

Spring 2020 Issue 20.2

Tailwaggers

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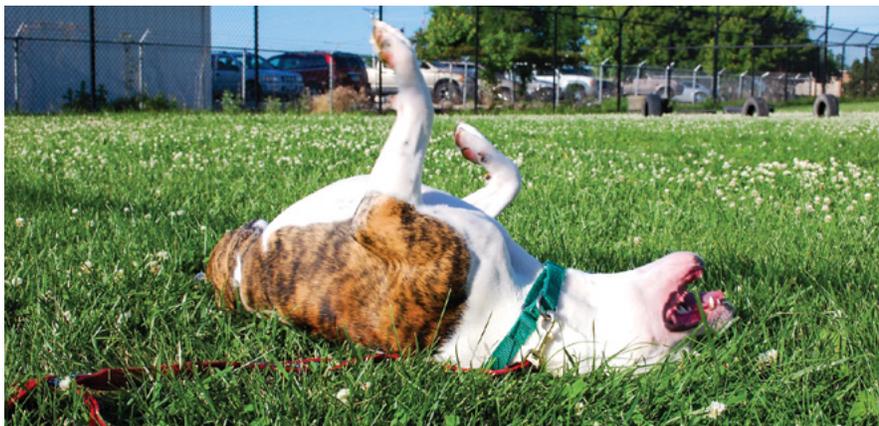


**FOOD PROGRAM A WIN
FOR SHELTER PETS**

**NEW PARTNERSHIP FOR
ANIMAL TRANSFERS**

**FOOD PANTRY
HELPS PETS, PEOPLE**

FACILITY HIGHLIGHTS



Bailey's Bark Park is a 34,583-square-foot enclosed dog park on the ARL Main campus. It is a great dog-friendly space to rent for outdoor parties or as a private dog park for just your dog(s). For hourly rental, visit [ARL-iowa.org/BarkPark](https://www.arl-iowa.org/BarkPark).

SOCIAL MEDIA SNAPSHOTS



Follow [@ARLIowa](https://www.instagram.com/ARLIowa) to stay up to date on everything ARL!



SAVING MORE LIVES

Thunder received lifesaving surgery at the ARL after arriving with a giant wound on his back. He's now on the road to recovery.



FIRST FAMILY PHOTOS

David and Cutie Pie bonded as soon as she reached out of her kennel to grab his fingers! Cutie Pie is one of thousands of pets who have found new homes so far this year.



BEHIND THE SCENES

Scrappy spent some blissful moments in the sun with a member of our care staff and one of his favorite toys.



Since 1926 the Animal Rescue League of Iowa (ARL) has been a safe haven for animals who have had nowhere else to turn.

Over the course of nearly a century, more than 1 million abused, abandoned, neglected, unwanted, and even very loved animals have found refuge within our doors.

ARL Main

5452 NE 22nd Street
Des Moines, IA 50313

ARL West

Inside Iowa Pet Foods & Seascapes
1500 22nd Street
West Des Moines, IA 50265

ARL North

Inside Ankeny PetSmart
1715 Delaware Avenue
Ankeny, IA 50021

ARL Animal Services

1615 SE 14th Street
Des Moines, IA 50315

Questions or Comments?

(515) 262-9503
tailwaggers@arl-iowa.org

or visit us online
ARL-IOWA.ORG

A VICTORY

FOR IOWA'S COMPANION ANIMALS

We asked Iowa to Do Better for companion animals, and this year Iowa senators responded, moving a bill to improve the state's animal cruelty laws another big step closer to being signed into law.

The Senate's approval of HF737 on a 44-3 vote is a huge victory and the result of a cooperative effort between the ARL, many other animal welfare groups, and House and Senate leadership. While the bill was unanimously approved by the House last year, it had stalled in the Senate,

citing agricultural concerns, and after that, the threat of amendments to weaken the bill loomed large. Fortunately, the ARL and other welfare groups successfully incorporated an amendment that addressed the concerns of certain lawmakers without weakening the bill.

