

Bellwether Harbor

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www.facebook.com/BellwetherHarbor

Helping animals and people
make a connection
through education, training and adoption

WoofTrax Take Your Walk for a Dog

What is it? *Walk for a Dog* is a smartphone application that supports local animal organizations like Bellwether Harbor, every time you walk our dog.

How does it work? After you download the app onto your smartphone, take the phone with you when you walk your dog(s). Simply press the "Start Walking for ..." button and the app will keep track of your walk. When your walk is stopped it is credited to your selected shelter or rescue. The more people walking for Bellwether, the more is donated, so please spread the word.



Is your pet wearing an I.D. tag? ID tags should be worn by your animal at all times. A dog or cat can easily slip out through an open door and run off. The tag should be worn on a properly fitted collar, reducing the chances of the collar slipping off.

Do you have up-to-date information on the ID tag? Make sure to update your pet's ID tag or microchip information immediately when you move or change phone numbers. We offer both services here at Bellwether Harbor. Available anytime are tags which are engraved here while you wait, for a reasonable price. An ID tag will allow anyone who finds your animal to immediately call you or return your dog to your house.

Get your pet(s) Micro Chipped! Microchips are a great source of identifying lost pets; a veterinarian or shelter can scan the chip and bring up the owner's information. Standard ID tags are still highly recommended to use along with a microchip. Microchip clinics are held every second Saturday of the month or by special appointment.

Visit Us On The Web: www.bellwetherharbor.org

Our website has information about Bellwether Harbor, its policies and how to adopt an animal. It also has tips for owners needing to find a home for their cat or dog. An adoption application is accessible on the site, as well as a lot other useful tips. Find out about dog training. Look at photographs, read bios, and watch videos of Bellwether's amazing pets. Get the latest news with activities or just read up on shelter news. There is also an online volunteer application and a calendar of events.



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HARBOR HAPPENINGS

Pet Pals goes to School

In the months of February and March, Bellwether had over 200 kids ages 3-5 from Grant and Hesperia Head Start and Newaygo Daycare come and visit. They watched a video about being safe around dogs they don't know and techniques to protect them from stray dogs. All the children practiced "standing like a tree" and "curl up like a rock" while meeting some of the shelter dogs.

We are happy to announce in mid-March, Bellwether along with the West Michigan Therapy Dog group, will be visiting Daisy Brook Elementary School. It's the kick off to our program called Pet Pals Goes to School! We had stickers made for the program. The stickers say, "Ask me what I've learned! I'm a Pet Pal!" Each child will get one after each presentation. Maybe another child will ask about that sticker and our info can be passed along. Got to love the domino affect!

If a few kids can remember the things they learned, it might save them from a bite. Possibly they may teach a younger brother or sister or even their mom or dad. Bite prevention is our main goal when teaching kids dog safety.



This summer will be our 9th year for Pet Pals at the shelter. Kids can spend a few hours learning shelter things and also dog safety. This July we will be traveling to Saranac, Michigan. It's the farthest Bellwether has ever gone to help kids learn dog safety and bite prevention. "Pets Pals on the Road!" Just Perhaps?!

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Bellwether's Mission Statement

"Helping animals and people make a connection through education, training and adoption"



Supplies Are Always Needed

Bellwether Harbor is a non-profit entity that relies on the gifts of donors and volunteers to continue its mission of helping animals and people make a connection through education, training and adoption. If you or someone you know is interested in donating any of the following items to the animals at Bellwether Harbor contact the shelter at 231-924-9230. All donations are tax deductible.

- | | | | |
|--|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| - Hard Dog Toys | - Peanut Butter for Kongs | - Paper Towels | - Newspapers (no inserts) |
| - Cat Toys | - Liquid All Free Detergent | - Crates, Wire Cages | - Clorox Bleach & Wipes |
| - Pet Carriers | - Copy Paper | - Large Garbage Bags | |
| - Leashes | - Unscented Clay Cat Litter | - Used Blankets (no zippers) | |
| - Friskies Canned Cat Food, Pate Style | | - Diamond Naturals Puppy Food | |
| - Diamond Naturals Beef Meal and Rice Dog Food | | - Diamond Naturals Active Cat Food | |
| - Fancy Feast Canned Kitten Food | | - Diamond Naturals Kitten Food | |



Have you met Pearl?



