



The Yowler

Winter 2021

www.hsar.org

Love Connections at the Shelter

One of the most beautiful things we see here at HSAR is when a cat meet a new best friend. Cats often come to the shelter from difficult circumstances and are tentative to meet humans and felines. And then, sometimes, something special happens, and two cats make a love connection.

Opal and Drake

Opal had lived outside and had several litters of kittens before she came to the shelter. She was so afraid that she refused to be touched and shied away from cats and humans. A few cats came and went from Room 5.



Then Drake came along.

Drake had that stray cat strut that Opal fell for. His black coat and huge green eyes were mesmerizing. At first Opal just watched him with adoring eyes, but then she started to rub against him to get his attention.

Drake, however, had no interest.

Then, Opal started following him around. She just would not leave his side. It wasn't long before Drake succumbed to Opal's charms and the two became best pals.

The one-sided love affair became mutual and the two became inseparable.

Their love changed Opal instantly. For weeks we had seen only slow progress in her being more comfortable with humans. But the Opal who refused to be touched, quickly became a cat who loved to be petted on the head. She began to enjoy human companionship and became more social.

It was clear that these two pals had to be adopted together. Happily, one lucky person was able to adopt both Opal and Drake, so these best friends sailed off into the sunset - to their new forever home together!



Whitney and Houston

Whitney and Houston met in Room 5 and immediately knew they were meant to be together. These playful kittens were 3 and 4 months old, respectively, when they arrived and they started playing and cuddling together right away.

These beautiful kittens were adopted together and will be best forever pals for years to come. The photo at the left shows the BFFs sharing a bed at the shelter and, on the right, see them in a playful embrace in their new home.



Facts about Cats...

Did you know?

Cats have the largest eyes relative to their head size of any mammal.

Riley from HSAR

HSAR Receives a Grant

We are so grateful to Ocean State Job Lot for choosing HSAR this year as a recipient of a very generous gift card of \$1,800, along with loads of hand sanitizer to keep our volunteers and visitors safe. With the money received, our shelter manager, Ellen, has already been able to purchase new cat beds, toys, soft blankets, and storage containers. All these things will help keep our feline residents happy and the shelter looking great!





President's Letter: Coming Together for Cats

Another year draws to a close and, as of this writing, 170 cats and kittens have found new forever homes, and HSAR has begun to resume its usual activities. The Fall Yard Sale fell on a beautiful Saturday in September. Threats of rain dissipated, and the sun shone on hundreds of items that supporters donated. Customers came early and often to peruse the sale and score some great buys. The generosity of both donors and buyers resulted in a total intake of over \$3,000.

We were able to have our Volunteer Appreciation Party and Meeting this year! Shelter Manager, Ellen, opened her lovely home on a muggy but pleasant June evening to all of us volunteers where we could socialize (in person!) and swap cat stories. Several volunteers won a door prize of a gift certificate to the Taco Truck!

'Tis the season for expressing gratitude, so I would like to thank the many people involved in making difficult things happen. We have had several "difficult" cats recently who were slow to find a forever home: Charlie, Dante, Remi among others. It requires the collaborative effort of many people to nurture a cat from fear and homelessness to a place of comfort and a new home.

Here is the story of one such successful collaboration. Remi is a handsome, 2 year-old boy who, during his time at the shelter, would reach out for affection but then would typically swat at whoever tried to pet him. He was not vicious, but his scratches kept volunteers at arm's length. He lived at the shelter for 3 months while other cats came and went. During that time, Remi got constant love and play-time from our shift volunteers. I often heard from them how much they loved Remi and hoped he would find a home soon. After reading a beautiful write-up (courtesy of our talented team of article writers) about Remi on Petfinder.com, Kim, a potential adopter visited the shelter.

Adoption Coordinator Judy explained the challenges that adopting Remi involved, but Kim fell for him and decided to bring him home. In his new home, Remi has become a cuddly and loving member of the family - including making friends with the feline member, Pippa. I think that Remi's new mom tells the story best:

"He really is such a wonderful boy. It's hard to believe that he has been here just 2 weeks today! He and Pippa have such fun playing together - chasing each other around the downstairs and even sleeping side by side. Pippa already seems much happier with a feline companion and Remi loves watching her even if they aren't playing together. He is affectionate with us and we even napped on the couch together yesterday. He is a snuggle bug when he's ready to nap...I can't tell you enough how thrilled we are to have him. I feel so sad that he had what must have been a difficult time before coming to you, but we are so grateful that he found love and safety with your volunteers...I'm so glad we saw his sweet face and the write-up you had online that caused us to fall in love, even before meeting him! We couldn't have asked for a more wonderful addition to our home."



Remi's story is just one example of how volunteers' love for cats turns the sad story of a homeless cat into the happy tale of a new family member. Thank you to all who make it happen.

Peace,
Maura

Why an Indoor Life is Best for Kitty

If you are questioning whether to keep your cat indoors vs. going outdoors, we at HSAR hope that you will consider the potential dangers of outdoor life which will make your decision very clear. We often receive calls about cats that were let outside, or accidentally got outside, and who never made it home. It's truly heartbreaking to listen to these calls week after week.



There are many dangers for cats who roam outside. For example, there are several deadly diseases from contact with other feral or stray cats. An outdoor cat is also highly susceptible to fleas, ticks, and parasites. Outdoor cats encounter wildlife such as coyotes (recently spotted in Hull), skunks, and raccoons. Outdoor cats risk their lives crossing busy streets every day. And the simple truth is that indoor cats live healthier, longer lives.

