



Paw Prints

FRIENDS FOR ANIMALS OF METRO DETROIT • TAKE US TO HEART! • FALL 2016

Believers unite to Raise the Woof

Our dog and cat friends pledge to never give up on us. Can you pledge to never give up on them — and to build their new Home with Heart?

Believe it: The Friends for Animals of Metro Detroit's capital campaign to "Raise the Woof" on a desperately needed new shelter is, at this writing, 77% funded! We have raised \$4.4 million of the \$5.7 million "Building a Home with Heart" goal, spurred by our "I Believe" efforts during the past few months. *Please help us cross the finish line and raise the remaining \$1.3 million by year end.*

With a "Believers, Unite!" rallying cry, this summer we invited all community friends to demonstrate their belief in the project and take action. At an energizing I Believe community rally in June, more than 150 believers flocked to the former Amtrak Station on Michigan Avenue in Dearborn — the site of our new home. The Friends board of directors pledged a \$600,000 gift from excess operating funds, believers donated \$55,000 on the spot, and many attendees volunteered to roll up their sleeves and help us fundraise.

Believers continue to take action. Community kids are hosting lemonade stands, business friends are running donation drives, and residents are uniting for "paws to the



Shelter mascot
Porkchop believes.
Do YOU?!

pavement" street-collection drives. The current Dearborn Animal Shelter has become capital campaign central during biweekly I Believe Thursdays, where anyone and everyone can pitch in to make phone calls, mail letters and handle other fundraising activities.

It will still take an army of believers to help us cross the finish line by year end.

We need all our friends to:

- **Donate now.** Any amount is welcome, but a \$1,000 gift will go a long way. Just think, if 1,300 friends each donated \$1,000, we would be finished. Those who give \$1,000 or more will receive our special red I Believe T-shirt (modeled by Porkchop in the photo above) and permanent recognition in our new shelter.
- **Fundraise now.** Can your business, school or community group rally up support? Host Friday jeans days, donate a percentage of sales to the campaign, host a lemonade (or cider and doughnut) stand — we'll provide tips and tools to help make your initiative a super success.
- **Volunteer now.** Join us for I Believe Thursdays, or contact us to learn other ways to lend a paw.

To donate, volunteer or get more information, visit RaiseTheWoofNow.org or call 313.943.2697.

COME SEE US!

Dearborn Animal Shelter

2661 Greenfield Road
Dearborn, Michigan 48120
313.943.2697 • fax 313.943.2262
friends@MetroDetroitAnimals.org
MetroDetroitAnimals.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 & holidays

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, Fred B. Johns,
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City Liaison Cpl. Michael Nelson,
Dearborn Police Department

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New satellite cat centers are increasing adoptions

More of our shelter cats are finding fur-ever homes thanks to a change made in our off-site adoption strategy earlier this year. Instead of hosting weekend events (where adoptions were dwindling), the Friends are showcasing our felines every day at four pet supply stores: **Petco Detroit** (2005 8 Mile Road W.), **PetSmart Dearborn** (5650 Mercury Drive), **PetSmart Taylor** (23271 Eureka Road), and **Pet Supplies Plus Dearborn** (2621 Telegraph Road).



Tango says our four new satellite cat centers are the cat's meow — visit one today!

At these satellite cat centers, our kitties can be viewed every day during store business hours — giving them better exposure and reaching adopters who may be too intimidated to visit a shelter. Many cats have been adopted more quickly than at the shelter (with a low return rate), including those felines that previously had been overlooked. Of the 86 cats that moved to the centers between February and August, 70% were adopted!

Friends volunteers are helping by transporting cats, caring for them at the satellite centers, and counseling potential adopters. **Saturday and Sunday assistance is especially needed. To help**, contact Volunteer Director Katie Johnson at 313.943.2697, Ext. #3555, or volunteers@MetroDetroitAnimals.org. •

We're now FAMD

In case you haven't heard, we have a new name! In the spring the Friends For the Dearborn Animal Shelter became the Friends for Animals of Metro Detroit.

The new moniker represents the growth of our organization over the past 23 years; we're headquartered and manage operations at the Dearborn Animal Shelter, but our reach extends well beyond the city's borders. In fact, 79% of adopters reside outside the city, as do 65% of donors and 57% of volunteers.

