

# VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER

HELP US. HELP THEM.



**SPCA**  
southwest michigan

March 2018 | Issue 249

**SPCA of Southwest Michigan**  
Pet Rescue & Adoption Center  
6955 West KL Avenue  
Kalamazoo, MI 49009  
269.344.1474  
[www.spcaswmich.org](http://www.spcaswmich.org)

*The SPCA is a non-profit animal rescue group based in SW Michigan. Thanks to volunteers like you, we have rescued over 16,000 dogs, cats, puppies & kittens since we started in 2002!*

## OUR MISSION

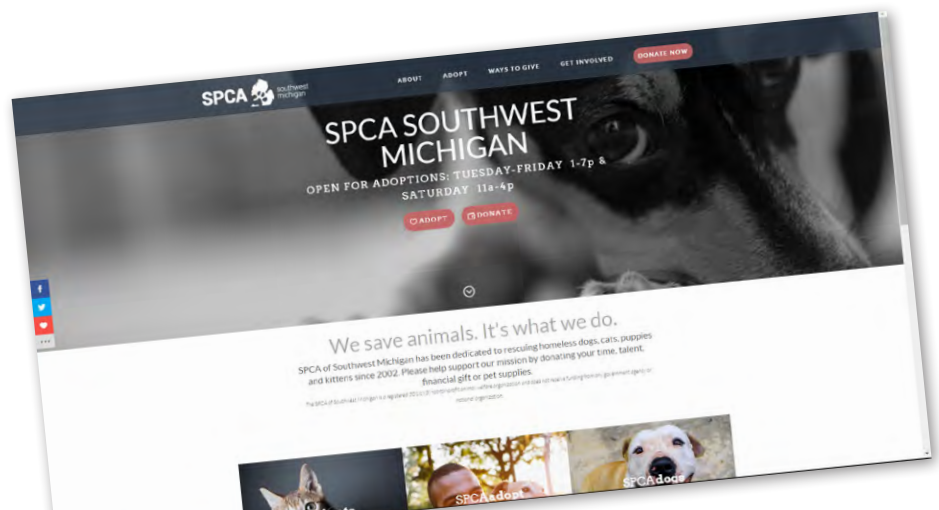
SPCA of Southwest Michigan is dedicated to working for the well-being of animals and creating an adoption-focused community in Southwest Michigan. Our goal is to end senseless animal euthanasia in SW Michigan, and provide all animals with a loving, caring home.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**  
**AMAZON WISH LIST**

**FRESH NEW MISSION. FRESH NEW VISION.**



Our new mission is dedicated to working for the well-being of animals and creating an adoption-focused community in Southwest Michigan. Our goal is to end the senseless animal euthanasia in SW Michigan, and provide all animals with a loving, caring home. We have updated our logo to reflect this vision and completely redesigned our website. Check out the changes below!





## Upcoming Events (see our [website](#) for all events)

**March 23rd** - Celebrate National Puppy Day at Airway Lanes

**April 7th & 8th** - See us at Pet Expo, more info and tickets [here](#)

**April 22nd** - Puppy and Kitten Shower

**May 5th** - Bissell Empty the Shelter Adoption Event



## Limited Time Opportunity! Get Your SPCA Merchandise!

Now through **March 25th** only you can purchase screen printed SPCA of SWMI apparel!

How this works:

Check out the options, pick what you want, order and pay - it's that easy!

After the ordering closes, the items go into production and then they ship your order directly to you!

All net proceeds from the sales benefit the SPCA of SWMI. Don't miss out! Order [here](#)!



## Two Longtime Volunteers Recognized

Two SPCA volunteers were recognized for their outstanding service. Gene and Vivian are familiar faces for SPCA and they brighten everyone's day when the show up. Their commitment to improving their community shines through in everything they do. If you missed the news pieces on WWMT, you can check it out [here](#). This is a heart warming story about two amazing people that have chosen to give back and inspire us all to do a little more everyday. Thank you Gene and Vivian!

# National Puppy Day



**Friday March 23rd from 3PM-7PM**

Help Support the Southwest Michigan SPCA and give a dog  
their FUREVER home!

Get a 3 hour wristband for just \$24.95 per person  
Includes unlimited bowling, laser tag, laser maze,  
balladium, & time freak

**20% of each wristband sold will be donated to SPCA**



YOU CANT BUY **LOVE**  
BUT YOU CAN **RESCUE IT**



**Always Fun, Every Time!**

5626 Portage Rd. Portage MI, 49002

(269) 327-7061

[Airwayfuncenter.com](http://Airwayfuncenter.com)



## Essential Oils For Pets



### ***Are essential oils potentially harmful for your pets? And if so, what precautions should pet parents be taking?***

The answer, is slightly more complicated than a simple “yes,” or “no.” In their concentrated form (100%), essential oils can absolutely be a danger for pets. Dogs and cats who have either walked through oils, gotten some on their coat or had oils placed directly on them can develop health concerns.

Symptoms include:

- Unsteadiness on the feet
- Depression
- Low body temperature (in severe cases)
- If a pet ingested concentrated essential oils, you may see vomiting, diarrhea and depression, as well.

### ***Are some oils/scents more dangerous than others?***

Some oils may in fact be more harmful than others. However, there are several factors that affect this such as concentration level, and what the product is mixed with. For example, concentrated forms of tea tree oil (melaleuca oil) may cause issues for your pets with only seven or eight drops, whereas another oil may take more or less. Due to the variability in concentration, formulation and possible quality of essential oils, it is best to completely avoid directly applying them to your pet. You should also keep any oils up and out of paws’ reach to prevent potential ingestion.

### ***Does that mean you should return your diffuser?***

According to APCC, not necessarily. Using an oil diffuser for a short time period in a secured area—one that your dog or cat cannot access—is not likely to be an issue.

