

# VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER

HELP US. HELP THEM.



**SPCA**  
southwest michigan

June 2018 | Issue 251

**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



## NEW ADDITION

If you haven't noticed it yet, there is a gazebo that is being built at the SPCA! It is being built to honor the memory of Chrissie Kausrud, daughter of Eric and Theresa Kausrud, who passed away last year. She was an avid animal lover and her family wanted to honor her memory with something that represented her passion for animals. The gazebo was designed to be a safe space for puppies to play and socialize. It is a beautiful space and the inside fully equipped with lights and a ceiling fan! It will have restricted access with special rules so you will need to go through a special orientation in order to use the space. A special thanks goes out to the Mike & Sharon Seelye, Tim Parsons and Steve Hippensteele, Powell Construction (Joe Alexander), the SPCA volunteers, and all others that have made this project possible!



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

**July 14, 11am-2pm** - If love your bike and your pet, this event is for you. Join your comrades in a Charity Ride to benefit the SPCA of SWMI. The ride starts at the shelter (6955 W KL Ave) at 11am and takes a scenic ending at Perry Harley-Davidson on Sprinkle Rd. Cost of the ride is \$15 per motorcycle or \$20 with passenger.

**July 28th** - Weinberg Family Farm adoption event. More details coming soon, check out our facebook or webpage for event details once they are available.

**July 29th** - We will be joining forces with Paw Paw Brewing Company for a day of adoptions and more. Be on the lookout for our facebook event or event webpage for more information.

**August 11th, 5-8pm** - Back by popular demand! Join us for a night at the Growlers Baseball Stadium for Bark in the Park 2.0. This is a dog and family friendly event that is expected to sell out, so get your tickets soon!

**August 17-18th** - We are gearing up for another Kalamazeuter. This is a free spay/neuter event to help out families in need that have unaltered pets. Call the shelter to get more information and/or reserve your spot, space is limited - 269-344-1474

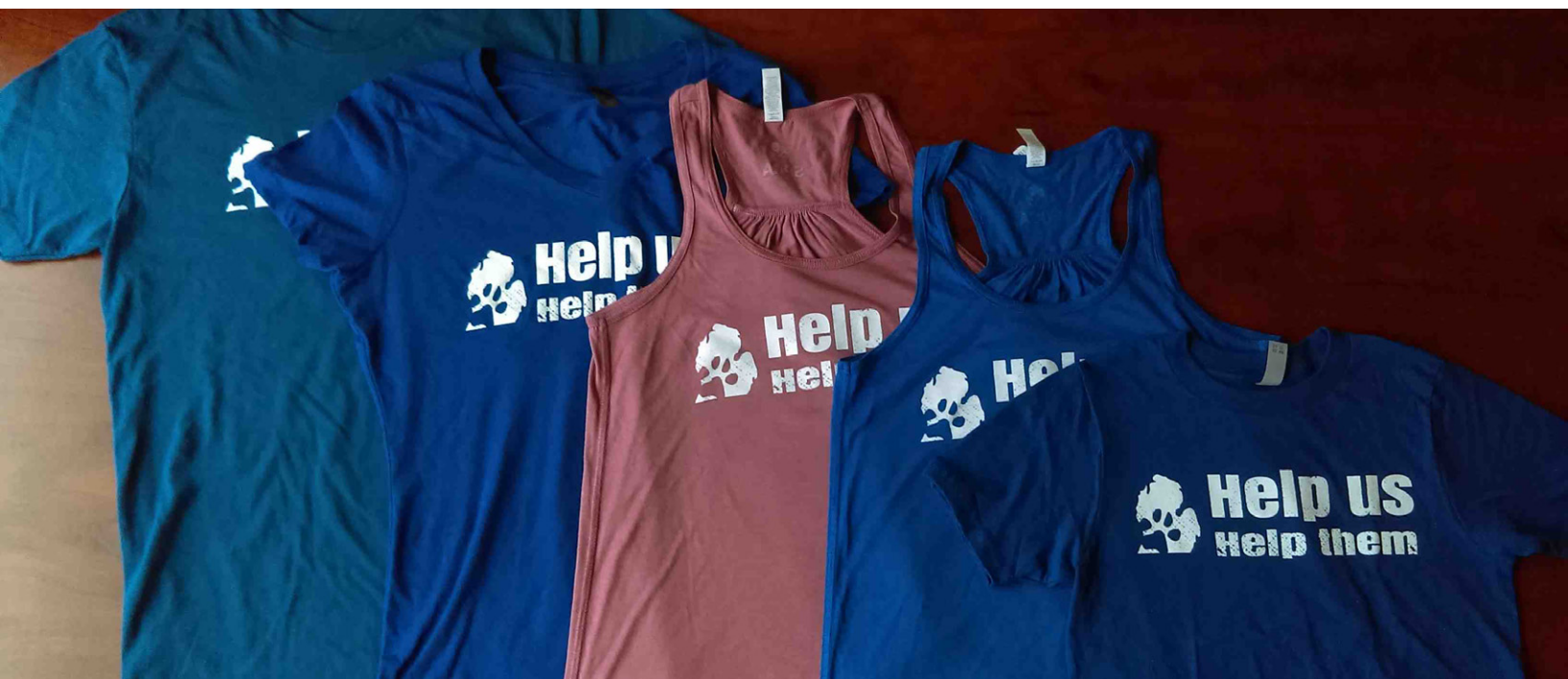
**August 20th** - Its our annual Golf Outing sponsored by Maple Hill Auto. We are looking for more sponsors, auction items and golf teams. Check out the Golf Outing page in this newsletter edition or email [info@spcaswmich.org](mailto:info@spcaswmich.org).

