

## Volume 14 Issue 1 The Cat's Meow

When does helping become hoarding? Each year, some 250,000 animals are reported as victims of hoarding. MHAA was able to offer assistance in a recent local cat hoarding situation.

Malnutrition, fear and despair were the common denominators in the rescue of 45 hoarded cats. These innocent victims were cast into the cold and left to fend for themselves in sub zero temperatures. Mid Hudson Animal Aid spearheaded relief and retrieval efforts with the assistance of Pets Alive. The cats were humanely extracted from their toxic environment and brought to MHAA for much needed care and comfort. A team of dedicated staff and volunteers tested, vaccinated, wormed, groomed and evaluated them. Life altering fluids, food, medication, and TLC were in abundance. Severe eye infections, pregnancy, open sores, wounds, frostbite, upper respiratory infections, ringworm and malnutrition were among the myriad of issues wrought on these defenseless creatures. Hour after hour, each was methodically given special attention, a name, and promises for a better tomorrow. Patience and love were the theme of the day, and all were held, reassured, and treated with respect and dignity.

No amount of kindness or compassion can erase the severe trauma they have suffered, but all are now on the road to recovery, good health and happiness. All have fully recovered and so many already know the warmth and stability of the forever homes they so richly deserve. You can make a contribution to help these cats and so many others at MHAA by returning the enclosed envelope or through www.midhudsonanimalaid.org.

Our need is great but our resources are limited. The funding necessary to keep the sanctuary open and save lives is tremendous. We look to you, our good friends and animal lovers, for support. No donation is too small; saving a life is priceless.

I compliment you all for investing in the lives of these beautiful animals and for your generous support. I hope to have the opportunity to meet and talk with you and



Spring

2013

personally thank you at any of the myriad of fundraising events we have planned for 2013. When you live with an open heart, unexpected joyful things can happen. Thank you for making a difference.

Don Petruncola, President

MLK said to never be afraid to do what's right, especially if the well-being of a person or animal is at stake. Society's punishments are small compared to the wounds we inflict on our soul when we look the other way.

## Fostering a kitten isn't a lifetime commitment; it's a commitment to life.

Kitten season is here and we are always in need of foster families. Kitten fostering opportunities range from the smallest bottle fed babies to helping raise some of the older kitkeeping them tens, safe and freeing up room at the shelter. We provide all vet supplies and care, training. The average length of most kitten fostering is about three



weeks. It's simple to become a qualified MHAA foster. Just come by the shelter to fill out an application, and we will get you started. The more foster families we have, the more kittens we can save this season.

### LAYLA

It was a freezing January day when a local homeowner raced into our shelter. She had found a cat in her yard, that had been attacked by a dog. The homeowner was fearful of being bitten and didn't know what to do. We responded immediately to find the cat lying in the snow, desperately trying to get up. We rushed her directly to the vet and decided to call her Layla. Layla had suffered severe brain damage as the result of being shaken. She was suffering from seizures due to brain swelling. Layla went through a round of x-rays and testing and received medication for anti-seizures and pain, fluids and other supportive care. The only thing we could do was keep her comfortable and pray that her brain swelling would go down. Layla initially did well, getting up to eat and drink, but as the days passed her condition worsened. Layla passed away on her own a few days after she arrived at the hospital. We are thankful that she was able to pass in a comfortable environment, safe, without pain and to have known the warmth of a loving touch. Although Layla did not pull through, we were able to respond to her situation and help her the best we could, thanks to donations provided by our generous community.

### Meet Mac

A special thank you to Amy Wilson, a Beacon resident and toy creator: www.etsy.com/shop/Kokma

When MHAA needed a new mascot costume, Amy was generous with her time and talents and created a wonderful costume modeled after one of our former residents -Macaroon.

Our appreciation to Planet New York Tattoo in Poughkeepsie and American Icon in Newburgh for donating the materials.



### HALLEY

Halley was living on a construction site, under a log down in a gopher hole. Over time, all of her siblings got adopted and she's still here. She is a little cautious and you have to take your time with her but once she is comfortable with you she will play until she passes out. Please come by and say hello soon.



## $\mathbb N$ ewburgh



guest bartenders

bartending for a great cause Date: Sunday, July 14th Time: 1-4pm

#### MHAA GUEST BARTENDERS

Join us as volunteers lend a hand at bartending local microbrews at the Newburgh Brewing Company, 88 Colden Street in Newburgh, New York on Saturday, July 14th from 1:00PM-4:00PM. All tips will go to support the animals at MHAA. No advance reservations required -just show up!