This cooperative effort recognized the need to hold everyone to a higher standard of care, whether they're a shelter/rescue, dealer, breeder, or simply a pet owner, and the final product is a huge step forward for

companion animals in Iowa. While the COVID-19 pandemic forced lawmakers to suspend the legislative session in mid-March, we're eager to see the bill moving again, first to the House for a procedural vote on the amendment and then to the governor to sign the full bill into law.

Thank you to everyone who encouraged their lawmakers to support this bill over the last two years.

#DOBETTERIOWA

WHAT HF737 ACHIEVES

-  **Increases** the minimum standards of care for neglect to now include requiring owners to provide sufficient quality food, potable water, sanitary living conditions free of waste and overcrowding, ventilated shelter with protection from the elements, basic grooming, and, most important, veterinary care
-  **Removes** the "owner exception" to abuse charge
-  **Removes** the confusing "depraved or sadistic intent" wording from the law's definition of torture
-  **Requires** a mental health evaluation and treatment when there is serious injury or death to an animal, but judges may order it in other cases as well
-  **Enhances** penalties for all animal cruelty convictions, including mandatory minimum 1-year sentence (up to 5-year maximum) for first-offense torture convictions
-  **Clarifies** animal abandonment laws

JOIN THE HUMANE ACTION NETWORK

The ARL Humane Action Network brings together people interested in advocating for improved animal welfare laws for the animals and people of Iowa.

As a part of the network, you can make a difference! You will receive updates related to current legislative efforts and be alerted to times you can speak up to help change animal welfare laws.

To make an impact, visit ARL-IOWA.ORG/HAN



INTRODUCING THE NEW **FULL BELLIES FOOD FUND**

One of the biggest challenges animal shelters face when feeding the pets in their care is digestive issues caused by frequent food changes. Gastrointestinal issues are not only uncomfortable for pets, they cause animals to stay in the shelter longer while those issues are cleared up — which sadly, means they have to wait longer to find a home.

For decades the animals at the ARL have been fed bag-by-bag thanks to the generosity of people who have purchased and donated pet food directly to our shelter. We could have never done it without this support, but 2020 brings a new and improved way to help feed the pets at the ARL — while ensuring

they can find homes even faster! We were recently invited to participate in the Hills Food, Shelter & Love program that allows us to provide consistent, high-quality food to dogs and cats at our shelter at cost — and the results are incredible! Within the first month, we went from 10% of our dog and cat population experiencing digestive issues to just two pets in our care!

Now, with your monetary donation to our new “Full Bellies Food Fund,” not only will we be able to make your dollar go further by purchasing more food than what you would be able to buy in stores or online, you will also help keep pets healthy and happy on their journey to their new homes.



HOW YOU CAN HELP

Instead of buying a bag of food and bringing it to the shelter, please donate to our Full Bellies Food Fund to ensure full bellies for all the cats and dogs in our care.

To donate, visit
[ARL-IOWA.ORG/FOOD](https://www.arl-iowa.org/food)



BEAR, ADOPTED FEBRUARY '20



REY, ADOPTED FEBRUARY '20



RIPLEY, ADOPTED JANUARY '20

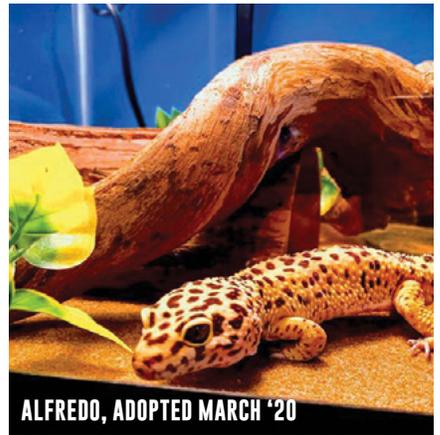


CATRICK, ADOPTED APRIL '20

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

We love seeing pets leave the ARL and settle into their new homes — but we also enjoy when their families let us know what they've been up to! Here are a few ARL alumni we've received updates about!