**August 25th** - Volunteer Appreciation Party- you all have been doing a great job and we want to thank you for it! Join us on August 25th between 4 and 6:30. Get some food, play some games, win prizes, and meet other volunteers.

**September 22nd** - It's the 8th annual Doggie Dash! Registration is open. Join us for this dog and family friendly event.

## GET YOUR SPCA SWAG!

Here is your chance to get some SPCA summer swag! Available this round of orders are t-shirts and hats like the previous order (*because people loved them!*) and **NEW** this time is tank tops and Nike golf shirts! This is a limited time offer and orders must be placed by **July 1st!** All proceeds from the sale benefit the SPCA of SWMI. Order [here](#) before it's too late!!





## PET SUMMER SAFETY



As we officially cross over into the summer months, we look forward to all the fun activities we can do with our pets; hiking, trips to the beach, traveling to new places, adventuring in local parks and so much more. There are many dangers posed by summer as well for your pet, one of those is heat. Summer can lead to sidewalks so hot you can fry an egg on them, cars so hot you can bake muffins in them and sun so intense dehydration and sunburns can happen quickly. A good rule of thumb is that if its uncomfortable for you, then its probably uncomfortable for your pet.

### ***Here are a few tips on things you can do to keep your pet safe:***

- always have fresh water available.
- allow your pet to walk in the grass instead of on the sidewalk on hot, sunny days.
- hang out in the shade where there is a breeze. If you're going to the beach, bring an umbrella or shade tent to give you both a break from the sun.
- allow your animal to take lots of breaks and drink lots of water if your doing any sort of activity outside.
- never leave your animal in the car with the windows up. It can get deadly hot inside a car in the matter of minutes. Even with the windows down, it can get uncomfortably warm so make efforts to reduce the time a dog is left in a car at all.



Dogs, and children, in hot cars is an issue that is still being dealt with today. What do you do if you come across this situation?

- In Michigan it is illegal to break a window even if it is to save an animal in distress. However, there is legislation proposed that would make leaving an animal in a hot or cold a felony. WWMT has more information on the proposed bill [here](#).
- Stay calm, call 911, take a picture of the license plate and stay with the animal until help arrives.

Although some dangers do exist, if we just take a little precaution we can have a safe, fun filled summer.