And though our name has changed, of course our commitment to the animals remains as strong as ever. We appreciate the many positive comments we've heard from supporters, including this one from Lynne G.: "Love the name change to be more inclusive. You do great work for all animals. Strays know no city boundaries! Rock on!!" •

Shining S.T.a.R.s

Dearborn Animal Shelter dogs have another avenue to a Happy Tails story thanks to the Stiggy's Training and Renew (S.T.a.R.) prison training program. Stiggy's Dogs (StiggysDogs.org) is the Howell nonprofit that recruits and trains shelter pups to be service dogs for military veterans living with post-traumatic stress disorder or traumatic brain injury.

Through the 12-week S.T.a.R. program, each potential canine cadet is paired with two inmate handlers at Thumb Correctional Facility in Lapeer. The handlers are responsible for bringing the dog to regular training classes and keeping detailed training and behavioral records. Managed by Stiggy's Director of Training Donna Fournier, the sessions begin with the basics ("sit," "come," "stay") and progress through Canine Good Citizen testing.

S.T.a.R. is benefiting all involved. The inmates gain new skills, as well as a sense of responsibility, pride, and structure that is often lacking in their lives. Stiggy's Dogs is able to train more pups for potential placement with veterans and gains important insight into each dog's personality and abilities.

And the dogs, of course, receive training and human interaction that increases their chances of finding a permanent home. Those that make good cadets in Stiggy's psychiatric service dog program are paired with a veteran. Those who do not seem to be a match may be placed with a waiting adopter or returned to the shelter for adoption. Either way, it's a shining opportunity! •



TOM LAUNDRICHE

Come celebrate 'Mardi Paws' at Black Tie & Tails

New Orleans is coming to Dearborn for our Mardi Paws-themed Black Tie & Tails gala benefit, set for Friday, October 28 at The Dearborn Inn from 7 p.m. to midnight.

Presenting sponsors of this fun and festive 16th annual fundraiser are longtime Friends MaryAnn Wright and Bob Sayles. Honorary co-chairs are Congresswoman Debbie Dingell and John Dingell.

All tickets and sponsorships give you access to a champagne reception, eclectic entrées, and delectable desserts. Come revel in the live music, silent and live auctions, and of course special appearances by the stars of the night, our adoptable shelter animals! Tickets start at \$175; sponsorships begin at \$600.

Purchase tickets or sponsorships at MetroDetroitAnimals.org/BlackTie or call us at 313.943.2697. •

So far this year, seven Dearborn Animal Shelter pups have participated in the Stiggy's Dogs S.T.a.R. prison training program, including these three (clockwise from lower left): Cypher (formerly Wes) enlisted in the program over the summer. • Spidey completed the 12-week training and has been paired with a veteran. • Elsie graduated from S.T.a.R. and was adopted by the family of her inmate handler.

STIGGY'S DOGS

You dug deep for Play & Grow

Many thanks to everyone who donated to the spring Art Van Charity Challenge to fund a new outdoor Play & Grow space for our shelter dogs — you dug in and topped our \$5,000 goal by more than \$700!

With the help of volunteer master gardener Geoff D. and a crew of “Kid Crusader” volunteers (including the three shown below), we’re creating an amazing outdoor space for our pups to play, exercise, enjoy the sunshine, and meet potential adopters. The Play & Grow space will include dog-safe mulch and native plants, a sandbox for digging up treats, and rain barrels to collect water that can be used for irrigation.

It’s a great learning opportunity for our youth volunteers, and it will help keep our dogs healthier and happier while we wait to build our new “Home with Heart.” Bonus: Elements of the Play & Grow space can move with us to our new shelter in the future! •



VISHAL PATEL

Thanks to everyone who showers us with love by supporting key Friends fundraisers like Mutt Strut, where fun, games, and puppy kisses abound.

That’s a lotta smackeros!

It takes a lot of smackeros to keep the shelter doors open each year, provide the quality of care our rescued animals deserve, and deliver the community programs and services our supporters have come to expect. That’s why your support of our various fundraisers throughout the year is so crucial. **Thanks to YOU**, we’ve had some paws-itively fabulous events so far this year. Here’s a quick update on some key fundraisers through July 2016:

- **Cool Cat Casino Night.** WHEN: February. RAISED: \$14,000. NEXT YEAR: On hiatus in 2017 as we explore more cost-effective fundraising avenues.
- **Mutt Strut & Pet Expo.** WHEN: May. RAISED: \$111,000. *Save the date for 2017: Saturday, May 13.*
- **Megan’s Dreams Golf Outing.** WHEN: June. RAISED: \$27,000 for the Friends, plus \$9,000 for veterinary scholarships. NEXT YEAR: After 10 years, the Megan’s Dreams team passes the baton to the Friends to host our own golf outing. *Save the date for 2017: Friday, June 2.*
- **Abrahams’ Open House.** WHEN: July. RAISED: \$13,000 to support our Hope’s Heroes program for rescues with extraordinary medical needs. NEXT YEAR: TBA.

