



Newsletter

Fall 2012



P.O. Box 488 Caribou ME 04736 · 207-999-1075 · halfwayhomepetrescue.org · norma@halfwayhomepetrescue.org

HHPR FINDS A NEW HOME

Please mark your calendars for Sunday, November 4, from 12 noon to 3 pm. Halfway Home Pet Rescue will open its new doors and celebrate the Grand Opening of our new pet rescue home at 489 South Main St., Caribou.

We are excited! We are so grateful to John and Chi Chi Belanger for helping us to make this possible.

We will have sweets and punch and several door prizes. Our adoptable adult cats are ready to show off for you and we have some adorable kittens that will just thrill you. Check them out on Facebook (facebook.com/halfwayhomepetrescue). Our little thrift shop will be open with some mind-boggling low prices. You will love our large double-decked cat cages. After all, our HHPR team thinks that if a cat has to be in a cage, it should be a cage that is at least 4 times larger than required. And you will love our free-roaming cat room (Robyn's Rumpus Room) with its castles and cat walks and very happy cats. The G-Force Laser Tag people will be with us with their awesome GYRO machine for you to take a spin. We might have a few other little tricks up our sleeve so don't miss out on this Cat Celebration. HHPR finally has a home.




The new telephone number for HHPR is **999-1075**. This cell phone is manned by volunteers once every day and your message will be returned as soon as possible.

In case of an emergency, you still need to notify your local police department or if you live in a town that contracts with the Central Aroostook Humane Shelter, then you need to call them for help

before you call us. Only when these two options are not able to help you, call 999-1075. We will do our best to help, either by taking the cat or if we are full, by providing you with an outreach kit until we have space available. If the stray cat is ill or injured: 1. tell us immediately in your message that it is an emergency for an ill or injured cat, and 2. keep the cat contained or take it to your local police station for help (in accordance to Maine State Animal Welfare law). We will follow through as soon as possible to make sure this animal has received appropriate help. As always, we recommend that you feed the poor cat and we will provide the outreach kit for temporary shelter as well as the food. It is difficult enough to be out in the cold, but harder still to be cold and hungry.

HHPR RECYCLING PROGRAMS

SHOEBOX RECYCLING PROGRAM



Don't throw away old shoes! If you've got shoes you no longer wear and they are in wearable condition, please let us recycle them for you. HHPR has joined the Shoebox Recycling

Program that distributes secondhand shoes to people in the U.S. and abroad. Your shoes will find a new home.

For every 40 lbs of shoes we send, we earn \$20!

We can accept pairs of mens, womens, childrens shoes, sandals, and athletic shoes, but no heavy winter boots, skates, ski boots, roller blades or flipflops. Shoes must be in wearable condition (no mold or holes).

Drop your shoes off at one of our collection locations:

11 Pioneer Avenue, Caribou

TD Bank, Caribou and Presque Isle

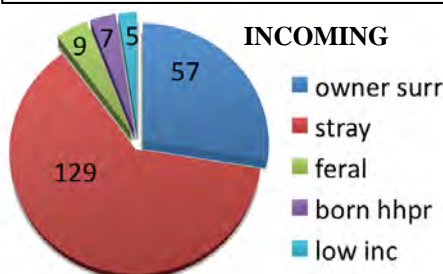
489 Main Street, Suite A, Caribou



HHPR will recycle your empty Inkjet and Laser cartridges. They must be OEM versions (not the "compatible" generic type) from all the major manufacturers: HP, Canon, Epson, etc. Place the cartridges in a ziploc bag to prevent spill. If you have the box for the laser cartridge, please place your empty in it. We will sort, inventory, and ship them to our redemption partner, Dazz-Cycle. Collection locations: 11 Pioneer Ave., Caribou; TD Bank, Caribou & Presque Isle; 489 Main St., Suite A, Caribou. We can also recycle used cellphones in working condition. For a list of acceptable cartridges and cellphones, contact admin@halfwayhomepetrescue.org.

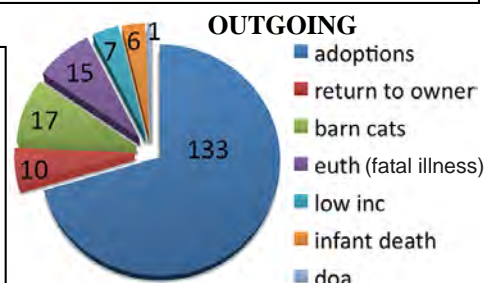
RETURNABLE BOTTLES AND CANS

Your returnable bottles and cans help the cats. When you drop your empties off at the Redemption Center at 88 Bennett Drive in Caribou, tell them you want the money donated to Halfway Home Pet Rescue. Thank you!



How are we doing in 2012?

More than 200 cats helped
 207 cats admitted, 189 cats discharged
 Incoming: 129 strays, 9 feral, 57 surrendered by owner.
 Outgoing: 133 Adoptions.
 152 Spay/Neuter cases processed.
 25 Cats rescued from hoarding situations.



