

Tailwaggers

Fall/Winter 2022

Published Three Times a Year by the Animal Rescue League of Iowa



**URGENT RESCUES
BRING SECOND CHANCES**

**SUPPORTING PETS & PEOPLE
DURING TOUGH TIMES**

**A VERY SILLY WAY
TO HELP THE ANIMALS**

FACILITY HIGHLIGHT



Bailey's Bark Park, our 34,000-square-foot dog park, is available to rent and perfect for dogs who need room to run and multi-dog households who want the fun of a dog park but without all the unknown dogs.

Learn more: [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!



RESCUE UPDATES

Quinoa was one of 300 pets rescued from one property. Found on the dirt floor of a shed at 1 week old, she beat the odds, recovered and found a loving home!



EVENT ALERTS

Keep your calendar up to date with ARL events, from big events like The Mane Event to smaller events like Bunny Spas to pop-up events like Cuddle Breaks for businesses.



IN THE COMMUNITY

In just one month our vaccine and wellness clinics provided care for 117 owned dogs and cats in the metro, helping keep families and their beloved pets together.



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 Animal Services

1615 SE 14th Street
Des Moines, IA 50315

Coffee Cats Cafe

312 5th Street
West Des Moines, IA 50265

Questions or Comments?

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

or visit us online
ARL-IOWA.ORG



ANSWERING THE CALL TO SAVE MORE LIVES

The ARL's skilled Mobile Rescue Team works with law enforcement across the state to help animals in need, improving the lives of hundreds of animals living in neglectful situations each year. The ARL team has assisted with multiple large-scale rescues already in 2022, including urgent cases in Keokuk County in southeast Iowa and Pocahontas County in northwest Iowa.

65 DOGS RESCUED

When we received a call from Florida authorities who were working on an animal neglect case where dogs had gone missing and were thought to be in Iowa, we immediately hit the road, knowing the dogs may be in danger. We met Keokuk County deputies at the property 90 minutes away and found 65 dogs and puppies, owned by a breeder, living outside in makeshift, overcrowded pens with little protection from the wind, rain and sun. It was determined all needed to be removed immediately, and we transported them to the ARL for urgent care. The dogs were suffering from painful matting, parasites, infections and diarrhea, and it took weeks for them to recover so they could find new, loving homes. Jason Munn of Floral City, Fla., was eventually arrested in Colorado and charged with animal cruelty.

SECOND CHANCE FOR 30 CATS

When law enforcement in Pocahontas County reached out for assistance with 30 cats and young kittens left without food and water in a hot, filthy house with no electricity, we knew they couldn't wait. After a two-hour drive to the property, we found the cats living in horrendous conditions, with feces, urine and trash covering the floors, stairs and even some countertops. Our team got to work with flashlights in the 80- to 90-degree heat and began rescuing cats and kittens one by one, including from inside a mattress. Many were thin and suffering from ear and skin infections, fleas and mites. There were several mothers nursing tiny kittens. They wouldn't



HELP SUPPORT RESCUES LIKE THESE

The committed support of our Loyal Friends ensures we'll always be there to help pets in urgent need.

Learn more about monthly giving at [ARL-IOWA.ORG/LOYALFRIENDS](https://www.arl-iowa.org/loyalfriends).

have survived much longer in the heat and filth. After weeks of recovery, most have been adopted, although a few remain in the care of our Miracle Medical Team as of press time. Jennifer Sproston of Rolfe, Ia., was arrested and charged with 34 counts of animal neglect in the case.



SUPPORTING PETS + PEOPLE IN TOUGH TIMES

It was an hour before our Pet Food Pantry in late August was set to open, and already the line of cars carrying people and their pets stretched far down the road, curving around the block.

As inflation and the cost of pet food and supplies continue to rise, and with many in our community still feeling economic stress because of the pandemic, more people than ever are struggling to feed their pets. Our pet food assistance programs have expanded to help meet that need, and we have been serving pet parents in record numbers to help keep human-pet families together. From what we've seen already this year, the need in 2022 is expected to be four times what was needed in both 2020 and 2021.

We know that when times are tough it's often pets who hold families together, and we know that when money is tight, people will often feed their pets before feeding themselves. No one – human or pet – should have to experience the pain of hunger. By providing pet food to those who are struggling, we are not only helping reduce hunger in pets, we are doing the same for their human caregivers.



Many people who have never needed help before are finding that they need it now.

For Laritha, her dogs, Pearl and Diamond, are her babies. They have helped her during her struggles with depression, and seeing them run and play lifts her spirits even on the darkest days. As she watched the price of pet food continue to rise, she realized she would need some help in order to



keep her beloved dogs. She attended our Pet Food Pantry for the first time in late August, calling it a “blessing” for people like her who want to keep their pets but just need a little help.

Our twice-a-month Pet Food Pantries are just one of the ways we reach families with pets who are food insecure. We work with Des Moines Area Religious Council (DMARC) and Food Bank of Iowa pantries to add pet food and supplies alongside the human food at their distribution sites. We also offer a walk-in pantry at ARL Animal Services six days a week for pets in need. And we work with community mutual-aid groups to deliver pet food and supplies directly to people experiencing homelessness.

But as the lines for pet food get longer, the food is running out. Where we have previously been able to provide pet food to last weeks, now in some cases we are only able to provide enough food to last days. If you are fortunate enough to be able to feed your pets, please Paw It Forward to help someone who cannot.



BY THE NUMBERS

	2021	2022*
FOOD DISTRIBUTED	39,776 lbs	94,485 lbs
HOUSEHOLDS SERVED	960	5,278
PETS SERVED	1,161	10,606

PAW IT FORWARD

Help support pet families in need
at [ARL-IOWA.ORG/PAWITFORWARD](https://www.aryl-iowa.org/pawitforward).

