



The PURRFECT News

Cats Anonymous Rescue & Adoption

A Private Cat Sanctuary and Adoption Facility

This issue is about kittens and is full of all kinds of fun and interesting information.

- 🐾 News at the shelter;
- 🐾 What we did in the community;
- 🐾 The new outdoor enclosures;
- 🐾 Stories and articles;
- 🐾 Our wish list items;
- 🐾 Featured Cat and Happy Tails;
- 🐾 Upcoming Events.

The *PURRFECT* News can be found on our website. If you would like to receive it by email, contact the editor Tilda at cavolunteer@outlook.com.

Contact Us:

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Registered Canadian Charity

Visit our website

www.catsanonymous.ca

and

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2017 Fall Issue

At the Shelter

Christmas Open House

Please join us on Sunday November 26th for our annual Christmas Open House.



Special Friends Club

The Special Friends Club of Hillsburg came for their annual summer camp visit to Cats Anonymous on July 21st. A special thank you to Erin's Edible's for making the great cat cookies that we gave as a gift. They were works of art!



Cats Anonymous 2018 Calendar

Our 2018 calendar is now available. The advertising spots we sold helped cover the printing cost.

Thanks to the following sponsors:

- 🐾 Edward Jones
- 🐾 Wingrove Veterinary Services
- 🐾 Pet Valu Fergus
- 🐾 Canadian Diagnostic Imaging
- 🐾 Mobile Kitty Nail Trim Service
- 🐾 Pinetree Pet Care Centre
- 🐾 Riot Axe
- 🐾 Ruffin's Pet Centres Georgetown
- 🐾 St. Paul's Anglican Church
- 🐾 Wellington Veterinary Services
- 🐾 Marsville Mews Boarding Cottage
- 🐾 Women For Women Home Renovations

In the Community

Wingrove Veterinary Services

We would like to thank our friends at Wingrove Veterinary for inviting us to their annual open house & client appreciation event held on July 6th. Three of the infamous Black Momma's kittens were happy to attend and entertain visitors.



Pet Valu – Fergus Beach Day

A huge thank you to our friends at Pet Valu Fergus for inviting us to their Beach Day and Sidewalk Sale held on July 22nd. We had a bunch of our kittens there and Dudley was all dressed up.



Wellington Veterinary Vaccine Event

Our Vet Clinic is the best!!! We can't thank them enough for all their support and excellent care over the past 15 years. They held their annual fundraiser vaccine event on September 13th and all vaccine fees were donated to *Cats Anonymous* and the Centre Wellington Food Bank.

Hillsburgh Family Fun Day

We had a booth at this fun event again this year. Jennifer and Tom spoke to many people about the shelter. Here is a little note from Jackie the event coordinator:

“Our vendors add a lot of colour and interest to the street and you brought that plus the delightful kittens. I don't know the name of the young man who was sitting at your table, but the times I passed by he was doing a great job of talking to people about what you do. I hope the day was a success and that more people learned about *Cats Anonymous* and that you had some fun too.”

Did You Know?

Being retired and semi-retired my husband and I wanted to travel more and hated to leave our kitties for long periods. We purchased an RV and now take our cats with us. There are some things you need to know and to prepare for when traveling with cats.

- ❖ Make sure that your cat is microchipped;
- ❖ Have a break away collar with their name and your contact information on it;
- ❖ Put a sign in the window that tells folks there is a cat onboard and put your contact information on it;
- ❖ Have copies of their vaccination forms, especially important if you travel in the U.S.;
- ❖ Put their blankets and toys in the RV and let them explore so they get used to their new surroundings;
- ❖ Take them on short overnight trips to see how they handle the movement;
- ❖ You can install a *Feliway* diffuser, a pheromone to calm cats;

If your RV is equipped with sliders, always hold your cat in your hands or better yet; put them in a carrier when moving the sliders.

We purchased a traveling crate to put the cats in while we are on the road and moving the sliders. Heaven forbid, if there was an accident your cats might escape or they might wander under the gas or brake pedal. Put them in them in a crate.