We heartily thank all of the attendees, sponsors, volunteers, third-party hosts, and other supporters who make our fundraisers so pup-tastic and meow-velous! *View our full calendar of events* at MetroDetroitAnimals.org. •

Shop, and these retailers give

When you shop at Kroger and AmazonSmile, each retailer will donate a percentage of your total purchase to the Friends at no cost to you! Simply designate Friends for Animals of Metro Detroit as your Kroger Community Rewards recipient (*sign up at kroger.com/communityrewards*) and your AmazonSmile charity (*sign up at smile.amazon.com*). Visit each retailer's website for complete details. These programs are simple, automatic, and free to you! You're already shopping — right? — so why not help the shelter animals at the same time? Thank you! •



JERI LANZKY

Slumber Parties ease stress on shelter dogs

Let's face it: The shelter can be a stressful place for dogs, especially those that have been with us for a bit. But thanks to our Slumber Party program, Friends volunteers are helping to alleviate doggie stress by bringing a pup home for a night or weekend.

At the host's home, dogs like Flash (above) can relax, practice their manners, and interact with new people (perhaps even potential adopters!). The Friends gain valuable info about how the dogs act in a household setting, and the pups typically return to the shelter better behaved, raising their chances for a successful adoption.

Slumber Parties also give the hosts hours of unconditional love. Sonya and Chuck M. hosted a pup in June (to provide respite for our dogs during the Melvindale Days Fireworks Show) and have been regular Slumber Partiers ever since!

To host a *Slumber Party*, current volunteers may contact Behavior Program Manager Linda Thomas, LVT, CPDT-KA: 313.943.2697, Ext. #3558, or lthomas@MetroDetroitAnimals.org. •



HAPPY TAILS: OMELETTE

"Omelette came to us thanks to one of your animal control officers who thought he would be a perfect fit for us! He loves to cuddle and talk to everyone and is making friends with his big brother and sister (both kitties). He is our second three-legged fur baby and his sister is showing him the ropes. We love our little three-legged Omelette and wouldn't trade him for the world!" —Courtney S.

MARDI PAWS IN MEOW-TOWN



N'awlins is comin' to Black Tie & Tails — and you're invited!

16th Annual Gala Benefit • Dinner • Auctions
Live Music • Adoptable Animals

Friday, October 28 • The Dearborn Inn

MetroDetroitAnimals.org/BlackTie

Presenting Sponsors MaryAnn Wright & Bob Sayles

Thank you for being a Friend to the animals!

The following list reflects in-kind and monetary gifts made between January 1 and June 30, 2016. Gifts received after June 30 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. Notify us of any corrections to this list by emailing friends@MetroDetroitAnimals.org.

Benefactor (\$10,000 & up)

Dearborn Family Pet Care,
Dr. Cheryl Good & Mark Good
Fairlane Ford, Julie Walker
J. Ferrantino Charitable Foundation,
Janette Ferrantino
Betty Klink
Megan's Dreams Golf Outing
The Kenneth A. Scott Charitable Trust,
a KeyBank Trust

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Allan Leonard
Petco Foundation
MaryAnn Wright & Bob Sayles

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Harry & Kathryn Burrell
Anthony Czarnecki
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Gary & Jewel Feldhus
Marcia Freeman
Edith J. Goode Residuary Trust



HAPPY TAILS: HELENA

"Helena was a dog we had our eye on for a while, and when we finally met her we knew she was the perfect fit. Helena is the biggest lovable dog ever! She has gotten along very well with every dog we've introduced her to and is awesome with children (even babies)! I couldn't have chosen a better dog to add to my home."

—Christina D.

Sumathi Govindaswami
Betty Halpern
Happy Howie's, David Collado
Allan & Lynne Kammerer
Dave & Erin Keem
Jerry, Beverly & April Klarr
Katie Krevsky
Kroger Company, Community Rewards Program
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Craig Strombom & Margaret O'Sullivan
Richard Truett & Christie Schweinsberg
Anthony & Margaret Wade
Norma Wallis
Wild Dogs Band, Mark Pawelski
Patricia Winters
Mike & Janet Wright

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Amici Pet Services, Fred Darin
Serge & Susan Barna
Judith Belknap & Walter Juterbock
Ziad & Michelle Berri, American Values Foundation

Lori Byers
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Elizabeth Vessels, Michael & Zoe Acker
Sharon Vessels
Kathryn Wawer
Connie Wegge
Wing It Inc.

