

purrs & prattlings

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For more information about *Purrs & Prattlings*, our shelter, how to adopt, how to contribute, upcoming fundraisers, address changes or other corrections, please contact us via the following:



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3805 Robinson Road
Marietta, GA 30068
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Email: info@goodmews.org

VOLUNTEER ORIENTATIONS

We have launched online orientations and are actively recruiting for limited volunteer opportunities.

Please visit goodmews.org/volunteer for more details!

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

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MISSION STATEMENT

Good Mews offers an alternative to traditional animal shelters in the metro Atlanta area by providing a no-kill, cage-free haven for homeless, abused or abandoned cats until placing them in permanent, loving homes. Good Mews promotes public awareness regarding the value of pets, animal welfare, pet overpopulation and quality human-animal companionship through education and outreach programs.

SHELTER DIRECTIONS

Good Mews is located at 3805 Robinson Road in Marietta, one mile west of Johnson Ferry Road on Roswell Road (Highway 120) behind Rick's Farmers Market.

ADOPTION HOURS

We are currently closed for adoptions due to COVID-19. Please check our website for updates.

ON THE COVER



Adalina

No surprise that this sweetheart with those soul-piercing eyes was adopted quickly!

Kendra's Corner

Good Mews family,

We all know the saying “hindsight’s 20/20,” which takes on a new meaning now that we have experienced the year 2020. We are glad that many aspects of last year are now in the rear-view mirror. Instead of looking back to find ways that we could have done more, I think we should celebrate our amazing accomplishments despite extraordinary circumstances.

As I reflect, the overwhelming feeling of 2020 is that of gratitude. Over the last year, we have shared many numbers to amplify our successes (which you can view on the infographic in this issue). Data points have their purpose, but it is also important to remember the wonderful people behind those efforts.

Almost 600 (579 to be exact) good kitties found a good home in 2020. Though we adjusted our adoption protocol to appointment-only for safety, this actually involved more legwork for our counselors to make each meeting as efficient as possible. We still have a number of adoption counselors in rotation to help on the weekends, but the following ladies were the all-stars who made achieving this record-breaking adoption total possible: Dawn Von Cramon, Diane Wilson, Jean Hess and Michelle Kirkham.

After being closed for a portion of the spring months, our Daily Care and Medical teams were slowly brought back online with the graceful leadership of Lynn Woodruff, Katherine Akin, Michael Salyers and Linda Freeman. These volunteers made sure shifts were staffed and often personally stepped in for gaps in the schedule.



Later in the summer, Leslie Cooper and Emily Archer rallied our Kitty Buddy team to get back to spending time with our residents needing a little more attention. They reinstated our Cat Pawsitive program to further engage a few of our kitties. These women make every cat in our care feel special while they are waiting to be adopted.

We have not lost any momentum as we move into 2021 and plan to build upon last year’s goals. We hope to save at least 600 more cats while adopting out just as many. Our team is aiming for 3,000 spays/neuters and to exceed 100 dental procedures. Now, it is time to set our sight on the future, and these goals are only possible with your continued support!

Happy Mew Year,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kendra Ledlow".

Kendra Ledlow
Shelter Manager

Volunteer With Us!

Looking for a way to get involved? We have volunteer opportunities and a brand new, easier orientation process!

Our orientations are now living in modern times and have gone online. While we still have limited volunteer operations right now, we do have openings which will allow you hands-on time with the kitties. Currently, we are recruiting for our Daily Care, Grants, Medical, and TNR committees.

Getting started is easy. Visit goodmews.org/volunteer and you will be taken through just a few simple steps which will allow you to safely and conveniently become a Good Mews volunteer!

Your volunteer training will then be arranged directly with the appropriate committee heads. It's that easy!

2020—A Record Year for Adoptions

by Andrea Cartier

Good Mews did an amazing 579 adoptions in 2020. That was 116 more than the previous year. And to think the shelter was closed down – empty of cats – for several weeks makes those numbers even more amazing! It has always taken teamwork to make the shelter run, but that was never more evident than last year. It was a coordinated effort of getting all of the residents into foster homes when the county shelter-in-place order went into effect and adjusting procedures to make sure adoptions could resume in a safe manner.