Pretty Pearl came to us with nerve damage to her right front leg. For several months, we tried a new laser treatment, hoping to have her regain use of the leg. Unfortunately, the procedures were not effective. Pearl has recently had her leg amputated. But, it doesn't slow her down a bit! She loves to run and play and can catch a feather toy with the best of them. Pearl's nickname is 'Monkey'. She will happily launch herself from her kennel into your arms. And she gives the best hugs!

She is UTD on vaccines and has been tested FLV negative. Pearl has also been spayed. She is a dsh tabitort with a bobtail. Her approximate DOB was 4/17/12 and her date of arrival was 8/30/12 If you like Pearl, you can submit an online application or here at the shelter.

Have you met Indy?

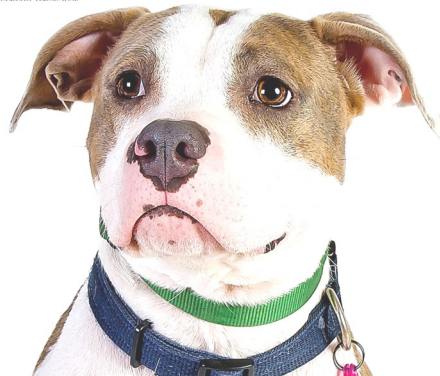
Independence (Indy to her friends) came to us from another local shelter.

She had been a resident there for a while before she began showing signs of pregnancy. She then came into our facility to give birth to her pups.

Indy has an amazing personality. She is a sweet lover that is eager to greet us every morning. She has tested negative for heartworms and will be up to date on vaccines and microchipped before going to her forever home.

Her approximate date of birth was 6/12/12 and her date of arrival was 6/12/14. Indy is a brindle and white Pit Bull Terrier mix. If you like Indy, you can submit an online application or here at the shelter.

TREASURED IMAGES
BY JEFFREY LLC
PHOTOGRAPHY TREMONT, MI



More Volunteers Are Always Welcome and Very Much Needed

Bellwether Harbor is always looking for committed volunteers to help at the shelter. The animals love you for it! Volunteers are needed in all areas including:

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| - Socializing cats and dogs | - Kennel Cleaning | - Dog Walking |
| - Bathing and grooming animals | - Grant Writing | - Education |
| - Housekeeping | - Special events | - Photography |
| - Fundraising | - Marketing | - Advertising |

Volunteers must be 15 years of age or older. For more information about volunteering and how you can help at Bellwether Harbor, visit the shelter or contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Carmen Froehle at 231-924-9230 ext. 3 or carmen@bellwetherharbor.org.

Tips for a Pet-Safe Easter!

With Easter right around the corner, our experts want to remind pet parents of a few holiday dangers.

- Beware of **Easter lilies**. These toxic plants can be fatal if ingested by our furry friends.
- Keep candy bunnies in check—**chocolate goodies are toxic to cats**, dogs and ferrets. And any treats containing **xylitol** an artificial sweetener used in many candies, chewing gum and baked goods—may be toxic too!
- Decorations can be dangerous, especially **Easter tinsel**. Cats love to nibble colorful plastic grass, which can lead to an obstructed digestive tract, severe vomiting and dehydration.
- Baby chicks and rabbits are not Easter gifts. While these festive babies are adorable, resist the urge to buy; they grow up fast and often require specialized care! Thousands of **ex-Easter bunnies and chicks** are abandoned each year when their novelty wears off.



Source: <http://www.aspc.org/blog/tips-pet-safe-easter>

Science. Exploring the Possibilities!

In February, we had some young scientists visit our shelter and they wanted to create an experiment with some of our cats. The girls wanted to see if the shelter cats preferred store bought cat toys, toys the girls had made themselves or just random items laying about. They made tally sheets with names of the toys and what cats used what toy most. It was interesting to watch for sure. A few short weeks later, we learned that the girls won blue ribbons at their science fair!

