



Where Happy Endings Begin!



Who donates a building?

THE ANSWER IS, people who care, people who know how hard it is to run a rescue, people with HUGE hearts.

A little over a year ago, we stopped in to chat with a real estate agent about finding a vacant building to use for a rummage sale. That agent was Maria Blackmer of Live Local Realty. If you ever need the services of a real estate agent, call Live Local in Ionia. Besides being really, really good at their jobs, Live Local agents donate 3 percent of their commissions to the charity of your choice.



Maria knew of a possibility. She made a phone call, and the seller said she was fine with Safe Haven using the building while it was for sale. The building's former owners were deceased and the building was in a trust, with two teenage girls as heirs to the estate.

For almost a year, we used the building for storage, rummage sales, our pet food pantry, and our annual wreath sale.

Spring arrived, and we started preparing for more rummage sales. Since little buying interest had been shown, the asking price of the building was reduced, and potential buyers started emerging. It was at that point that two amazing benefactors of Safe Haven, Ruth

Kurth and Rachel Palmer, afraid we would lose the building, negotiated a deal with the seller to buy the building and donate it to Safe Haven. They had adopted a dog named Raven four years previously, and it was because of Raven that the donation of the building was made.

We won't house animals at the building; we'll continue using our foster-home program. The building offers so much potential for fundraising, community outreach, storage, adoption events and many other things we haven't even thought of yet.

Story continued on page 2 . . .



Monica and Mallory Weaver

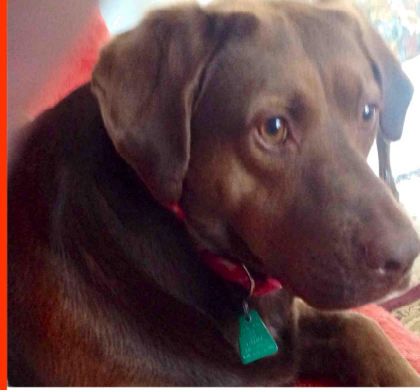
Who donates a building? continued from page 1.

Our sincere thanks go to:

- 🐾 Maria Blackmer, Realtor, for her immediate help with our quest for a rummage sale location.
- 🐾 Julie Dodds, Executor of the Weaver estate and Safe Haven friend, for her year-long support and advocacy.
- 🐾 Ruth Kurth and Rachel Palmer, BFFs of Safe Haven, for their ongoing support and for buying the building and donating it to Safe Haven!
- 🐾 Monica and Mallory Weaver, heirs, for their willingness to share their legacy with Safe Haven (and in return, we've named the building "The Weaver Center")
- 🐾 And most of all, to Raven, for being such a good girl, cheering for us all the way!

A special room dedicated to Raven, the young lady who made it all possible

Welcome to Raven's Room!



Raven and her two sisters were rescued by Safe Haven one day before they were to be euthanized at an area shelter. After spending time getting healthy in a Safe Haven foster home, Raven was adopted by the two perfect people who totally understand her fears and her needs. It is truly a doggy Cinderella story and we're dedicating this room to Raven and her "Happy Ending."

But that's not really the end of the story.

Not only did Raven have a "Happily Ever After" but she inspired the gift of this building to Safe Haven, for which we are truly grateful.

Dedicated to Raven, this room will offer many pet necessities, plus a whole lot of just plain fun pet stuff. Safe Haven apparel will be displayed here too. And as with all our sale items, all proceeds support the abandoned pets in our program and our efforts to continue rescuing others like Raven.

P.S. Raven's sisters found forever homes too!

SAFE HAVEN HUMANE SOCIETY:
Where happy endings BEGIN!

Help us care for our foster pets. [Click here to donate now!](#)



Many supporters have asked about an automatic donation plan, a way to donate monthly. Now it's here and it's really easy! Just go to our website www.shhspets.com and click on the link pictured here, which will take you to our donation page. Toward the bottom is the "recurring donation" option. There are several levels of loving pets. You can donate \$5 a month or more. Every penny helps us care for abandoned pets until they're adopted. Choose the amount you'd like to donate monthly, click the "Subscribe" button and you'll be taken to a secure PayPal page. If you don't have a PayPal account, just click on the words at the bottom "Pay with your credit or debit card." Thank you so much for choosing to help!

