

# THE **MARL** REPORT

FALL WINTER 2020



## FALLING INTO PLACE

READ MORE ABOUT OUR COVER DOGS INSIDE



## ABOUT MARL

The Michigan Animal Rescue League (MARL) is one of southeast Michigan's most established shelters, serving the animals and community since 1953.

MARL is a private, 501(c)(3) organization and our work is supported solely by private contributions, which are tax-deductible. Federal Tax ID: 38-1557622



## CONTACT

790 Featherstone | Pontiac, MI 48342

### MAIN ENTRANCE AND ADOPTION CENTER PARKING LOT:

325 Martin Luther King Jr Blvd N  
Pontiac, MI 48342

**P:** 248.335.9290 | **F:** 248.335.0261

**E:** info@marleague.org

www.marleague.org

### OFFICE HOURS:

Tuesdays through Saturdays 12-5 PM

Appointments can be made for any day of the week between the hours of 9 AM and 7 PM



## MARL BOARD

Cindy Howard | President

Robin Wright | President-Elect

Jim Issner | Treasurer

Daniel Kelly | Secretary

Jody Astrein | Director

Luanne Broecker | Director

Ralph Caplan | Director

Patricia Cox | Director

Beth Davidson | Director

Laura Fenton | Director

Jenny Heinrich | Director

Jana McNair | Director

Kimberly Whipple | Director

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Magee Humes

## COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD

Honorable Barry Howard

Deanna Malczewski

Susan Murphy

Ken Whipple

Lori Yankel



## LET'S GET SOCIAL!



Be sure to **LIKE** the Michigan Animal Rescue League Facebook page for the latest shelter news and updates, including adoptable animals, recent adoptions, upcoming events and more!



Can't get enough of our adorable, adoptable cats and dogs? Follow [@mar\\_league](https://www.instagram.com/mar_league) on Instagram!

## ON THE COVER

Poppy (pictured left) and Buddy (pictured right) were both rescued in 2017. These photogenic siblings are a fun-loving duo who make up the perfect family! Their mom says that they love going up north together, and Buddy lives for his toy ball while Poppy loves swimming and playing fetch.

Want to see **YOUR** dog on the next cover of the MARL Report? Don't miss the chance to bid on a photoshoot and cover feature at MARL's 12th annual Yappy Hour!

At MARL we are proud to call ourselves "A Different Breed of Shelter." But that is more than just an awesome tagline. It's a standard that we operate and live by each and every day. We call ourselves A Different Breed of Shelter because we accept animals that other shelters might turn away or already have turned away, giving a second chance to the most vulnerable of lives.

We believe that the "quality of the wait" for a forever home can make all the difference in the future of an animal. During that wait, our animals receive thorough medical care, exercise, training, and behavior support. They play games and go on outings and spend time listening to stories in the reading room. Our animals make important connections with staff and volunteers so they can maintain or regain their ability to trust people. We call ourselves A Different Breed of Shelter because we do whatever it takes for each of our animals to make it to the "after" part of their story – no matter how terrible and hopeless the "before" may have seemed.

We call ourselves A Different Breed of Shelter because we strive to provide a level and style of customer service and community engagement that forms lasting relationships. Whether our guests come to MARL to adopt, to surrender an animal that they can no longer care for, or for help because they are struggling to keep their pet with their family, we are here to provide support and do the right thing for the animals and our community.

Now we have a new and exciting reason to call ourselves A Different Breed of Shelter. As of mid-October, we began our next chapter in our new 15,000 sq. ft. powerhouse of a facility that is the perfect foundation for us to positively impact even more animals and people in our community. We are poised to save more, do more, and create lasting change.

Please keep in mind that your support is what allows us to save the lives of the dogs and cats who have nowhere else to turn. Your support is what makes us A Different Breed of Shelter.

We invite you to come and visit, take a tour, meet our team, and be involved. I believe that after spending some time around MARL and getting to know who we are and what we do, you will be calling us A Different Breed of Shelter as well.







## LOKI'S STORY

Loki was surrendered to MARL when his owners had to move and could not take him with them. This three-year-old boy was incredibly friendly and loved people and other animals. However, Loki was facing some major health challenges. He was overweight, had a double ear infection, an ulcer on one eye, and both eyes were so irritated he could barely open them.

Loki's journey with MARL started in March 2020 and continued into May. At one point, he was getting several medications in his food and three types of eye drops multiple times a day! This didn't affect his charming personality, though. Loki played non-stop with his furry foster siblings and made friends with everyone he met. His original family said he even liked to "snuggle with cats," and sure enough, he did!

Loki's personality was so irresistible that his foster family couldn't help but keep him. Loki now spends his days going on long walks, playing with toys, and, of course, snuggling his cat brother.