We placed the litter box in shower to save space and remember to cover the drain! Take more food than you will need and bring



all their medication and extra litter. We took a big jug of water from home as they are used to it. You don't want any upset tummies when you travel.

Our first trip was a great success.



Until next time, *Deb & Art, Oakley and Sugar*

The New Outdoor Enclosures

We did it folks ... but we sure couldn't have done it without the help from our wonderful volunteers.

Thanks for all your hard work on this project!





The Fun Of Ferals

I'm sure most of you have seen a stray or feral cat out and about at some time in your life. Some of you might even have one or two near your house or in your backyard. This summer, I discovered a small feral colony in my own backyard!

My family has three cats. One night this summer I was home alone and was looking forward to having all three cats curled up with me at bedtime. But when I went to bed that night, not one of them joined me! How odd. In the morning, I noticed two of our cats staring out the back window at another cat on the deck. No wonder I didn't have any cats on the bed with me! They were all too busy watching their new friend outside. It was a white and tabby spotted cat and it ran as soon as I moved closer to the doorway. I contacted *Cats Anonymous* to tell them about this cat. I assured them that it wasn't my neighbor's cat, so it was decided that if the cat continued to hang around we would catch it and determine if it was an owned cat who was lost or if it was a feral cat.



I put the trap out and the first night nobody came. The second night, my sister came running into my room "Erika! Erika! We caught a cat! We caught a DIFFERENT cat!" Now I was worried that we'd caught the neighbor's cat, but when I went outside I realized it was not. This cat was solid grey and he was not happy! He was growling and jumping at us through the cage bars. We covered him up to calm him down and brought him to *Cats Anonymous*. On the way there, we decided to name him "Angus". At the shelter he was checked for a microchip and assessed. Sadly, he had no microchip, no tags, and was not neutered. He was also quite feral so he was neutered, vaccinated and treated for



parasites through the shelters TNR (trap-neuter-return) program. Since Angus is feral, he now has a clipped left ear tip to identify him as a neutered free-roaming feral cat who is being looked after by the neighborhood. The next day we returned to the shelter and brought Angus 'home' to release him back into his original environment. He doesn't visit us much anymore (can you blame him!) but he is happy in our neighbor's barn.



We continued to set the trap outside in hopes of catching the original white and tabby cat. Sadly, she was found on the side of the road a few days later – hit by a car.

Unbeknownst to us, she had left behind a little surprise for us ... her legacy. Our neighbors called me for help the next day "Erika! There is a tiny kitten screaming its head off in our barn!" I brought her to *Cats Anonymous* where they told me she was only about 3-4 weeks old. And they also told me that where there is one kitten, there are more! So we kept our eyes and ears open and searched the barn. The following day we found two more kittens, obviously her littermates. The little orphaned family went to one of *Cats Anonymous* foster homes where they flourished. They were named Rayne, Heron and Piper. Rayne and Heron look just like their daddy Angus, and Piper has his mother's tabby stripes. All three of the kittens have now been adopted into happy homes. I'm glad we were able to help these little orphans and that they will now have a better life.



Here are Piper, Heron & Rayne in their foster home.... *Erika*

Our TNR (trap-neuter-return) Program

Our TNR (trap-neuter-return) program helps feral cats live a better life. Each year *Cats Anonymous* traps about 100 feral cats for spay / neuter, vaccinations and parasite treatments. The cats are returned to their 'outdoor homes' with a colony caretaker in place to look after them. They have fresh food and water daily and have winterized shelters to help them through the colder months. This program effectively stops the population explosion in feral colonies and the cats are much healthier. Any kittens or tame cats are removed from the colony and come to the shelter for adoption.

Have you ever wondered how to tell if a cat has been through the TNR (trap-neuter-return) program? Here is some great information from "[Alley Cat Allies](http://www.alleycat.org)" www.alleycat.org on how to identify a feral cat.