Circle of Friends:

Bequests received

The following donors thoughtfully included the Friends in their estate planning. We humbly thank them and their families.
Lupe Gomez Trust
Charles & Mary Kodidek Trust

Special thanks

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Caring Friends donate monthly

“I give monthly to the shelter to help support the ‘cat community centers’ where my cat Walter lived before he came home with me. It’s a super simple way to give back because I don’t have to remember to donate.”

—Caring Friend Bonnie R.

Caring Friends like Bonnie are a special group of passionate, forward-thinking supporters who donate on a monthly basis. An automatic monthly donation helps provide the sustained contributions needed to ensure that each and every rescue at the Dearborn Animal Shelter is protected and loved.

Monthly giving is an easy, efficient way to help our animals:

- **You are in total control.** You can easily start, change or stop your gift at any time.
- **The amount of your monthly gift is up to you.** A gift of \$10 per month means you’re caring for one shelter animal for one day.
- **Your gift is maximized.** Since we won’t need to mail reminders to you, more of your donation goes directly to animal care.

Become a Caring Friend today! Sign up at MetroDetroitAnimals.org or call us at 313.943.2697. ●



HAPPY TAILS: SEBASTIAN

“Sebastian is my second adopted cat from the Dearborn Animal Shelter. Imagine my surprise when I found out he was classified as a “lonely hearts” cat, since he had been overlooked and in the shelter [for six months] and was only \$5 to adopt! I expected a slow transition, since he is an older cat (approximately 6½ years), and he was very aloof and guarded when I brought him home. He would not allow me to pet him or pick him up, but I gave him a safe place in the house and vowed

to go at his pace. Less than one week later, he sleeps alongside me, is insistent he must sleep in his basket in my office while I’m working all day, loves to be brushed, and loves to talk to me. He’s a real character, and I thank the shelter for keeping him safe and healthy until we found each other.” —Tracy K.

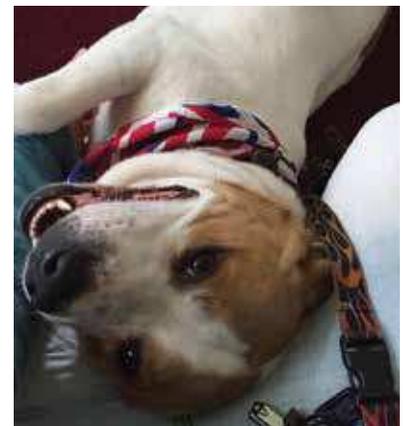


HAPPY TAILS: MARLIN

“We adopted Marlin (formerly Echo) in May. He is such an affectionate boy! He loves to snuggle and lay on the couch with his new family. We love Marlin so much!” —Sarah H.

HAPPY TAILS: JAGER

“Jager (formerly Meatball) is my and my boyfriend’s baby. Before starting heartworm treatment, we took him for a walk by the river. I didn’t know there was a young couple laying in the grass, but he did and crawled on his belly over to them and laid his head on the woman’s lap. Everyone who meets Jager adores him to the end of the universe and back!” —Alexis C.





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Happy Tails



LUNA “My boyfriend Adam and I adopted Sweet Caroline, now called Luna. We can’t begin to tell you how much joy she has brought into our lives. She is such a sweet girl who loves to get belly rubs and is super playful. Every day her personality comes out more and more, and sometimes we can’t believe how smart she is. We are so happy we found her!” —*Leslie R.*

MONTY “I got a new apartment, and I was a little lonely because I did not have a roommate. My cat-lover friend came over to visit, and the next morning we found ourselves at the animal shelter. As soon as I petted Monty, he started to purr loudly and knead his paws. He was so friendly and affectionate; I decided right then and there to adopt him. Now he is very happy in his new home. He makes a lot of mischief stealing napkins and the sponge out of the sink. I can’t imagine life without my little Monteque!!!” —*Caitlin O.*



CHANEL “We adopted Chanel (formerly Rizzo) in June and she is the best dog ever! She is so sweet and loving with kids and has even befriended our guinea pig. We were at first skeptical about adopting a pit bull, but we were definitely proven wrong! She is a great family dog and loves to run and play as well as cozy up on the couch. She is very well-behaved and obedient. We adopted her with her already knowing sit, shake and lay down! Thank you to the Dearborn

Animal Shelter for bringing this beautiful dog into our lives!” —*Juliana T.*

Adopted from the Friends? Share your Happy Tails at MetroDetroitAnimals.org/HappyTails