



## Notes from Norma



This statement of Saint Francis of Assisi is a classic lesson of how and why Halfway Home Pet rescue was created. A large colony of feral cats lived at the Madawaska lake where my husband and I had retired. I heard many people say "Someone should do something about these feral cats."

**"Start by doing what's necessary; then do what's possible; and suddenly you are doing the impossible."  
SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI**



But it never happened and the discussions continued during coffee visits at Stan's Madawaska Lake Store. Although I had operated a pet boarding kennel for many years and had rescued a number of cats and dogs for about 45 years, I enjoyed being retired and loved the peace and quiet of lake life. I listened to the talk, but said nothing.

On a beautiful winter day in mid-December as I stood at the kitchen window washing dishes I noticed a mid-size, white and black cat walking gingerly across the thin ice. "Oh, no," I whispered, "no, no, no, little one." When the cat was about 20 feet from shore the ice fractured and she went down. I screamed in horror and frustration for there was no way to save that poor cat. My husband came running and when I finished sobbing the story about the cat, Everett added "Well, **SOMEONE** really needs to do something about those cats."

I felt the heat of being called and there would be no turning back. **It was necessary** for me to alert the neighbors of a simple rescue plan. We fundraised, rescued, sterilized and rehomed the entire colony to a local farmer's barn. Newspaper and television coverage introduced new people to the endeavor and more supplies were donated.

We learned **it is possible** to create a volunteer rescue with many people doing different tasks and the general public donating supplies and funding. A non-profit corporation was created. Grants were written and accepted. Halfway Home Pet Rescue became an entity based on the foundation of **volunteerism doing the impossible**. All these people each doing what they were able to do saved and sterilized thousands of cats, but also aided dogs in need of medical care or food supplies.

Halfway Home Pet Rescue is a state of Maine licensed pet rescue and a 501c3 volunteer-based workforce for animals accepting cats at greatest risk, providing a **Free Pet Food Pantry, and a Free Feline Spay/Neuter Clinic**. HHPR is now widely known as a Feline Rescue and Rehabilitation Center and as Aroostook County's INN for precious cats.

A great deal of our success was derived through generous grants from the **Maine Community Foundation Aroostook County Fund, The Elmina B. Sewall Foundation, and the May HTR Foundation**. Dedicated volunteers handle our direct cat care, fundraising and office work. Several veterinarians have assisted with discounted services for medical needs: Drs. Nick and Andrea Pesut, Dr. Lori Brown and Dr. Beth Sperry. All of these **individual blessings created the miracle** of a volunteer pet rescue for Aroostook County.

**Thank you,  
Norma Milton**

**Halfway Home Pet Rescue** is deeply grateful for your donations. Please understand that at this time we are short of volunteer staff in the office and very busy with clinic work, newsletter mailing and grant writing so we can continue this mission.

Your help makes a big difference. We hope to be caught up by June 1, before kitten season starts. Thank you so much for caring and understanding.

**A special  
THANK YOU to  
MMG Insurance Co.  
of Presque Isle, ME  
for donating the  
printing of our  
newsletter.**

# Will You Take Me Home?



**Curly** is a neutered male about 2 years old, with all his medical completed. He is loving and has an independent personality. He adores interacting with people, but not with other cats and would like to be your only cat. He is very handsome and has the tail of a piglet.



**Boomer** is a 2 year old neutered male with all medical completed. He loves to play and is very loving to people. Great with kids over 5 years. Independent and should be the only cat in your home.



**Missy** is a spayed female about 4 years old with all medical done and she dearly wants a home of her own.

She is a people loving calico who feels quite superior to other cats. She is a quiet, nicely mannered little girl who prefers to be seen as royalty on a pedestal as you watch TV together.



**Moe & Larry** came to us with their sibling Curly. Both cats were very thin thanks to Curly's food aggressive personality and a neglectful owner. Moe & Larry are very bonded, about 10 mos old, short-hair, have all medical completed & need to be adopted together. Both adore humans and being held. Great with other cats, adults and children.

## Donate Bottles & Cans to HHPR

Donate your bottles and cans to HHPR by leaving them at:

11 Pioneer Ave. or 88 Bennett Drive in Caribou, or any of the Caribou or Presque Isle redemption centers or at the Parson Street Redemption boxes.

Please label your bag, HHPR.



## For Sale

This beautiful Grandfather clock is in prime condition and has a sun and moon and a Westminster chime. Resale value is \$900. HHPR is asking only \$350 or best offer by June 1, 2021. **For more information contact:** [norma@halfwayhomepetrescue.org](mailto:norma@halfwayhomepetrescue.org).