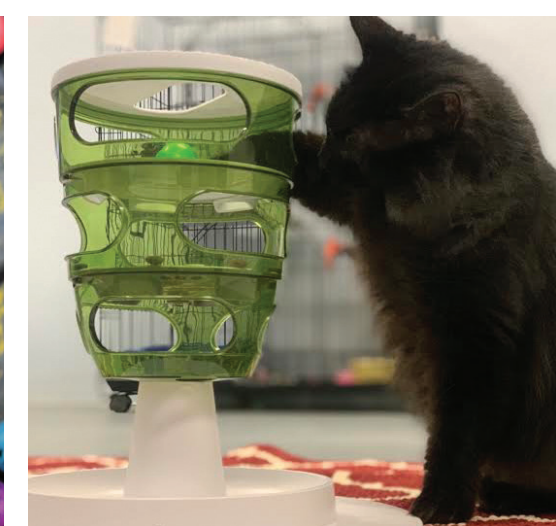
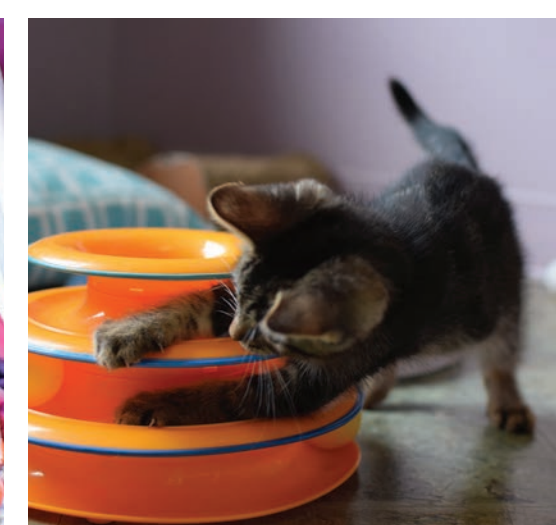
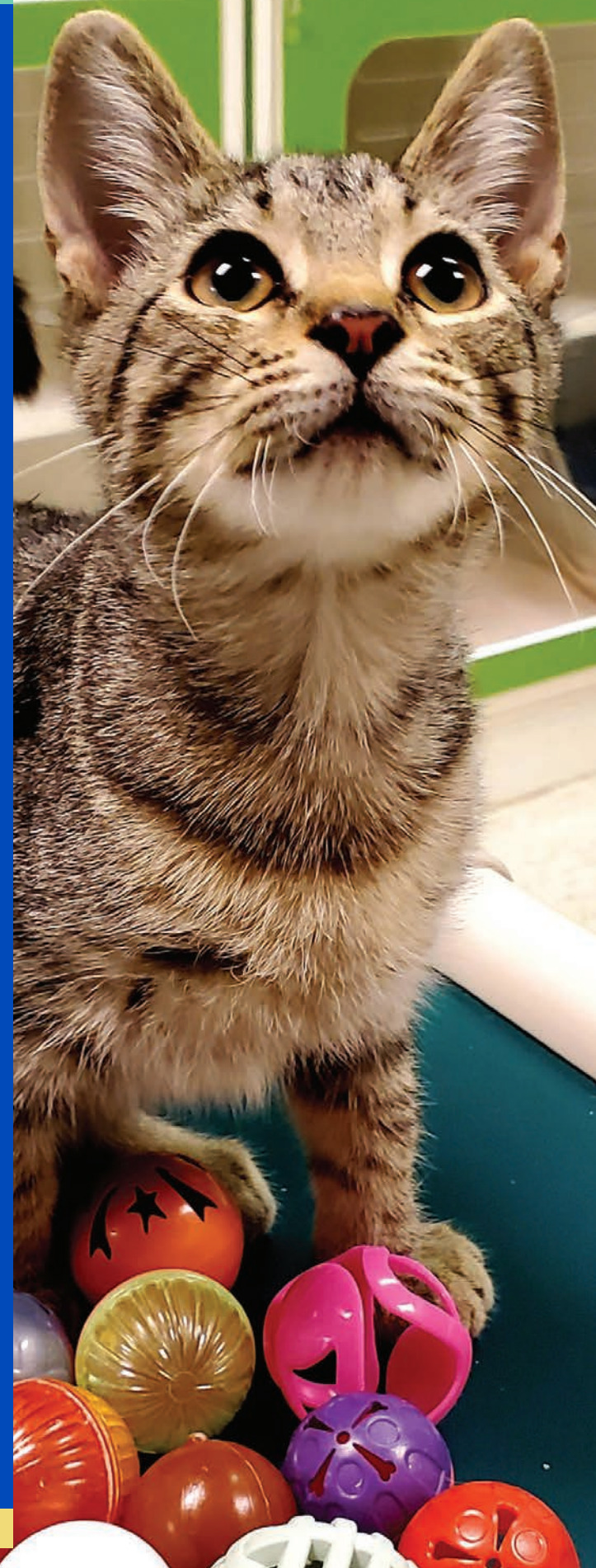
## BOXES AND BUBBLES: MARL'S CAT ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

Moving into the shelter can be a stressful transition for cats. When they are used to living outdoors or in a home, it can be hard to adjust to a new environment with different people. This transition can create anxiety, cause behavioral issues, and even impact their health.

To combat this, MARL has enrichment programs for our dogs and cats! Enrichment involves changing an animal's routine and environment to reduce stress. Every cat at MARL has an enrichment chart where staff and volunteers track activities designed to relieve stress and make the shelter a fun place to be.

MARL cats get the 5-star treatment when it comes to fun! They love playing in boxes, paper grocery bags, and packing paper (especially when there's catnip involved). We give them puzzle feeders, cat grass, and toys with tasty treats. They even get to play with bubbles and watch squirrels on TV!

Scared cats receive plenty of attention, too. Staff and volunteers brush them, read to them, and of course offer plenty of pets. All this enrichment helps MARL cats stay happy and healthy until they are adopted into forever homes.





# SERVING OUR COMMUNITY

Here at MARL, we go above and beyond for the animals who need our help. Usually this means providing the best **“quality of the wait”** for a forever home. Sometimes, it means doing much more. We are proud to lend a hand in unique circumstances to help animals stay with their families or to find homes for them. These are just a few examples of MARL’s community outreach program in action.



**BUDDY** was found by MARL and returned to his family with supplies to keep him safely in his yard.

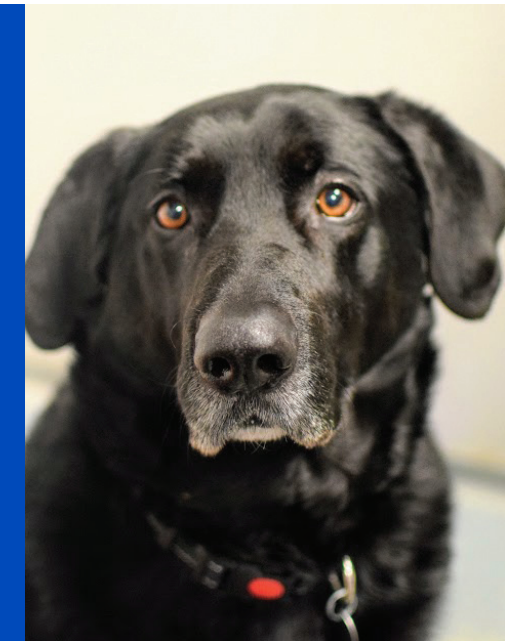


**GOOFY** is currently being treated for Heartworm Disease at no cost to his owner from the comfort of his home.

**KASHI** was following a mail carrier and trying to get in her truck! The carrier kept her safe until MARL was able to arrive and bring her to the shelter.



**SILVER** is one of the cats in MARL’s Seniors-for-Seniors program. We take care of supplies and vet care while local senior citizens provide loving homes for our older cats.



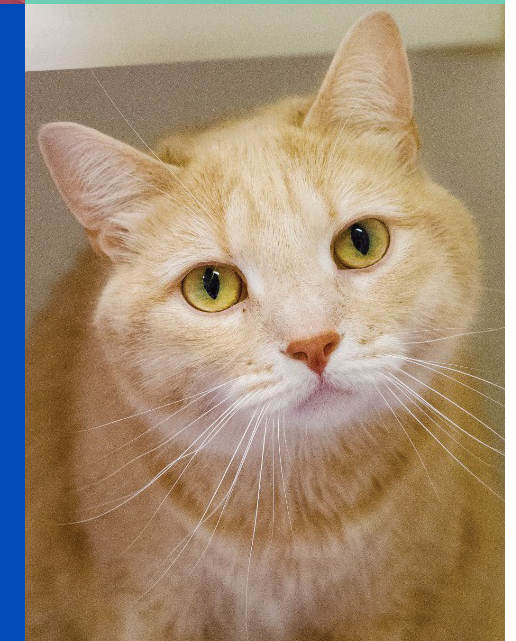
**NICO** is an outdoor cat who was brought into MARL to be fixed to prevent overpopulation in his area.



