



THE ANIMAL UMBRELLA MESSENGER

JULY 2012

Dedicated to the Rescue, Welfare and Adoption of Even the Most Unadoptable Homeless Cats

Number 67

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P.O. Box 2675, Acton, MA 01720-6675

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www.animalumbrella.org

Going the Extra Mile to Save Lives

It has been Animal Umbrella's mission for many years to rescue cats when many odds were against their survival and there was no one else available to offer help. We believe in going the extra mile to help.

Conan was a Revere stray brought by the Animal Control officer to the pound at the North Shore Animal Hospital. He was not neutered and most likely would not have had a chance to survive. When we heard he was being held there we called and



Conan

asked that his veterinary care expenses would be placed under Animal Umbrella while we were looking for a home for him. We received a call from a supporter of our organization; her bunny rabbit had died and she was looking to adopt a cat. We recommended she visit Conan at the hospital and consider adopting him to save his life. When she saw him, she fell in love and decided to adopt him. *He now lives very happily in Revere with his new loving family. Thank you Cathy!*

During the dark cold nights of last winter, we kept seeing a feral cat in our shelter's parking lot waiting for us. She looked cold and hungry. We fed her whenever we saw her and she devoured large cans of wet food. As the weather got colder, we worried about her safety as the shelter is near marshland and there is no place to



Christina

find food or shelter from the harsh weather. She would have died slowly. We asked for help from MassPaws who have

trappers available and finally she was trapped, taken to our vet, spayed and vaccinated and brought to the shelter.

Christina is still very wild and scared but finally safe and living a better life in our shelter/sanctuary. She just received dental surgery as some of her teeth were bad because of malnutrition and she is recovering. In the wild, where would she be now? *Thank you Mary and Bev!*

On Sunday Easter Day, we were at the shelter to feed and care for the cats prior to going home to celebrate the holiday. Just as we were ready to close, we heard noises outside the door and when we opened the door, we saw two women holding a seizing cat wrapped in a towel. They had found him in someone's backyard. He looked like a rag doll. We let them in and tried to make him comfortable. He looked so helpless and we were not sure what happened to him. We kept him warm and contained and took him to the vet the following day. They could not find



Bunny

anything wrong with him. Seizures could have been caused by electrocution, food poisoning or being hit by a car.

Bunny is back at the shelter and caged for precaution. He is being closely monitored, but as of this writing he looks healthy and loves to eat but remains EXTREMELY SHY and is always hiding under a blanket! If he could talk we wonder what his story would be. *We are glad we could save this poor creature.*

We hope these rescue stories encourage other animal lovers to go out of the way to help a cat in danger because most of the time if you will not help chances are no one else will. PLEASE CONSIDER THIS AND SAVE A LIFE. It is spiritually rewarding. Thank you.

Annamarie Taylor



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Mission
 Founded in 1985, Animal Umbrella is a strictly no-kill volunteer organization dedicated to the rescue, care and adoption of abandoned cats and kittens. We believe in rehabilitation not destruction and make a special effort to find special homes even for highly unadoptable animals because of handicap, injury, age, behavior, feral status (after being socialized) and FIV or FELV positive.

ANIMAL UMBRELLA STREET CATS SHELTER ADOPTIONS Every Saturday 3 to 5 p.m.

Please call to set up special appointments.
 We have relocated to 320B Charger Street, Revere.
 We are located on the second floor of Paws Here. Call for directions.

WINTER CALENDAR RAFFLE WINNERS

Congratulations and our appreciation to all participants and winners of another successful Winter Calendar Raffle. Special thanks to Aggie Toronto and our volunteer Linda for the Bose prizes. All other prizes were donated anonymously.