*Through August

A RIDICULOUS WAY TO HELP THE ANIMALS

ARL supporters have found themselves drawn to a simple, lighthearted and completely ridiculous way to help pets in need: just donate \$25 and get a drawing of their pet. The catch? They may get a professional artist, but more likely they'll get someone with the talent of a preschooler. The luck of the draw is half the fun!

Our Poorly Drawn Pets event, now in its second year, has engaged animal lovers across all 50 states and 20 countries, and it continues to grow in popularity. The most recent event held in May was our biggest yet, with a record 1,850 submissions from across the globe.

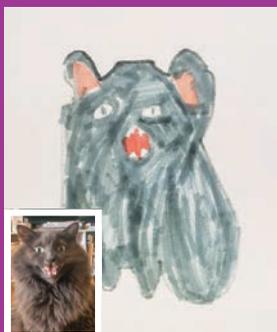
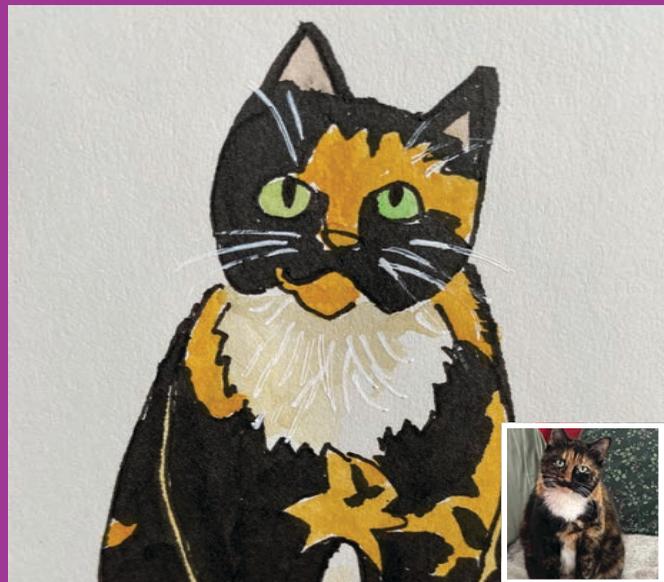
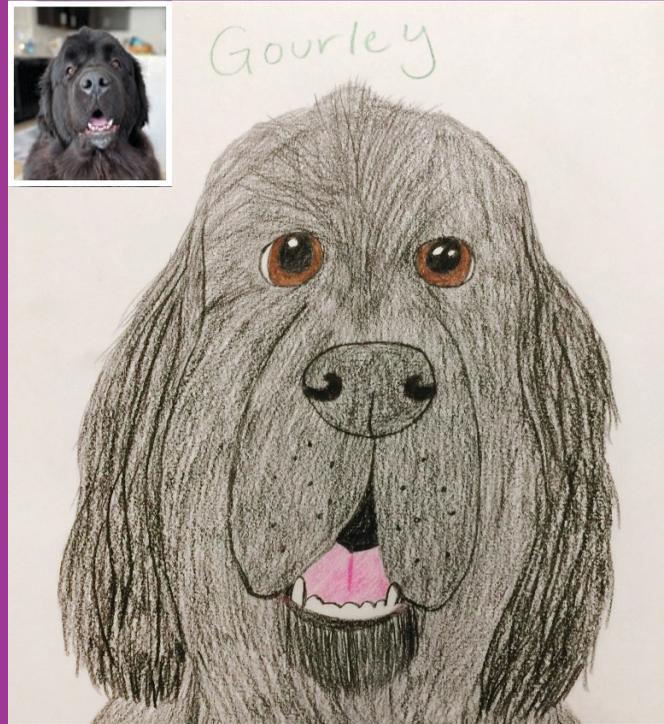
Whether supporters are donating to have their pet drawn or contributing their drawing "skills" to help the animals, there's a sense of satisfaction knowing every portrait – whether awe-inspiring or awful – helps pets in need.

SAVE THE DATE

Want to be a part of the silliness? Poorly Drawn Pets will be back Oct. 18-20, so mark your calendars!

Interested in being a volunteer artist?

Email pdp@arl-iowa.org.





ANNABELLE, ADOPTED JULY 2022



PIG WIG, ADOPTED JULY 2022



FRED & GEORGE, ADOPTED JUNE 2021



GUFFY, ADOPTED NOVEMBER 2021

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



LOUISE, ADOPTED AUGUST 2016



MAVERICK, ADOPTED MARCH 2021



BRODY, ADOPTED MARCH 2022



PORTABELLO, ADOPTED OCTOBER 2021



SQUEAKER, ADOPTED AUGUST 2022



ZEKE (LEFT), ADOPTED OCTOBER 2021



ZIVA, ADOPTED JUNE 2022

UNIQUE & SIMPLE WAYS TO GIVE



FETCH! LIST

Wondering what the pets in our care need the most? Our Fetch! List has our current most-needed items, as well as links to our Amazon and Chewy wish lists, making it easy to help.

Learn more at
ARL-IOWA.ORG/FETCHLIST



LITTER FOR GOOD

You can nominate the ARL to receive free litter from Cat's Pride. The more nominations, the more litter we'll receive. We can then spend the money we would have spent on litter on other things the pets need.

Nominate at
ARL-IOWA.ORG/CATSPRIDE



BECOME A SPONSOR

Whether you are part of a business, social group or organization, you can help the animals by sponsoring an event, donating shelter supplies or services, and more!

Learn more at
ARL-IOWA.ORG/SPONSOR

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 2021, and continue to make an impact now and for the future.

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