## **Have a Safe & Happy 4th of July!**

### *Pet Safety Tips*



- Keep me inside your home
- Turn on the radio or TV to muffle the noise
- Make sure I have proper identification
- Play with me to distract me

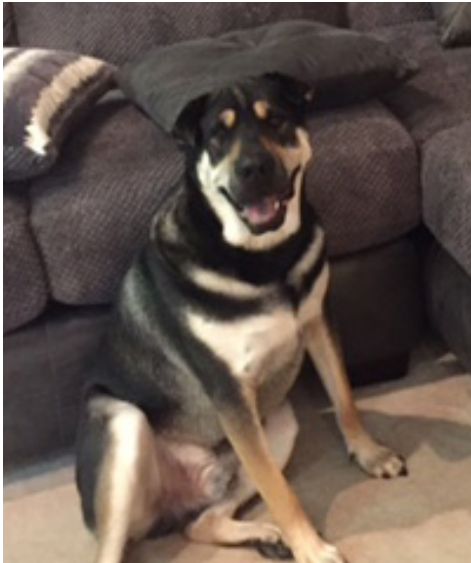


# Happy Tails

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

## SPCA ID 0140372

Submitted by: Michelle Byrd



Just wanted to send pictures of a dog we adopted from your shelter 4 years ago. He is a very happy and sweet boy!



## LIBBY

Submitted by: Melissa

Libby (adopted 3-6-18) is settling in well to her new home! She loves to snuggle, go on walks, play tug of war, and getting lots of new treats, hugs, and toys! So thankful we found her. She has quite the personality!





**JACAMO****Submitted by: Melissa Dekker**

I wanted to give you an update on Jackamo, who we adopted on April 21st. He is now Toby (meaning God is good) and he responding very well to his new name.

Toby has bonded greatly with me as his mother and pack leader. I'm sure my being a stay-at-home mom helps tremendously. He has come to view the rest of the family as his pack and leaders as well. He is on a consistent schedule that he can count on for feeding, potty training, playtime, crate training, leash training, car rides and bedtime. He has done extremely well with all. Only a few minor potty accidents in the house. He sleeps all night. No whining in crate. Loves playtime, and does well with mother dog type

correction or redirection with a toy when biting. Leash training is in the yard right now, but he is doing well. He loves his car rides to get the kids from school. He has a booster seat that he loves laying down in, but likes to sit up in and enjoy the scenery as well.

We have introduced him to several people and two dogs so far. He has done very well with them all, and especially loves playing with the other dogs. Our first vet visit is tomorrow, and I'm sure all will go well. Toby has already met the staff on an earlier pre-visit to get familiar. Please enjoy the attached pictures of our beautiful "Mr. Sweet Face", Toby!





**VIVIANA**

**Submitted by: Miranda, Allen, Lilly, Daisy, & Apple Eldridge**

We wanted to give you an update on Viviana. We adopted her on Monday and have renamed her Daisy. She is enjoying lots of love and new puppy toys. She is learning to sit, fetch and how to go up and down stairs. She has a big sister, Apple, and they are adjusting well to each other. Daisy loves to cuddle. She finds random socks and delivers them to us. She loves to run and play in the backyard. We lost our beloved family dog a few weeks ago and it was very hard on us. Especially our 8 year old daughter, Lilly. Daisy and Lilly have quickly become best friends. Daisy has brought a lot of joy and laughter back into our house. Thank you for all you do for these animals!





