

## December 2013



**Pet's Name:** Taj  
**Proud Parents:** Nikhil and Jaie  
**Age:** 2 years 11 months  
**Breed:** Samoyed

**My Personality:** My dad says that if I was human, I would be Ashton Kutcher, but I am more than just a pretty face. I would describe my personality as happy, playful, and non-confrontational. I know I look very innocent, but I know how to use my "Sammy smile" when I want something:)

**My Favorite Toy:** I can't pick just one, but Tigercat, Giraffemoose, Triceratops, and Monkey are in my top 5.

**My Favorite Game:** My favorite game is when I take my mom's shoe and run away from her. She chases me around the dinner table, we run in circles and it's really fun.

**What I Like:** I LOVE playing in the snow. It's my favorite:) I also like hiking, playing on the beach (but not swimming) and seeing my friends at the Olson dog park. I like to eat apples, but only if someone holds them for me. Movies are fun too, my favorite movie is Twilight. I like giving hugs and getting hugs.

**My Special Talent:** I can do normal dog stuff like give "high fives" and roll over. My real special talent is making people smile and turning strangers into friends. I've made a lot of friends on the Ann Arbor campus, but also on Mackinaw Island and at Sleeping Bear Dunes.

*Taj tells us his adoption story: "I was born in Niles, MI on January 11th, 2011 with my five brothers and sisters. When I was 10 weeks old I moved to Ann Arbor, I still visit my birth mom and dad from time to time."*

## November 2013



**Pet's Names:** Gus, Roxy  
**Proud Parent:** Alan  
**Ages:** Gus (8), Roxy (9)  
**Breeds:** Both are rescues and Pit Bull mixes. Roxy looks to be a Pit/Whippet mix and Gus looks like a Pit/American Staffordshire Terrier mix.

**Our Personalities:** Roxy is a sweet girl who is very athletic. She loves to run, jump and then curl up at your feet. Gus is baby boy. He's never left the puppy stage, loves to play fight and then just wants to be pet and hugged.

**Our Favorite Toys:** Roxy loves Frisbee and soft toys. Gus loves to chew on Nylabones.

**Our Favorite Games:** Roxy loves to run around, catch Frisbees and chase her brother. Gus loves to go for a short run and then sit in the sun.

**What We Like:** Going for car rides! Treats! And eating "human" food.

**Our Special Talents:** Roxy's ability to catch 70-foot long Frisbee throws in mid-air is amazing! I don't know where she learned it! Gus doesn't really have any skills except he's good at loving everyone that he meets.

*Roxy and Gus' owner relates this adoption story: "Don't go to the Detroit Zoo Pet Adoption Day unless you want to go home with a dog. And definitely don't go 2 years in a row! That's how I got Roxy and Gus. When I arrived on the second day of a weekend adoption event, there weren't many dogs to choose from. Then I saw Roxy but she was being looked at by a family with small children. When that family happened to turn their attention to another dog, I took Roxy out for a walk. She was playful and sweet, so she came home. The next year, I went with no intention of getting another dog until I saw Gus. He had been recently picked up by the rescue so wasn't cleaned up yet and was sick with a runny nose. He was a complete mess. He just needed a good home. Upon getting in the car, he fell asleep on my lap immediately. He was nursed back to health, but was still a mess of a dog. One ACL surgery, then another, and then a knee surgery! Now he's strong and playful and the best dog ever!"*

## October 2013



**Pet's Name:** Ruby or Persia  
**Proud Parents:** Jason and Emma  
**Age:** About 8  
**Breed:** Rottweiler

**My Personality:** I'm very friendly and love to come up and say hi. I can be playful. I would love to sit in your lap and have you scratch me under my chin and around my neck.

**My Favorite Toy and Game:** I love to play catch with my ball.

**What I Like:** Treats, walking outside, fresh air, food, playing catch, and treats.

**My Special Talent:** I'll give you five with either paw.

*Ruby's dad shares this adoption story: "We were interested in getting a dog, so we went a couple of times to the Huron Valley Humane Society and found her there. She was a sweet dog right from the start."*

## September 2013



**Pet's Name:** Jake  
**Proud Parents:** Elizabeth and Tommy  
**Age:** 4  
**Breed:** Golden Retriever

**My Personality:** Very fun. I love to play games and get back rubs. I love chasing squirrels and other small animals.

**My Favorite Toy:** I love all toys, socks, shoes, and all food. I love cheese and bagels, we've learned this the hard way. I also like to watch TV. I get more enjoyment barking at animals on television that

sometimes my parents just put on the Animal Planet and I go crazy. It wears me out quickly.

