



THE ANIMAL UMBRELLA MESSENGER

DECEMBER 2016 Dedicated to the Rescue, Welfare and Adoption of Even the Most Unadoptable Homeless Cats Number 84

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

Tel. 508-877-1194

www.animalumbrella.org

PRAYER OF AN ABANDONED CAT

Dear Lord,

I am all alone in the world and nobody cares for me nor wants me.

Most of the time I am hungry and thirsty. I am hot in the summer and cold in the bitter winter.

I am lost and wander in the streets hopelessly.

I am scared and need protection and care.

My heart is longing for love and affection and I will return them in any way I can to a kind-hearted person who will give me a home again.

Dear Lord, please touch somebody's heart so that they will pity me and rescue me from this misery especially during this special time of the year.

The night has come again, I am shivering myself to sleep to forget my pain. In my sleep, I will be dreaming that somebody tomorrow will **save me and will start giving me love and care again. Lord, I plead with you to not disappoint me again and make my dream come true. Amen.**



Rescues from the Cold ~ Angie/Lady Baba

During a cold spell of weather in October two hungry and cold cats appeared in the back yard of Rita in Revere. She and her husband started feeding them. The cats were thin and took shelter under their porch. We were asked to help and offered to take them to our vet at our expense if they fostered them for us until we could take them. We adopted out Angie (see picture on page 4) and have now made Lady Baba available for adoption as well. **Thank you Rita and Joe for rescuing and caring for them!**



Lady Baba



Animal Umbrella

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.

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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.*

Dear Friends and Supporters,

A world of thanks for your kind and generous responses to our current relocation challenges!

We wish you and your loved ones joyous holidays and a very happy, healthy and prosperous New Year!

SUMMER RAFFLE WINNERS

Thank you for participating in this event and we thank our generous anonymous friends for donating prizes!

Red Sox Tickets: Bill Sovie, Arlington

Bose Quiet Comfort

Headphones: Anna L. Kazar, E. Falmouth

Bose inEar Headphones: Joanne Geisser, Sandown, NH

VISA Gift Card: John Andreucci, Saugus

Relocation Efforts Update - Good News!

We have found and are in the process of leasing a place in Peabody to relocate our shelter to because we did not have sufficient funds to purchase a new place! However, we will not be able to move until we receive a special permit (for cat shelters) from the city in January.

Hopefully, our current Revere landlord will extend our stay past our 12/31 period until we can move to the new location.

Please wish our shelter cats best of luck with this new challenge and pray for a positive outcome for their sake. They have nowhere to go and many are too old or handicapped for other shelters.

RESCUES FROM THE COLD - PAMELA

This beautiful long hair tortie started to be seen near an apartment complex in Revere. She would come on and off and often meowed for food. Pam, a kind hearted woman started to feed her and called us because she was afraid the cat would be run over as the area is near a high traffic road. We asked



Carol from Mass Paws, a rescue group which often works with us to try to trap the cat and she did.

Pamela is now waiting in one of our foster homes to find a new home soon.

HAPPY ENDINGS

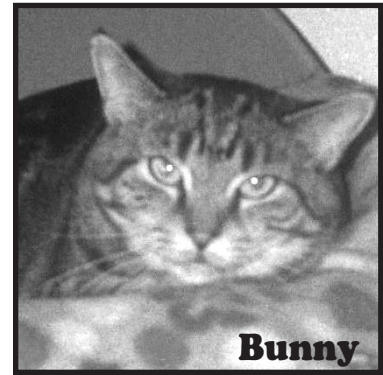
Pretty Girl & Bunny

She was abandoned in Saugus and survived several years in an area infested with wildlife. Bunny is very bonded with her. He was found seizing in a Revere backyard but recovered.

Both cats are now living in a wonderful and caring home in Arlington.



Pretty Girl



Bunny



Simon

Simon

He was living as a stray in Chelsea with other abandoned cats and was rescued by Carol from MassPaws, a rescue organization we work with.

The three males we took including Simon now have all been adopted.

Ashley & Avery

They were rescued from an apartment where a man was found dead. He had five cats and loved them as the cats were all very sweet and gentle. One of which was adopted by another shelter and we took the rest. **Ashley and Avery have a great home and a new life again.**



Ashley & Avery



Angie

Angie

She was an abandoned cat in Revere which took shelter under a woman's porch (see story on Page one) with another cat. The woman fed them and fostered them until we took them. **Angie has found a wonderful home in Lexington and is very happy.**

**OPEN YOUR HOME
AND ADOPT A
HOMELESS CAT!
Cats add so much
more to our lives
with their sensitivity,
intelligence and
unwavering love
and devotion.**

A Home for the Holidays!

PLEASE ADOPT US AND TAKE US TO YOUR LOVING HOME...

for the Holidays! For more pictures of adorable cats available for adoption, please access our website animalumbrella.org and click on cats for adoption. THANK YOU!



