



KALAMAZOO ANIMAL RESCUE

Phone: (269) 226-8570

KAR Friends

July 2015

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Dear Reader,

The health and well-being of our pets is very important. Just like humans, dogs and cats need to see a veterinarian for a regular checkup once or twice a year, or when various symptoms appear. Our Ask the Vet column sheds some light on what the routine exam entails and why.

Also this month, we introduce you to Onyx and Thumbelina, two adoptable pets who are ready to find their fur-ever homes. Do you know a home that would be perfect for them?

This week, **Texas Roadhouse** is helping to raise money for KAR on Thursday, July 16th from 4:00 to 9:00 p.m. Enjoy a great meal and mention the rescue to your table server so the restaurant will make a donation to us!

Danielle Wallis
Marketing Coordinator

Lynn Bolhuis
KAR Friends Editor

Ask The Vet

Routine Health Exams for Pets

By Karren Jensen

Reviewed by Bruce Withers, DVM

[Eighth Street Veterinary Care](#)



Your best canine or feline friend is scheduled for a yearly vaccine booster and health exam. What should you expect and why is your veterinary care provider doing those particular steps? Like a human routine physical exam, a veterinary physical exam looks at indicators of your pet's overall health.

- **Temperature:** dogs and cats have a body temperature of 101 to 102.5 degrees, which can be taken rectally or with a digital thermometer in the ear. An abnormal temperature can be an early indicator of anything from an infection to a metabolic disease requiring further diagnosis.
- **Skin and coat:** the condition of your pet's skin should be clean and blemish free. His/her coat should be shiny and clean with no dandruff, dry spots, or bald spots. An animal's scratching and creating bald spots may have an allergy requiring

KAR

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Adoption Events

July 18,

The Drake House

July 18, 19, 25 and 26,
August 1, 2, 15 and 16,

Petco

August 8 and 9,

PetSmart

Visit the [Events](#) page on our website for upcoming adoption and other special events.

treatment. Poor coat condition might show the need for a different diet or may be an indicator of underlying disease such as liver disease or thyroid disease.

- **Ears:** your pet's ears should be clean and parasite free. An exam can reveal parasites, infection, or other disease conditions needing care.
- **Heart/lungs:** listening to the heart and lungs with a stethoscope will help your vet determine whether your cat or dog has healthy lung and heart sounds. This can be an early indicator of many heart or lung problems which can be treated if diagnosed early.
- **Abdomen:** your canine or feline friend should have a soft and flexible abdomen with no lumps or hard spots. Pain, swelling, or stiffness are warning signs that your pet needs additional care.
- **Mouth/teeth:** dental problems can dramatically impact a pet's quality of life and ability to eat. Gum disease, bad teeth, and other dental problems will cause pain for your furry friend and need to be treated before they cause other problems throughout their bodies.
- **Eyes:** your pet's eyes can show early signs of cataracts or other vision problems which will affect his/her sight.
- **Paws:** overgrown toenails or sore paw pads are painful and need care.
- **Weight:** cats and dogs can have weight problems just as humans and to have the longest and healthiest life your pet needs to keep at an optimum weight. Orthopedic/joint conditions and diabetes are just two possible problems that can result from obesity.

Your vet is the best resource for information about your pet's overall health and will be happy to explain what each part of the exam shows. Have your canine or feline examined by your veterinary health care professional every year to ensure healthy life with lots of years to share with you.

Additional Resources

- [The importance of annual exams in cats](#)
- [Are annual exams really necessary](#)

Animal Spotlight ~ Dog

Onyx

Transcribed By Katie Drenth

I'm Onyx and my rescue story began about three months ago when my owners gave me up because I was pregnant. They could no longer care for me and the nice volunteers at KAR took me in.

When I went to the vet with my new foster mom, they estimated that I would have six puppies, but two weeks later I surprised everyone by delivering 12 pups. Eight of my puppies were born healthy, while sadly four were still-born. I was exhausted and it was no easy task caring for so many pups. Luckily I had the help of my foster mom and my best doggy friend, Ayla, who was like an auntie to my pups.