While folks were always able to make an adoption appointment if they were unable to come in on the weekends, the pandemic forced us to shift to an appointment-only model to ensure there were not too many people in the building at one time. Rather than walking into the shelter and starting the adoption process from scratch, a lot takes place before you even arrive at our door now. Our adoption committee co-chair sends out the adoption surveys in advance and takes care of finding an available adoption counselor. You'll then get a phone call, and your counselor will talk to you about the type of cat that might be best for you. You know – play matchmaker. This gives us an idea of who best to introduce you to (or not) upon your arrival. And that doesn't include all that the staff and volunteers do during the week to keep the cats healthy and the shelter ready for adoptions.

Next time you are enjoying a Facebook post featuring that day's adoptions, take a moment to send up a thank you to all the people behind the scenes who helped match those kitties with a loving new home. And if you are thinking of adding a furry friend to your life, email adopt@goodmews.org and watch the process in action for yourself!

RECENT ADOPTION TOTALS

October	56
November	39
December	69
2020 Total	579
January	47
2021 Total	47

YOUR 2020 IMPACT

*By the Numbers:
A Record-Breaking Year*

ADOPTIONS

579



FOSTER-TO-FOREVERS

30

SPAY/NEUTER

2,194

- 373 GOOD MEWS CATS
- 473 LOCAL RESCUE ASSISTANCE
- 1384 COMMUNITY CATS



REDUCTION IN RETURNS OVER 2019

60%



DENTALS

79



584 TOTAL CATS SAVED






Ways to Contribute: Estate Planning

It's not something we enjoy thinking about, but estate planning is one way in which you can create a legacy for the lasting needs in your community. Planned giving may offer tax and financial benefits, and it is one of the most effective ways to ensure that Good Mews is able to continue saving the lives of homeless and injured cats long into the future.

Your gift makes an impact upon Good Mews that will resonate and ensure our mission continues for all the years to come.

There are many options for planned giving, such as bequests, trusts, charitable gift annuities, appreciated assets and more. For more information, please visit goodmews.org/bequests-and-planned-giving and always consult your independent financial, tax or legal advisor for guidance on your specific situation.

Wishlist

-  **Litter**
-  **Bleach**
-  **Paper Towels**
-  **Science Diet
Adult Canned Food**
-  **Fancy Feast
(all "Classic" varieties)**
-  **Gift Cards (Walmart,
Target, Chewy, etc)**
-  **Forever Stamps**



April is
**National
Volunteer Month**

Good Mews thanks
all our dedicated
volunteers for
their service!

Volunteer with us at goodmews.org/volunteer

MEMORIALS & Honorariums

IN MEMORY OF

Ace Tichenor
 Alan Walton
 Amberly
 Amos and Ben
 Ana
 Angel (aka Frodo)
 Angel Allen

 Bailey
 Bailey and Simone
 Bailey, Emma, Ivy,
 Madison, Mariella,
 Moses, Nathan, Nugget,
 Patsy, Pishi, Sadie,
 Sydney, Tango, Toby,
 Tyler, and ViviAnne
 Bailey, Boudica,
 Gomez, Katarina,
 Miss Marple,
 and Simone
 Barbara Rosenman
 Barnaby, Fluffy, Happy,
 Lazarus, Lily, and Sidney
 Beth Hannigan
 Beth, Roger, and
 Sandy Hannigan
 Binkley
 Binkley, Kiawah,
 and Simon
 Bischoff

 Bob Glazer

 Bogie Dew Wrobel
 Bonnie and Greigo
 Brownie
 Brutus, Forrest, Krystal,
 Rockie, and Simon
 Bryant

FROM

Elizabeth Tichenor
 Karla Phillips
 Bode Martin
 Mary Ann Cox
 Sherri and Ben Rivers
 Arlene Ackerman
 Linda Allen,
 Nancy McDonald
 Laurie Remter
 Georja Freedman
 Kathy Baker