When **TYSON’S** owner passed away, MARL joined forces with the Animal Care Network to find him a perfect new home.



**SHELDON & COOPER** were left behind in an apartment. Their neighbors found them but couldn’t bring them into the shelter, so MARL drove out to pick them up.





## SAVING LIVES IN QUARANTINE

When this year began, nobody could imagine the global pandemic headed our way. As shelters across the country closed their doors, MARL was determined to remain open to our community. We added safety measures, adjusted policies, and prepared to continue saving lives during the quarantine.

The first time we saw **ZEUS** in March he was in terrible shape. His whole body was covered in wounds with lesions and scars all over his face. Our team worked hard to treat his injuries, and soon enough Zeus became the big baby he was always supposed to be! This gentle giant found his forever home in October, where he now enjoys life on a lake and snuggling with his new mom!

**THE GAMES LITTER** was found outside early one June morning by a staff member. Peeking out from under a blanket were eight chihuahua-mixes, all stuffed together in a tiny crate left by the shelter door. This pint-sized pack took some time to trust people again, but one by one they all found amazing homes.

**BABY** came to MARL in late June with paralyzed back legs. Despite her challenging start to life, Baby was always smiling and wiggling! She got to run again with the help of a doggy wheelchair, and even went for “walks” outside in a dog stroller. Baby’s resilient spirit captured the attention of a perfect adopter who’s going to keep working on her mobility with therapies.

It wasn’t just the dogs who benefitted from MARL staying open. **MELANIE**, a sassy senior cat who had been at MARL for over a year, found her forever home in July. **ROSE**, a tiny kitten who got hit by a car, was nursed back to health over the summer. **TEACUP**, just one year old and starving, found a cozy indoor life at MARL in May. Over the year we’ve taken in and fostered over 100 tiny kittens who got loving care while growing big enough for adoption.

MARL will always be committed to providing life-saving care to the animals who need us most. We continue to take precautions to keep our staff, volunteers, and community safe while being there for the countless animals who rely on us.

ZEUS



THE GAMES LITTER



BABY



MELANIE, ROSE, AND TEACUP





# THE GIFT OF LOVE

A gift to MARL is a thoughtful way to honor or memorialize someone you care about and make a meaningful contribution to the lives of the homeless cats and dogs in southeast Michigan. Listed below are gifts made in honor or in memory of a loved one in the amount of \$20 or more. These gifts were received between March 1, 2020 – August 31, 2020.

## IN HONOR OF

**All Animals** | Judy Roscoe  
**Bailey** | Alanah Coffey  
**Barry and Cindy Howard** | Mike Zeid  
**Betsy Schneider** | Josie DeLorenzo  
**Brad Treglowne** | Gilbert Mannella  
**Bubba and Boo** | Scott and Sherry Irwin  
**Charlie (Chalo, El Chappo)** | Charmian Fletcher  
**Chris Halas** | Barbara Cumming  
**Cindy Howard** | Ilene Rubin, Fawn Chayet, Rebecca Levine  
**Colleen Zoner** | Audrey Blaylock  
**Connie Sepelak** | Tony and Jodi Mollica  
**Connor's recovery** | David and Nancy Gad-Harf  
**Cooper Alter** | Barbra Alter  
**Daisy T. Russell** | Amanda Graham  
**Don Levinson** | Jo Ellen Sousa, Jean Wellman  
**Esther Littmann** | Carl Littmann, Alan Littmann  
**Gay Parker** | Kendrick Sims  
**Gus** | The Francek's, Christina Fifield  
**Jim Darbyshire** | The family of Beverly Piskorski

**Jody Astrein** | Cindy Howard  
**Joni Meahan** | Mr. and Mrs. Charles Batcheller  
**Joseph Troy's 70th birthday** | Mary Ann Troy, Patrick, Carol, Zachary, Nicholas, Alexandra, Elizabeth, and Lillie Troy  
**Kevin McKenna DVM** | Marilyn J. Tripp  
**Kim Millard (and her love for animals)** | Penny Millard, Linda Smith, Kristin Healy  
**Kristy Bower** | Karen Harrison  
**Laura Fenton** | Sara & John, Alicia & Tom, Paula & Rob, and Margie and Tom  
**Leo** | Zander and Ava  
**Lisa Varnier** | Connie Dowe  
**Logan Mittlestat** | Sandra Brabant  
**Luna** | Nancy Lorenz  
**Maggie** | Susan and Philip Dial  
**Marilee Lloyd and Joseph Radding** | Gaylin and Don Walli  
**Mark and Ann Marie Gibson** | Adrienne Kozlowski  
**Mary Jo O'Donnell** | Pat O'Neill

**Michele Kersten-Hart & Tony Hart, to commemorate Steve Lutz's birthday** | Daniel Jenuwine  
**Ms. Barbara White** | Linda Bartz  
**Ms. Lisa Gray** | Gaylin and Donald Walli  
**Pat O'Neill** | Mary Jo O'Donnell  
**Pauline Kavesky** | Ruth Moss  
**Ralph Caplan** | Adrienne Kozlowski, Cindy and Barry Howard  
**Robin Hoffman** | Helen and Jack Berke  
**Sandy Kondos** | Nancy Harkins  
**Stella Saxe** | Gene Schmidgall  
**Sue Shogan** | Amelia and Miles Stimpson  
**Susan Blaylock** | Audrey Blaylock  
**Susie** | Pam and Mark Landstrom  
**Volunteers who help take care of the animals** | Judy Bell  
**Wizz (Wizard)** | Arlene M. Walker-Hall

## IN MEMORY OF

**Alex Martin's mother** | Dr. Sandra Lyness  
**Ally and Rusty** | Glenn Radar and Karen Bartos  
**Ambrose Palmer** | Kathryn Travnikar  
**Annette Bedz** | Dr. and Mrs. Steven P. Lengyel, Heather Lengyel & Kevin Mailloux  
**Annie and Hershel** | Steven Ramirez  
**Anthony Orlando Grimaldi** | Alka Khindri, Barbara and HoJo Willenzik, Bev McInis, Dave Anderson, Dawn and Jerry Kelly, Dorothy Martin, Family of Uncle George Herman, Gregory and Michelle Biddinger, Janet Dondanville, John and Kim Hagar, Kathleen Ball, Kimberly, Shaun, and Bennett, Luanne Broecker, Maria Toia, Richard Biddinger, Rob and Sharlene Butler, Robin Matczak, Rose, Nastassia, Sean, Ricky, and Whitney, Sharon Ryeson, Steven and Marsha Candela  
**Archie** | Roger and Dottie Barnett  
**Arlo** | Linda Boyer

