#### Volume 10 HARBOR HAPPENINGS Issue 57 Winter 2013

# **Bonnie and Clyde**

Bellwether's year began with a miraculous story. In February of 2011, the shelter took in 2 elderly beagles. They were obviously bonded and very much 'in love'. Bonnie and Clyde lived with us for almost a year, hoping that their new family would come along. Instead, something even better happened. One quiet day in January, a young boy showed up at our doors asking about Beagles. Their family pets had disappeared almost a year before. The family happened to see photos of Bonnie and Clyde and instantly recognized them as their beloved pets.

Bonnie and Clyde (actually Daisy and Gunner) were overjoyed to see 'their boy'. They are now back home with the family of 8 that has loved them since they were just puppies.





Along with the great joy comes a very important message, if your pet is missing, please contact all local shelters and rescues. Your best friend may just be sitting there waiting for you to find them. See Page 4 for Proper ID of pets.

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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.



- Purina Dog, Puppy, Cat and Kitten Chow - Liq. All Free Detergent

- Unscented Clay cat litter

- Fabric softener sheets unscented
- Large Garbage Bags
- Pet Carriers

- Leashes
- Used Blankets and Comforters (no zippers)
- Newspapers (no inserts) - Copy Paper

- Peanut Butter for Kongs

# Have you met... Zin Zin?

Zin Zin is the last of 6 kittens that was born to a Bellwether Harbor cat named Licorice. Zin Zin was the perfect copy of her mother, in fact all of her sisters were the same as mom! They were sextuplets and in order to tell them apart we had to micro chip each of

them! Unfortunately, because of her color, Zin Zin has grown up here at the shelter and has been overlooked time and time again. She is guite personable and enjoys the company of people. She would make a perfect family pet! Ms. Zin Zin is FLV/FIV and bartonella negative. She is also spayed, UTD on her vaccines and has been micro chipped. Her date of birth was 5/26/09, she will be 4 years old this May.





### 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: - Kennel Cleaning

- Grant Writing

- Special events

- Marketing

- Socializing cats and dogs
- Bathing and grooming animals
- Housekeeping
- Fundraising

- Education
  - Photography

- Dog Walking

- Advertizing

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.

In the recent weeks people have found or lost a pet. Bellwether was notified of this useful link on Facebook and we want you to share it with you! It is call "For the Love of Louie" \*Michigan Lost Pet Lookers\*, they have resources, tips, and tools for lost pet owners. Take the time to learn about it below.

We recognize that the sudden disappearance of your beloved companion animal is emotionally shocking. We're here to support you! Your lost pet needs and deserves swift action and mounting awareness. Should you find yourself in a position with a lost pet, here are tips and suggestions:

\*Social Networking- There is undoubtedly strength in numbers. Despite what the media commonly suggests, there are numerous compassionate, dedicated, and loving individuals willing to assist. Generating awareness of your lost pet's disposition can be gained through social networking. We encourage you to share your pet's story on our page; and, we will assist with spreading awareness. We understand that panic may prevent you from properly disclosing pertinent details. We offer a list of suggestions to successfully aid in describing your lost pet.

- Missing date and location of disappearance: If possible, please include city, county, and streets (circumstances surrounding disappearance may prove beneficial)
- Contact information: Actual names do not need to be disclosed; however, a phone number is advantageous
- Pet name and nicknames .
- Physical description: Please include detailed information including pet type, breed(s), color(s), weight, spay/ neuter status, and unique physical characteristics
- Collar/Harness, ID, Microchip: We recognize collars and tags can become accidentally removed. However, if you suspect your pet was wearing a collar or identification prior to his/her disappearance, please include collar/harness color and ID information. Further, if your pet has a microchip, please alert others and make sure your contact information is current (you can contact the microchip company to verify).
- Pet temperament: Is your pet well-socialized...does he/she like other pets, men, women, or children? Is your pet fearful or anxious? We understand that lost pet behavior can temporarily transform. We also understand that certain triggers can aid in reverting your pet back to his/her original nature.
- Key words, commands, and positive triggers: Does your pet positively respond to nicknames, talk of treats, car rides, a particular person, etc.? Are there special words or phrases that should be used to lure your pet?
- Special interests and likes: Does your pet enjoy toys, treats, fellow animals, children, etc.?
- Identify factors you feel would lure your pet to safety (ex/someone calling out his/her name or nickname, squeaking a toy, speaking of "treats", offering an exciting car ride, sitting quietly, etc.).

# **Bellwether Harbor**

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It takes a lot to help the animals in our care! You may have considered volunteering your time. Volunteers are vital in the shelter, dogs need walked, socialized, bathed and loved. Cats need grooming, exercised and socialized too! If you are good with a camera we can use you. Everyday we use photos so people can see what is available for adoption. You might have other talents you can donate to our shelter. You may have thought of donating. As always, monetary gifts and supplies are greatly needed. Perhaps gift cards would be easier, the animals use many types of food to stay fit. We also use many cleaning supplies, so gifts cards would be an excellent donation to make. With in Bellwether's new website there is a donation section, you might want to just donate online too! No matter how you donate, your generosity benefits the animals. Bellwether Harbor is a non profit 501c3 organization. Thank you.

Is vour 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 current 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. Look at photographs, read bios, and watch video of Bellwether's amazing pets. Get the latest news with activities or just read up on shelter news. New the site is an online volunteer application and a calendar of events.