 Stephanie Summers

 Dr Rosenman
 Dr. Laura Dabundo

 Cherie MacGeorge
 Cherie MacGeorge

 Arlene Ackerman
 Jae Emery-Dawe and
 Ruth Wester
 Andrea Cartier,
 Dawn von Cramon,
 Linda Smith,
 Michelle Kirkham
 Brenna Strickland,
 Cherie MacGeorge,
 Georja Freedman,
 Janet Bolton,
 Joyce Taaffe,
 Kelly McNamara,
 Linda Freeman,
 Linda Smith,
 Lori Trahan,
 Michelle Kirkham,
 Sharon Molnar Schleif
 Michelle Kirkham
 Judith Grasberg
 Sandra Alvarado
 Cherie MacGeorge
 Kelly McNamara

Buck, Chloe, Sebastian,
 and Wiffer
 Bunny McDonald

 Buster, Emma,
 Glover, and Locai
 Buttercup
 Callie (Miss Nancy)
 Carroll Arrant
 Cassie (mamma cas)Mares
 Cece Eubanks

 Celeste Sauve

 Chloe and Maya
 Cleo
 Cleo and Nefi

 Cleo, Feliz, and Wolfie
 Cougar, Einstein, Flea,
 Fred, and Inky
 Curly Bob
 Daisy
 Dali and Picasso
 Darla, Jake, Kitty,
 and Misty
 Darlene McNamara

 David Dunn
 Deborah Barton
 Declan

 Desota
 Diana Robbins
 Dot and Buzz Teem
 Drake C Autarch
 Eleanor Meyer
 Ellie
 Ellie Mae Mustache,
 Katie, Sammy,
 Tommy, and Woody
 Elvis Hardstark

William and Janet
 Johnson
 Nancy McDonald,
 Linda Allen, Lisa Howard,
 Lori Trahan
 Alfred Riddle

 Jean Klim
 Ann Smith
 Donna Wagner
 Dan Mares
 Robert Wayne and
 Maki Eubanks
 Brenna Strickland,
 Jill Fogarty,
 Chris Adams and
 Diane Bidek,
 Kim Janke, Kristen Moody
 Kristina Stroede
 Robert and Lori Ragan
 Karen Alex Courie and
 Juan Rodriguez
 Adele Shepherd
 Mary Henderson,
 Ellie, and Noah
 Walter Beavers
 Janice Hess
 Luis and Elizabeth Estrada
 Raymond Higgins

 Kelly McNamara,
 Linda Smith,
 Lori, Cynthia, and
 Karyn Trahan
 Michelle Kirkham
 Karen Dunn
 Gray and Cheryl Lewis
 Aggie, Anna, Mary Ann,
 Meredith, and Michelle
 Ashley Thrasher
 Ian Robbins
 Clayton Teem
 Lefkothea Belets
 Linda Crook
 Karl and Georja Freedman
 Jane Freeman