**Arthur** | Jill Schubiner  
**Augie** | Fran and David Grossman  
**Aunt Franny** | Lisa and Kenny Fox  
**Bags** | Candace Sebold  
**Barbara Puckett** | Kevin McMahon  
**Bear** | Kayleigh Wachowicz  
**Beemer** | Diane Blau  
**Bella** | Christine Lustig  
**Bella** | Fran and David Grossman and Lisa and Kenny Fox  
**Beloved Father** | Lisa Fox  
**Betty Pietrzak** | Carol Bentz  
**Bill Christian** | Darlene Gallagher, Jennifer and Mike Wiswell, Kevin and Phyllis Cullen, Mike and Laura Bosak, Mike and Vickie Worrell, Mistie Crapsey  
**Blaze and Dixie** | Susan Liggett  
**Bob Gergle** | Bill and Judy Schisa  
**Bobby Bean** | Jenny Heinrich, Marty Koonter

**Bogie** | Donna Serwin  
**Boudreaux and Thibodeau** | Mary and Nick Suciujr.  
**Brian Bogden** | Tamara Ihm  
**Bruce Barkin** | Karen Cantor  
**Buddy** | Robin Nice  
**Buddy** | Sarah Saltzman and Scott Loney  
**Buddy Bokshan** | Don and Mary Jo Bokshan  
**Cap Steyer** | George and Sandra McKinzie  
**Carol Ann Mazur** | Lawrence Mazur  
**Carol Burdo Oliver** | Chris and Margie Richards  
**Casey** | Mary Keller  
**Catie** | Nita Larpenteur  
**CeeCee** | Lisa, Fran, and Bonnie  
**Charlene Patterson** | Cathy and Bill Korreck  
**Charles Royal Walsh** | Jerry and Kathy Blackburn  
**Charlotte AnnChery** | Almstadt  
**Charlotte Rosner** | Bruce and Kathy Tobin, Gary and Susan August

**Charm** | Rebecca Snyder  
**Cindy, sister of Marilyn Berman** | Allan and Linda Kahn Gale  
**Cleo Rush** | Dr. and Mrs. Steven P. Lengyel, Heather Rudge  
**Craig Gutowski** | George and Cheryl Meehan  
**Dali Cat** | Judy Roscoe  
**Danny** | Linda and Herbie Glass  
**Darby** | Marilyn and John Nathan  
**Darlene Swartz** | Kenny, Lisa, and Freddi Fox  
**Donald Davis** | Allan and Linda Kahn Gale  
**Dorothy Schroeder** | Claire Bernacki  
**Dottie** | Linda Record  
**Dr. Irv Lutwin** | Daniel Winer  
**Dr. Noel Lawrence Rise** | Jan Monson  
**Ebonie** | Darice Cobb  
**Edward Saroli** | Angela Martin  
**Eileen Hemphill** | Kathryn Anderson  
**Elsie** | Luanne Salz  
**Elvis** | Pat Kelly  
**Emilie Leithauser** | Jane Harrington-Durst, Mary Lee, Stanley Matchett, The Spriets  
**Enzo Villamor** | Kathryn Travnikar  
**Epiphany, Kiva, Jordy and Belle** | Mary Szymula  
**Eric Silverman** | Ann Weber  
**Ernie Alix** | Cindy Alix  
**Eva MeHarry** | Penelope Sakis, Susanne Forbes Dicker  
**Evan Hicks** | Pat Baumgarten  
**Florence Sayles** | Ranees Mortis  
**Frances Knotts** | Charna Cook  
**Frank Moran** | Lisa and Kenny Fox  
**Frank Sykes** | Ken and Edna Kost  
**Frankie** | Lisa Sage  
**Freckles** | Celina Rzasa  
**Fred Klem** | Susan Kornfield  
**Freddie and Kruger** | Valerie Jean Lauer  
**Frenchie and Pierre** | Carolyn Patterson  
**George Farkas** | Julie (Nelson) and Jan Klein  
**Grace Ann Glozier** | Jerry and Eva Posner  
**Grandma Helen Andrews** | Lori Nowicki  
**Greg Brown** | Linda and Barry Rosenbaum  
**Gwen Silverstein** | Danielle Remer & Neil Richards  
**Gypsy Rose and Princess** | Ivy Lee Reinhardt  
**Harley** | Jeff and Kathy Plank  
**Harrington J. Podolsky** | Shelly and Arnold Podolsky  
**Harvey, Dugan, and Roeper** | Judith Bryce  
**Honey Levin** | Kim, Ken, Emily, and Daniel Levin  
**Hunter** | JoAnn Hubenka  
**Irene Brooks** | Cathy and Bill Korreck  
**Irene Rader** | Ron and Joanne Clarke  
**Irv Wolk** | The Grossman's, The Papandrea's, and The Fox's  
**Jack Orava** | Mrs. Myrna Orava and Family  
**Jackson Lutz** | Patricia Lutz  
**Jake** | Joanne and John Kulka  
**Jasmine** | James and Sandra Muccioli  
**Jennie Valenti** | Brian Hughes  
**Joan and Myron Benner** | Shelley Benner  
**Joanne Steinmayer** | Carol Chrisinske, Danny and Karen Mott, Joyce Martin  
**John Fouggerouse** | Kathy Johnson  
**John Wolak** | Barbara Wolak  
**Johnnie Perry Jr.** | Joe and Barb Jaschuk  
**Judy Crain** | Jim and Barb Holland  
**Judy Humes** | Cindy and Barry Howard  
**Julia Galli Olson** | Ginda Gruse  
**Juno** | The Girson Family  
**Justin Peltier** | Judi Peltier  
**Kathy Rita Haefner** | Jackson Dawson, Jennifer Mitchell  
**Katie** | Del and Mary Lauria  
**KC Valenti** | Carol and Chuck Valenti  
**Keji** | Dr. Sandra Lyness  
**Kenny** | Susanne Elmy  
**Kevin Lyons** | Dana Walker  
**Kirby Lemmon** | Lauren Davenport  
**Kona Chard** | Roberta Dunn  
**Lacie and Patty** | Carol, Carmen, and Callie  
**Lacy** | Linda Grace