All the puppies have found forever homes and I'm hoping that I will find mine too. I'm a very good girl and get along well with other dogs, cats and people. I love going for walks and I'm also a cuddly girl that likes to snuggle up with you on the couch, bed or your lap—I hope that's okay with you. I know I'll be a great addition to your family so check out my [web page](#) to learn more about me and I hope to meet you soon.



Pets of the Month

[Onyx](#)[Goldie](#)

KAR Links

- [Volunteer](#)
- [Become a Foster Family](#)
- [Adoptable Dogs](#)
- [Adoptable Cats](#)
- [Adoptable Kittens](#)
- [Special Needs Pets](#)
- [Senior Cat Companions](#)

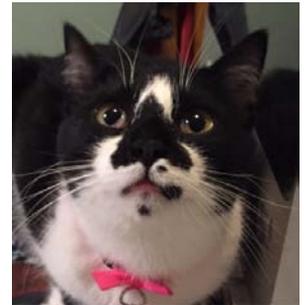
[Donate Today!](#)

Animal Spotlight ~ Cat

Thumbelina

By Rebecca Powers and Kara Harmsen

Meet Thumbelina—a wonderfully funny cat! This feline is lovey-dovey one minute and spunky the next. Thumbelina likes to give kisses and butt her head against yours, but she needs a little bit of time to get used to a new person. She also likes to be held for short periods of time. Thumbelina would love to find a new home soon. She loves kittens and makes a good auntie to the other kitties in her foster home. And how cute is this—she has 27 toes!



Thumbelina is a bit of a nibbler but there are little tricks to stop the nibbles. She has become buddies with another cat in her foster home named Link. [Thumbelina](#) and [Link](#) are both adoptable and would love to go to a forever home together!

Special Event

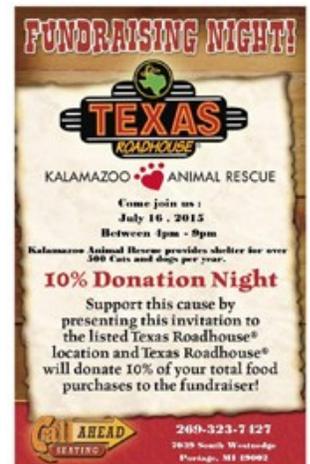
Texas Roadhouse Fundraiser

By Katie Drenth

Join us at **Texas Roadhouse** in Portage on July 16th from 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., and 10% of your total food costs (excluding alcohol) will be donated to KAR. You do not need the fundraiser flyer but you do have to mention the fundraiser to your server to make sure a donation is made.

Date: July 16, 2015**Time:** 4:00 - 9:00 p.m.**Place:** Texas Roadhouse, 7039 S. Westnedge Avenue, Portage

There will also be a raffle so be sure to get your tickets for a chance to win a dinner-for-two gift certificate! For more information and the event flyer, check out our [Facebook event page](#).



Connect With KAR



Find us on Facebook

Newsletter Team

- Lynn Bolhuis, Editor
- Kim Bourner
- Andrew Domino
- Katie Drenth
- Kara Harmsen
- Karren Jensen
- Emily Pizza
- Kristina Ramsdell
- Anna Versalle
- Maria Violante
- Danielle Wallis

[Email us](#) with any newsletter suggestions or questions!

Contact Us

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Special Thanks

Brothers Support KAR with Lemonade Stand

By Katie Drenth

We want to send out a huge thank you to brothers, Zander and Colton, who raised almost \$76 at their lemonade stand to help our rescued cats and dogs!



Welcome New Volunteers

- Annalyse Ellis
- Emily Hahn
- Nate Jakubowski
- Colleen McGilton
- Joy McPhillips
- Daniel Miller
- Kyle Paradine
- JoAnna Randazzo
- Nick Rudell
- Dianna Sachs
- Megan Schultz
- Lindsey Thompson

About Us

Kalamazoo Animal Rescue is an all-volunteer, federally recognized 501(c)(3) charitable organization that was founded in 1991 and is funded entirely through donations from the public.

KAR is dedicated to providing refuge to homeless, stray and abandoned cats and dogs in Kalamazoo and the surrounding communities.

Our volunteers give their time and energy to the efforts of rescuing animals and helping them to find permanent, committed and life-long homes.

Visit our [website](#) for more KAR information!

