

# Happy Hearts Feline Rescue

Giving our feline residents the best possible quality of life!

**2020 Statistics**

**Intakes: 50**

**Adoptions: 38**

**A HUGE THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT DURING THIS PANDEMIC!**



## Featured Cats

PetFinder: [hhfr.petfinder.com](https://www.petfinder.com/hhfr)



**Tigger**



**Partly Cloudy**

## Note from the President

Greetings friends and supporters,

The board of Happy Hearts and myself hope that everyone is doing well and staying healthy during the continued COVID-19 pandemic. Last year we rehomed 38 kitties which is still great especially considering the difficulties with the pandemic.

You all continue to awe us with the love and support for us and the animals under our care. I would like to thank all of our donors, our volunteers who continue to work at the shelter during this pandemic, and our great vets and vet technicians who keep our cats in the best possible health. Over the past year the generosity of our donors was impressive. Despite the restrictions on our fundraising events many of you continued to contribute generously. Unfortunately, 2021 is going to be a challenge for in person events. I look forward to seeing you when we can hold events in the future.

Due to several factors, Happy Hearts has decided to change our mission and focus. As we continue to care for our current residents, we are going to focus less on rehoming healthy and adoptable cats and look to taking care of cats that have difficult medical conditions but still can live a comfortable life. All our cats and kittens will continue to be cared for by our shelter manager, our committed and caring volunteers, and our great veterinarians and vet techs.

Please continue stay healthy and stay safe.

Phillip C. Johnson, President

## Happy Tails – Butterscotch & \$1000 Matching Donation Fundraiser!



Butterscotch's story began when he was trapped by the Birmingham Police. The Birmingham Police approached Happy Hearts Feline Rescue with a request to surrender Butterscotch to us. In December 2019, Tom and Patty Stein came to Happy Hearts to adopt another family member after they had recently lost one of their elderly kitties.



After just one visit with the very loving Butterscotch, they knew they found the kitty to fill the void in their hearts and home. To thank Happy Hearts for the work we do and for bringing Butterscotch into their lives, Tom and Patty have offered to match up to \$1000 in donations up until June 1!

Please see the donation form at the end of the newsletter or you can donate through PayPal through the button on our website:

<http://www.happyheartsfeline rescue.org/donations.html>

### Other Ways to Support Happy Hearts

- **Amazon Smile:** Go to <https://smile.amazon.com/>. If it's your first time, search for Happy Hearts Feline Rescue. If you wanted to change your donation to us, please put your mouse over "Supporting:" under the search bar and then click on "Change" next to your current charity. Please search for Happy Hearts Feline Rescue.
- **Amazon Wishlist:** If you want to specifically donate items we need, please look at our Amazon Wishlist at <https://smile.amazon.com/hz/charitylist/lis/3P1DZXQC4JSNU/>. If you have us as your Amazon Smile Charity, you can also hover over "Account & Lists" then select AmazonSmile Charity Lists.
- **Kroger Community Rewards:** Create a digital account on [www.kroger.com/](http://www.kroger.com/). Link your Kroger card to your digital account. Search for Happy Hearts Feline Rescue (or organization number XF247) on the Community Rewards page. Click Save.



## **Refocusing of Happy Hearts Feline Rescue's Mission**

The board at Happy Hearts has decided to refocus our mission to the following mission statement:

Happy Hearts Feline Rescue is a 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to providing loving sanctuary homes for cats and kittens with no other sustainable options through our shelter and long-term foster homes. Happy Hearts Feline Rescue focuses on providing long-term care and homes for:

- Elderly cats (8 years or older)
- Cats and kittens diagnosed with Feline Infectious Peritonitis (FIP)
- Cats with medical diagnosis where owners are unable to financially or physically care for them.
- Other special cases as determined by the Board

At the sanctuary and through our long-term foster homes, Happy Hearts Feline Rescue is focused on providing the highest quality of life for our residents. Our cats and kittens will be given the best possible care (veterinary, dietary, and physical) for their condition. FIP cats and kittens will be treated with GS-441524 for a period of 84 days. When it is no longer possible to provide quality of life, they will be euthanized in a humane manner and in the comfortable surroundings of their Happy Hearts home.

Happy Hearts Feline Rescue will also be providing limited adoption services for our healthy, elderly cats, as well as any other cats deemed adoptable still within the care of Happy Hearts Feline Rescue's shelter.

### **Updated Adoption Process**

Although our new focus will be a sanctuary for less-adoptable cats, we will still be adopting out our healthy shelter residents to the correct fur-ever homes. Happy Hearts Feline Rescue has modified its adoption process because of the COVID 19 pandemic. We are pre-qualifying our adopters by contacting their personal references and veterinarian to ensure they will provide a good home for our shelter residents. Once the qualification process is complete, we will make an appointment with them to meet the cats and pick out their new best friend.

The adoption documents including our adoption contract and the discussion sheet can be found on our website at

<http://www.happyheartsfelinerescue.org/adoptable-cats.html>

Completed forms can be sent to [jeanneandthecats@peoplepc.com](mailto:jeanneandthecats@peoplepc.com).