**Lady Girl** | The Francek's  
**Lady, Puddles, Misty, Igar, Maggie and Red** | Pamela Barton  
**Lainie Bobroff Courey** | Becky and Jay Levine  
**Larry – Sonic's best friend** | Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Ostrowski  
**Leni Astrein** | Howard and Laurie Weinberger, Eunice Galperin, Ilene Emmer, Ina and Keith Bornstein, Marcia Nodel and Murphy, Michele and Mitchell Bleznak, Leslye Golding  
**Leo Friedman** | Allan and Linda Kahn Gale  
**Lewis** | Griffin Thomas  
**Lilly Belle** | Jeff and Debbie Hasenau  
**Lily** | Ron and Janet Parrott  
**Linda Kovach** | Scott and Angie Rosenbeck  
**Lucky** | Ed and Amy Bolt  
**Lucky** | Thomas Todd  
**Lucy** | Sandy Smith  
**Lucy, Lupi, Lacey, and Lindy** | Joan Emerick and Peter Saldana  
**Lucy, Nino, Sparky, Sally, Freddie, Maggie, and Abbey** | Dr. and Mrs. Frank Schalm  
**MacGregor Tabby and Midnight** | Cathe White  
**Mack** | John Lange  
**Mackie** | Margaret Roebuck  
**Maddy Kahn Gale** | Mom and Dad  
**Maggie** | Irene Grysiewicz  
**Magic** | Julie and Jan Klein  
**Margaret Ann Rose** | Michael and Alice Pierce  
**Margarita, Paulette, Joelle, Mitzi, Tina, Rebel II, Flame, Ginger, Simone, and Ellie** | Maureen Wingate  
**Maria** | Chris Mead  
**Mark Blaylock** | Audrey Blaylock, Cindy and Barry Howard, Joan Snodsmith  
**Mary Jane Barrett** | Yvonne Fisher McCready  
**Mary L. Coates, Sammie, Dozer, Willy & Buster** | Diane L. Kaunelis  
**Mary Lou Schoenherr** | Robert and Karin Schneider  
**Mary Yerant-Shaunce** | Cathy Klein  
**Marylou Fedosky** | Robert Fedosky  
**Max** | Nancy Von Koehnen  
**Max Hartle** | Teresa Hartle  
**Melanie Sichertman** | Judy Shindorf  
**Mesha and Snowbear** | Kristie Mobley  
**Michael Cullen** | Lisa and Kenny Fox  
**Michele Kotzian** | Lynn Carr  
**Misty** | Marion Prover  
**Molly** | Mary and Troy Keller  
**Monster** | Eliza and Brad Kauder  
**Morris Usher** | Lawrence Usher  
**Mother of Mrs. Linda Perlman** | Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Steel and Family  
**Mr. Ronald Sherr** | Linda and Herbie Glass  
**Mrs. Shirley Rockentine** | Jim Rudnick  
**Murphy** | Jenny Heinrich  
**My Sweet Annie** | Paula D'Ambrosio  
**Nancy Skae** | Lisa and Kenny Fox  
**Nature Boy** | Cheryl Stanley  
**Neeka** | Tim Simpson and Jeremy Dafoe  
**Noah Grow** | Laura Foster  
**Nugent Hackstedde** | Mr. and Mrs. James L. Hackstedde  
**Ollie** | Mary Myers  
**Oscar** | Dr. Sandra Lyness  
**Oscar Schwartz** | Jody and Gary Astrein  
**Owen Goren** | Steven C. Goren and Hilary Haber, Hilldale Veterinary Hospital and Cindy Mifsud  
**Ozzy** | Kay Grigg  
**Ozzy** | Sandy and Andy Dubin  
**Patricia DeConinck** | Karen Grunewald, Melissa Yee  
**Patton Fallscheer** | Jason Gilmore  
**Pearl Tiedeman** | Bob and Andi Beagle, Jessie Lussenden, Larry and Kendra Porter  
**Penny** | James Martin  
**Petey** | Mary Lou Mulgren  
**Petunia** | Debbie Arquette and Rosalie Capalungan  
**Piper** | Melissa Jankowski  
**Pretty Bird** | Linda Kahn Gale  
**Ralph Puckett** | Sue and Dick Johnston  
**Ray and Rachell** | Francine Cutler

**Richard Harris** | Carol and Doug Wyman  
**Rieley** | Fred and Dana Walker  
**Ripley and T.J.** | Albert Abdey  
**Rocko** | Michele and Marc Borovoy  
**Ronald Elliott** | Rosemarie Karbal  
**"Rookie" Mullins** | Jim and Sally Cavellier  
**Rosa Erstein** | Suzanne, Stu, Melissa, Mitch and Brenna  
**Rosellyn K. Maciejewski** | Irwin Moyna  
**Rover** | Robin Hoffman  
**Roxie** | Mary Ellen Hreben  
**Roxy** | Susan Brown  
**Russel Gillespie** | Deborah Gillespie  
**Russell** | Rodney Dewey  
**Russie Hurwitz** | Susan Koehl  
**Sam** | Ely and Andrea Tama  
**Sammy** | Bridget Farnam  
**Sammy** | Joyce Wefel  
**Sara Bakst** | Julie (Nelson) & Jan Klein  
**Sasha and Lucy** | Perry Phillips  
**Scout** | Mary Murphy  
**Sheldon** | Gloria Gold and Deborah Miela  
**Shelly Rini** | Marian and Paul Brasmer  
**Shirlee Bloom** | Helaine Simons  
**Shirley Fizer** | Karen and Jeffrey Cantor  
**Shirley Rockentine** | Michael DeGrande, The Korff Family  
**Sky** | Nancy Gordon  
**Socks** | Aurelie, Bri, Crystal, Christina, and Shanee'  
**Sprout** | Kate Shannon and Mari Levine  
**Squash** | Joan Castillo  
**Squeak** | Barbara Lowe  
**Stafford Burroughs** | Virginia Mann  
**Stanford and Gloria Schantz** | Kevin McMahon  
**Star** | Susan Cassels Kamin  
**Stinky and Marley** | Linda Kahn Gale  
**Struedel** | Ginda Gruse and Greg Gruse  
**Stu** | Kevin and Baerbel Church  
**Stuart Little** | Betsy Barnes  
**Sully** | Rodney Lema  
**Susan Jane Ryan** | Clifford Smart Middle School Staff  
**Sylvia Darby** | Beverly Bazzell  
**Teresa DeMarco** | John DeMarco  
**Terry Kinchular** | Eileen Conley  
**Thom Koutsoukos** | Naomi and Drew Starr and Family  
**Tigger** | Ellen Piligian  
**Toni Bufo** | Bill Bufo  
**Tony Rodriguez, Jr.** | Uncle Mac and "Ant" Kerry  
**Toot** | Teresa McMahon  
**Toots** | Pam Maven  
**Tracie Vantiem** | Harold Mott  
**Traver** | Fran Grossman, Suzie Share  
**Traverse** | Shelley Owens  
**Valeria Wood** | Carol Lawrence and Rosemary Meyecic  
**Venus** | Elizabeth Lin  
**Vivian Cary and Jim Cary** | George and Sandra McKinzie  
**Wanda Fay Doney** | Jean and Paul Johnson  
**Wayne Clinger** | Joelle Lukasiewicz-Adell  
**Willard (Bill) Carson Christian** | Melodie, Mike and Nick Kapolka, Judy Skender, Ken and Mary K. Fix, Kathy Mills, Your friends at Benteler Automotive  
**Winnie** | Becky and Jay Levine  
**Winsome Summer Star Phillips** | Patti and Rick Phillips  
**Zach Berlin** | Becky and Jay Levine