KIMMIE



GOOD MORNING! I wanted to give you a quick update on Kimberly, whom I adopted from Pet Supplies Plus in Grandville on January 11. We call her Kimmie and my housemate, Fei, who is from China, is absolutely in love with her. I have to tell you a funny story.

Fei is not used to cats as pets, though she really likes cats. The first night we had Kimmie, she slept on Fei's bed. Fei tried to put her on the floor 3 times, but Kimmie insisted on sleeping on the nice, soft, fleece blanket curled up next to Fei. The next evening, as Kimmie was sitting between us on the couch, Fei put her hand on Kimmie's back and asked me what the 'buzzing' meant. I did sort of laugh and said she was purring and that meant she was very content and liked what we were doing (petting her). Fei then laughed and said she thought the buzzing meant she was mad so she let Kimmie stay on her bed the night before. I may have laughed even harder at that. By the way, she still sleeps on Fei's bed and will paw at the door until Fei opens it for her to come in.

Kimmie has settled in so well with us. She's still a little cautious with strange noises, but now comes to greet us when we come in the back door, she comes for treats and she runs to you if you pat a comfy place next to you on the couch. Typical for a cat, she must be right in the middle of whatever Fei or I are working on including trying to sleep on our keyboards. She is entertaining, happy and loved. I don't know her history, but someone let a wonderful cat go and I am so happy they did, as we now have the perfect kitty for us.

~ Larri L.

**Here are some ways you can help Safe Haven animals:**

☐ Donate: My check made payable to Safe Haven Humane Society is enclosed for

☐ \$20 ☐ \$30 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ Other _____

(you can also donate by credit card at www.shhspets.com)

☐ Foster. Please send me information about fostering cats or dogs

☐ Hold or help with fundraiser

☐ Become a member of Safe Haven: \$10 individual or \$18 family

(Members receive a 20% discount on caps, tees and sweatshirts)

Your Comments. Thank you. _____



Thank you
for helping
us

cut out and mail this
form to:
Safe Haven Humane
Society
P.O. Box 55
Ionia, MI 48846

Awesome community support!

Safe Haven pets want to send out a HUGE thank you (we mean Meow-Bow wow) to these generous, hard-working donors:

- ✎ Portland Federal Credit Union, for donating \$1,200 from employee casual days
- ✎ Students of Ellis Elementary School, for gathering food, litter, toys and treats by the box full
- ✎ Girl Scouts of Ellis Elementary School for donating \$500 to help take care of the fur faces

These kind and generous donations are so important in paying for food and medical expenses. It's what makes our rescue work possible. Thank you for your help!





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"Where Happy Endings Begin!"

If you would prefer not to receive future copies of our newsletter, please call or email and let us know.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

A wagging tail means a happy dog, partly a myth

A WAGGING TAIL can indicate that a dog is happy and friendly, but it really depends on how the dog is wagging his tail. Studies have shown that when a dog wags his tail to his right—to the left as you're facing the dog—it means he wants to approach and is friendly. However, when he wags his tail to his left, it's a warning to back off.

Dogs can tell the difference and read the message, and when one dog sees another wagging to his left, this will usually cause the other dog to become anxious and move away.

Tail position is also important. If the tail is down, the dog is submissive and possibly anxious. If it's horizontal, then the dog is calm and happy. If the dog's tail is vertical, though, this is another major warning to stay away.

Finally, speed is an indicator of the dog's energy level and mood. A broad sweep of the tail that almost wags the dog with it is an indicator of happiness; tiny, rapid motions that almost make the tail look like it's vibrating are another warning sign.



This is Sissy, a former Save Haven foster dog, who found her forever home this summer. What do you think Sissy is conveying with her tail?