Eartipping is an effective and universally accepted method to identify a spayed or neutered and vaccinated community (free-roaming / feral) cat.

Eartipping is the surgical removal of the distal one-quarter of a cat's left ear, which is approximately 3/8 inch, or 1 cm, in an adult and proportionally smaller in a kitten. This procedure is performed under sterile conditions while the cat is already anesthetized for spay or neuter surgery. There is little or no bleeding, it is relatively painless to the cat, and the eartip does not significantly alter the appearance or beauty of the cat.

Eartipping is the preferred method to identify spayed or neutered and vaccinated community cats, because it is difficult to get close to them and therefore the identification must be visible from a distance.

Community cats may interact with a variety of caregivers, veterinarians, and animal control personnel during their lives and so immediate visual identification is necessary to prevent an unnecessary second trapping and surgery.

No other method of identification has proven to be as safe or as effective as eartipping. Other methods such as tattooing and microchipping are not as successful since they are not visible and the cat must be trapped and sedated in order for the identifying tattoo or microchip to be found. We want to avoid any unnecessary stress in their lives if we can.

So far this year *Cats Anonymous* has had 58 adult cats go through our TNR program and we are currently working on a new colony of about a dozen adults. We had two large colonies of 19 and 15 cats and 8 smaller colonies of 1 – 5 per colony this year.

So you must be asking "What about the kittens?" We have taken in 84 kittens from these colonies so far, and expect more before the year is over. Each kitten has gone through our foster families where they are socialized and learn to be loving pets. I am pleased to say that each and every one has been adopted and is now in their forever homes enjoying the good life.



Types of Tabby Cats

People sometimes call the average domestic cat a Tabby, but tabby is not a cat breed – it is actually the pattern of kitty’s coat. And it happens to be the most common of all the feline coat patterns. No matter what colour or marking you see on your cat, all felines possess the tabby cat gene. Other colours or patterns may hide those tabby markings, but they’re always present.

Sometimes you can see those faint tabby markings on a solid-coloured cat who is sitting in the bright sun. And have you ever seen a solid red or orange or cream cat without the familiar tabby markings? You won’t because the gene that makes a cat red or cream also makes the tabby markings visible.

All tabbies have thin pencil lines on their faces, expressive markings around the eyes, and a distinct letter “M” on their foreheads. Some believe the “M” is for Mau, the word for “cat” in ancient Egypt. Others think the “M” stands for Mohammed, who loved tabbies. Still others believe it is the blessing of the Virgin Mary.

There are five types of tabby coat patterns, each possessing its own unique markings.

See if you can figure out which tabby your cat is.

The Classic Tabby Cat has bold, swirling patterns along its sides – much like a marble cake. It is called a “blotched tabby” in some regions. The pattern of circular smudges on the classic tabby’s body closely resembles a bullseye.



A Mackerel Tabby has narrow stripes that run in parallel down its sides. This is what some people refer to as a “tiger cat”. The body has narrow stripes running down the sides in a vertical pattern. Ideally the stripes are non-broken lines; evenly spaced. They branch out from one stripe that runs along the top of the cat’s back down the spine, resembling fish skeleton – which is why the term “mackerel” is used to describe it.

A Spotted Tabby has spots all over its sides. These spots can be large or small, and sometimes appear to be broken mackerel stripes. They can be round, oval or rosettes. Often, a mackerel tabby with a broken pattern resembles a spotted tabby cat. It is not known whether these spots developed from a mackerel tabby or come from a separate gene



A Ticked Tabby (sometimes called Abyssinian tabby or Agouti tabby) does not have the traditional stripes or spots on its body, and may not, at first, seem to be a tabby. However, like all tabbies, this coat pattern has tabby markings on the face and agouti hairs on the body. What are agouti hairs? If you look up close at the lighter parts of a tabby’s coat, you will see that the individual hairs are striped with alternating light and dark bands, known as the agouti hairs. The ticked pattern is displayed prominently in Abyssinians but also appears in mixed breeds.

