



Volume 14
Issue 2

The Cat's Meow

Autumn
2014



This past year our entire family fostered beautiful Mama Rosie and her litter of tiny offspring. These five adorable, silly, gregarious, fearless and messy tumble balls of curiosity spent a month at our home growing and learning, safe from possible infections that could be encountered at the shelter. As each grew, we witnessed first-hand the importance of foster care while enjoying the development of their unique personalities. Not all fosters are as energetic as ours, but all benefit from the quiet, individual attention they receive in a home. Fostering is a necessary gateway for shy or sick cats who long for a forever home. It can instill trust in a frightened and abused cat and turn its life around. The attention cats receive in foster care increases their chances of being adopted and helps them to develop basic cat behaviors. It is remarkable how simple foster care is, yet how vital it is to a cat's well-being. Rosie and her babies thrived in the separate room we provided and enjoyed the company of our family and pets. As they grew, socialization and acceptance of each other and our family became second nature for them. Our home has been a foster haven many times in the past, including terminally ill cats, senior cats, bottle fed babies, and cats needing time to recover from the horrific lives led outside without food or shelter. Each time patience, compassion, and unconditional love were as essential as food and water. Saying goodbye at the end of their stay was difficult, but opened the door for other lives to be saved. Rosie and all of her babies have been adopted by amazing families. On behalf of Ranch, Guacamole, Dijon, Ketchup and Aioli, I would like to thank our wonderful foster network for providing a second chance for stray, abandoned and homeless kitties in need, and invite you to become a member of this life saving team now by emailing foster@midhudsonanimalaid.org.



MHAA to save an abandoned kitten, an injured and sick cat, a lost family friend, we count on you to support our efforts. When a MHAA resident, overlooked for almost a decade by adoptive families grows old and needs costly medical assistance to ensure a quality life while continuing to await his new home, we look to you. When the call comes in to aid the feline residents of a fellow rescue organization on the brink of collapse, we cannot turn away. With united purpose, with passion and dedication, help us answer the call.

Don Petruncola, MHAA Board President

Please join us this November 16th at the beautiful Powelton Club on Balmville Road in Newburgh for our 19th Annual Goods and Services Auction. Viewing will be from 3:30-5:00pm and live auction from 5:00-7:00pm. No jeans permitted. Prepaid reservations are available for \$30, email: fundraising@midhudsonanimalaid.org

Make a secure donation at www.midhudsonanimalaid.org

Miracles happen here everyday ~ because of you.

Out of the rubble came renewal and strength - an unyielding commitment to our cats and faith in the power of love. The fire that crushed our hearts and took away life only one year ago also gave something in return. The memory of that dark day motivates and inspires us to work harder and with greater compassion, to move forward and never lose sight of our mission. Our organization has grown and thrived in the face of adversity. Our resolve has been unwavering and our family of donors, fosters and friends has expanded during this year all the way to Japan and Australia.

Twelve months later, MHAA has rebuilt and reopened with our team saving over one hundred kittens and countless other cats this spring and summer. A new chapter has begun in restored and remodeled surroundings. Contented felines stroll the new catwalks and recovering cats rest in warm cages. The charred shell of the Isolation Room has been replaced with bright new walls. Meows, purrs and head butts are the order of the day. Light and hope are plentiful. The cherished souls lost that fateful day are ever present, sweetly remembered and guardians of our new beginning.

"All the darkness in the world cannot extinguish the light of a single candle"

Spotlight on FIV

MHAA is one of the few shelters in the tri state area to house FIV cats. FIV is a virus that results in a compromised immune system. Our small FIV population enjoys a special apartment with a wealth of nutritious food and regular vet visits. Cats with FIV can live a high quality life with proper care. MHAA has proudly placed many FIV cats in their forever homes. Your donation is a vital component in our FIV care/placement program.

MHAA would like to extend its appreciation to the following foundations that have provided support to our animals and shelter over this past year: PetSmart Charities; Petco Foundation; The William and Charlotte Parks Foundation; The BISS-SELL Pet Foundation; The Sandra Atlas Bass & Edythe & Sol G. Atlas Fund, Inc.; The Alexander Abraham Foundation; Gerald A. Doering Foundation; Community Foundation of Dutchess County - Cleopatra Fund; Geico Foundation and IBM Community Grants. We are tremendously pleased that these foundations share our concerns for homeless animal care and are helping us with their generous support. A very special thank you goes to the students of the S.A.D.D. Chapter of Beacon High School and Cablevision's Power to Learn program for selecting MHAA as their charity of choice for this past school year.



Redford - FIV Positive



Ringtail

Check out MHAA's new website! A complete redesign now provides visitors with a unique experience including perusal of our gallery of adoptable cats; events calendar; wish list; ways to donate and support us; links to our social media sites; applications for volunteering, adopting and donating to special programs and more. Plus, we've gone mobile! When viewed on your smart phone or tablet, the website is optimized for mobile viewing. Bookmark it or add the icon to your mobile device Home Screen so you can carry us "on the go". Thanks to our design team volunteers and Shero Designs of Wappingers Falls, NY.

<http://www.midhudsonanimalaid.org/>

Happy is the home with at least one cat.

You will always be lucky if you know how to make friends with strange cats.