Submit your story and photo at ARL-IOWA.ORG/WATN



ALFREDO, ADOPTED MARCH '20



BIRDIE, ADOPTED APRIL '20



MARTY, ADOPTED APRIL '20



GALADRIEL (CAT), ADOPTED JANUARY '20



MOONY, ADOPTED MARCH '20



LUCY & PEARL, ADOPTED DECEMBER '19



RYDER, ADOPTED MARCH '20



PARTNERSHIP FOR A LIFESAVING ANIMAL TRANSFER

As animal shelters across the country work to save more lives, more and more shelters are partnering to give pets their best chance of finding a home – even if it's hundreds of miles away from where they started.

For years the ARL has worked with dozens of other licensed, qualified shelters and rescue groups across the state and country to transfer and receive pets when it's in the best interests of the animals. Sometimes the pets have special needs that another group specializes in, but other times, shelters in one area of the country have open kennels and not enough pets to meet demand, while other shelters are low on space.

This year, we began a new transfer partnership with the ASPCA that has already opened doors for ARL pets – and given other pets from across the country the opportunity to find new homes in Iowa.



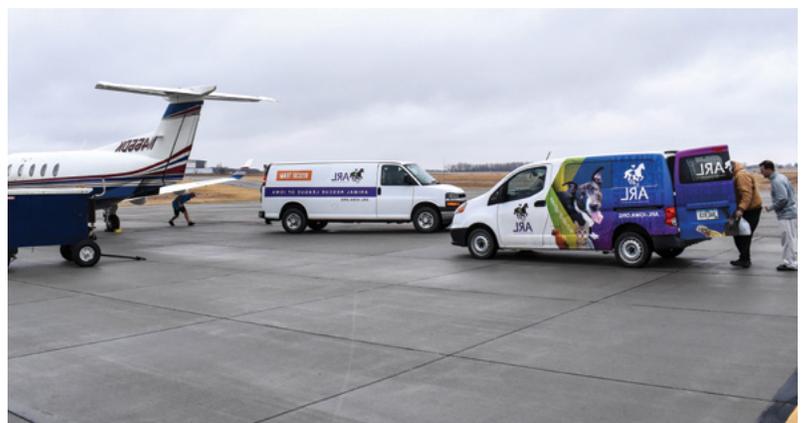


The partnership kicked off with a bang in March with our biggest one-day transfer of cats in ARL history. Ninety-nine cats from the ARL boarded a plane headed to shelters in Washington and California that were eager to bring homeless cats from across the country to meet their high adoption demand.

The transfer not only gave these cats a new pool of adopters, it opened up kennels at the ARL just as we're preparing for our busiest time of the year: kitten season.

We've already completed a second transfer through our ASPCA partnership – this time bringing a group of dogs and puppies from an overfull shelter in Arkansas to Iowa for adoption. The 21 dogs arrived at the ARL healthy and ready for new homes. And all were adopted by Iowa families within days of their arrival.

Partnerships like these are just another example of how cooperation vs. competition saves more lives!





MAKING AN IMPACT THROUGH A PANDEMIC

When the COVID-19 pandemic turned the world upside down, it presented a huge challenge to our community, and to our shelter.

For nearly 100 years, when there have been people and pets in need, the Animal Rescue League has been there. Through natural disasters, fire, economic collapse, countless other emergencies, and now a global pandemic, thanks to your support we continue to be on the front lines, rescuing animals in distress, helping keep families together, and providing second chances for homeless pets.

The COVID-19 crisis is still impacting pets and their families. People are hurting and struggling to provide for their pets – many who have never needed help before need it now, and others already on the verge of poverty need help now more than ever.

While coping with our own challenges of fewer volunteers and staff, the loss of event revenue, and adjusting to ever-changing safety guidelines, we have still been serving pets and pet owners while preparing for the next crisis to hit: the increase of animal abuse and pet homelessness.