The Patched Tabby is the term used to describe a tortoiseshell (also called a tortie) tabby cat. In the typical form, there are separate patches of brown tabby and red tabby on the same cat. A tortie who also carries the tabby gene is often called a torbie. Patched tabbies can show any one of the above four distinct tabby patterns. The markings are usually more apparent on the legs and head.



Fostering Tales

This is a little tale about two of my latest fosters. I brought home Everson and Everest, two brothers of a litter of six kittens born this year. They were so scared and shy when they entered my home. It took a couple of days for them to stop hissing at me when I would pick them up. Now they just purr and purr and purr! The boys just love to play fight and cuddle together. I have introduced them to our cats Ariel and Joy, our two dogs (which they really don't like) and Hanna my hedgehog. Everson and Everest have been sleeping with me and they like to bite my toes. I love fostering, it is so much fun and it is a joy to see them grow up.



Here they are enjoying the run of the house. A big difference what a little TLC will do.

Foster Mom... **Brianna**



Our Wish List

In order to run *Cats Anonymous* effectively, the shelter requires daily cleaning which uses a lot of supplies. All funds and donations come from adoptions, surrender fees, fundraising events and private donations from individuals and businesses.

We can always use the following items:

- 🐾 High Quality Dry and Canned Food
- 🐾 Liquid HE Laundry Detergent
- 🐾 Dish Soap
- 🐾 Bleach and Ammonia
- 🐾 Paper and Shop Towels
- 🐾 Cleaning Supplies such as Mops, Brooms and Scouring Pads
- 🐾 Postage Stamps
- 🐾 Printer Paper and Office Supplies
- 🐾 Clean Wood Pellets (to use as litter)
- 🐾 Canadian Tire Money, Gas Cards and Coupons
- 🐾 Gift Cards
- 🐾 Hot Hands Warmers *New*
- 🐾 Pee Pads *New*

Fostering Tales

Scout has eluded us for a year now ... She first came to our attention last fall when we got a call about a group of 4 feral kittens that appeared in someone's shed. Volunteers helped the homeowner live trap the kittens, but mother would not go into the traps and then disappeared. Then in August this year, mother re-appeared in the same shed with 4 more kittens! We caught the 4 new kittens but mother was still leery of the traps. We finally got the call ... mom was in the trap!! At long last, we had her. And guess what ... she had a little surprise for us ... she was pregnant again and due soon. Perhaps she decided that she'd like some assistance with this brood, and we were more than happy to help.

Here is momma Scout and her 6 kittens. Just look at those tails! Six perfect little white tipped pencil tails. Did they run out of colouring at the ends or something?





Give the Gift of Hope This Christmas

Be a Secret Santa

Sponsor A Cat For Christmas - If you would like to sponsor one of our cats, a one-time donation or monthly sponsorship of \$30.00 will go towards a cat's annual vaccinations and daily care including food & litter. Check out our website to select the cat that you would like to sponsor. Go to www.catsanonymous.ca then click on "Cats For Adoption" and follow Sparkle to see all of the cats that *Cats Anonymous* has available.

Cats Anonymous Christmas Stocking Gift – If you would like to purchase a Christmas Stocking as a gift for one of our cats, a donation of \$10.00 will fill a stocking with fun stuff. Catnip, toys, can of cat food, ball and a new blanket. You can be a shelter cats Secret Santa!

You can donate directly through our website. Go to www.catsanonymous.ca and click on the link "Donate Now through CanadaHelps.org" on our main page.

Or, send an Email Money Transfer to tish@catsanonymous.ca

Or, mail us a cheque, using the form below.

We are looking for corporate sponsors to help with various projects and events during the year and would welcome the opportunity to partner with your company. Please contact Tilda at cavolunteer@outlook.com or the shelter to discuss how your company can become a corporate sponsor to *Cats Anonymous*.



We appreciate any and all help you can offer!

YES I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A DONATION!