# **8<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEOW-LOWEEN FUNDRAISER & DINNER**

October 30, 2021

Time TBD

UAW Local 1282

2795 S. M-52

Chelsea, MI 48118



Happy Hearts was overwhelmed with the outpouring of support during our “Non-event” Meowloween last October. Currently, Happy Hearts is planning on returning in-person for our 8<sup>th</sup> annual Meowloween: Costumes! Raffles and Auctions! Delicious Dinner! Games! Pet Boutique! We hope to see you there for a safe and fun event!

## **Success Story Update - Moustachio**

It was just one year ago, when Moustachio (an adorable mackerel tabby with white paws and chest) was diagnosed with neural FIP (Feline Infectious Peritonitis), which is typically fatal. We had given a plea for donations and had such great outpouring of generosity. We gave an early update in our Spring 2020 newsletter which can be found on our website.

Through much work and coordination, we were able to get the medicine, GS-441524, from China and, after 84 days of treatment, Moustachio was cured of FIP!



Today, Moustachio is full of energy; playing, jumping and generally causing havoc with his feline companions! He is very loving and loves to be petted and has a very hearty appetite. The path to his recovery has motivated Happy Hearts to modify its mission to help other cats and kittens diagnosed with this usually fatal disease.

Typically, the financial burden of the medicine to treat FIP is cost-prohibitive. Happy Hearts is confident that with our generous and committed constituency, we can save more of these poor souls.

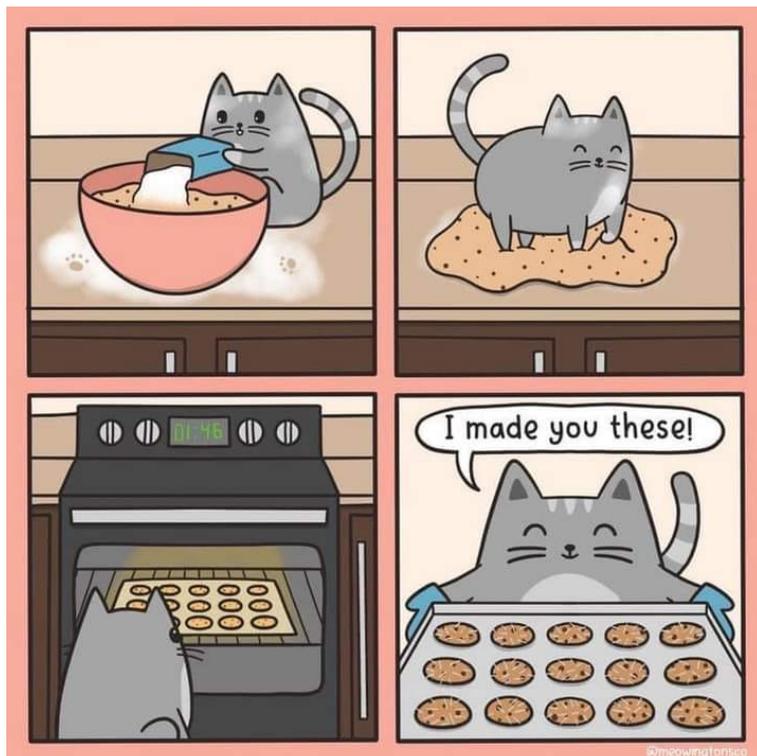
## Success Story Update - Evander

Hello everyone! Jeanne is constantly getting asked how Evander is doing so we wanted to make sure that we include him as one of our first success stories. As most of you remember, Evander was Happy Heart's first intake from an abusive situation back in 2017. Our first update on Evander, including a little background, came in our Spring 2018 newsletter that can be found on our website at <http://www.happyheartsfelinerescue.org/newsletters.html>



Evander is now 8 years old and going strong! He is the "greeter" of all guests that visit our special needs shelter, always looking for pets and attention. Evander also is social and consoles other kitties in the shelter. He still has some potty issues as a result of his injuries, but overall he is a happy, healthy boy!

Everyone at Happy Hearts loves him dearly and are thankful we could save him. We couldn't have such a great shelter resident without the support of all of you as well as the great veterinarians, technicians, and surgeons!



### ***PetPeople Events***

Due to the continuation of the COVID-19 pandemic and refocusing of our mission, it is unlikely that we will continue doing adoption events at PetPeople. Depending on the status of the pandemic in November, we may continue the Santa picture fundraisers. We'd like to thank PetPeople for all of their help over the past years.



Instagram: @Meowingtonsco

# DIY Pet First Aid Kits!

<https://www.aspcapro.org/resource/how-make-pet-first-aid-kit>

A first-aid kit is important not only in the event of a natural disaster, but any time a pet is far away from immediate help.