RAFFLE WINNERS 2012

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| 1. Bose In Ear Headphones | Bolton Harris | Boston |
| 2. Target Gift Certificate | Mary Will | Acton |
| 3. Lands End Gift Certificate | Donna Marcotte | Peabody |
| 4. Barnes & Noble Gift Certificate | Donald/Susan McGurk | Waltham |
| 5. Sears Gift Certificate | Marjorie Rapallo | Wakefield |
| 6. Xmas Tree Gift Certificate | Patricia Durdle | Malden |
| 7. Home Depot Gift Certificate | Christopher Williams | Milford |
| 8. Starbucks Gift Certificate | John Shumaker | Milford |
| 9. AMC Certificate | Sheila Goldstein | Newton |
| 10. Bertucci's Gift Certificate | Nancy Messom | Cambridge |
| 11. Stop & Shop Gift Certificate | J. Burns | Somerville |
| 12. Sears Gift Certificate | Tina Viggiano-Palermo | Tewksbury |
| 13. Bose Wave Music System | Elizabeth Maloney | Melrose |
| 14. Stop & Shop Gift Certificate | Diane Richardson | Peabody |
| 15. Barnes & Noble Gift Certificate | Carolyn Soderstrom | Acton |
| 16. Pair of Bruins Tickets | Ri Romano | Arlington |
| 17. Bath & Body Works Certificate | Tabor Mohns | Bedford |
| 18. Target Gift Certificate | Patricia Tacelli | Winthrop |
| 19. Legal Seafood Gift Certificate | Elaine Manzi | Saugus |
| 20. AMC Theater Card | Prescilla Cobb | Belmont |
| 21. Macy's Gift Certificate | Stephen Everett | Pennsylvania |
| 22. Target Gift Certificate | Georgia Flanguris | Allston |
| 23. Bose AM6 Surround Sound | Michael Diranian | Saugus |
| 24. Bertucci's Gift Certificate | Deb White Lyons | Scituate |
| 25. Legal Seafood Gift Certificate | Faylene conard | Uxbridge |
| 26. AMC Theater Card | Mike Giangiardano | Canton |
| 27. Home Depot Gift Certificate | Lynda Asprinio | Milford |
| 28. Bertucci's Gift Certificate | Iantosca | Lynnfield |
| 29. American Express Gift Card | Dorothy Giangiardano | Canton |
| 30. JC Penney Gift Certificate | Linda Pollitz | Bedford |
| 31. Stop & Shop Gift Certificate | Harold and Linda Miller | Revere |



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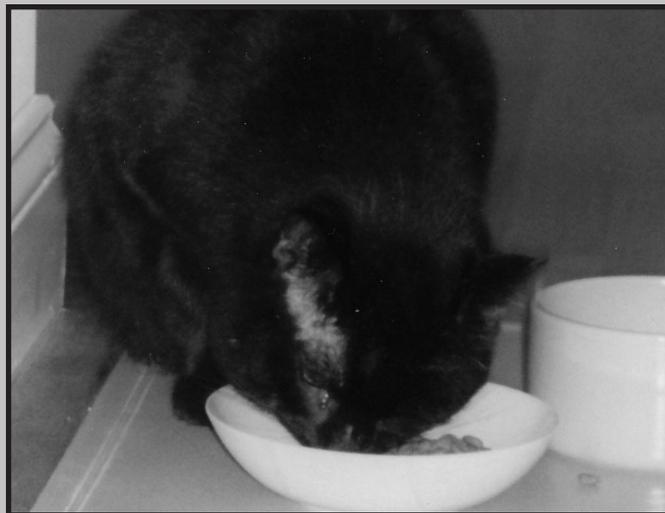
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REMEMBERING BLACK JACK

By Linda Lachman

We constantly rescue a great many cats with incredible stories, but this one really depicts what we and our supporters and rescuers are all about. For those of you who have been long time friends of Animal Umbrella, you may recall that Black Jack was discovered on the strip of grass next to an exit off a major metro west highway about eight years ago. It was winter and bitter cold and almost Christmas. Our wonderful supporter Terri, who saw him near the highway, got a trap and went back and set it up, even though she was seven months pregnant and it was freezing. She came back the next day and found a state trooper pulled up on the highway checking out the trap and stopped him just in time from taking him away. Inside was a scraggly black cat she named Black Jack.



To quote Terri, "I remember that black hissing cat who was so, so angry to be in a trap. I also remember the vet basically implying he would not be an adoptable cat." However, we took him in our shelter, although her vet found that he was FIV positive. He was about five to seven years old and we don't know how long he was left abandoned to fend for himself until Terri rescued him. Our volunteers cared for him and one, Justine, worked with him and found a shy and scared boy underneath the fear and hissing. **Black Jack became an adoptable cat in spite of what the vet thought!**

Another long time friend of Animal Umbrella, Tina, decided to adopt him. After years of her love and care, he would lie beside her, lick the back of her hand frequently, and even go to the point of talking to her. And he always came when she called him. She said, "He was a wonderful little guy." He had a great many health issues over the years and when he became very ill, "I picked him up throughout the day to hold him, I would walk with him and tell him I loved him and that he was a very good boy." Unfortunately, he finally passed away this past January. Tina says, "I know I will adopt again when the time is right because having a pet is one of the best experiences we can have."

EDITORIAL NOTE – Black Jack was given the opportunity to live a good and peaceful life thanks to the extraordinary rescue efforts of our long time supporter and animal lover Terri. Her courage the day of the rescue is a great example for us to follow in case we see an animal in distress and need.

Thank you to our volunteer Justine for her efforts to socialize him while he was at the shelter and to Tina, who adopted him, for her patience and love towards this traumatized, abandoned cat.