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

## Ways You Can Help

### Donate items from our Wish List.

We are always in need of the items below at the shelter.

- Canned Friskies: shreds, chunky, bits (chicken, fish, or turkey)
- Fancy Feast (all flavors)
- World’s Best Cat Litter
- Fresh Step Litter (clumping or non-clumping)
- Postage stamps

### Donation Drop off Locations:

- HHPR Adoption Center: 489 Main St. Caribou
- Office: 11 Pioneer Ave. Caribou

## Happy Tails!

Hazel ♥ **Adopted!**



Mikey ♥ **Adopted!**



Clyde ♥ **Returned to owner!**



Pearl ♥ **Adopted!**



We have had a big increase in incoming cats due to people having life changes due to COVID and people moving into nursing homes or moving in with relatives who cannot take the cats. We have many of these loving adult cats, well cared for and needing new good homes. **To adopt one of these cats, contact us today at 207-999-1075.**

### Do you shop at Amazon?

You can donate to HHPR when you shop. Go to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) and select Halfway Home Pet Rescue OR purchase some items for us from our **Amazon Wish List.**

### Volunteers

If you would like to give your time and skills to Halfway Home Pet Rescue, please contact us as we have many opportunities for you to make a difference for our cats. You can go online at [www.halfwayhomepetrescue.org](https://www.halfwayhomepetrescue.org) and complete a volunteer application.

*Thank you.*

## 2021 HHPR Board of Directors

- Norma Milton, Caribou
- David Bickford, Etna
- Beth Henderson, Caribou
- Gail Langley, Caribou
- Mary Theriault, Connor TWP
- Pam Thompson, Caribou
- Hugh Kirkpatrick, Caribou
- Kent & Cathy Coston, Fort Fairfield
- Bruce & Stacey Dickinson, Caribou
- Andrea McPherson-Mesa, Manchester, NH
- Robyn Smith, Specialist IT and Media

DON'T FORGET TO CUT THE STRAPS



Please do not forget to clip the ties on your mask.

## ✓ Yes, I want to help support 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: \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to make a donation in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

My gift is: \_\_\_\_\_ In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_ In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send an acknowledgement to: Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Please print clearly to ensure accuracy.

SPAY AND NEUTER



Unwanted kittens come from any family pet who has not been FIXED. We might know this is the best thing to do but where do we find the money for what has become a very expensive pet procedure for all county folks of all financial levels?

Through the generous support of the **Elmina B. Foundation and the Maine Community Foundation Aroostook County Fund**, HHPR is now able to help

families with UNFIXED cats to get FIXED.

HHPR has sterilized 329 cats and 4 dogs since January 10 to April 10, 2021. The next HHPR Free Cat Spay/Neuter Clinic will be held at the **Caribou Wellness Center from August 11 to 13**. For advance placement please complete the application below. **This is a cats only clinic.**

**Fixing cats before 4 months old prevents or reduces:**

- Unwanted & unexpected early litters
- The suffering that comes from cat over population and not enough homes
- Male cat spraying
- Stressful female heat cycles
- Some cancers later in life

**Sperry's Veterinary Services LLC.**

Halfway Home Pet Rescue is partnering with **Dr. Elisabeth Sperry and her team** of vet techs from Portland. The team just completed their second Free Spay Clinic at the Caribou Wellness Center.

Isaiah Belyea, a Caribou student and HHPR volunteer works with the team as vet tech in training. The clinic brought HHPR's 2021 total sterilizations to 329 cats and 4 dogs in just 3 months. For more information or an application for the next clinic email: [norma@halfwayhomepetrescue.org](mailto:norma@halfwayhomepetrescue.org).



The team at Sperry's Veterinary Services LLC.

**FREE CAT SPAY / NEUTER CLINIC ADVANCE APPLICATION**

**Clinic Date: AUGUST 2021, for 11,12 &13**

NOTE: This is only for Aroostook County Cats

**PLEASE PRINT:**

Owner Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

PO / Street: \_\_\_\_\_ Town: \_\_\_\_\_, ME

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Cat Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Sex: \_\_\_\_\_ Color: \_\_\_\_\_ Long or Short Hair \_\_\_\_\_

You will receive a return acceptance postcard with date, day and time to show up at the Caribou Wellness Center on Bennett Dr. in Caribou. Please stay in touch & keep us informed of any problems. **The FREE clinic will provide spay/neuter, distemper & rabies vaccines, flea prevention, ear cleaning & ear mite treatment, nail trim, and worming.**

**Photocopies accepted - one copy for each cat please.**