**My Favorite Game:** I love playing fetch but don't like returning the ball or Frisbee, I like being chased.

**What I Like:** I love attention and back scratches. I think I am a lap dog although I weigh 80 pounds.

*Jake's parents share this adoption story: "We found Jake off an advertisement in the paper. We really wanted a puppy after graduating college. We responded to the ad and went to visit a bunch of puppies. We wanted a male and we picked Jake because he was making us laugh. He was chewing on a milk carton and falling over the carton, which was almost bigger than he was. We knew he belonged in our family. We took him home and it's been fun ever since."*

## August 2013



**Pet's Name:** Luigi

**Proud Parent:** Shoshana

**Age:** 15

**Breed:** Maltese? Havanese? Indeed, Luigi may be Cuban!

**My Personality:** I love meeting other dogs - young, old, big and small. I will sniff around, but then I like to have my own personal time and keep to myself so that I can nap! I love my sleep!

**My Favorite Toy:** I'm too old for toys. But I love smelly savory treats!

**My Favorite Game:** I like to see how long I can sleep before anyone bothers me!

**What I Like:** Smelly savory treats.

**My Special Talents:** I'm actually smarter than I let on sometimes...I can learn new tricks as long as there is a treat involved. I can stand on my hind legs. I can sit and shake hands. I can even play dead...but only for a smelly savory treat!

*Luigi shares this story of how he came to be adopted: "I was a stray for who knows how long! I was rescued by a wonderful woman in Southern Pines, North Carolina, who brought me to her ranch with dozens of other rescued dogs. She put me up for adoption. My mommy found me through petfinder.com. She drove me to my new home. I had a mouth full of rotten teeth and had to get all removed but one! At least my breath is better. I also found out that I have hypothyroidism, and once I got medicine, my energy really improved. That was five years ago, and now I am 15 years old! Now I live in Ann Arbor, Michigan, and I love spending time with my mom and taking naps."*

## July 2013



**Pet's Name:** Sandy

**Proud Parents:** Beth and Dixon

**Age:** 11 ½

**Breed:** Labrador

**My Personality:** Happy, friendly, a tad goofy.

**My Favorite Toy:** Whichever one I haven't destroyed yet.

**My Favorite Game:** Used to be Chuck-It, but I'm getting too tired to chase that darn tennis ball.

**What I Like:** Treats, treats, and oh yes, treats.

**My Special Talents:** Sit, shake, speak, roll over, and look cute. And I'll do the doggie dance if you tell me we're going for a walk.

*Sandy's owner relates her adoption story: "After the horrible tragedy of 9/11, we were feeling desperately sad and wanted to make some sort of life-affirming gesture. We had been toying with the idea of getting a dog, and decided there was no time like the present. Our son Harrison was five, and he was so excited to bring her home. So, Sandy is our 9/11 dog...a positive and joyful presence in our home and a statement against that terrible day."*

## June 2013



**Pet's Names:** Treasure (on left) and Kirby (on right)

**Proud Parent:** Aisha

**Ages:** Treasure 6, Kirby 7

**Breeds:** Shih Tzus

**Our Personalities:** Kirby is laid back, sweet, likes kids and loves to observe people, and is perfectly fine playing by himself with his toys or looking out the window. Treasure is a ham, likes to play, has lots of energy, and wants everyone to pick her up. She clowns around a lot.

**Our Favorite Toys:** Kirby's favorite toy is a Snoopy stuffed animal. Treasure doesn't play with toys although she likes to chew on pens!

**Our Favorite Games:** Kirby likes playing "throw the toy and go get it." Treasure loves to play hide and go seek, or just run after Kirby.

**What We Like:** Kirby likes tummy rubs. Treasure LOVES food and treats. Any time I go into the kitchen, she is following me!

**Our Special Talents:** We are working on a marketable talent for both :)

*Kirby and Treasure's mom shares these adoption stories: "I got Kirby as a puppy (he was 12 weeks old) from a reputable breeder while living in St. Louis, MO. I researched dogs for over a year and decided on a Shih Tzu. Actually, my friend in NYC had a Shih Tzu and had wonderful things to say about the breed - "a golden retriever in a smaller body and minus the shedding." Last year, I thought it would be good for Kirby to have a playmate to keep him company. After searching for Shih Tzus in local shelters to no avail, I contacted another reputable breeder in Michigan about getting a second dog and Sally Watkeys (the breeder) told me about Treasure. She was 5 at the time. The blessing was that she was already well socialized, housebroken, and use to being around other dogs, so it worked out well for us. Kirby was lukewarm about Treasure in the beginning, but they are starting to interact like old friends."*

## May 2013



**Pet's Names:** Callie (Calliope) and Pooh (Mason)

**Proud Parents:** Tim and Jen

**Ages:** 7 and 9 (respectively)

**Breeds:** Labradors

**Our Personalities:** **Callie-** a little nervous at first but very friendly once I get to know you. **Pooh-** super sweet

**Our Favorite Toys:** **Callie-** ALL OF THEM!  
Mostly balls though. **Pooh-** Anything that squeeks.

**Our Favorite Games:** **Callie-** fetch. **Pooh-** getting my belly rubbed and hunting for things to eat (especially things I shouldn't).

