



Notes from Norma



Norma with Spunky who was close to death when he was rescued from the cold this past winter.

We managed to accomplish far more than hoped for in 2018. Starting the year with 71 cats in house and foster homes, we added 191 more to our roll call list and found placements opportunities for 172 of them. Unfortunately, we did have a high volume of infant deaths this year (12) and euthanized (12). This is much higher than

any other year and was due to several litters of extremely young and seriously ill orphaned kittens with Coccidia and URI and several young adult cats with severe injuries by automobile and 5 young adults that came to us already at death's door due to starvation & exposure issues.

We saved those we could and stopped the pain of those that had no chance of a recovery. **This mission of mercy tells us that people are now responding to the critical needs of stray and feral cats by bringing them to us instead of leaving them out in the cold to freeze to death.**

These above intake figures do not include the over 250 cats and dogs we help daily through the Meals on Wheels, Caribou Food Pantry, referrals by state humane agents, and private referrals of families needing help and our maintaining feral colonies. **It is a true mission of compassion by many people working together to make good things happen.**

Due to the financial issues within the county, we took in 77 owned cats from people who felt they could not afford to keep their pets. We had 15 babies born to female cats in advanced pregnancy. We took in 72 stray cats and captured 16 feral cats with 9 of those young enough to be tamed and they will eventually be re-homed.

We provided 7 low-income families with help that enabled them to keep their pet. We adopted out 67 cats, transferred 81 cats downstate, released 5 feral cats to barns, returned 16 to owner (thanks to Facebook) and we helped 4 low-income families with pet medical needs. Financially things were tight, but we hung on and each crisis was soon followed by a blessing that helped pay the bills.

The faithful dedication of our volunteer staff kept us going. If we had to meet an employee payroll we could not have

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Free Spay/Neuter Event a Success!

The Cat Coalition of Western Maine, **sponsored by Marion's Dream Foundation**, held a Free Spay/Neuter Clinic for the general public of Caribou and the surrounding communities. 90 cats were spayed and 64 cats were neutered for a total of 154 cats sterilized during the 3-day event.

Halfway Home Pet Rescue volunteers assisted at the registration table, routine tasks, observation of cats during recovery from surgery and in providing food for the team of workers. Several members of the public brought in food items as well.

The event was held at the Country Farms Market Conference Room at 31 Herschel St. The site was generously donated by owner **Mark Kelley**. A special thank you is also needed for **Dr. David Smith** for opening his office to assist with sterilization of surgical equipment when the CCWM Autoclave broke down. Thank you to **Ed Bates of Presque Isle** who donated a used Autoclave that he was not currently using.

These people saved the day helping to make the clinic a big success. The CCWM team has promised to return for a 2-day clinic on June 22 and 23. To apply for the next spay clinic in June, please contact Jess at 207-965-8921.



HHPR volunteer Sally O'Neal of Woodland who worked all 3 days as a vet tech assistant.

Help for Orphan Kittens

Second Grade Students Raise Money for HHPR

On May 9th, second grade students at the Teague Park School learned about responsible pet care from volunteers of Halfway Home Pet Rescue.

The program was hosted by the second grade teachers and the students had conducted a school-wide penny drive to help with medical care provided for homeless cats. The penny drive came to \$440 not including some Canadian change.

During kitten season HHPR medical expenses can run higher than normal and the students were told that their monetary gift would be used to provide emergency care for orphaned kittens.

The second grade class has done this fundraiser as a community project for the past 7 years. Eight week old kittens Sammy and Sully visited the students as well as Spunky.



Pictured from (left) teacher Mary Theriault, Norma Milton, president of HHPR and Roy Chris Pinette, an HHPR volunteer. Front are the second grade students at the Teague Park School in Caribou.

Looking for Their "Furever" Homes...

Some of these cats have special needs such as **Sammy** who is 17 years old and just wants to be loved. **Gabby** who is frisky and needs lots of room to play safely, and **Heidi** who was isolated in small cage for the first year of her life and needs to learn to trust people.

To meet our adoptable cats, please first complete an application online and after the committee reviews your application a member will call to schedule the appointment. Because we are a group of volunteers appointments need to be scheduled as the volunteers main task is the feeding, cleaning, and loving time for our homeless cats. Our adoption application is available for download on our website: halfwayhomepetrescue.org.



Sammy

Gabby



Heidi

Spunky

Sully

Laura

Missy

Calico Mamas



Colby

Donnie

Candy

Sassy

Jilly Toy

Rickie

✓ Yes, I want to help Halfway Home Pet Rescue.

Your donation makes a difference. Please send check or money order to: HHPR, P.O. Box 488, Caribou ME 04736

Name: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

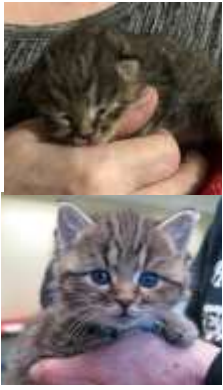
Greatest Need: \$ _____ In Memory of: _____ In Honor of: _____

If your gift is **in memory or in honor of someone**, please include their mailing address below:

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Please print clearly to ensure accuracy.

