

CATT!TUDES

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April TNR and Support Activity

We started trapping in mid April and did five spays and six neuters before the end of the month. All of last year's fosters except Buttons have been altered and adopted at this point. Buttons, one of Holly's New Year's Eve kittens, is spoken for pending spaying. In early April we took in a very pregnant stray from Lewisville. Bonnie had been living under a porch all winter, but she is definitely not a feral cat. She delivered four healthy kittens at Tyler and Denise's home, and has since become foster mom to two orphaned babies. The draw for the Beat the Blues basket took place April 15; the total raised by the raffle was \$428. Thanks so much to everybody who sat out there in the cold to sell tickets!

Her Name is Destiny



When the man removed four tiny kittens from inside the wall of an old shed, he thought they were all dead. He put them in a bag and gave them to Marlah who took them home to bury them. Marlah did not look inside the bag, but as she was digging a grave, the bag moved. Quickly ascertaining that two of the kittens were in fact alive, Marlah began the process of warming and trying to feed them. Unfortunately, one of the little ones didn't make it, but the final kitten fought bravely for her life. Impressed with her determination, Marlah named her Destiny.

For several days, Marlah cared for the blind little baby, keeping her warm, feeding her frequently and taking care of all her needs. At the same time, Bonnie was having kittens. Once she was sure Destiny did not pose any danger to the new babies, Marlah introduced her to Bonnie. The new mother accepted the extra kitten as her own, and later accepted another orphan that was surrendered to us. Destiny is now part of a happy and active little family, where she is very much the "big sister". Her destiny literally took her from the edge of the grave and her future, when she is old enough to adopt, will include a forever home with lots of love.

Adopting From ca-r-ma.org Moncton

Now that the trapping season has begun, we will undoubtedly take several kittens into foster care. The kittens we take in are treated for worms and when necessary for ear mites, URI and fleas. They are fed cat milk substitute and a top quality Development Formula kitten food. Foster parents spend a lot of time feeding, handling and playing with the kittens so they become very used to humans and develop good social skills. By the time they are ready for adoption, they are very desirable pets.

We sometimes have a waiting list of adopters, but if a kitten is not spoken for, we use kijiji to advertise him/her on the internet. When possible we get Sue to use her photographic skills to enhance the ads, or we sometimes use photos taken by the foster parents.

People who want to adopt go through a screening process with Marlah that includes an interview and reference checks. In the case of male kittens, they can often be neutered before they leave their ca-r-ma volunteer foster home. If the kitten is too young to alter and the potential adopter wants it as soon as possible, they may be approved to take the kitten in foster care at their home until altering is done, at which point they permanently adopt it. In this way, we are able to maintain control, complete any medical treatment required and be certain the animals we place are spayed/neutered.

ca-r-ma.org Moncton does not charge for cats and kittens, but we do ask for a tax deductible donation when someone adopts. The amounts donated rarely cover our costs in treating and altering the animal, but they help. Asking for a donation also helps to weed out “impulse shoppers” and ensure the decision to adopt was a well-thought out one and that the cat/kitten will be valued by its owners. Also, the ability to donate is one indicator we have that the adopter will be able to afford to care for the cat/kitten should he/she need medical care in the future.

One of the major rewards for a ca-r-ma.org Moncton volunteer is sometimes getting to see our kittens with their new families or receive notes and photos attesting to how well they are loved and cared for.



The photo was sent to us by a lady who adopted Ben, left, and later adopted Henry. The boys are about six and five months old in the picture and are the best of friends.

Financial Stuff

In April we received \$120 in donations, our begging jars took in \$174.23 and the ticket sales done during the month totalled \$105. We also received \$10 for a pillow that was donated at the time of the bake sale. Our vet bills for the month totalled \$904.38 and we spent \$180.80 for four large signs from Impressions. Impressions very kindly donated two additional signs, so we will have one for each store when we do the NBLCC canvass.

Madi Legere
Co-Director ca-r-ma.org Moncton

ca-r-ma.org Moncton gratefully acknowledges the support of Maritime Animal Hospital and Elmwood Animal Hospital. Our vets make our work possible.