Impressions from a First-time Visitor to Mid Hudson Animal Aid

Recently I visited the MHAA cat sanctuary for the first time and right away the uneasiness I felt in entering a new place was erased. Normally a shy person, the friendly staff made me feel comfortable from the moment I stepped into the building. I was offered a tour and our first stop was the Great Room, a giant play room for cats. There were shelves along the wall, lined with pillows and baskets so the cats could sleep comfortably, multiple towers and toys for them to enjoy and a small

loft for the more feral cats that preferred to keep their distance. The room even had built-in animal doors along the windows that lead to an outdoor area. In the back there was a smaller, separate room for cats with leukemia that looked just as comfy and fun as the Great Room.

One of the first emotions I felt was sympathy. I have seen countless cats wandering the streets, but rarely did it cross my mind that these cats needed help, as they appeared to be self-sufficient. Now seeing some of these felines up close, you can see scars on their faces or tips of their ears missing. Although some of the cats in the Great Room were still skittish, a good amount seemed really sweet and one wonders about their life stories and how they ended up at the sanctuary. From the Great Room, we moved on to one of the front rooms where other cats were living. It included a separate area for the cats living with FIV. Despite testing positive for FIV, the cats were still completely adoptable, and they just needed the right family who could give them proper care and treatment. From there, we entered another room where cats that had recently arrived at the shelter were temporarily in cages. The final step of the tour was the kitten room, where the little balls of fur played and socialized with visitors. I thoroughly enjoyed my first visit to Mid Hudson Animal Aid cat sanctuary and highly recommend it. Please come down and make a difference today. Don't be shy, you'll get over it right away.



Celebrate Catoberfest at The Hop, 554 Main Street in Beacon on October 26, 2014, 6-9pm. \$40 in advance / \$50 at the door, includes dinner buffet and beer sampler. Music by The Costellos. For tickets, visit: catoberfest2014.browpaperickets.com.



Adopt a rescue cat. Two lives will be richer.



Mid Hudson Animal Aid, Inc.

Essie Dabrusin Cat Sanctuary
 54 Simmons Lane
 Beacon, New York 12508
 Phone: 845-831-4321
 info@midhudsonanimalaid.org

To charge your donation, take a moment to fill out this form and return it to MHAA
 Please notify us if your address has changed.

Name _____

Email _____

Please indicate donation amount: \$ _____ Phone: _____

Visa MasterCard Acct. No. _____ Exp. ____/____

Signature _____ Date _____

All contributions to MHAA are tax-deductible. Receipts are sent out for gifts over \$250.



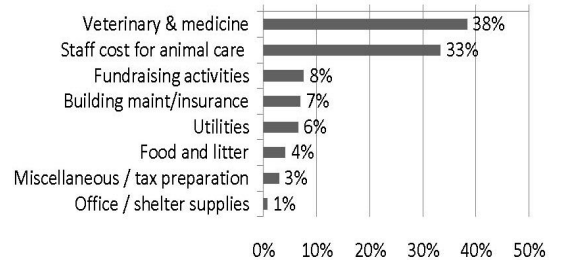
Mid Hudson Animal Aid has provided a stable and caring home for over one hundred kittens this season. With no end in sight, we anticipate many more will find comfort and warmth at MHAA.

We strive to give our youngest residents a healthy start in life and need support for vaccines, worming medication, and spaying/neutering. MHAA also furnishes a quiet and safe environment for several young mothers. Moms and babies are nurtured in foster care settings with an abundance of attention, TLC, and medicine.

www.petcaring.com/nonprofits/labor-day-love/41148

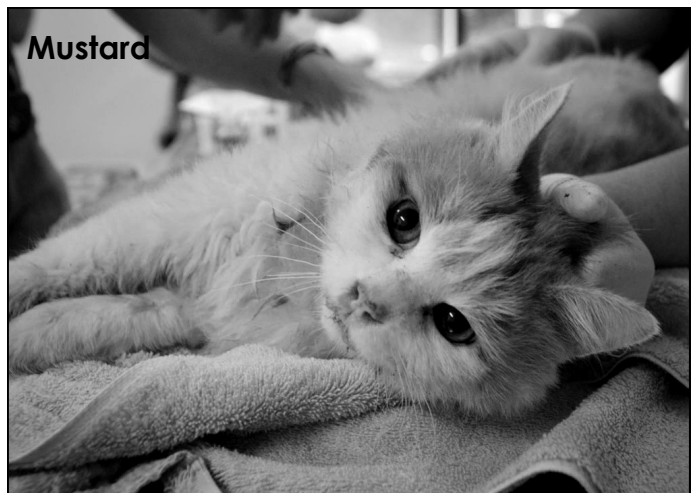


MHAA Expenses: Where your donations go



Imprisoned in filth and squalor with no guarantee of food, Mustard barely existed in the small space crammed with 25 cats. Owner abandonment had sentenced them to fear, misery, and starvation. Neglected and sick, Mustard and his cellmates became victims of malnutrition, severe flea infestation, and respiratory infections. Mustard's fate was almost sealed in the foul and stench ridden trailer. Dirty and emaciated, Mustard's life miraculously took a turn for the better when he was brought to MHAA. He and several of his friends are now healing and reveling in the basic comforts that all cats deserve: regular feedings, clean water, medical treatment and lots of treats and hugs. MHAA is regularly inundated with calls to help desperate, sick, and abused cats.

Mustard



Our generous and compassionate donors are crucial to their salvation. Please donate today so MHAA can continue to be the safe, loving waiting room for cats seeking a forever home.

Rescued is our favorite breed.