for our 11th annual Dog Walk and Community-wide Celebration!

Saturday, May 14 • Ford Field Park, Dearborn

Go to DearbornMuttStrut.com for all the details!

Presenting Sponsor: Best in Show Dearborn Family Pet Care

Presenting Sponsor: Best in Show Dearborn Family Pet Care
The following list reflects in-kind and monetary gifts made between July 1 and December 31, 2015. Gifts received after December 31 will be acknowledged in the next issue of Paw Prints. Due to space limitations, we are only able to publish gifts of $500 or more. All gifts are listed at DearbornAnimals.org. Please notify us of any corrections to this list by emailing Friends@DearbornAnimals.org or calling Kelle Sisung at 313.303.1770.

**Benefactor ($10,000 & up)**
Affiliated Veterinary Emergency Service & Downriver Veterinary Associates P.C., Dr. Jeffrey & Lisa Dzik
Aleta Sil's Bowling World Inc., Aleta Sil & Michelle Mullin
AVL Michigan Holding Corp.
Lisa Bahash & Michelle Moore
Laurie Buhr
Kathie Cude & Robert Putnam
Dearborn Family Pet Care, Dr. Cheryl Good & Mark Good
Michael Emerson
Fairlane Ford, Julie Walker
J. Ferrantino Charitable Foundation, Janette Ferrantino
Joy Geng & Mary Winiarski
Gavin & Kathleen Haag
Suzanne Johnson
Jay Korinek
Allan Leonard
Megan's Dreams Golf Outing
Morrison Animal Hospital, Dr. Michelle Arks & Dr. Kevin Smyth
Doug & Kay Neff
The Paws Clinic
Margaret Rappaport
Southpoinite Veterinary Hospital, Dr. Kimberly Cox
Audrey Stevenson
VetSelect Animal Hospital, Dr. Claude Curry
MaryAnn Wright & Bob Sayles
Yelp, Annette Janik

**Patron ($5,000 to $9,999)**
Anonymous Friend
Anonymous Friend 2
David & Cherie Bazzy
Bernice Barbour Foundation
Gail Brittan
Cheryl Brozovic & Richard Gillespie
Harry & Kathryn Burrell
Alexandra Cattelan & Ramelle Gilliland
Dearborn Veterinary Hospital, Dr. David Heinhold

**Provider ($500 to $999)**
Don & Anne Adair
James Allan
Armando Alviani
Amici Pet Services, Fred Darin

**Advocate ($2,500 to $4,999)**
Robert & Mary Ann Abraham
AK Steel Corporation
Anonymous Friend
Elizabeth Ardisana
Ziad & Michelle Berri, American Values Foundation
Bissell Pet Foundation
Caputo Animal Hospital, Dr. Richard & Sue Caputo
Michael & Kelly Collins
Exchange Club of Dearborn
Gary & Jewel Feldhus
Michelle Geyer
Ghafari Associates LLC
Greektown Casino

**Supporter ($1,000 to $2,499)**
Advanced Technology Academy
Rula Al-Aouar
Anonymous Friend
Bailey's Sports Grille
Serge & Susan Barna
Nancy Beasley
Judith Belknap & Walter Juterbock
Kathy Bokota
Sophie Bozek & Jeff Copeland
Sharon Brown
Greg Buhr
Carl & Lisa Burkeen
Lori Byers
Canine Care Centers of Michigan, Andrea Kyriacou
Carhartt
Tom & Debbie Clark
James Connelly & Jeanne Martens
Carole Cottingham & Anthony Russo
Crystal Springs Pet Hospital, Dr. Lloyd Wilson
Anthony Czarnecki
Dickinson Wright PLLC
Marjorie Diehrich
DTE Energy Co.
Lisa Dufresne
Enterprise Holdings Foundation
Lawrence & Jan Fallat
Mitch & Patricia Flogaus
Ford Runners Club
Marcia Freeman
Ed & Cathie Garcia-McDonnell
Sandra Giardini
Sumathi Govindaswami
Steven & Tara Grekin
Steven & Cindy Griffith
Tom & Ramona Gunderson
Happy Howie's, David Collado
Carissa Hayburn

**Thank you for being a Friend to the animals!**

Dr. Angela DeSantis & Dr. Robert Sharon
Nancy Ferrantino
Elaine Greene & Michael DeLaney
David & Sis Hamilton
Henry Ford College Animal Lovers
Carl & Joanne Johnson
Allan & Lynne Kammerer
Donald & Mary Kosch
Deborah Kowalczyk
Marvin & Marlene Kraska
Richard Murray
Peter & Mary Oleksiaj
Pedigree
The Skillman Foundation
Strategic Staffing Solutions
Unleashed Pet Care, Dr. Kari Nugent
Mark & Dorothy Vencelov
Anthony & Margaret Wade

Kevin & Margaret Green
Jim & Nancy Grosfeld
Henkel Corporation
Kroger Company, Community Rewards Program
Lawrence Technological University
Patricia Ludwig
Michael & Patricia Naef
Petco Foundation
Quicken Loans
Rizzo Environmental Services, Chuck Rizzo
Royal Canin USA
Kelle Sisung & Edward Orlowski
Deborah Stewart
Bobby & Karen Thompson
Tufts University A/P

**HAPPY TAILS: PAISLEY**
"Paisley has added so much fun energy and joy to our home! Thank you for taking her in and getting her to us — we will be forever grateful!" — Catherine D.
HAPPY TAILS: HOWARD & SHELDON

“After losing our dog of 11 years, our home was so quiet and empty. We decided to adopt a cat as we were not home enough during the day. Sheldon [right] has been so much fun. He has the best personality. A few weeks later we adopted Howdy, aka Howard, as a playmate for him. He has been such a good kitty, and they get along great! Thank you for giving us our furry family members.” —Connie G.
Happy Tails

**SCOOPY** “When I came across a picture of Scooby on the Internet, I couldn’t help but drive down to the shelter the very next day to check him out. I was fortunate enough to be selected for the adoption. Scooby is the life of the party and is loved by many. My best friend is living proof that there are and always will be dogs around worth rescuing.” —Devin K.

**TJ** “Woodrow came to us as a single foster kitten who needed some TLC. We fell for him immediately, as he reminds us so much of our late Toby, whom we lost to kidney failure. We were quickly calling him ‘TJ’ in honor of Toby, and he fit in so well with our other pets (two dogs, one cat) and our 4-year-old daughter. He has completed our family and filled a void we’d been feeling for a long time. We are so happy that he is ours forever. Many thanks!” —Jay & Donna H.

**ALLY** “We previously shared our home with a lovely little all-black cat for four wonderful years. Sadly we lost him to a congenital heart defect. We decided to bring some much-needed happiness back into our house. Enter Ally! We went to the shelter after seeing her picture on the website. She too was a black kitten, and we decided right then and there that she would come home with us. Wow, she is an active little girl — running, playing, cuddling — and we know our adventure is just beginning! Thanks again to the Dearborn Animal Shelter for introducing us to our newest addition to the family!” —Lance & Kayelea R.

Adopted from the Friends? Share your Happy Tails at DearbornAnimals.org/Happy-Tails