Sadly, during times of crisis, cases of domestic, child, and animal abuses surge, families who lose their homes are forced to give up their pets, and people often have to decide between feeding their pets and feeding themselves. **By helping pets we are helping people.**

In mid-March we rushed to open a pet food pantry for people who were unable to feed their pets. Five days a week the pet pantry provides free pet food at our contact-free pickup location and delivers pet food to seniors and others with health issues who cannot leave their homes. In the first month, we provided 9,000 pounds serving an average of 250 pets each week.

Donations to our Paw It Forward campaign, as well as grants, and support from local businesses has made this all possible, but the need continues. **By helping feed pets we are helping people.**

While the crisis has devastated so many, those who have been able to help have answered the call in a big way. Normally open to the public, we switched to adoptions by appointment in March to protect our staff and the public while continuing the lifesaving work of finding pets great homes. Our adoption appointments have filled every day, sometimes days in advance, and we have adopted a record number of pets. As of print time, which was five weeks since the crisis hit our state, we have already adopted 731 pets.

Additionally, anticipating an increase of animals arriving in our care, we put a call out to find Temporary Crisis Homes for 80 pets in our care. We received 160+ applications within the first 12 hours — more than double what we needed!

Having a pet companion is proven to reduce stress levels, increase fitness, and give people struggling with depression a purpose since they have someone depending on them. **In times like these, by finding new homes for pets, we are also helping people.**

We do not yet know what the future will bring, but we know that the need will continue, and together we will be there to help our community's most vulnerable.

To stay up-to-date and help families and pets during this crisis, visit [ARL-IOWA.ORG/COVID](https://www.arl-iowa.org/covid)



ANSWERING A CALL TO HELP

As the crisis was beginning, we received an urgent call from a veterinarian who oversees a free spay/neuter clinic at the Lakota Nation in South Dakota. The Rosebud Lakota Reservation was going on a travel lockdown due to COVID-19, and when the tribe took inventory of their human food, they realized they didn't have enough pet food to make it through the crisis. Animals are prized in this community, and dogs, bison and horses are sacred in their culture. When we heard about the great need in this already underserved community, we knew we had to help.

Within days, we began working with our partners at Iowa Home Consulting to deliver 3,000 pounds of dog and cat food to the Lakota People. But when we arrived, we realized the need was far greater than we'd imagined. We soon arranged a second trip, delivering another 1,500 pounds of food and making it easier for pets and the families who love them to weather the crisis together.



LULUBELLE'S PLUSH TOY

Lulubelle's makes reinforced tough toys for dogs, which makes them last longer than most other squeaky toys! This plush ice cream cone is a great size for bigger dogs who enjoy a soft toy to gnaw on while they play.

\$10.99



KONG CLASSIC

This tough and durable toy for every chewer keeps them occupied while you are watching TV or leave to run errands. Fill the KONG with their food, peanut butter and treats, or freeze some apples, bone broth, and dog-safe yogurt in there for a frozen treat!

\$5.99 - 18.99 — Available in XS-XXL



ZUKE'S TRAINING TREATS

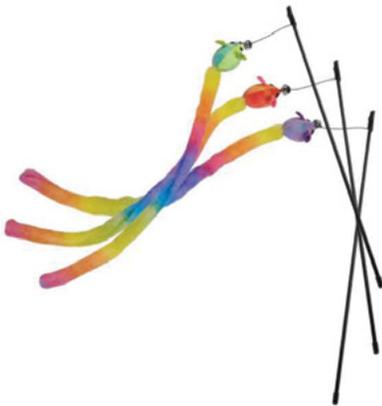
Treats are an essential reward for dogs of any age — for teaching basic skills, recall, or clicker training. Zuke's treats are healthy, low-calorie, and bite-size so your dog can eat quickly and be ready for the next command while still feeling fulfilled.