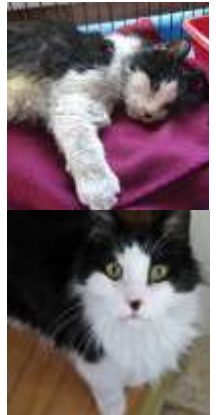
Happy Endings



Abraham was just a few days old and mighty hungry when found in an abandoned warehouse. No mother was around and so he was brought to HHPR for bottle feedings on 4/21. In just 3 weeks he made himself the happy mayor of his foster home. Abraham is now eating on his own and is twice as large as the other foster kittens who are 3 weeks old than him.

This terrific little monster will be available for adoption at the end of June. Visit our website to complete an adoption application at halfwayhomepetrescue.org.

Spunky was at death's door when the Fort Fairfield police brought him to HHPR on Feb 11. His body was skeletal, his eyes empty with despair & pain. Many questioned his ability to fight for his life & for a week his survival remained questionable. Then his eyes slowly told us he had decided to live. Spunky's story is cataloged on facebook even to the point of stealing his foster mom's Burger King Whoppers. Spunky is now a healthy 12 pounds and scheduled for Thyroid surgery on June 20. He will be adoptable on July 1.



At Home at Last...

From injured, scared and homeless to safe in a home of their own.

These are just a very few of the fortunate cats who have found good homes this winter though their journey with HHPR. We are so pleased that we are able to serve them and prepare them for permanent homes. Newsletter space does not allow us to present more of the happy kitties. We thank you for your support in helping these beautiful cats.



Luther



Sophie



Carmen



Rocky



Precious



Amos



Laurel



Star



Bandit



Duchess



Einstein



Andy



Magic



Molly



Punkin



Happy



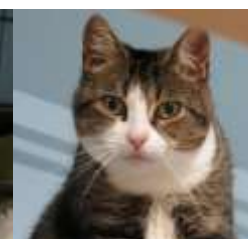
Simon, Samson & Sandra



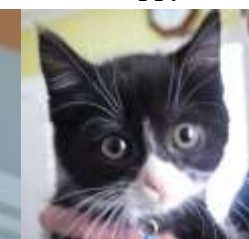
Frank



Moose



Martha Stewart



Cole



Grayson



Hap & Carmen

If you are interested in adopting a cat into your family, please contact HHPR at: 207-999-1075 or email: admin@halfwayhomepetrescue.org

Shop at the Second Chance Thrift Store



Visit our new furniture salesroom with many gently used items.

HHPR's Second Chance Thrift Store at 31 Herschel St. in Caribou. All profit goes directly to the medical bills for our homeless cats.

Hours are: Monday - Saturday, 10 am to 4 pm.

Your Trash is Our Treasure!

Proceeds from your donations help us pay our vet bills.

HHPR is collecting used shoes and sneakers in good condition for our shoe recycling fundraiser. Please drop off shoes at **11 Pioneer Ave. in Caribou**. We continue with the bottles and cans redemption fundraiser at **88 Bennett Drive Redemption in Caribou** or at the **Presque Isle Redemption in Presque Isle**. **Please tell the service person, at each location, that your redemption is to be donated to Halfway Home Pet Rescue in Caribou.**



Our Wish List

- Litter (clumping and non clumping)
- Canned Food, especially Friskies and Fancy Feast (*no beef please*)
- Garbage Bags (13 & 30 gal.)
- Laundry Detergent
- Paper Towels / Wipes
- Dish Detergent
- Baby wipes (for kittens butts)
- Monetary Donations for our vet bills
- Volunteers for the Second Chance Thrift Store (3-hour shift) and the Adoption Center (direct care & events)

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accomplished so much medical help for these cats. We are deeply grateful to all our dedicated volunteers of the adoption center, thrift store and foster families as well as all the other tasks that make this mission possible. Volunteerism is the heart of HHPR.

We are grateful to the Cat Coalition of Western Maine Mobile Unit that traveled to Caribou and sterilized 154 cats. This will be a great help to turn the tide of free roaming cat breeding. **CCWM has promised to return for another clinic on June 22 and 23.**

We are so blessed that Dr. Brown at North Country Animal Hospital and her staff have been so very instrumental in working with our homeless cats. We are especially grateful to her for being available for those late night and unexpected daytime emergencies. It was a busy year, a hugely productive year and all of it was accomplished because of the kindness of our generous supporters and volunteer workers. From my heart to your ear — Bless you, my friends, bless you.

Respectfully,

Norma Milton

HHPR Visits Caribou Public Library for Story Time

There was plenty of love for the kittens at the Caribou Public Library on May 20 as 79 children and parents met for story and loving time for kittens.



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