#### Be the solution: spay, neuter, adopt.

### SIBLEY

Sibley is a friendly neighborhood stray from Milton who disappeared for a few days and returned in terrible shape. Although the cause is unknown, Sibley's tongue was 75% severed both lengthwise and widthwise and the jaw bone exposed in several places. His jaw was rampant with infection and the poor kitty was in obvious pain. Despite his catastrophic circumstances he still managed to give a few purrs of gratitude before he had emergency surgery.

Sibley is doing well at MHAA, feeling whole again and making new friends. Won't you invest in his recovery by donating for his medical expenses? Thank you for partnering with Mid Hudson Animal Aid to make the world a safer place for Sibley and the many others like him.



# **BEACON ART ADVENTURES AND MHAA**



Our heartfelt thanks to the kids from the Beacon Art Adventures program for participating in the 3rd Annual Pet Portrait Art Exhibit, displayed at The Beacon Bagel, 466 Main Street in Beacon, NY. These talented artists painted pictures of animals available for adoption at both Animal Rescue Foundation and Mid Hudson Animal Aid. These inventive and imaginative youngsters crafted special backgrounds and details based on their vision of the ideal homes for each of the animals. Through their creativeness and hard work, the pictures yielded \$1,700 through an online auction. 100% of the proceeds benefitted ARF and MHAA. Special thanks to Jill Losee, the art instructor who inspired this program, the artists' parents who supported the program, The Beacon Bagel for hosting the art show, and all of the generous bidders.

### FIGARO

At the tender age of six months, Figaro has endured more than most kittens. His young life recently turned unpredictable and scary with excessive panting, bouts of vomiting, and random fainting spells. He has seen several vets and was diagnosed with a grade 6 heart murmur. Through your generosity, this gentle soul underwent diagnostic tests, special medications, and an abundance of TLC and patience. A scheduled cardio-ultrasound confirmed a definitive diagnosis of advanced cardiomyopathy, which is extremely rare in young cats. His condition will best be managed in a quiet foster home, where he can stay calm and be monitored regularly. Although his heart is stressed, he is sweet and affectionate and manages to show his love and appreciation to everyone.





A super reunion this February, thanks to microchipping your pets.

Gabriel sees his Mom for the first time in 40 days

June 29-30 is our Second Anual Volleyball Tourname nt at Beacon Memorial Field. Come show off your skill and support MHAA.



There is no greater legacy to leave, than a beating heart that would not have had a chance, had it not been for you.



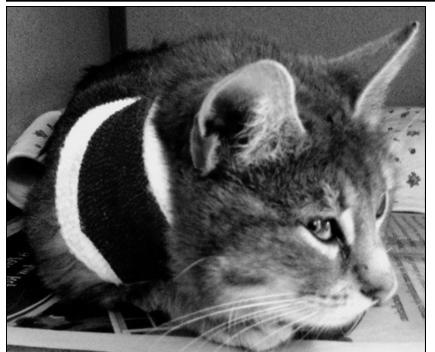
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Email: info@midhudsonanimalaid.org



### **BILLIE HOLIDAY**



Billie Holiday was badly injured and covered in blood when she was recently brought to MHAA. It was determined that she had been viciously attacked by an animal whose teeth inflicted many puncture wounds all over her body. She was on hospital watch as her temperature spiked as a result of brain swelling. Today she is on the road to recovery. Her long term prognosis is excellent. The only lasting damage is that she will be blind in one eye due to damage to her facial nerve. She is a very sweet and grateful cat. During her exam, it was discovered that she was a nursing mom and an extensive search was conducted for her babies. No kittens were found and it is hoped they have been taken in and are safe. Billie most likely risked her life to protect her kittens. She is the epitome of a selfless and loving mother. Although the last week has seen Billie singing the blues, your donation will offset her medical expenses and help her heal.

### **SNAGGLE**

Snaggle needed to see a specialist for a skin disorder of random lumps and scabs all over his body and face. Long term steroids failed to provide relief. The vet performed multiple skin scrapes and an aspirate. The laboratory results showed that Snaggle has benign multicentric mast cell tumors and a form of round cell disease. This is an extremely rare condition that cannot be remedied surgically due to the amount of tumors. This easy going and gentle kitty is scheduled to see an oncologist and with your help will lead a long and happy life.





## Pars Fore Paws 4th Annual Charity Golf Tournament

Monday, July 29, 2013DutchRegistration/lunch: 11:30amTee tiCocktail Hour/Buffet Dinner:6:00p\$160 per golferScrar\$50 dinner only option for non-golfers.Golfers and sponsors needed:volum

Dutchess Golf Club, Route 9, Poughkeepsie Tee time: 1:00pm 6:00pm-9:00pm Scramble format

volunteer@midhudsonanimalaid.org