FROM THE HOME FRONT
TALES OF THE SAFE HAVEN KITTIES
WEEK 274: UNBELIEVABLE!
NOTEWORTHY NEWS FROM WILLS



How you doin'?

If y'all read the title of this column, you'll know I have an unbelievable (and amazing) tale to tell. And if you've read 'bout it in the local newspapers, bear with me, 'cause this bears repeating!

It started just a little over a month ago. An unidentified person was driving on Hwy 101 near Gardiner and saw someone throw a cat out of their car window. When the driver, who volunteers with local animal rescue groups, saw what had happened, he turned right 'round, parked and started looking for the cat. But the cat was nowhere to be found. (Can't say as I blame the cat; I'd be long gone too!)

So the driver contacted someone who's 'sperienced in TNR (that's trap-neuter-return), and a search party went up to the highway, but the cat was gone. Postings on Nextdoor and Facebook got folks looking for him, but still … no cat to be found.



'Bout a week later, Dr. Wiesen (a local veterinarian) and her husband were coming back from Ocean Park and read 'bout the missing cat. When they got home, which was close to where the cat was last seen, Dr. Wiesen set a live trap and the couple started checking it real often. A couple days later, they went to check the trap, and it was still empty, but they spotted a cat running away. So they moved the trap, changed the food and checked the trap regularly.

And then … breakthrough time! The cat liked beef pate … and was obviously real hungry! They reset the trap, added more pate, and on July 24, they found the cat, after over two weeks on his own, waiting inside the trap. Dr. Wiesen named him Roadster.

Of course, after everything that had happened to him, Roadster was real scared, and started thrashing 'round, trying to escape. He settled down after Dr. Wiesen put a towel over him. She took him to the clinic, gave him a thorough check and found he had swelling on his head, some back pain and all his nails ripped off from when he had landed on the asphalt. But he never showed any aggression, and after a few days, he was OK with having her picking him up, putting him in a kennel and bringing him food.



And then she called PFOA.

Even tho we were full, of course Staff made room for him in Quarantine, and later moved him to his own playroom with a cat tree and some other cats nearby. And that's when I got to meet Roadster (nicknamed Rhodes).

I hafta tell you I was totally impressed with this grrreat cat. After all he'd been thru, he was OK with other cats. And he was gettin' better every day with people. 'Course, he had some trust issues at the beginning, and who can blame him? I sure can't! But he's been working thru that, and I think he's doing amazing!





So it's now a little over a month since his story began on Highway 101. He's no longer scared; he just wants to be loved. And Staff has been real happy to provide the love he needs. He's still a youngster; he thinks he's between three and five in people years. And he's ready for the next step: his very own furrever home.

Now, if you are impressed outta your mind with this grrreat feline, just give us a call, make an appointment and come meet Roadster. I can say, with purrfect certainty, that he'll be happy to meet you!

Thanks for listening!

Wills

p.s. I was just informed of a potential - actually make that real - emergency here at the shelter. Two of our newest kitties, a pair of ten year old orange gals, just went to their playroom, and were given their traditional Yeowww! Bananas. And Staff informs me that is the last of the unspoken-for / unassigned bananas. So if y'all were wondering what we need, wonder no more! NEED BANANAS!!! (And mebbe some Rainbows too - we're down to our last one, and we just got a new adoptable batch o' kittens who'll need their bananas too!)

p.s.s. Oh, and one more thing (and how many times have I told you that before?) This Saturday is the annual Pet Day at Carrie Blake Park. It runs from 11 to 3, and we have a booth there. So, even tho I won't be there to greet you "in cat" (that's the feline version of "in person," in case y'all were wondering), stop by Booth #40 and say howdy to our grrreat volunteers!

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