**What We Like:** **Callie-** "Things." You know, the kind at the end of people's arms. I love when they pet me, throw balls, feed me, or pet me. :) **Pooh-** I love hanging out with my dad when he works. I just lay next to him or tag along as he mows the grass. I'm not very fond of the wood router in his workshop, though. I howl when he uses that. Come to think of it, I howl quite a bit. I even do when the kids are crying, which makes both mom and dad laugh a little.

**Our Special Talents:** **Callie-** leaping over a tall object in a single bound. **Pooh-** I think I hold the unofficial record for the longest pee ever.

*Callie shares her adoption story: "Mommy (Jen) used to make a special dish of milk and honey to make sure that the tiny ones like me were able to get some food too. I liked her! I kept peaking over the gate to say hi when she came home and would follow her around whenever I could. I guess she liked me just as much because even when my brothers and sisters were gone, I got to stay with her."*

*And Pooh relates his adoption story: "Mom (Jen) knew me from the time I was a pup. When my previous owner struggled to keep both me and my lady friend, Mom offered to keep me. It was cool! I get to see one of my daughters every day and Mom found me a cool new dad. He's my best bud."*

## April 2013



**Pet's Name:** Sheldon

**Proud Parents:** Katy and Patrick

**Age:** 11 or 12

**Breed:** Beagle

**My Personality:** When he is good, he is really, really good, and when he is bad, he is horrid.

**My Favorite Toy:** Bully sticks.

**My Favorite Game:** "Tag" with mom and dad inside the house.

**What I Like:** Digging with my nose, running super fast at the dog park, falling asleep to the piano (works every time), snuggling on the couch, Greenies, and ear rubs.

**My Special Talents:** Master orator.

*Sheldon's mom shares this adoption story: "In 2009, Katy and Patrick were in search of a good dog friend. Sheldon's face kept popping up on the Humane Society's website and after 2 months, Katy decided she had to meet this old Beagle. She immediately realized why he had been stuck at the shelter - he was so anxious and so LOUD! Nevertheless, he stole her heart and by Valentine's Day, he was in a crate in their living room, then on the couch, and then on the bed. He quickly became a key part of their little family - making them laugh and run and play every day. He has accompanied them around the country - exploring the woods of South Carolina, swimming in Lake Michigan, frequenting the dog parks of Wisconsin, and chasing chipmunks in Connecticut. In spite of all the dollars Katy and Patrick have spent on trainers,*

*gadgets, and treats to quiet his mighty bay...he remains, for better or worse, a master orator - no microphone necessary. So, if you are in Ann Arbor, you are sure to hear Sheldon walking the streets. He may not be subtle, but he's a great buddy just the way he is."*

## **March 2013**



**Pet's Name:** Lucy  
**Proud Parents:** Josh and Ashley  
**Age:** 1 1/2 years  
**Breed:** German Shorthaired Pointer (GSP)

**My Personality:** Human-like...very loving, intelligent and active.

**My Favorite Toy:** My Aerobie Pro Frisbee and any stick I can find in the woods.

**My Favorite Game:** Hunting in the woods, fetch, swimming, and playing with my canine companions at the Olson Park dog park!

**What I Like:** Someone to rest my head on after a long walk - snuggling is my favorite!

**My Special Talents:** Pointing birds, chasing rabbits, catching Frisbees in the air, and diving off the docks into the Huron River and Lake Michigan.

*Lucy's mom shares this adoption story: "We had been talking about getting a dog for a while. While out on a walk, my husband promised me he would*

*walk with me every day if we got a dog that could keep up. I was sold! He called the breeder that afternoon and he had one 10-week old female remaining. We picked up Lucy three days later. She's brought more joy and laughter to our life than we could have ever imagined - and she's been trained on pheasants and got four on her first hunt!"*

## **February 2013**



**Pet's Name:** Bingo  
**Proud Parent:** Leo  
**Age:** 7  
**Breed:** Black Lab

**My Personality:** Fantastic personality, very caring and connected to people, especially Leo.

**My Favorite Toy:** Bones and stuffed animals.

**My Favorite Game:** Going on walks!

**What I Like:** Being with Leo and other people.

**My Special Talent:** Loving Leo, being with Leo all the time. Bingo's special talent is his love of people, especially Leo.

*Leo's daughter relates this story about Bingo: "My father, who has Alzheimer's, was widowed 2 1/2 years ago. We quickly realized that a dog would be wonderful for him, he has had many dogs and has always loved them. Through friends we heard of a dog that was living in a basement because the owner had gone off to college and the parents did not want him. So Bingo came to live with my dad and it was the best day for both of them! Bingo and my dad have been thick as thieves ever since. Bingo does not leave my dad's side, except for his walks which he adores! My dad loves Bingo so much and is completely comforted by Bingo. I have no doubt that Bingo loves my dad and knows that giving my dad love and comfort is exactly what he wants to do. Bingo is out of a basement and loving all of the love and attention he is getting. My father has 24 hour caregivers so Bingo is around a lot of people, he gives them comfort also. It is a win-win all the way around! We all love Bingo!"*