If you would like to help us with a donation to one of our Wish List items, please fill out the information below.
Mail your donation to: Cats Anonymous, #063055 Dufferin County Road #3, East Garafraxa, ON L9W 7J1

Your Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

Email Address: _____ Phone#: _____

Amount of Donation: \$ _____

Please Indicate Which Wish List Item You Would Like To Support: _____

Thank you. All donations \$20 and over are eligible for a tax receipt. Please include your email address to send your receipt to.

Featured Cats

Adopt Us!



FULLER



EARLY

Early and Fuller are looking for a nice barn home where the two will get lots of cuddles and nobody will mind that they don't always use the litterbox! These two struck up a friendship with one another and we would love to see them adopted together. It is nice to be greeted by both of these boys when you walk into their room. Early loves his food; he will give you hugs and kisses; his favorite toy is the feather wand. Fuller is such a baby, he loves to be picked up, cuddled and brushed. He has such a great personality and just makes me laugh.

Fuller first came to us as a kitten in November 2013. He was then adopted in January 2014 and lived with his new owner for a few years. Sadly, he was then returned to the shelter in March 2016 for litterbox problems and chronic urinary tract infections with crystals. He has had issues with cystitis in the past, and unfortunately he is not trustworthy in the litterbox department.

Early came to us in January 2013 as a teenager. He was then adopted in March 2013 where he lived for a few years. He was then returned to the shelter in March 2015 for chronic urinary tract problems. Unfortunately, Early now has a litterbox problem and is unreliable in that department! He originally had a bladder infection that likely caused his indiscretions to begin with, but despite a clear bill of health he continues to have litterbox aversion issues.

If you are looking for a pair of loving, affectionate and sweet barn cats, then these two boys are for you!.... *Brianna*

Happy Tails

July

Thirteen (13) Adoptions



Dudley

August

Sixteen (16) Adoptions



Mack

September

Twenty Five (25) Adoptions

A new record for us!



Marshall



Little Facts & Funnies

Something important many people don't realize: When a housebound cat escapes into the neighbourhood, people think they know where to come back to. NO! A friend of mine, whose cat escaped when they were coming in, was beside her self not knowing what to do. Her mother, whom I know, suggested to her daughter to call *Cats Anonymous* for help. Tish told her to put out the litter box with the cats poo, etc. As well as something, the cat normally laid on. Anyway, to make a long story short, that night, the cat woke them all up at 4 a.m. wanting in... **Kathy**

Feline Friendly

A woman walked into my aunt's animal shelter wanting to have her cat and six kittens spayed and neutered.

"Is the mother friendly?" my aunt asked.

"Very" said the woman, casting an eye on all the pet carries.

"That's how we got into this mess in the first place."



Upcoming Events

We hold **Meet & Greet** days each month at our shelter, where you have the chance to not only meet the great cats that we have for adoption, but also some of our special volunteers. So why not make plans to drop by for a visit if you get the chance!

- 🐾 Saturday, October 21 - 1:00 – 4:00 pm
- 🐾 Saturday, November 4 - 1:00 – 4:00 pm
- 🐾 Saturday, November 18 - 1:00 – 4:00 pm
- 🐾 Saturday, December 2 - 1:00 – 4:00 pm
- 🐾 Saturday, December 16 - 1:00 – 4:00 pm
- 🐾 Saturday, January 6 - 1:00 – 4:00 pm
- 🐾 Saturday, January 20 - 1:00 – 4:00 pm
- 🐾 Saturday, February 3 - 1:00 – 4:00 pm
- 🐾 Saturday, February 17 - 1:00 – 4:00 pm
- 🐾 Saturday, March 3 - 1:00 – 4:00 pm
- 🐾 Saturday, March 17 - 1:00 – 4:00 pm
- 🐾 Saturday, April 7 - 1:00 – 4:00 pm
- 🐾 Saturday, April 21 - 1:00 – 4:00 pm
- 🐾 Saturday, May 5 - 1:00 – 4:00 pm

See more upcoming events on our website

www.catsanonymous.ca

Keep up to date with shelter news by visiting us on

facebook



See you in the Winter!