READY TO GO HOME

PRISCILLA is a 10-month-old spayed female who recently finished nursing 5 babies. The little family had a terrible journey with being trapped under a building and people tossing firecrackers in to scare them. All came into HHPR very traumatized, full of parasites and extremely thin.



Priscilla was a devoted momma who gave all her strength to save her babies. She is now learning that she too has a right to a good life. She is a clean, happy, independent young cat who loves to be loved. She enjoys a window seat to see the outdoors, but does not have any interest in being out in that cold, cruel world again. Adoption fee \$25.

DARRELL (yellow & white) and **BILL** (black & white) are two best buddies. They both are nearly a year old are all medically cleared, including neutering. These two best friends need to go together and to a casual, quiet home. They came from a hoarder situation so they were not accustomed to human attention or love, but have responded beautifully to our volunteers. They will grow to love and trust you very quickly with soft talk, but you must allow them time to accept a new environment (maybe a week or 10 days). They are shy and need to be inside cats. They have the hunter instinct, so will be good indoor mousers. These very clean, loving boys would like a home together. No adoption fee.



Halfway Home Pet Rescue cares about its cats. If an adoption does not work out for any reason, we want to know about it. Perhaps we can help. If the only solution is to remove the pet from the home, we want you to feel comfortable bringing the cat back to us. We understand that sometimes things just don't work out. It doesn't matter how long you have had the animal, if you adopted from us, we welcome the cat back .



ROXANNE is 1 1/2 years old and a real sweetheart. She is spayed with all medical completed and she would now like a home that centers on her personality. She would like to be your one and only feline sweetie. She will sleep in bed with you, keep your neck warm and purr you to sleep. Roxanne is clean, happy and anxious to please. She will follow you like a dog to check on anything you might need for her to protect you. She is afraid of dogs and really wants up-close comfortable company with her special person. Her adoption fee is \$25.



PRINCESS is a very young female who came in with her kittens and several orphans. She has been a devoted mother and foster mother to the orphans but she will be ready to start her new life later in November. Princess is a very loving young cat. Adoption fee \$25.

KITTENS

We have several litters of kittens of various ages and colors that are available throughout November. They have all received age appropriate vaccinations and parasite treatments. They have been fostered in various HHPR foster homes so they are well socialized. They will all go with spay-neuter vouchers for when they are old enough for the procedure. Call 999-1075 for information.



ATTENTION DOG LOVERS

HHPR has joined the Furever Rescued Calendar Project: www.frcproject.com. The kind and generous folks at Paws of Grace Rescue have created a beautiful, professional calendar featuring "death row" dogs who have been rescued. They will give 50% of the calendar price to no-kill shelters and rescues who have joined in their cause. The calendar costs \$15 (plus s/h). \$7.50 will be donated to HHPR for each calendar purchased! To buy your calendar and support HHPR, visit www.frcproject.com, click on Buy Your Calendar. Click the I-M States box, select ME—Halfway Home Pet Rescue on the dropdown list. Complete your purchase and Thank You!

I SUPPORT HALFWAY HOME PET RESCUE

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

E-MAIL _____

I WOULD LIKE TO:

- ____ Become a yearly member for \$20
____ Become a lifetime member for \$200

I WANT TO DONATE TO:

____ Greatest need ____ Building Fund ____ Spay/Neuter

In Memory or In Honor of: _____

Name and Address of family member/friend:

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: _____

Donations are tax deductible. We will send a Thank You note that will be your receipt. Thank you for your support — we could not do this without you!

Note: You can also donate online at halfwayhomepetrescue.org

Letter of Thanks

by **Norma Milton**

It is the time of year when many of us will curl up in a blanket to watch the annual airing of Wizard of Oz. During 2012, HHPR board members and volunteers have often felt as though we were simply following a yellow brick road in hopes of eventually finding our permanent home, our “Emerald City.” There was no wise wizard to direct us. We had only our faith, an unwavering faith, that we were on the right road and that we would continue struggling until, in the end, our cats would win their rightful home.

We have so much to be grateful for. The struggle was tough. The road certainly had far too many potholes. But no one person faltered and no one person ever thought of quitting. The tougher the road became, the more people joined to help, and we overcame every obstacle until we really did find our Land of Oz. Our new location at 489 South Main St., Caribou will open to the public on November 1 by appointment only. On November 3, we will hold public hours from 12 noon to 3 pm for adoptions and pet food pantry clients. Our gala Grand Opening is scheduled for Sunday, November 4, from 12 noon to 3 pm.

We hope you will celebrate with us on Nov. 4th, and if you can't, please remember us with a prayer of Thanksgiving in your heart. Halfway Home Pet Rescue has found our way home. Thank you for all of your help and encouragement over the past 4 years. ~ Norma Milton

HHPR PROGRAM RECEIVES GRANT

Halfway Home Pet Rescue recently received a \$3,956 grant from the Belvedere Animal Welfare Fund of the Maine Community Foundation to support the Community Pet Rescue Outreach Program, piloted over the past year.