While many places sell pet first aid kits, you can probably put one together with many things you have in your own first aid kit. Your do-it-yourself first-aid kit should contain:



[catsmeowvets.com/news/kitty-first-aid-kit](https://catsmeowvets.com/news/kitty-first-aid-kit)

- Absorbent gauze pads
- Adhesive tape
- Cotton balls or swabs
- Ice pack
- Disposable gloves
- Scissors with blunt end
- Tweezers
- OTC antibiotic ointment
- Oral syringe or turkey baster
- Fresh 3% hydrogen peroxide to induce vomiting (always check with veterinarian or animal poison control expert before giving to your pet)
- Phone number, clinic name, address of your veterinarian as well as local veterinary emergency clinics.
- Liquid dishwashing detergent (for bathing)
- Towels
- Small flashlight
- Alcohol wipes
- Styptic powder
- Saline eye solution
- Artificial tear gel

Make sure to check your pack every few months to make sure nothing has expired or needs to be replaced. And of course, keep your kit out of the reach of children.

## Sign-up for E- Newsletter



Last year, the board of Happy Hearts had a signup option for an e-newsletter in addition to our printed newsletter. If you are interested in receiving the newsletter digitally, please go to the Google Form at the QR code to the left or to this link (<https://forms.gle/M4UQSZioBmpmU2H87>).

# Separation Anxiety in Cats

<https://www.purina.co.uk/cats/behaviour-and-training/understanding-cat-behaviour/cat-anxiety>

With it many of us spending much more time at home with our cats, minimizing travel and going out due to the pandemic, it is going to be hard on our cats (and other pets) when we start getting back to normal. It is true that cats can have anxiety much like humans and other animals. While many cats show their anxiety through bad behavior, looking at when the bad behavior started can give some hint as to whether it is anxiety driven. Here is some tips to explore on how to identify anxiety and how to deal with it from Purina.

## Signs of Cat Anxiety

- Destructive behaviors (such as furniture scratching and clawing at curtains)
- Compulsive behaviors (such as repetitive grooming resulting in bald patches)
- Distress when you're about to leave the house
- An increase in vocalization (excessive meowing)
- Demanding constant attention
- Failing to use the litter tray
- Change in mood
- Hiding
- Aggression
- A change in appetite or weight
- Following people around the house
- Increased lethargy
- Vomiting

## Dealing with Cat Anxiety

- Visit your vet to ensure that there are no underlying conditions.
- Creating a more diverting environment to keep your pet mentally stimulated
  - Cat perches with visually stimulating views
  - Toys to keep your cat busy while you're away such as puzzle feeders
- Cat calming products can help but shouldn't be relied upon as a sole solution.
- Many (but not all) cats respond well with aromatherapy to help with anxiety, please see the next article on essential oils dos and don'ts.



Art by Lucy Kinsley  
<https://www.lucyknisley.com/>

## Essential Oils Tips

<https://www.essentialoilhaven.com/which-essential-oils-are-toxic-to-cats/>

With many people heading back to work, some people may want to try essential oils to help with their kitty's moods. While there is a lot of information, here are just a few tips.



- Many essential oils are toxic to cats. Opt for only essential oils known to be safe for felines
- Our suggestion is to only diffuse, not put oils on their fur as they will lick it off
- When diffusing, make sure any animals are not continuously exposed for long periods of time. Anything in excess can be harmful.
- Every pet is different. Observe your feline friend closely as you introduce essential oils. Look for behavior changes or other oddities.

## Spring & Summer Cat Calendar

Here are some fun days coming up to celebrate the animals we love!

Nat'l Pet Day – April 11

Nat'l Pet Parents Day – April 25

Nat'l Hairball Awareness Day – April 30

Nat'l Hug Your Cat Day – May 30

Int'l Box Day – June 19

Nat'l Take Your Cat to Work Day – June 21

Nat'l Kitten Day – July 10

Int'l Cat Day – August 8

Int'l Homeless Animals Day – August 21

Nat'l Take Your Cat to the Vet Day – August 22



## Contact Us!!!

Email: [happyheartsfelinerescue@gmail.com](mailto:happyheartsfelinerescue@gmail.com)

Website: [www.happyheartsfelinerescue.org](http://www.happyheartsfelinerescue.org)

PetFinder: [hhfr.petfinder.com](http://hhfr.petfinder.com)

Facebook: [happyheartsfelinerescue](https://www.facebook.com/happyheartsfelinerescue)

Twitter: [@HappyHeartsFR](https://twitter.com/HappyHeartsFR)

## Shelter Location

10905 E. Pleasant Lake Rd.

Manchester, MI 48158

## Board Members

Phillip Johnson

Chris Barr

Jeanne Spencer

Denise Wirtz

Joe Ferris

## Shelter Hours

By Appointment  
during the pandemic.



**I would like to help support  
Happy Hearts Feline Rescue!!!**



Donation Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please use my donation for:

\_\_\_\_\_ General

\_\_\_\_\_ Medical

\_\_\_\_\_ Dental

\_\_\_\_\_ Food

\_\_\_\_\_ Litter

\_\_\_\_\_ Sponsor a specific kitty \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Please send me a letter recognizing my donation (Note: This could be used for tax purposes).

Please mail your donation to:

Happy Hearts Feline Rescue

10905 E. Pleasant Lake Rd.

Manchester, MI 48158

-or-

Send via **PayPal** to:

[happyheartsfelinerescue@gmail.com](mailto:happyheartsfelinerescue@gmail.com)