 Tara LaPierre and
 Atlanta MFM Family

Emma and Jazz	Sue Stephens	Leslie Lightfoot	Carla Williams,
Essie Baker Molnar	Sharon Molnar Schleif		Tracy Budge,
Eunice and Virgil	Ann and Mike Pearlman		Curtis Mitchell and
Evelyn McPherson	DJ McPherson		Robin Thumann,
Fanny	Charles Kelly		Doug Downs and
Fergie	Clyde and Marie Pettet,		Brent Stahlman,
	Jean Klim		Kathryn Alyce Strong,
Firecat	Bill and Barbara Smyre		Nancy McDonald,
Firecracker	Angela Alper		Scarlett Lance Kirby
Floyd Leedy	Elissa McCrary	Linda Rivetti	Bob and Pat Licht and family,
Freddie	Arlene Ackerman		Cynthia and Douglas Wright,
(aka Mr. Baggins)			David, Robin, April,
Friendly	Clyde and Marie Pettet		and Ryan Pearson,
Ginn	Rolanda Gaines		Dorothy Mattern,
GK Klim	Esther Cadahia, Jean Klim,		Douglas, Cathy, and
	Veronica Happel		Michael Mattern,
Gracie	Linda and Michael Libby		Kathleen Wroblewski,
Haila Kleinman	Peregrine, Walter, Amy,		Linda Smith,
	and Thomas Hopkins		Lori Trahan,
Halo	Wendy Frank		The Gruman Family,
Harry R Baumgardner	Paul Baumgardner and		Richard and Evelyn Melnick,
	Jane Smith		Tina Sullivan
Homer Boatright	Christing Stephenson,	Linus	Cherie MacGeorge,
	Katherine and Steve Kinser,		Linda Smith,
	Lori Trahan,		Gayle Nichols and
	Lindsay Penticuff,		George Adler,
	Mark and Marybeth		Georja Freedman,
	Montini,		Kelly McNamara,
	R. Williams		Linda Freeman,
Hope	Angela Kenison		Michelle Kirkham,
Iggy, Isolde, and Tristan	R.F. Hensley		Sharon Molnar Schleif ,
Ivan Parker Klimatovich	Debbie Paulding		The Huberty Family
Hughes		Luella	Cherie MacGeorge
Ixie and Neo	Carla Dunagan		Linda Smith,
Jack	Janice Hess		Michelle Kirkham,
Jack and Oscar Helen	Emily and Millie Archer		The Huberty Family
Jack Latham	Roberta Manheim	Margot	Kendra Ledlow
James E. Speck	Kim and Philip Roenitz	Marlee Lane Kirkham	Michelle Kirkham
Jessie Smith	Cynthia, Lori and	Max	Anzia and Dan Toomey,
	Karyn Trahan,		George and Sue Stone
	Karl and Georja Freedman,	Mercury	Jeff Costa
	Margaret-Mary Hellen,	Miles Villyard	Katherine Villyard
	Michelle Kirkham,	Minnie and Scooter	Lori Trahan
	Tom, Linda, and	Mishka Schindler	Richard Schindler
	Kelly McNamara	Miss Kitty	Joanna Fisher
Joan Corswandt	Nicole Lupa	Miss Marie/Goldie	Andrew Garbukas
Joan L Smith	Diane L Smith	Moe	Georja Freedman
Judy Tamm	Phyllis and Laurie Tamm	Molly Early	Pam Davis, Jim, Katie,
Kaelan Shallow	Teresa Chapman		and Ginger
Katarina Verity	Erin Mooney and	Nancy Jean Young	Ann Taylor Curro and
	Stanis Kodman		Robbye Taylor
Kathleen, Katy,	Vallene Baker	Niko and Sawyer	Joan Peterson
and Cricket		Peterson	
Kay Blair	Gordon and	Nina Simone	Janice Berkholtz
	Penny Depledge	and Pumpkin	
Keith Greene	Anne France Tremege	Noah	A. B. Dick,
Kenny	Cherie MacGeorge,		Cherie MacGeorge,
	Linda Freeman,		Linda Freeman,
	Linda and Lonnie Smith,		Michelle Kirkham,
	Michelle Kirkham,		The Huberty Family,
	Nancy McDonald,		Linda Smith
	The Huberty Family	Okra	Rebecca Hayes
Kitty Sue	Sharon Lowery	Olivia	Lynne Jones
Koko	Frances Froehlike Kirby	Oscar	Arlene Ackerman