Niko



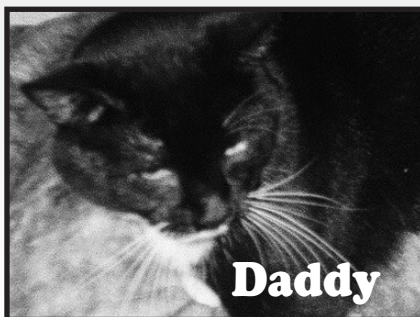
Patrice



Sonny



Peanut



Daddy



Lady Baba

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE WITH YOUR DONATION and SAVE A CAT'S LIFE BY SUPPORTING A HOME FOR TWO PROGRAM!

We receive many calls every month from people asking for help to save abandoned cats in their neighborhoods or for cats who have lost their owners because something bad happened to the owners. Unfortunately we have to turn many away because we do not have sufficient funds to pay for the cats' vet care prior to their adoption. We often sadly wonder what happened to the cats we could not help. Animal Umbrella as everyone else has been impacted by the hard financial times and we are trying to find ways to increase the number of cats adopted to good loving and reliable homes.

We started years ago the Home for Two Program which encourages people interested in adopting one cat, to have a second cat (personality compatible with the first cat) at no charge. Basically, since our cats are tested, vaccinated and spayed/neutered we charge a nonprofit adoption fee of \$135 per cat to recover part of our vet and general shelter expenses (food, rent, litter, electricity etc). By not charging for a second cat we have increased the number of adoptions and improved an adopted cat's quality of life by providing companionship to another animal.

Unfortunately, however, we are experiencing a severe financial drain because our bills to the vet still need to be paid for all those extra cats adopted at no charge. Please sponsor A Home for Two Program and increase the chances of more animals to finally have a home of their own and a second chance in life! Your \$135 donation will help us continue saving more lives. Thank you!

HOW YOU CAN HELP HOMELESS CATS AND KITTENS SURVIVE THE WINTER *by Annamarie Taylor*

Unfortunately, no humane organization including Animal Umbrella despite everyone's best efforts will be able to rescue all the cats and kittens left to fend for themselves during the bitter cold months throughout the state. There are simply too many homeless cats and insufficient space to shelter them.

But you can make a life and death difference by helping the strays in your neighborhood or anywhere else where there are abandoned animals! Without your care many homeless cats will experience great hardships and may not survive. The following suggestions will help you alleviate their suffering:

- Attract animals to use garages, basements sheds, barns, dog houses, porches, other specially built structures, which offer repair from the elements. Make sure each place is as insulated warm and dry as possible. Make bedding in enclosed sturdy boxes, with heavy woolen or flannel blankets. Place food and water nearby.
- Feed as abundantly and as often as possible as food and water tend to freeze. Double the amount of food you usually give because extra food will help the animal fight the cold and keep healthier. Use better cat food brands, use dry as well as wet food.
- If there are kittens in the area, try to capture them and find a foster home for them. If all fails, call Animal Umbrella and we will try to help.
- Keep special attention for older or weaker animals. If they look sick they may need to be taken to a vet for medical care. Never release a sick cat after treatment back outdoors because the likelihood is it will not make it.
- If you have a special room or space in your house try using it to foster an animal. It may mean life or death until Spring arrives.
- If a female appears pregnant, she should be spayed as soon as possible to avoid the birth of kittens in the cold months (February, March and even April as they would never survive). Use Animal Umbrella's low cost spay/neuter program. Never

release an animal right after surgery as they may freeze to death. They need a few days to recover especially females.

- If you know of an area with strays please find a number of people who will work with you on a daily feeding schedule. Food and water are ESSENTIAL IN THE WINTER! If for some reason you cannot feed the animals in an area please call us as we may know someone else who could.
- If you find yourself in a particularly difficult situation please call us as we may be able to provide some advice to lead you in the right direction.

Remember you can make a big difference this winter for the homeless cats in your area! The animals are counting on you for your help . . .

If you need to call ANIMAL UMBRELLA our number is 508-877-1194



Adrian was one of the three males rescued in Chelsea (see story of Simon on page 4). When he came to the shelter, he could not stop eating as he was so starved. We wonder how long more he would have survived in the cold if he had not been rescued. Adrian is now happy and lives in Lynn and was recently adopted by our long time volunteer Justine. ***Thank You!***

At the beginning of every winter, it has become a tradition for Animal Umbrella to publish this article both as an educational tool to the new supporters who join our organization every year and as a reminder to our old friends that the cold months are particularly harsh on abandoned animals. Some of these animals will only survive because of the kindness and dedication of some of you. ***May God bless you for your compassion.***



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P.O. BOX 2675
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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.

Name _____

Street _____

City _____

State/Zip _____

Phone _____

E-Mail _____

Do you currently receive our newsletter? _____

How did you hear about Animal Umbrella?

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