If you worry that your cat won't get the exercise he/she needs living indoors, here are some ideas to keep your pet happy, trim, adventurous, and energetic.

- purchase a cat tree to create a place to climb
- use a perch such as a window seat or wall mount
- buy puzzle toys
- create hiding places by using boxes, bags, or cat tents
- use a wand toy to activate that hunting instinct



If you want your cat to get some outdoor time, use a leash and harness, or keep them safe in a confined area. What matters most is protecting companion cats and giving them the long life they deserve.



Some people believe that cats will not be happy living indoors. However, cats live enjoyable, fulfilling lives inside when they receive sufficient stimulation from playtime and from interaction with other pets and humans.

Hazards for Outdoor Cats

Life threatening

- Cars
- Wildlife, such as coyotes
- feline leukemia (FeLV)
- feline AIDS (FIV)
- FIP (feline infectious peritonitis)
- feline distemper (panleukopenia)

Non-life threatening

- parasites
- fleas and ticks
- ear mites
- intestinal worms
- ringworm

It Takes a Village to Make a Shelter Thrive



Puffy gives a kiss to welcome Rev. Peter Preble, the new pastor at Hull's United Methodist Church. Thanks, Reverend, for coming to the shelter and blessing our feline residents!



Judy Bouldin,
HSAR volunteer



Our Fall Yard sale was a great success with many unique items. Many thanks to our volunteers who came to help out, to those who donated items, and to those who bought some "treasures"! HSAR raised money to help with vet bills and the day to day care of our cats thanks to these donations.



Brooke and Cayleigh Briggs donated money they raised from a recent lemonade stand. Thanks, girls, for your generosity and hard work to help our kitties!

Thank you to the women of the New England Thunder Motorcycle club for their annual ride to HSAR! We are so grateful for your generous contributions of food, supplies, and tax-deductible donations.

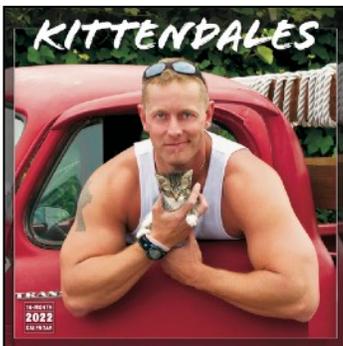


Making the Holidays Happy



Gift Ideas for the Holidays

HSAR's 2022 Kittendales Calendar features some of our favorites from the past 13 years! You can order the calendar from www.kittendales.com or pick one up from the shelter. For more information, call 781-925-3121



HSAR also has hoodies and t-shirts for sale with our newly designed logo. Check out our website for colors and availability at www.hsar.org

Keep Pets Safe and Happy This Holiday Season

With the holidays upon us, it's a good time to make sure that we are keeping our pets as safe as possible. Curious felines can get into some serious trouble surrounded by Christmas trees and shiny decorations. If a cat swallows ribbon, string, or tinsel, it can cause a gastrointestinal obstruction that would require emergency surgery. If she/he gets entangled in string lights, it can be very dangerous as well. Make sure they are secured so that a cat cannot get wrapped up in them.

Christmas trees can pose a real danger as well. Cats can climb the tree and cause it to come crashing down. Also, if you have a real tree, cats may drink the water from the base, which can contain harmful bacteria.



It's important to remember that some holiday plants are toxic to pets. All types of lilies are toxic, especially to cats, and should be kept out of the house. Although poinsettia is not toxic to dogs or cats, it can cause intestinal upset, vomiting, and diarrhea. Mistletoe is another seasonal plant that can be very harmful to cats and dogs, so please keep it away from your pets.

In addition to being careful with decorations, it's important to think of your pets during holiday gatherings. It's very easy for your pet to sneak out the door when guests come and go. Consider keeping them in a separate room during a time when noise and commotion can frighten them. Providing a safe and quiet space will ensure your pet will have a happy holiday and be ready to cuddle with you when the company is gone! Happy Holidays!



Shop at www.hsar.org
Score your new apparel at our website.
Open your camera, scan the QR code,
and follow the link. Easy!



P.O. Box 787
Hull, MA 02045



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Ellen Whitney

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Newsletter Production
Maura Norton and
Joanne Berman



www.hsar.org

Scan the QR
code with your
camera to visit
our website!



Hull Seaside Animal Rescue is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, tax exempt organization which rescues and places homeless cats and assists in the care and control of the local feral cat population of Hull and surrounding towns. We are a no-kill cat shelter, founded in 1999 by a handful of concerned citizens that understood the need to establish an animal rescue and shelter program. We have grown over the years and now

boast over 50 volunteers with a part-time paid shelter manager. The shelter exists predominantly on donations, fundraising events, grants, and bottle/can collection and redemption.

HSAR is located at
487 Nantasket Ave. Hull
Adoption Hours
Monday 6:00pm-7:00pm
Saturday 2:00-3:00 pm
Contacts

Adoptions: Judy @ 781-534-4902
Shelter: Ellen @ 781-925-3121
Recycling: Don @ 774-226-5910



Send donations to:
HSAR
P.O. Box 787
Hull, MA 02045

Ways to Donate

- Donate with PayPal or credit card at hsar.org
- Send a check with the enclosed envelope.
- Purchase HSAR merchandise at the shelter or online.
- Drop off redeemable cans/bottles.

Thank you to all of our donors!