Patches Rivetti	Dorothy Mattern	All My Rescue Animals	Rochelle Peterson
Patches Winter	Katherine Johnson	Andrea Cartier	Jim and Judith
Peanut	Laura Imperial		Caponigro
Precious	Alan Martin and	Annabelle	Brinda Lovvorn
	Joyce Murphy,	Anne France Tremege	Eric Amy
	Leslie Cooper	Ariel "cat mama" Cook	Jan and George Cook
Ramond Muchinsky, Sr	Dorothy Mattern	Athena (Katie)	Eulas and Jeanie Blalock
Ramses aka Tut	Cathy Williams	Atticus and Hidey	Erin Springer
Randall Smith	Catherine Cleary	B.G. and Sally Hines	Jimmy and Julia
Rascal Brooks	Mary Claire Brooks		Chabannes
Reggie Rose	Dennis Rose	Baby Kitty and	Eddy and Lisa Suantio
Rita Marie Happel	Judy Mann,	Simba Suantio	
	Peggy Marshall	Bean and Crispin	Christine and Garrett Ison
Ronald Kotschi	Julia Kotschi	Beans and Franklin	Mary Alice Wilson
Ruth "Odie" Nolan	Alex Bierhuis	Betsy Astin	Coleen Conway
Samantha	Sharon Molnar Schleif	Bette Hamilton	April Conaway
Sancho Panzo	Melissa Kramer	Blanche and Stella Tolbert	Esther Tolbert
Savannah	Chris Adams and	Brinda Lovvorn	Karen Nix
	Diane Bidek	Bruce and Dee	Kristie Speckhals
Sebastian	Lisa and Bob Senn	Campbell and Sean	Jean DeRosa
(fka Buckwheat)		Carol Chen Burns	Janine Wagers
Sharon Dunn	Nancy Rich	Carol Griggs	Lillian Train
Sidney	Adrian and Dianna	Casper, TC, and Sasha	Cherie MacGeorge
	Vaughn,	Chris and Kim Janke	Cynthia Arras
	Gail Crowder	Chris Cox	Mary Ann Cox
Simon	Arlene Ackerman	Christi and Gregory Fisher	Chuck and Sally Crouse
Simon "Sweet Boy"	Ronnie Happel	Cinnamon Biscuit	Karen Williams
Sparky	Sharon Molnar Schleif	Clemson and Morgan	Kathy Handley
Stan Moses	Clyde and Marie Pettet	Clyde and Marie Pettet	Katharyn Kellum
Star Jezek	Jean Klim	Colleen Moses	Susan and Steve Gerardot
Sunny Gilmore	Nicole Peffer and the	David Larson	Maureen and Ty Larson
	other Preschool moms	Dawn von Cramon	Bette Hamilton
Sweet Pea	Marie Valenti	Diane O'Pry	Karen Spahn
Tweety Braunroth	Cherie MacGeorge,	Diane Wilson	Alice Bostic, Joyce Wilson
	Linda Smith,	Dilbert	Clyde and Marie Pettet
	Cheryl and Ricky	Douglas Morgan DVM	Cindy and Gavin
	Braunroth,		McQuiston
	Cynthia, Lori and	Dr Allison Wansky	Sherri Morgan
	Karyn Trahan,	Dr Michael Ray, Jan,	Clyde and Marie Pettet
	Kelly McNamara,	Penny, Chastity, Britney,	
	Marianna Spain	and Anna at the	
Ty Dunn	Karen Dunn	Cat Clinic of Roswell	
Tyson	Kelly Kordsmeier	Dr Reily and Staff	Kirkham Kitties
Victor	Catherine and	at Shallowford	
	Richard Flynn	Animal Hospital	
Vivienne	Sylvia Zenteno-Booker	Dr. Daniel Kwak, DVM	Carol and Charles Gay
	and Timm Booker	Duchess, Noah,	Candace Hall
Waffles	Linda Allen,	and Winston	
	Sharon Molnar Schleif	Eleonor (Ellie)	Martha Patrick
Wally	Julie Jackson	Elissa and Ron McCrary	Anna Johnson
Winston Churchill	Sandra Gregory and	Elizabeth Barnes	Marjorie Fitzsimons
Campbell Kenney	Rockstar Campbell	Elli	Connie and
Woody	Barry Rottersman		J. Forrest Kagey
Wren Zaleznak	Howard Zaleznak	Emma, Fay, and Zeke	Judy and William Hauser
Yoyo	Paul Baumgardner	Emmy	Robert and
	and Jane Smith		Valerie Jo Trusty
Zafiro	Mildred Larson	Erich Brooks	Mary Claire Brooks
		Esther Tolbert	Neely Sullivan
		Eve Gidion,	Cindy and Gavin
		DVM and Family	McQuiston
		Evie Nur	Michelle and Borders
		Fred Hatch	Scoppa
			Dorothy Chambliss, Steve
			and Annette Hatch

IN HONOR OF

Lady Gwendolyn and
Sir Galahad
Alice Salter

FROM

Jeanne Shaw

Jimmy and
Julia Chabannes

Medical Mews: Prima's New Pawsabilities

by Jeff Libby

Welcome to the inaugural edition of Medical Mews, a new feature where the Good Mews medical staff gets to share the details of a more complex case with our readers. Today we wanted to share the success story of Prima, a beautiful and spunky tuxedo-coated cat that first came to Good Mews in early January.

As a stray, Prima was initially found with her left front paw caught in a trash dumpster, and the injury was rather severe, but luckily a human found Prima and was able to get her to a licensed veterinarian for help. She was temporarily in the care of DeKalb County Animal Control before coming to Good Mews. When Prima first arrived, the staff was charmed by how calm and friendly she was. She wasn't going to let her injured paw slow her down! However, after being assessed by our resident veterinarian Dr. Judy Johnson, it was evident that there was still a lot of work to do.