\$6.99 — Various flavors

OUR TOP 6 MUST-HAVE PET SUPPLIES

Shop online at
ARL-IOWA.ORG/SHOP

All proceeds from the ARL's Animal House store benefit the homeless pets at the ARL



RAINBOW MOUSE WAND

This colorful toy allows you to interact with your cat no matter their age. The rainbow wand can also help nervous kitties come out of their shell. The mouse has a long tail, a bungee cord to make it bounce, and eye-popping colors!

\$3.99



KONG INCLINE SCRATCHER

Scratchers are an important tool to help cats fulfill their natural urges to scratch and use their claws, while keeping them away from your carpet or furniture. The replaceable, double-sided corrugated cardboard pad is at a 45-degree angle — perfect for a good stretch!

\$11.99 — Includes pouch of catnip



FEATHER CHIRPING BALL

A must-have toy for active kitties, this soft ball is covered in feathers and easy to bat around and chase. Plus, it has a chirping bird noise that kitties love. Any time this toy is thrown or pounced on, it makes a little chirp, which makes them want to throw or pounce on it again!

\$1.99



JOIN US FOR
THE 28TH ANNUAL

RAISE YOUR PAW

auction

JULY 11, 2020 | 5 p.m.

COMMUNITY CHOICE CREDIT UNION
CONVENTION CENTER AT THE
IOWA EVENTS CENTER

RAISEYOURPAW.ORG



THE BIGGEST DOG PARTY OF THE YEAR

5K/2K



SEPTEMBER 20, 2020
10 A.M. AT TERRA PARK IN JOHNSTON, IA

- 5K + 2K ROUTES
- LIVE MUSIC
- DOG-FRIENDLY ACTIVITIES
- VENDOR BOOTHS
- POP-UP DOG PARK
- FREE SWAG & SO MUCH MORE!

IOWADOGJOG.COM



LISTEN TO THE EXPERTS ON ARL ANIMAL CONNECTION

LIVE! SATURDAYS 6-7 A.M. WHO 1040

HOSTED BY ARL'S ANIMAL EXPERTS

- ANIMAL FUN FACTS & TRIVIA
- TIPS FOR YOUR PETS
- HAPPENINGS AT THE ARL
- GIVEAWAYS

DOWNLOAD THE PODCAST



WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/ARLANIMALCONNECTION



**NOMINATE THE ARL TO
RECEIVE FREE LITTER!**



**= 1 LB
OF LITTER
GETS DONATED**

The more nominations we receive,
the more litter we'll receive!

Go to www.catspride.com/litterforgood
and "Join the Club". From there, you'll be
able to nominate the ARL by searching
by ZIP code 50313.



UNIQUE & SIMPLE WAYS TO GIVE



DONATE SUPPLIES

The ARL seeks in-kind donations of new or gently used supplies and products, which will greatly help us reduce costs and improve operations. Shop online with ease!

See our list at
ARL-IOWA.ORG/FETCHLIST



HONOR A LOVED ONE

Pay tribute to a pet or a loved one through one of our naming opportunities at the ARL's Main location — everything from a brick to a bench, kennel or room.

Learn more at
ARL-IOWA.ORG/MEMORIALS



SPONSOR AN EVENT

Through an event sponsorship, your company can be aligned with one or more of our events throughout the year, and help change animals' lives.

Get started at
ARL-IOWA.ORG/EVENTSPONSOR

JOIN OUR TEAM

The Animal Rescue League of Iowa offers a variety of career paths whether you're looking to work hands-on with animals, serve in a support role, or oversee one of our growing list of programs and services. Every member of our team plays an important role in changing the lives of animals and the people who love them.

See opportunities at
ARL-IOWA.ORG/CAREERS



A GIFT IS MORE THAN JUST A NUMBER

Contributions from generous donors like you have made it possible to help over 11,000 pets in 2019, and continue to make an impact now and for the future.

Learn more about ways to donate to the ARL at
ARL-IOWA.ORG/OTHERWAYSTOGIVE