HAPPY ENDINGS



Yul and Earl

A woman came to the shelter with a mother, five one day old kittens and two other six month old cats. They were all from the same mother. She was very sick, full of fleas and had no milk. We took them to the Natick Animal Clinic where they were cared for. Unfortunately, the kittens needed to be hand fed several times a day and were placed in a foster home where they received care and lots of love. These two brothers (from different fathers) are always together and found a wonderful home with Karen and Bill in Arlington where they play and entertain their new owners daily. **We are grateful to them for giving them a wonderful life.**

Charlie

This poor homeless cat with several others were being fed by a kind Everett family. Unfortunately, they had to move and there was no one to feed them during the winter. We took them in our shelter because we were concerned about their fate and gradually placed them. **Charlie, the oldest of the three cats was adopted by our volunteer Margaret and FINALLY has found a home of his own where he gets the personal attention he deserves and craves so much. Thank you!**



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HAPPY ENDINGS



Carlo and Freddie

Carlo was found in Revere full of wounds and being very sickly. We rehabilitated this shy cat hoping to place him some day. He got his lucky break when Freddie, a Mendon stray found near the woods with two kittens was also taken to the shelter. The animal lover who saved them decided to adopt him once we socialized him so Carlo and Freddie live now a pampered life away from the streets. **Thank you Mary and Richard!**



Scotty

Scotty's rescue story appeared in our December 2011 Newsletter. He was a Lynn stray who had been struck in the face by a car. Fortunately, he had survived this terrible experience but had a broken jaw and some damage to one of his eyes. No one sponsored this cat and we decided to pay for the veterinary bill to rehabilitate him. He has been living in a caring Lynn foster home since the accident and is gradually progressing and now doing well. **Scotty is definitely a lucky cat!**



Pledge of a Responsible and Caring Pet Owner

- *I have chosen you for who you are.*
- *I will treat you with love, respect and compassion.*
- *I will keep you well fed with good quality pet foods.*
- *I will play with you and spend time with you everyday and will always have toys for you.*
- *I will monitor your health regularly and make sure you receive care by a qualified and caring veterinarian.*
- *I will keep you all your life no matter the changes in mine because I believe that adoption is a commitment of love for life.*
- *I will groom you and make sure you are happy..*
- *I will monitor your aging and give you the special veterinary care you need and deserve. I will never abandon you for a younger animal.*
- *I will make you comfortable if you are ill but not terminal.*
- *I will let you go if you are suffering and nothing else can be done for you.*
- *I will always remember you and be thankful for the good years you gave me as a wonderful pet companion and cherish your love and devotion.*
- *I will keep you alive in my mind and in my heart.*
- *In your memory, I will give a good home to another abandoned animal that deserves the love and care I gave you.*
- *I will never try to replace you expecting someone just like you because I know that each living creature is unique in its own kind and it is never equally replaceable.*
- *I will share this pledge with other responsible owners and encourage them to make this important commitment to their pets as well.*

*Annamarie Taylor
Animal Umbrella*

ANIMAL UMBRELLA SUMMER RAFFLE!

This will support our year round efforts towards the rescue, rehabilitation and adoption of abandoned cats and kittens.

NO KILL CAT SHELTER

Located at: 320B Charger Street, Revere

MAILING ADDRESS:

P.O. Box 2675, Acton, MA 01720-6675

**PLEASE BUY OUR RAFFLE TICKETS
AND TAKE A CHANCE WINNING
ONE OF OUR PRIZES BELOW.**

PRIZE ONE: Red Sox vs. Texas Rangers August 7th
A pair of tickets for the right field bleachers.

PRIZE TWO: Bose In-Ear Headphones – the best sound for any In-Ear, plus unique “Stay Hear” tips that enable greater stability during exercise with hours of comfort.



PRIZE THREE: VISA Gift Card – \$50 value

PRIZE FOUR: Target Gift Card - \$50 value

NOTE: Please note that if your raffle tickets are received prior to August 1st they will be eligible for the Red Sox Tickets. All raffle tickets received before and after the 1st will be eligible for the other prizes which will be drawn later.

Drawing will be held in September 2012.

Winners will be announced in our following newsletter.

RAFFLE TICKET DONATIONS \$3.00 PER ENTRY

If you mail your entry, please send your check made payable to Animal Umbrella, P.O. Box 2675, Acton, MA 01720-6675. Animal Umbrella is a statewide volunteer no-kill nonprofit organization founded in 1985.

Please give tickets as gifts to Family and Friends! THANK YOU!

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The **Animal Umbrella Streets Cat Shelter** is located at:
320B Charger Street (on the second floor of Paws Here)
Revere, MA

Animal Umbrella is a statewide volunteer non-profit organization, dedicated to the rescue, welfare and adoption of even the most unadoptable homeless cats.

- Monthly Contributor\$25
- Annual Member\$35
- Supporter\$50
- Save a Stray\$75
- Contributor\$100
- Sponsor\$250
- Other _____

Animal Umbrella contributions are tax deductible.

Animal Umbrella meetings are held regularly.

Please call us for dates and times.

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How did you hear about Animal Umbrella?

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