However, if your pet has a history of breathing problems, it may be best to avoid using one altogether. Keep in mind, that your pets have a much better sense of smell than we do, so something that seems light to us may be overwhelming to them.

If you do decide to keep your diffuser, you’ll want to ensure that it is in a place where your pet cannot knock it over and potentially expose themselves to the oils. The best way to avoid exposing your pets to dangerous substances is always to err on the side of caution and by “pet-proofing” your space.

While these same concerns with essential oils will apply to other pets such as rabbits, guinea pigs and hamsters, it is best to avoid using an essential oil diffuser in your house if you have birds. Birds’ respiratory tracts are very sensitive, and they may develop more serious problems if you use a diffuser.

If you think your pet may have ingested, or been exposed to a potentially poisonous substance, contact your veterinarian or the APCC at (888) 426-4435 immediately. You can learn more about keeping your pets safe from toxins by downloading the APCC Mobile App or checking out our entire list of dangerous household products.

(original article from [www.aspca.org](http://www.aspca.org).)





# Happy Tails

submit your happy tail to [happytails@spcaswmich.org](mailto:happytails@spcaswmich.org)

## IZZY BELLA

**Submitted by: Christina Hamacher**

This is Bella. When I adopted her, the SPCA had given her the name Izzy Bella. But she just came better to Bella. This October I will have her for 5 years and I love her to pieces. She snuggles with me, she's my lap dog, my emotional support, she knows when I don't feel good and consider her my baby. Thank you for giving me the most loyal and well- behaved Chihuahua/jack Russell terrier.

## MYA

**Submitted by:  
Victoria Harris**

We adopted Mya in early December, and she is doing really well! She is getting so comfortable with us and is more talkative with a sort of playful, low grumble. She

will remind us that it's breakfast time for her and she may talk and hop when one of us returns home. She really is a happy girl. Here are two recent photos. One is of Mya traveling with us from West Virginia back home. She loves car rides and is a very good traveler. Her favorite place in the whole house is the master bed to cuddle with someone. Thank you for taking such good care of Mya before we adopted her. She is so kind and sweet. She really is part of our pack!



## STILL MY LAP DOG / BABY GIRL





## Big Me & Hooker

Submitted by: Jake Woods

Hi, my name is Jake and I wanted to send you a message about the two luckiest boys to have ever found a forever home. Breslin (Big Me), the brown faced beauty, found me about 8 years ago at an SPCA of SWMI event. He had been fostered for a couple of years but was just waiting for me ;) . Breslin has been a loyal dog who hardly required any training whatsoever. He's getting to be an elder statesman, probably 11 or 12, but still shows me his energetic side each and every day. We've both benefitted from our priceless relationship. His job for the past year has been teaching his younger brother the ropes.

Horton (Hooker) became part of our family this past spring at one of the Empty the Shelter events. Horton is a younger boy, 2-3

years, but quickly picked up on how to be an excellent pet and companion. He was a little tentative at first but opened up pretty quickly and continues to show me new facets of his personality every day. Horton is a loving boy who is starting to become friends with the cat of our house. He is unbelievably well behaved and I feel fortunate to have had him find our home.

The photos are a glimpse into the memorable adventures we had in 2017. Thank you again for all the hard work everyone does at the SPCA of SWMI! Happily ever afters are a reality for the souls you look after.







## ADOPTIONS - THANKS TO YOU!

**CATS:** Abigail, Ainya, Angelina, Anita, Baku, Banyon, Bear, Bebe, Benjamin, Big Ben, Bubba, Buddy, Buster, C.C., Cayenne, Earl Gray, Ellen, Elliot, Eric, Freya, Gingerbread, Griffin, Griswald, Guava, Hulk, Judy, KC, Kelly, Kelsey, Kessa, Killina, Kirby, Mello, Meredith, Michelle, Midas, Milk Dud, Misha, Mitzy, Monet, Morningstar, Muffin, Noelle, Pabst, Paige, Pandora, Pietra, Pita, Presley, Prism, Raven, Raymond, Reggie, Sapphire, Sasha, Seagull, Shadow, Shaver, Sheeba, Sierra, Spirit, Stripes, Sugarplum, Sundance, Surry, Suzanne, Tasha, Theodora, Thumper, Tin, Tinker, Tobias, Toni, Tracie, Walnut, Wiggins

**DOGS:** Alaska, Balor, Bass, Beaowette, Billy, Boomer, Boss Kzoo, Broms, Budders, Canter, Caroline, Charlie Boy, Chi Chi, China Doll, Christmas, Daisy Blossom, Dana, Dane, Darla, Dickson, Docker, Draco, Elliot, Emory, Everitt, Fluffy, Foxy Hound, Fuzzy, Gallop, Grizzly Adam, Happy, Harley, Henrik, Henry, Hobs, Jako, Jammie, Koy, Lady Love, Lance, Lil Momma, Lilie, Louie, Lucy, Mad Max, Max, Milly, Minnie, Molly, Montana, Morgan, Mylo, Ollie, Pappy, Peanut, Perch, Roger, Ron, Saba, Sahana, Sherman, Skii, Smalls, Spot, Theodore, Tippy, Todd, Track, Trixt, Trotter, Trout, Tunamelt, Waldo, Wally, Walt, Wendy Crystal, Wesley, Westin, Wingsong, Winifred, Winslow, Wolfson, Zara

Thank you for opening your hearts and your homes to these animals! See all our adoptable dogs, cats, puppies & kittens at [www.spcaswmich.org](http://www.spcaswmich.org).

Please send Volunteer Newsletter submissions to Jess Duncan @ [newsletter@spcaswmich.org](mailto:newsletter@spcaswmich.org).