



FELINE RESCUE & REHABILITATION

SPRING 2014

P.O. Box 488 Caribou ME 04736 • 207-999-1075 • [halfwayhomepetrescue.org](http://halfwayhomepetrescue.org) • [norma@halfwayhomepetrescue.org](mailto:norma@halfwayhomepetrescue.org)

## Halfway Home Pet Rescue Opens New Thrift Store in Caribou

Halfway Home Pet Rescue recently opened their thrift store, **Second Chance**, at 31 Herschel Street, Caribou (next door to the Presque Isle Animal Hospital's Caribou Clinic.) According to Norma Milton, HHPR President, "We are excited about the store and look forward to offering the public some very nice items at bargain prices and all profit will continue to go to the medical bills of HHPR's cats."

The name Second Chance was picked because the reusable items donated by area residents are the foundation for the "Second Chance" HHPR gives to the cats they rescue and rehabilitate.

The pet rescue has emphasized recycling projects in order to subsidize the cost of rescued cat medical care. Projects include returnable bottles and cans, nicely used shoes for "Shoebox Recycling" and "Cartridges for Cats" that accepts name brand ink cartridges. "The store is a continuation of the recycling image that HHPR projects as a way to save our cats and at the same time help to save our environment." said Milton. "We save the cats, save on the landfill problems, offer low-cost nicely used items for low-income and/or thrifty families. It's a win-win situation for making the most of what is already available—cut out the waste." Milton added.

Donated items can be dropped off at the store on Sat., Sun., and Mon from 10 to 4. If you need to drop items off during the week, please call Linda at 492-1789 to make arrangements.

Second Chance hours will be Saturday, Sunday and Monday from 10 am to 4 pm. Starting May 22, the store will also be open 1 to 4 pm Thursday and Friday. Two new volunteers are needed to cover Friday afternoons. Call 999-1075 or pick up a volunteer application at the store.

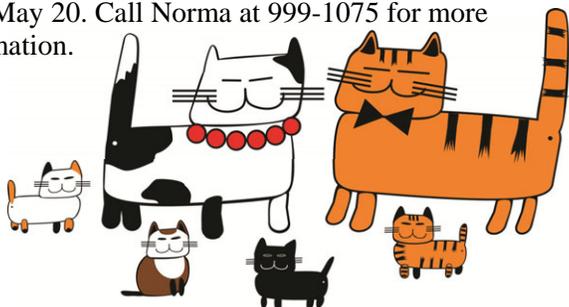


Volunteers Louanne Reitmeyer and Noah Easler tending the merchandise, helper George Palmer in background

Note: HHPR is a 501c3 charity which means the estimated value of your recyclables are income-tax deductible and if asked, we will give you a tax receipt. We are a volunteer-based Maine state inspected and licensed pet rescue. HHPR volunteers are appreciative of all that your efforts allow us to accomplish for the medical care of our homeless kittens.

## Spring Is Barn Cat Party Time!

HHPR will work with area farmers to have adult barn cats spayed/neutered and young kittens rehabilitated after May 20. Call Norma at 999-1075 for more information.



## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

HHPR is currently in great need of medical transportation drivers. This volunteer position involves picking the cat up in Caribou, driving to the Presque Isle Animal Hospital about 8 am on the day of a cat's surgery (generally either Monday or Friday), calling the vet about 3:30 to make sure the cat is ready to return, picking it up before 5 pm closing and bringing it back to Caribou. Unfortunately, because our expenses have been so high we are no longer able to provide volunteers with a \$10 gas card to help with the expense. This position would include the volunteer absorbing the cost of gas.



## I WANT TO DONATE TO HHPR

If your gift is in memory or in honor of someone, please include their mailing address. Send check or money to: HHPR, P.O. Box 488, Caribou ME 04736

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Year Membership \_\_\_\_ (\$20) Half Year Membership \_\_\_\_ (\$10) Greatest Need: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Medical Expenses: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

**VOLUNTEERS AND NETWORKING: The Keys to Success**

Last summer HHPR sent an urgent email to Maine shelters asking if they had space to spare. HHPR was overfull and had to be closed to new admissions. We received several calls offering help, including the Animal Welfare Society in West Kennebunk, the Greater Androscoggin Humane Society in Lewiston, the Bangor Humane Society, and the Animal Refuge League of Greater Portland—all offering to take 5 and some up to 10 cats. We sent 60 cats south last fall which allowed HHPR to keep saving feline lives this winter.