One of Prima's digits (that's what we call 'fingers' on felines) wasn't healing properly. There was a lack of healthy skin tissue, leaving the wound too exposed and unable to clear the infection. Dr. Johnson knew that in these



*Above: Dr. Johnson giving Prima some snuggles.
Below: Prima found her forever home with her wonderful new family.*



circumstances, the best chance to save Prima's entire paw was to amputate the most injured digit and to trim the nail joints on the two surrounding digits. This allowed her to successfully suture the wound closed in a surgical procedure. It was a team effort, but special recognition goes to Dr. Johnson and surgery technician Jen Jewah, who both came into work on their off-day to perform Prima's procedure.

For the two weeks following the surgery, Prima recovered like a champ. The medical team monitored her closely, giving her the pain medications and antibiotics that Dr. Johnson prescribed, and changing her arm bandage regularly. Initially, she was on strict cage rest, but gradually we let Prima do a form of physical therapy by allowing her to spend increasing amounts of time in the kitten room. This improved the strength and flexibility of her left front paw.

And the best part of the story is the happy ending: Prima was adopted in early February!

Thanks to the resources we have here at Good Mews, we were able to provide Prima with a high quality of medical care, and that wouldn't be possible without our wonderful volunteers, donors, and staff.

Mission in Motion: Good Mews Road to Rescue

by Elizabeth Finch

On an early Saturday morning in February, three staff members and four volunteers piled into vehicles and set out on the road to a small town outside Columbus, Ga. Another rescue organization had closed down and desperately needed to transfer their cats to another licensed rescue. Good Mews was able to answer this call for help, as we have so many times before, because we have wonderful donors and volunteers who support our mission with money and time.

Meanwhile, additional staff and volunteers readied the shelter for the arrival of our newest residents. At the time, we weren't actually sure how many kitties we'd be bringing back, we only knew it would be somewhere in the range of 30 to 60. That's a lot of new additions, even on the low end of that range!

Before the trip, staff had secured Good Mews foster homes, as well as a commitment from Purr Nation Cat Alliance to immediately take in a few kitties. It was a well-planned and orchestrated operation thanks to the wonderful organizational skills of director of operations, Kendra Ledlow, and her great team.



After a long day of traveling both ways and assessing, catching and loading up 48 cats, the crew arrived back at the shelter. Our medical team, led by shelter veterinarian, Dr. Judy Johnson, immediately went to work testing and examining each cat, one by one.

We were not sure at that time of the level of socialization of many of these cats and

whether or not any might be feral, as 18 of the 48 had to be trapped. We are happy to report though, that all of them proved to be very social and sweet – not a feral in the entire bunch!

What became immediately apparent during examination was the poor condition of many of their mouths. It was clear that dental cleanings and extractions would soon be taking up a great deal of Dr. Johnson's schedule.



While yours truly got to work on producing a video to give you an inside look into this rescue,* our friends at Purr Nation took five of the cats, while the remaining 43 newest residents of Good Mews either got cozy in their new digs at the shelter or were immediately placed into Good Mews foster homes.

We have been introducing these new kitties to you on Facebook and on our website CATalog, and some have already found their forever homes!

Thanks to your generosity, more than \$7,000 was raised toward their medical treatment. Because of you, we were able to give 48 cats an opportunity for health, forever love and safety that they didn't have before.

Thank you for helping us give them a chance.

*If you'd like to view their rescue video, please visit <https://tinyurl.com/gmroadtorescue>

FIV - Know the Facts

by Cheri Gregg

Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (FIV) isn't the 'death sentence' it once was thought to be. FIV affects a cat's immune system, which may cause various health problems and dental disease. This virus doesn't transfer to humans or other species.

The virus can be passed to an unborn kitten in utero or through an infected mother's milk. Even if a young kitten tests positive, it may shed the virus within a few weeks or months, making it advisable to retest a kitten at six months of age.

A FIV+ cat can share food dishes and living quarters with cats who do not have FIV, as long as they don't fight aggressively. Play-fighting and rough-housing are fine, as transmission would require a deep bite wound. Asking your veterinarian to test for FIV is the only way to know if a particular cat is positive for FIV.