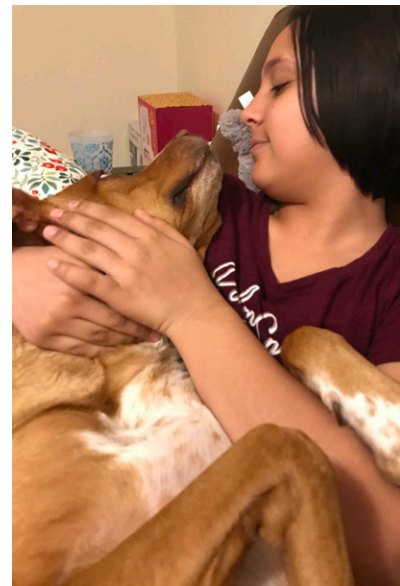


Hello SPCA! I am writing to give you an update on our dog Buddy (formerly Gino) who we adopted a year ago. Buddy is great and well-loved. He is very serious most of the time, but can be playful when the occasion calls for it. When he is not looking out the window, he likes to spend his time laying on the couch (even though it is supposed to be off limits) and playing fetch. He is extremely calm and well-behaved, with the exception of one sandwich stealing incident. Although in his defense, it was an amazing sandwich. I get compliments all the time about what a nice dog he is and I totally agree. He has been perfect for us.

Besides giving an update, I also wanted to share the story of how we came to adopt Buddy. I promised to take my daughter to get

henna when school was out, so on the first day of summer vacation we headed to the mall. There was an adoption event going on across from the salon. Because my daughter loves dogs, we stopped in to take a look. We were planning on getting a dog from a breeder. In fact, I had recently put down a deposit on a puppy from a litter of Labradoodles due in the fall. I am not someone who ever thought I would adopt a rescue dog. I didn't like the idea that I wouldn't know the dog's history and was worried that I wouldn't know what I was getting. I would have laughed at anyone who suggested that I would even consider a dog who had the smallest amount of Pit Bull in him and I thought that people who claimed that they made good family dogs were, quite frankly, just kidding themselves. Needless to say, we were only there to take a look. I guess it was how calm and laid-back Buddy was around chaos of the other dogs and all the people that made me start to consider if it would be easier to adopt an adult dog and save myself the trouble of training a new puppy. I talked to the SPCA volunteer. He told me that Buddy was potty trained and crate trained and talked about what a good temperament he has. We left and continued our shopping, but I kept thinking, maybe I should take a chance. Before we left the mall, we stopped back at the adoption event and after being assured that I could return the dog if it didn't work out, we adopted Buddy. He has been an amazing dog. I am so glad that we adopted him. I'll admit that I have never been much of a dog lover and only got one because my daughter loves them so much. After adopting Buddy, I can see why people love dogs so much. He is just the best.

I wanted to share this story with you because I imagine that it may get discouraging sometimes to do the work that you guys do. I'm sure that it is frustrating to spend an afternoon at an adoption event when no one adopts a dog and it might feel like a waste of time. If it ever does feel that way please consider this, I would NEVER have adopted a rescue dog if you hadn't been at the mall on that Saturday. I would have gone on to spend \$2000 on a puppy from a breeder and wouldn't have known that we missed out on the greatest dog ever, so thank you.







## ADOPTIONS - THANKS TO YOU!

**CATS:** Acadia, Baldwin, Becky, Bethany, Bonita Springs, Bronx, Brooklyn, Bruce, Captain, Cedar, Cleo, Coal, Dillon, Easton, Eloise, Emberle, Emerson, Everett, Fig, Forks, Freya, Gizmo, Guthrie, IKE, Kirby, Kissimme, Lakeland, Laramie, Lenny, Libby, Manhattan, Marcie, Marla, Marshall, Mary Lou, Mike, Norman, Oak, Olivia, Queen, Redmond, Scotch, Seattle, Sheldon, Sheridan, Smudge, Spruce, Staten, Stella, Tacoma, Taffy, Thomas, Treasure, Tulsa, Willow, Winn

**DOGS:** Alaska, Bronco, Bryn Bear, Calvin, Cheetah, Cuteypie, Dale Earnhart, Daytona, Delilah, Dos, Foxy Loxie, Greyser, Heather, Jumanji, Konrad, Kooper, Marvin, Molly Moe, Nikki, Niya, Oscar, Pixie, Ponoco, Richard Petty, Sammy Dog, Sasha Lee-Ann, Scott Speed, Skii, Spirit, Spud Soul, Tenor, Uno, Vick

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).