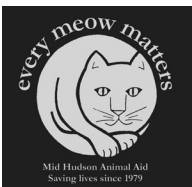




Volume 14
Issue 1

The Cat's Meow

Spring
2014



The fire that ravaged MHAA in September created many challenges but did not destroy our spirit. MHAA Board members, staff, foster families, partner shelters, vets, donors and the wonderful Beacon community banded together, working tirelessly to make the reopening of our sanctuary a reality. January 2014 saw the finishing touches put to paint and flooring. Donated cat trees were assembled and new cages and supplies were assigned to rooms being readied for our residents.

After four long months of anticipation, the reconstruction was complete and the task of slowly reintroducing the cats to the sanctuary began. On February 22, MHAA opened its doors with a grand re-opening celebration. Shelter tours, limited edition T-shirt sales, donations, petting, smiles and a few tears were the order of the day. State Assemblyman Frank Skartados was on hand to cut the cake and lend his support.

MHAA is once again open for business and is excited to continue partnering with our caring supporters. Together we share in the knowledge that each animal's life is worthy of protection from harm, medical care, warmth, and the hope of a life filled with love.

The calls to MHAA are frequent and great. We are called upon to save abandoned kittens, injured cats, sick cats, lost family friends. Each life saved is due to your support. When some of the aged residents of MHAA need costly medical care to ensure a quality life while they await their forever homes, we count on you. When emergencies necessitate that MHAA quickly step in to aid the feline residents of Pets Alive Westchester as their building nears the brink of collapse, we cannot turn away. We again look to you. With united purpose, with passion and dedication, you continue to help us answer the call. With humble gratitude for your newsletter donation, I invite you to visit the new MHAA. Volunteers, fosters and fundraisers are always in need and vital to our mission.

We look forward to seeing you soon.

Don Petruncola, MHAA President



A special thank you to Rachel and Amanda! These compassionate young ladies hosted a bake sale for MHAA at the Oradell Animal Hospital and raised \$1100. Several of our wish list items were donated as well. Thank you girls for making a difference and helping MHAA.

Anyone wishing to host a fundraiser for us should contact:
fundraising@midhudsonanimalaid.org

Miracles happen here every day.

The "Bethel Six" came to MHAA from a horrific hoarding situation: no food, water or litter box. All they knew of life was fear, hunger, and a small filthy cage. Confined to cages four inches deep in feces, they existed stacked on top of each other and were deprived of food, water and human contact. Dogs barked and charged their cages all day long. These neglected and frightened kitties suffer muscle atrophy from cage confinement and struggle to trust humans. Flea infested and riddled with parasites, they are covered in urine burns and infected pressure sores. Wet food is a mystery to them, and they drink water as if they have never seen it before. MHAA is teaching them to walk, play and enjoy the comforts of a blanket and a heated space. Some cower in the back of their cage and some are grateful to finally know the warmth and comfort of a human touch. All are safe and ready to heal and begin their new lives.



Sandwich enjoying the comfort of a blanket for the first time in her life



Strudel

One year ago, Mid Hudson Animal Aid partnered with Pets Alive Westchester and the Dutchess County SPCA to rescue over seventy cats from a horrific hoarding situation in Maybrook. After a lot of hard work and intensive home fostering by our Feral Friends, we are happy to report that the majority of the twenty-one cats saved by MHAA have been adopted. Seven of these rescues remain at MHAA. Strudel, Apple Jack, Croissant and Ringtail are waiting for a foster home, while Melon and Yogurt are ready for their forever home. If you are interested in fostering or adopting one of the Maybrook cats, please email us at info@midhudsonanimalaid.org or call us at 845-831-4321.

In mid-March, we were contacted by Pets Alive Westchester that due to structural problems with their shelter, they were evacuating all of their residents immediately. A team of MHAA employees and volunteers headed down to help with the temporary relocation and foster of their residents and 34 cats came back to MHAA in Beacon. We are happy to welcome our new 'refugees' from P.A.W. Adoptions for these friendly faces are going well. Please stop by to say hello.

Weighing in at a mere 2 pounds and scared of the world, **Tambourine** came into MHAA where staff quickly matched her with a volunteer foster family. Soon she began to limp, first on one leg and then the other. She was diagnosed with patellar luxation in both knees, a genetic condition where the cat's kneecap becomes dislocated from its normal position. This rare condition results in lameness if not corrected. An initial unsuccessful surgery led MHAA to seek input from The Veterinary Specialties Referral Center, LLC, in Pattersonville, NY. Tambourine's only hope was for an experimental surgery they had never performed on a cat. Prosthetic implants known as the KYON Patellar Groove Replacement would need to be fitted in her knees. With the help of supporters like you, we were able to help Tambourine have this surgery. Tambourine is now recuperating in foster care and is scampering around her living quarters.