To date, there is no cure or specific treatment for FIV, but with proactive care and management, a cat can have a much better quality of life. There are several drugs that vets may try, such as: anti-inflammatory drugs, immune-enhancing drugs, and appropriate medications for secondary infections to keep the cat as healthy as possible.

Cats with FIV may appear normal for years and may live a perfectly normal lifespan without displaying symptoms of secondary infections, but will likely eventually suffer from the effects of immune deficiency. FIV allows normally harmless bacteria, fungi and viruses found in our environment to cause sometimes severe secondary illnesses. Infected cats who are kept indoors with low stress and receive proactive and prompt veterinary care can live comfortable lives for years before the disease reaches its chronic stages.

There are many symptoms that could suggest a cat has FIV:

- Enlarged lymph nodes
- Fever
- Anemia
- Weight loss
- Disheveled coat
- Poor appetite
- Diarrhea
- Abnormal appearance or inflammation of the eye (conjunctivitis)
- Inflammation of the gums (gingivitis)
- Inflammation of the mouth (stomatitis)
- Dental disease
- Skin redness or hair loss
- Wounds that don't heal
- Sneezing
- Discharge from eyes or nose
- Frequent urination, straining to urinate, or urinating outside of the litter box
- Behavioral changes

Keep in mind, any one of these symptoms doesn't mean your cat is FIV+.

Seek out veterinary advice if you suspect your cat may have FIV, or be proactive and get your cat(s) tested!

Disclaimer: The contents of this article were gathered from multiple reputable sources. However, none of the information contained within should be construed as expert or veterinary advice. Please consult with your veterinarian for any advice specific to your cat or situation.

Social-ize with Good Mews

We love seeing your photos on social!
Tag us (@goodmewsanimalfoundation
on FB or @goodmewscats on IG) to be
featured in an upcoming issue!



@goodmewscats



@goodmewsanimalfoundation



Success Story: Joy & Luna

by Leslie Cooper

Joy and Luna are a beautiful and much-loved tortoiseshell mother and daughter. However, they traveled a rocky path en route to their forever happy home. Joy was all alone, barely more than a kitten herself, when she had a litter of kittens in the yard behind a good Samaritan's house. This individual cared for Joy and her kittens while waiting for space to become available for them at Good Mews, and was able to find homes for all but one of the kittens during that time.

When Joy and her kitten Luna arrived at Good Mews, it was clear that their bond was very strong. Sadly, there was no space for them to be together, so Luna was placed in the kitten room. Joy sat on a tall cat tree outside the kitten room and watched her daughter constantly. It was very moving to see her on her perch for hours, keeping a watchful eye on her daughter.

One day a woman and her young son came to Good Mews to meet this beautiful pair. When they saw the love between Joy and Luna, they knew they were all meant to be together. They adopted them that day and had four happy years together. Sadly, the family's circumstances changed and they returned the pair to Good Mews. However, they would not be there long the second time.

Nancy Groves and her family had adopted two handsome ginger boys from Good Mews in 2004, Randy Johnson and Maddux, and renamed them Peach and Cinnamon. Peach has since crossed the Rainbow Bridge, and Cinnamon

happily spends most of his time with his canine brother Turkey. The Groves family are loyal supporters of Good Mews, and went back to adopt another pair of cats in 2014.

When Nancy and her son visited, they fell in love with Joy and Luna and adopted them. They also gave the girls their current names, as they had previously been

called Kelly and Turtle. Of their names Nancy says, "Joy is Joy because she was adopted in December. I named Luna that because she has a gold band around her tail that looks like a crescent moon." She adds that Joy, now 11, is very friendly, while Luna, 10, is sweet with her people, but can be skittish at times. She is most definitely not a fan of the vacuum cleaner.

Nancy, her husband and her son have shared their home and their love with many animals over the years, including several pairs of cats. Although it can be challenging to introduce adult cats to each other and to help them learn to live peacefully together, she has found that it's definitely doable and worth the effort. She suggests adopting two cats together when possible. Nancy takes pleasure in her cats' distinct personalities, enjoys waking up between them each morning and says simply, "I love them so much."





Upcoming Event



good  mews

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