Because all county shelters are exceeding capacity, this time of year many stray animals will go without food, water and shelter during northern Maine's extremely cold winter. Rescue volunteers will soon find many cases of frostbitten ears, tails and feet.

This Outreach Program enables HHPR to offer the cat rescuer resources of a large crate, litter pan, scoop, litter, blanket, food, dishes, toys and all items needed to provide temporary care for the stray animal in the home, garage, or basement until space can be provided in a shelter. In addition, the program allows for the cat to have an immediate vet visit to remove any parasites, receive vaccinations and spay/neuter surgery. In the case of a cat colony with no shelter during winter, HHPR has created insulated totes and converted donated used large dog crates into insulated shelters.

A statewide organization with offices in Ellsworth and Portland, the Maine Community Foundation partners with donors and nonprofits to strengthen Maine communities. For more information, visit www.mainecef.org or call 1-877-700-6800.

ITTY BITTY ORPHAN KITTY PROGRAM

Each year, several litters of abandoned kittens come to us without a mother. This means a human must fill the role until the kittens can eat on their own and use the litter box. It is rewarding work but can be exhausting for one person alone to do it. We have many trained volunteers who have saved dozens of kittens this year. But we need more help. Starting early 2013, HHPR will pilot a new program: the “Itty Bitty Orphan Kitty” Program, to train volunteers to provide orphan kitty care when babies start coming in 2013.

The training will be a 3-session, 2-hour class to start some time in late February or early March—just in time for the newly trained volunteers to assist in the latest rescue. Session 1 will start with the basic care of feline babies and what the role of surrogate mother involves. Included in training: how to make kitten formula; bottle feeding techniques that make feeding babies a joy; bathing, and stimulating the bowels and urine. You will learn the importance of a consistently warm environment, and why soft furry teddy bears and other stuffed toys give comfort to a sleeping kitten. You will learn how and why you need to protect the eyes from direct light for the first 21 days.

Session 2: After short review, question & answer period, we will focus on the stages of kitten development, when a kitten is healthy, detecting signs on illness, treating chronic conditions, and when to call for help. We will talk about URI (upper respiratory infection), Coccidia, internal and physical birth defects, and the sad issue of infant death.

Session 3: After short review, question & answer period, we will discuss Compassion Fatigue — how to prevent and manage. We want to train you to provide quality care that will be rewarding. And we want to keep you. So together we will learn to share the joys of success and lean on each other when the time becomes tough.

For more information or to join us, call 999-1075.



P.O. Box 488 Caribou ME 04736

*Dedicated to Feline Rescue
and Rehabilitation*

Change service requested

DID YOU KNOW ...

An unsprayed female cat, her mate, and their offspring, producing 2 litters per year (average 2.8 kittens surviving per litter) can total:

1 year = 12 2 years = 67
3 years = 376 4 years = 2,107
5 years = 11,801

Only 1 in 12 finds a home.

SPAY - it's the only way!

(source: spayusa.org)

NEED HELP WITH SPAY/ NEUTER?

The Help Fix ME Program currently has money to continue helping low-income families have their cats sterilized. The portion you would pay for a cat is \$10. Call the number below and get your form in to them as soon as possible.

**Contact Help Fix ME: 1-800-367-1317
Mon-Fri 9am -12 noon is best**

You will qualify for Help Fix ME if you receive: food stamps, TANF, MaineCare, SSI or SSD or have an income below 133% of the federal poverty level (you do not have to be receiving any government assistance to qualify).



HOW TO HELP ANIMALS WITH YOUR TAX FORM

Keep the HelpFixME Program on Maine State Tax forms! Check **"The Companion Animal Sterilization Fund"** on your **1040 tax form** and **attach the schedule CP**. The state of Maine requires that \$20,000 or more in donations be collected using this 1040 system in order to stay on the form.

HHPR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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HHPR is a member of the Best Friends Network of Charities

**Presorted Standard
U.S. Postage
PAID
Caribou ME
Permit No. 86**

HHPR Free Pet Food Pantry is intended to temporarily help families in trouble. We are dependent on the amount of donated food for how much we have available each month. Shelter cats are always first priority. Applicants with serious emergencies take next priority. You cannot rely on this supply every month. When you fill out an application for free pet food, you must also provide us proof of actual need. If you don't send proof of need, your application will not be processed. Mary Rowe will call you each month when there is food available for you. If Mary does not call you, that means there was no food available for you for the entire month. So plan your purchase of pet food supply so that you don't run out. It looks like another tough winter. Please plan ahead.

HHPR ENCOURAGES SCHOOL VISITS

HHPR has a well-established elementary school program on responsible pet ownership and we welcome requests from teachers to visit their classroom. This is an educational and fun session. Students are able to interact with happy, healthy young adult cats and kittens while learning how to hold them, play with them and be a good, responsible friend to their pet. At the end of the visit, students are given simple everyday tasks they can do to help save the lives of helpless animals. For more information on how to have an HHPR volunteer visit your classroom, please email norma@halfwayhomepetrescue.org