Later, HHPR received a note from Sarah Ashe, Feline Manager at the Animal Refuge League asking if HHPR still needed help. Since that time, we have continued to save feline lives in the county because ARLGP has placed approximately 40 of our kittens and cats since January 1. During May we will be able to send down another 30 kittens and cats. With this network we have been able to help more cats in dire need. In addition, these cats have been placed into homes within days instead of housing them here for several weeks or months. The greater Portland area population allows ARLGP to adopt more cats in one day than HHPR can adopt out in a month. The wonderful staff and volunteers of ARLGP have been a huge blessing.

HHPR also networks with PAWS in Fort Kent through our liaison, Jean Cobb of St. Agatha. PAWS is like HHPR but works with the city of Fort Kent which furnishes a small building including electric and heat. HHPR partnered with PAWS this winter to rescue more than 20 stray and feral cats from Van Buren, Madawaska, and Cross Lake.

We have great community support with the Caribou Shop & Save food donation cart and the Hannaford Bros. monthly food surplus for the pet food pantry. When Houlton Humane and PAWS recently had overcrowding and food shortages, we were happily able to share food to support them. The state humane agent networks with HHPR by delivering pet food to the most needy families known to them throughout the county. The agent has reported deep appreciation from those families helped this winter. Through no fault of their own these families would have had to give up their pets to a shelter for lack of money to buy pet food.

When the ARK Sanctuary in Houlton burned down, HHPR put out a call to our volunteers and friends to reach out with donations. Although the new building was insured, the loss of 16 feline lives was devastating. As always, HHPR was counting our own pennies, but this horrible loss to a sister organization quickly became Priority One as we knew there would be an immediate need for purchasing new equipment and supplies. This HHPR initiative brought close to \$2,000 to the ARK Sanctuary. **We are all family in this rescue work** and we will always be poor. Poor is the basis of most charities and even more so with volunteer-based charities and animal charities often being at the bottom of the donation ladder.

If charities want to survive today's financial challenges, we must all learn to volunteer and to share. Networking is sharing what we have and what we know with our sister charities for the good of all. I have always found the more we give, the more we get back—whether it is financial or of the spirit. Each time I worry about the future of HHPR, God sends someone to help. We must be doing something right. ~Norma

**NEED HELP WITH SPAY/ NEUTER COST?**

**Contact Help Fix ME: 1-800-367-1317**

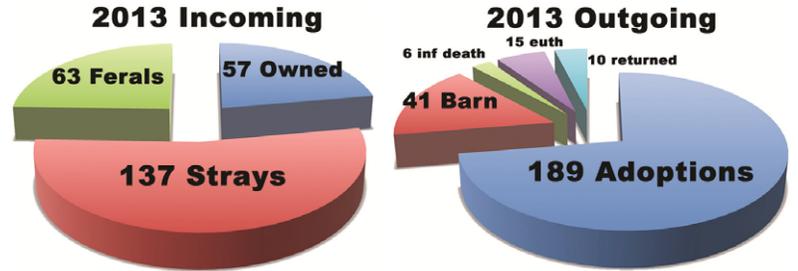
**Mon-Fri 9am -12 noon is best**



**SPAY**  
maine

You qualify for Help Fix ME if you receive: food stamps, TANF, Mainecare, SSI or SSD or your income is below 133% of the federal poverty level. [for Maine residents]

**2013 ACTIVITY** In addition to 31 already with us, we took in 137 strays, 63 ferals and 57 owner surrenders. HHPR had 189 adoptions, 41 cats went to barns, 10 were returned to owners, 15 required compassionate euthanasia and 6 died in infancy.



**HHPR BOARD 2014**  
 HHPR welcomes three new board members: Corey Bogel of New Sweden, Angela Flanagan of Castle Hill and Carol Austin of Caribou.

Norma Milton	Caribou
David Bickford	Etna
Ruby Bickford	Etna
Garrick Milton	Caribou
Sandra Milton	Caribou
Becky Brady	Woodland
Dean Rauch	Caribou
Corey Bogel	New Sweden
Angela Flanagan	Castle Hill
Mary Rowe	Caribou
Carol Austin	Caribou
Sharon Watson	Fort Fairfield

Eleanora Ring, Shelter Manager, Caribou  
 Robyn Smith, Webmaster/Media, Caribou

*Dedicated to Feline Rescue and Rehabilitation*

Change service requested

P.O. Box 488 Caribou ME 04736



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