## CAT ROOMS



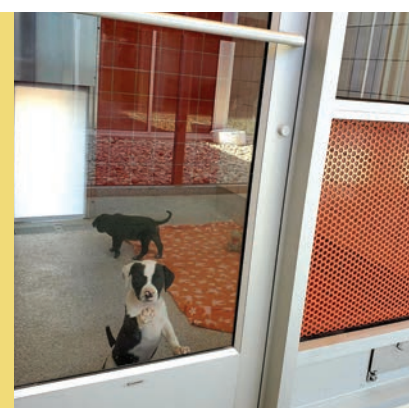
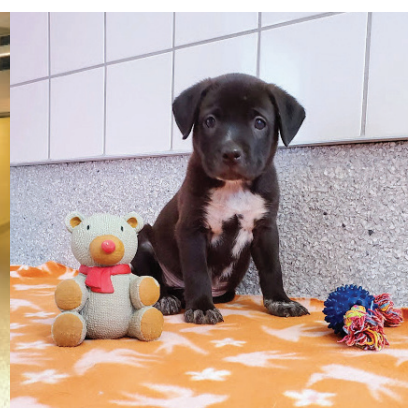
# THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME

We are happy to report that MARL's new building is finally complete! The new facility is three times the size of our original building and outfitted with many amenities to give the best quality of life to the animals inside. With features like a dedicated medical wing, custom-designed cat and dog housing, and improved air quality, we can save twice as many animals as ever before.

## DOG NEIGHBORHOOD COURTYARD



## ADOPTABLE DOG NEIGHBORHOODS



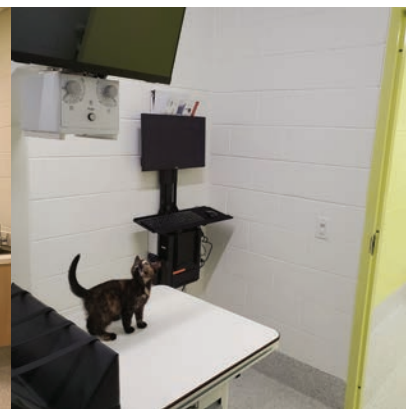
"I am so excited for our dogs to be in these kennels! The fresh air and 24-hour indoor-outdoor access will make all the difference in their health and well-being. And now that we have at least one yard for every four dogs, they will get to spend a lot more time outdoors! Even on stormy days when the dogs would rather be inside, they can still watch the rain in our large, open air courtyard."

- Vikki Sushka, Dog Wellness Coordinator

"The improved air circulation is really exciting because it'll reduce the spread of diseases, decreasing the number of animals who are sick in our care. The state-of-the-art isolation area plus more in-house medical capabilities will make treating sick animals so much more efficient."

- Nicole Fields, Licensed Vet Tech

## MEDICAL WING



"For cats, one great benefit of our new building is that they can no longer see or hear dogs. They will have a much more peaceful and calmer environment which helps them adapt more easily. Here, they have floor-to-ceiling windows with ledges to hang out on while checking out the world outside. With more cat rooms, the cats will get even more time outside of their cages to explore and play!"

- Kim Pichler, Cat Care Coordinator



"This new shelter is great, no bones about it! I think I'm going to really like living here until I find my forever home. There's so much space to run around, and I can't wait to snuggle with people in the real-life room and go for long walks on the trail. I'd give this place two paws up!"

- Snorkel, Adoptable MARL Dog



We regret that we are not able to host a large, public Open House due to COVID-19 safety measures. MARL will be hosting small events over the next few months, and we hope to have everybody out to see the new facility as soon as is safely possible.



# MAKE YOUR MARK ON HOMELESS ANIMALS

Naming an area in MARL's new building is a meaningful way to honor your commitment to the animals in perpetuity. Now is your chance to leave your mark on a building that is going to save countless animals' lives. To secure your naming opportunity, please contact Executive Director Magee Humes at **248-778-5351** or **mhumes@marleague.org**.

## NEW! \$10,000

**INDIVIDUAL DOG KENNEL:** These custom-designed dog kennels will be the perfect temporary home for dogs waiting for adoption. Each kennel is state-of-the-art with 24-hour indoor-outdoor access, heated floors, and they all face a sunny, open-air courtyard.

**ROW OF CAT CAGES:** Each row includes up to four double-sided adoptable cat cages. These custom-designed cat enclosures provide a window and lobby view, perching capabilities, and the ability for a cat to hide away when they seek more privacy.

## \$5,000/YEAR FOR 5 YEARS

**EXAM ROOM:** Exam rooms will be located adjacent to animal check-in to allow medical staff to efficiently and thoroughly examine each newly arriving animal in a low-stress, quiet environment.

**GROOMING STATION:** The grooming station will allow staff and volunteers to bathe and groom animals in a low-stress and efficient environment.

## \$10,000/YEAR FOR 5 YEARS

**NEW RESIDENT DOG ROOM:** This room will house dogs who are new to the shelter, whether they are on stray hold or just decompressing, while they are waiting to become available for adoption.

**NEW RESIDENT CAT ROOM:** The new resident cat room will be home to newly arriving cats until they are ready for adoption.

## \$20,000/YEAR FOR 5 YEARS

**REAL-LIFE ROOM:** This cozy area with the feel of a living room will serve the dual purpose of preparing animals for life in a real home and helping animals relax during meet-and-greets with potential adopters.

**PLAY PARK:** The play park is a multifunctional play yard where staff and volunteers can take dogs for a game of fetch, a belly rub in the sun, or a fun training session.

**These are just a few of the many naming opportunities available!** Still not sure what area you would like to name? Contact Executive Director Magee Humes at **248-778-5351** or **mhumes@marleague.org** to schedule a personal tour of the new facility.



