

# Bellwether Harbor

7645 W. 48th Street  
P.O. Box 475  
Fremont, MI 49412-0475

Phone: 231-924-9230  
Fax: 231-924-2012  
www.bellwetherharbor.org

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



## Just a Handful of Notable 2014 Adoptions!



**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](http://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. 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

## Holiday Hazards

[http://www.benderplace.com/allcreaturesgreatandsmall/pet\\_safety.htm#Holiday](http://www.benderplace.com/allcreaturesgreatandsmall/pet_safety.htm#Holiday)

During these busy and festive times of the year, such as Thanksgiving and Christmas, pet owners need to be alert to the potential dangers that exist for their animals. A few precautions will prevent unnecessary grief.

**DECORATIONS:** Sharp or breakable ornaments, ribbons, yarn, angel hair, icicles, and tinsel are all very real hazards to dogs and cats, who often ingest these items when attempting to play with them. These are NOT appropriate toys.

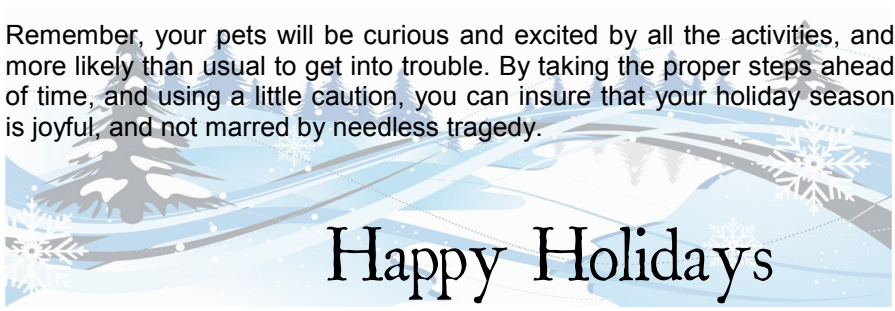
**TREE:** Pine tar from needles, spray on preservatives, and flocking are all poisonous – as is the water in the tree pan which animals might drink. Electrical cords and strings of lights can give a deadly shock when chewed on. Instead of sharp “fish-hook” hangers, use green or red pipe cleaners for attaching ornaments; twist tightly and they won't fall off. Also, be sure to secure tree from falling over onto pets.

**PLANTS:** Poinsettias, mistletoe, and holly are very poisonous to pets. Keep them out of reach.

**FOOD:** All that rich, fatty dressing and gravy can make your pet sick. Turkey bones can splinter and lodge in an animal's throat or intestines. The string used while cooking the turkey is tempting and hazardous; dispose of carefully. Chocolate is poisonous to animals, and alcohol is equally fatal. Keep all these away from your pet.

**OTHER:** Lighted candles, ribbons tied around a pet's neck, and open doors through which your pet can dash (often unnoticed) and become lost. Keep collars and I.D. on all cats and dogs in case they escape from your home or yard. When expecting guests, confine animals in a quiet room and keep door closed.

Remember, your pets will be curious and excited by all the activities, and more likely than usual to get into trouble. By taking the proper steps ahead of time, and using a little caution, you can insure that your holiday season is joyful, and not marred by needless tragedy.



## Happy Holidays

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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

- Cat Toys

- Crates, Wire Cages

- Pet Carriers

- Copy Paper

- Used Blankets (no zippers)
- Peanut Butter for Kongs

- Liquid All Free Detergent

- Clorox Bleach & Wipes

- Large Garbage Bags

- Unscented Clay Cat Litter
- Purina Dog, Puppy, Cat and Kitten Chow

- Newspapers (no inserts)

- Fabric Softener Sheets Unscented

- Leashes

- Large Garbage Bags

- Paper Towels



Have you met Felicity?

It is nearly impossible to capture all of Felicity’s charm in a photograph. She is a cuddlier that would love nothing more than a warm lap and a window to watch the birds through. Felicity would be a perfect companion for the couch potato whose idea of heaven in a comfy chair, a good book and a warm purring kitty. She is up to date on vaccines, is FIV/FLV and Bartonella negative and is spayed. She will also be micro chipped before going to her forever home. Her approximate date of birth was 1/12/07 and her date of arrival was 1/08/10.

If you like Felicity, you can submit an online application or here at the shelter.

Jam is a wonderful girl that loves people! Her favorite view of the world is from upside down, belly exposed in the hopes of a rub! Her wiggly, happy personality makes everyone smile. She does not, however, feel the same way about cats. They are just too tempting to chase!

Jam has stolen the show at more than one recent event. She has been a child education dog not only at in-shelter events, but also ‘on the road’. Jam has also attended the Bissell Blocktail party and our community’s recent ‘Give Local’ event. She is an amazing ambassador not only for our shelter, but also for her breed!

Jam is spayed, up to date on vaccines and is heartworm tested negative. Jam will also be microchipped before going to her forever home. She is a brindle Staffordshire Terrier mix with a short, stocky build.

Her approximate DOB was 10/26/10 and her date of arrival was 10/22/13. If you like Jam, you can submit an online application or here at the shelter.

Have you met Jam?



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

- Bathing and grooming animals

- Housekeeping

- Fundraising
- Kennel Cleaning

- Grant Writing

- Special events

- Marketing
- Dog Walking

- Education

- Photography

- 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](mailto:carmen@bellwetherharbor.org).

A SPOONFUL OF SUGAR (OR TUNA)

Who said medicine must taste bad to do good? Check with your veterinarian about compounding your cat’s pills into flavored, easily administered liquids instead! Pharmaceutical companies now offer a dozen or so feline-friendly flavors such as grilled tuna, roast lamb, and Angus beef for more than 350 veterinary prescriptions. Where was this idea when I was a kid? It sounds a whole lot better then the crushed aspirin and applesauce my mom use to give.

In addition, the companies can take the bitterness out of medicines like metronidazole or prednisolone while maintaining their potency.



Some medications for hyperthyroidism can be made into transdermal gels that can be massaged into the tip of your cat’s ear to be absorbed through the skin rather than swallowed.

By: Arden Moore

How to Keep Your Dog’s Healthcare Costs Low

By: Lorie Long

- Provide regular preventative care to keep your dog healthy. Keep his teeth clean by brushing them, and having them cleaned professionally as soon as this is needed. Take him to your primary care veterinarian for a checkup every year.
- Protect his mental and emotional health, too. Chronic stress can affect his immune system, and make him prone to physical illness.
- Control your dogs weight, and provide him with plenty of safe exercise.
- Prevent emergencies, don’t let your dog roam unsupervised.
- Keep your dogs safety in mind. Use a canine seatbelt or put him in a crate that is securely fastened in your car. Don’t subject him to conditions where he may become subject to heatstroke or frostbite.
- Feed your dog the best food you can afford. Change his diet if it seems to cause any sort of digestive, skin, or other type of problems.
- Spay or neuter your dog.