Tambourine

One small cat changes coming home to an empty house to coming home.

The first thing I see every morning is a cat that loves me.

Tortellini is a stunning, fun loving, young cat with a chronic condition. She suffers from megacolon, a defect in the ability of the muscles of the colon to contract. This causes chronic constipation and also obstipation: severe, unrelenting constipation that blocks the passage of waste through the colon. This causes Torti to cry each time her colon is full. A highly digestible food may reduce the production of fecal matter and alleviate her pain. She currently takes two medications and receives fluid therapy. She is a playful and active cat who loves people and is counting on your support to find her some relief.



Cage Sponsorships

Give the gift of warmth and comfort to a caged cat while honoring a friend, loved one, pet, or advertising your business. Each sponsorship will include a decorative frame with three lines of text mounted on the cage. 3 months: \$90 - 6 months: \$180
12 months: \$365.
A dollar a day
can make such a difference!



My name is **Scout** and I am very shy. I am a nine year old female who has lived at MHAA almost my entire life. I came here as a one year old and at the age of five suffered a stroke. I am very cautious of people and wish I could be 100% healthy. Because I am aging, I have several mouth issues that will require surgery. Can you please donate to 'The Toothy Bunch' so my older friends and I don't have to be afraid of getting diseases associated with broken teeth, gum disease, mouth abscesses, and decay?



Twin is a 12 year old sweetheart who needs a loving home. She adjusted well in a foster home during the fire reconstruction. Twin is extraordinarily sad and depressed since arriving back in our Great Room and longs to once again know the warmth of a loving home. Can someone open their heart and home to this deserving girl?

Please join MHAA and the Orange Mannequin experience at *Fluid Cats 2*. Kicking off with an art induced fashion show, this colorful environment is anchored by world class modern and bold musicianship of the Fluid. Live art by professional artists including International muralists and painters will boost our experience Saturday, May 10 at 7:00pm - 9:30pm at the Howland Cultural Center in Beacon. Tickets on sale at fluidcats2.brownpapertickets.com.



Everyone knows that more cats = more happiness.



Mid Hudson Animal Aid, Inc.

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54 Simmons Lane
Beacon, New York 12508
Phone: 845-831-4321
Email: 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.



Feather is a homeless cat who began giving birth in a parking lot. Dirty, thin and exhausted, she arrived at MHAA just in time to deliver a second baby and receive vet care to assess her health.

Thistle and Quill are now warm and safe and Feather is enjoying her babies. MHAA provides preventive care, supplemental food, and spay/neuter for all kittens. The average cost is \$165 per baby.

Can you help support a newborn kitten today?

Thank you to the Beacon High School S.A.D.D. chapter who raised \$1,000 for MHAA which was matched by Cablevision and thanks to all who supported us in the Ulster Saving Bank Hometown Mid-Hudson Heroes program. We were the second place recipient of \$1,500.



Robert Frost Severely emaciated, with frostbitten paw and his tail frozen to his body, RF came to MHAA extremely weak and dehydrated due to starvation. He is largely blind, possibly from taurine deficiency. With care, we were able to get him to eat on his own and on the second day he stood up, though a bit shaky, and walked back to his cage, and got into his own bed. With some time, his walking grew steadier and he started moving his tail on his own. His kidneys are badly damaged, and most likely will fail eventually. By mid-February he enjoyed free feeding and started gaining weight and energy. His muscle tone is slowly improving and he can track movement now. To date he has gained over 3 pounds.

Our 5th Annual *Pars Fore Purrs* MHAA Golf Tournament will be held on Monday, June 9 at Dutchess Golf Club in Poughkeepsie, NY. The price of \$160 per person, includes 18 holes of golf, cart, lunch, cocktail hour, dinner - and a chance at various contests on the course. A raffle and silent auction will be held at the dinner. There is a \$50 dinner-only option if you can't join us for golf. We are currently seeking sponsorships, raffle and silent auction donations and players. Check out our golf website for more information, including registration: midhudsonanimalaidgolf.com

Kindness is not an act, it is a lifestyle.