## WHAT IS A MULTI-YEAR PLEDGE?

A multi-year pledge allows a donor to make annual payments towards a commitment at a comfortable pace. For example, a \$25,000 pledge commitment towards MARL's HOME. HEART. FUREVER. campaign allows a donor to significantly impact the dogs and cats, select from a list of naming opportunities within the new building, have their gift matched dollar for dollar, AND it can be paid over a period of five years.



## CAN I SECURE A NAMING OPPORTUNITY WITH AN ESTATE/ PLANNED GIFT?

Yes! During the course of the campaign, donors of documented estate/planned gifts can qualify for naming opportunities in the new building. You can designate your gift to a specific need at MARL or it may be unrestricted and used where needed most at the shelter. Please contact us for additional information on how best to document your gift.



"A naming opportunity in MARL's new building was the most perfect way to honor my dear friend whose love for animals was unmatched.

Knowing that her name will be represented in this building where animals are so extraordinarily loved and cared for every day makes me beam with pride."

**- MARL CAMPAIGN  
DONOR**



## CONTACT US

To find out more about how to document your gift please contact Executive Director, Magee Humes, at **mhumes@marleague.org** or **248-778-5351** or visit **marleague.org**.





# YAPPY WEEK WAS A VIRTUAL SUCCESS!

Superheroes and sidekicks celebrated a different breed of Yappy Hour this year with MARL's first-ever virtual Yappy Week! Yappy Week took place completely online from June 1-7, 2020 and invited guests to enjoy the things they love about Yappy Hour right from their own homes. Guests enjoyed taking a peek at life behind-the-scenes at MARL, watching exclusive videos like how to make a signature Yappy Week cocktail, and joining a virtual "Guest List" featuring over 100 pets supporting their furry friends in the shelter.

Yappy Week was an incredible success with over \$130,000 raised for the animals! The animals and staff at MARL are so grateful for every donor, sponsor, and ticketholder who supported MARL during this unprecedented time.

## SAVE THE DATE

Plans are underway to resume our regular Yappy Hour next year on June 3rd, 2021 on the beautiful grounds of Meadow Brook Hall. If you are interested in getting involved, please contact Megan Garrison at [mgarrison@marleague.org](mailto:mgarrison@marleague.org) or (248) 330-6809.



## THANK YOU, RALPH AND RUBY, IN LOVING MEMORY OF SAM

The Michigan Animal Rescue League is incredibly grateful for the enduring support of Ralph and Ruby. While we will greatly miss Sam's presence at Yappy Hour in the future, his memory lives on in his family's incredible gift to the shelter he was adopted from. Ruby, Sam, and Ralph have been some of Yappy Hour's greatest supporters, and we truly can't thank them enough for their generous gift which will help other rescue animals just like Sam and Ruby find wonderful, forever homes.

### CO-CHAIRS

\*Beth Davidson  
\*Laura Fenton

### CANINE CO-CHAIRS

Connor Davidson  
Hank Fenton

### HONORARY CO-CHAIRS

\*Cindy & Hon. Barry Howard  
Cara & Brian Krupa

### HOST COMMITTEE

\*Jody & Gary Astrein  
Betsy Barnes  
Tracie Berry  
Hon. Jim & Janet Blanchard  
\*Ralph Caplan  
Jennifer Falcinelli  
Beth Hall  
\*Jenny Heinrich  
Connie Hogan  
\*Daniel Kelly  
Deanna Malczewski  
Lois Paquin  
Molly & Brady Phillips  
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Lisa Wasserman  
\*Kimberly & Kenneth Whipple  
Ann Wiacek  
Lauren Willette Strzempek  
\*Robin Wright  
Lori Yankel

\* 2020 Board of Directors

## AN EXTRA SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR 2020 SUPER HERO SPONSORS

## GOLD GRAND CHAMPION SPONSORS

IN MEMORY OF SAM FROM RALPH & RUBY

## BEST IN SHOW SPONSORS

KARMANOS CANCER INSTITUTE AND MCLAREN HEALTH CARE



## TOP DOG SPONSORS

PATRICK & LAURA FENTON

### LOYAL FRIEND SPONSORS

John M. Bashur in Memory of Peggy Bashur  
Sandy & Keith Kondos  
Christine & David Provost  
Lisa & Scott Wasserman  
Wright-Hurley Family

### BEST BUDDY SPONSORS

A. Alfred Taubman Foundation  
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Law Offices of Barry L. Howard, P.C.  
Tim & Susan Lucken  
Christine & Carlos Mazzorin  
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Becky & Gary Sakwa  
Kimberly & Kenneth Whipple

### GOOD DOG SPONSORS

Accettura & Hurwitz (x2)  
Animal Emergency Center  
Betsy Barnes in memory of Stuart Little  
Jim & Carolyn Bellinson  
Jim & Janet Blanchard  
Beth & Jeff Davidson  
Winston & Winifred Duncan  
Nancy & Jim Grosfeld  
Dale & Nancy Hadel  
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### PARTY ANIMAL SPONSORS

Jody & Gary Astrein  
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In Loving Memory of Joan & Myron Benner  
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Edward A Eickhoff & Michael Hisala  
Jennifer Falcinelli  
Frank Rewold & Sons Inc.  
Harold G. Schaevitz Industries  
Yvonne Fisher McCready  
Lynette Nixon  
Rick & Patti Phillips  
TD Auto Finance  
Joe & Mary Ann Troy



Looking for the perfect gift idea this holiday season? How about a gift that gives back! Warm the hearts of your family and friends with these special ideas that benefit the animals at MARL.

**THE MARL SHOP**

There's something for everyone at the MARL Shop! Support homeless animals with t-shirts, cozy hoodies, mugs, children's attire, and more. These make perfect gifts for all the animal lovers in your life! Just visit [marleague.org/marl-shop](http://marleague.org/marl-shop) to browse the shop. 100% of proceeds go to the Michigan Animal Rescue League!

**GIVE BACK WITH YOUR AMAZON SHOPPING**

Help MARL by doing your regular holiday shopping on **smile.amazon.com**. Amazon Smile offers all the same products at the same prices as Amazon, but .5% of the purchase price of eligible products are donated to charities! Just select the Michigan Animal Rescue League as your charity of choice. Don't forget to check out MARL's Amazon Wish List under "Ways to Help" on [marleague.org](http://marleague.org).

**GIVE THE GIFT OF LOVE**

This holiday season give the gift of love by sponsoring an animal in honor of someone special! A gift of \$20 or more includes a link to download and print a holiday-themed card that you can give to your recipient. Get started by visiting "Animal Sponsorships" under the "Donate" tab on [marleague.org](http://marleague.org).

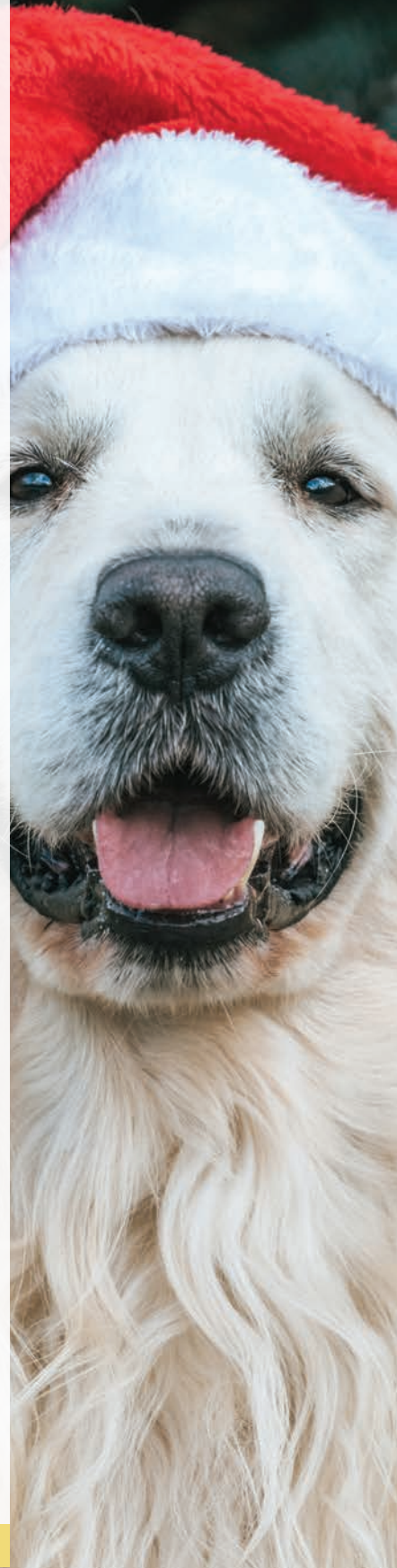
**INCLUDE MARL IN YOUR HOLIDAY FESTIVITIES**

Make your holiday gathering extra special this year by giving gifts to the animals! In lieu of regular gifts invite your guests to bring a monetary donation or supplies from MARL's wish list. This fun twist is sure to make your party feel warm and bright!

**LOOK FOR MARL'S HOLIDAY WISH LIST DRIVE**

During the holiday season, dozens of local businesses host displays to benefit the Michigan Animal Rescue League. These convenient giving stations make it easy to spread holiday cheer to dogs and cats in need! Just drop supplies in a donation box or grab an envelope to mail in a gift. Now, it's easier to give than ever - just text **WISH** to **(248) 780-0402!** Visit [marleague.org](http://marleague.org) for a full list of display locations.

If you are interested in hosting a display at your office or business, please contact Megan Garrison at [mgarrison@marleague.org](mailto:mgarrison@marleague.org) or **(248) 330-6809**.



THANK YOU THANK YOU  
THANK YOU THANK YOU  
THANK YOU THANK YOU

**GENEROUS KIDS DOING GOOD IN THEIR COMMUNITY:**

- AVONDALE SCHOOLS** — school wide fundraiser in Nov-Dec 2019
- ROBBIE DUNN** donated homemade cat and dog toys for his Boy Scout project
- GIRL SCOUT TROOP 71592** raised money for the MARL cats and dogs
- SIENNA RAE** started a clothing brand and donates a portion of the proceeds to MARL

**A FEW OF THE PEOPLE, COMPANIES, EMPLOYEES AND ORGANIZATIONS WHO HAVE RAISED MONEY AND/OR COLLECTED SUPPLIES FOR MARL:**

- MARL VOLUNTEERS** for all they do
- MORGAN STANLEY** Casual Fridays
- APEX SALES GROUP INC.** for donating a portion of their clothing proceeds
- CLARK HILL PLC AND STAFF** for collecting both funds and supplies
- CARLA LANGFELDT** for donating profits from her OSEC Capstone project to MARL
- ST. MICHAEL CATHOLIC COMMUNITY** for donating Almsgiving and Tithing
- WALT'S DIGGITY DOG, NO NAME TATTOO, ROYAL PARK HOTEL CHARITIES AND BORGWARNER** for their creative ways to support MARL
- DAN LIPPITT** for hosting a Facebook fundraiser for his birthday
- PETSMART CHARITIES** for supporting MARL's efforts in improving the lives of at-risk cats
- DTE** for honoring their employees and retirees who volunteer to better their community
- MATCHING COMPANIES: ALLOYA CORPORATE FEDERAL CREDIT UNION, ALLSTATE, AMERISURE INSURANCE, BANK OF AMERICA, BOSTON SCIENTIFIC, PFIZER, MERCK**

**THESE ARE JUST A FEW OF THE GENEROUS DONORS WHO HAVE GIVEN TO MARL**



**WISH LIST AND NEEDS**

- Wet dog food | all brands
- Wet cat food | all brands
- Dry cat and kitten food | Purina
- Dry dog and puppy food | Purina One SmartBlend (red bag)
- Cat toys | all types
- Clorox disinfecting wipes
- HE laundry detergent
- Bleach
- Paper towels
- Unscented cat litter
- Gently used or new harnesses, leashes and collars | all sizes
- Dog toys and chews | all types
- Copy paper
- HP Ink | 952 or 952XL Black/Color

Visit our website for a link to our Amazon wish list where you can send much-needed items directly to our shelter.



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# CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS UNDER THE CARES ACT

MARL wants to let you know about a few key provisions in the newly passed CARES Act. This new law is designed to help both you and non-profits, like MARL, facing economic hardship during the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

**Individual taxpayers contributing to a qualified charity, like MARL, can take an “above-the-line” deduction of up to \$300, even if you do not itemize.** You will want to take advantage of this as it is currently only available for the 2020 tax year.

**For those individual taxpayers who do itemize their deductions, the new law allows for cash contributions to qualified charities, like MARL, to be deducted up to 100% of your adjusted gross income for the 2020 calendar year.** This includes cash, checks, and credit card payment methods directly made to MARL. Currently contributions to Donor Advised Funds do not qualify under this this law.

**For corporations, the percentage limitation on the corporate income tax charitable deduction increased from 10 to 25 percent of the corporation’s taxable income for 2020.**

**The CARES Act temporarily suspends required minimum distributions (RMD) for the 2020 tax year.** Some donors may take comfort in this and MARL understands that during these challenging times. However, if you are 70 ½ years or older and wish to gift your RMD to MARL, you still can! We are very grateful for our senior donors who support the homeless animals with this annual gift.

If you have any questions or would like to speak with someone about making a charitable gift, please contact our Development Manager **Jessie Lussenden** at **248-939-2422**.