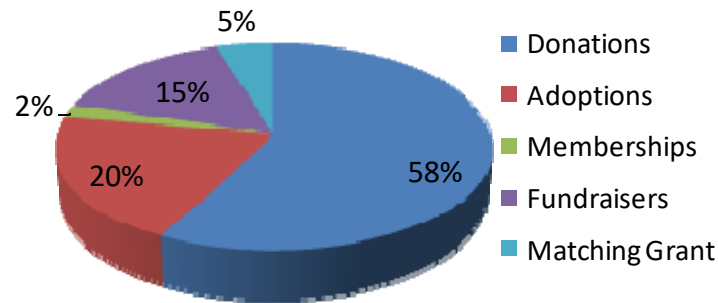
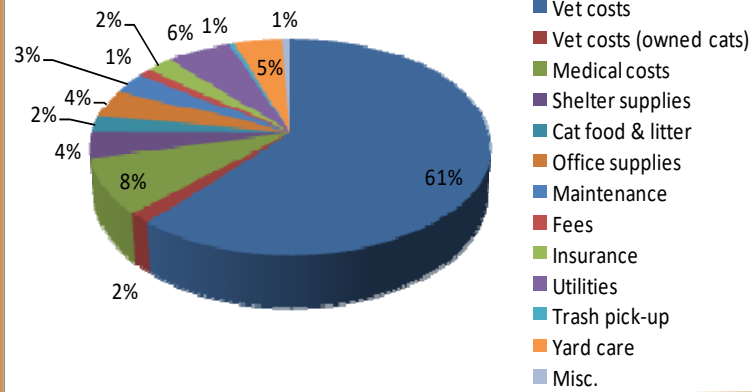


PAWS Total Revenue for 2021 = \$42,076



PAWS Total Expenses for 2021 = \$38,192



ISSUE

11
2021

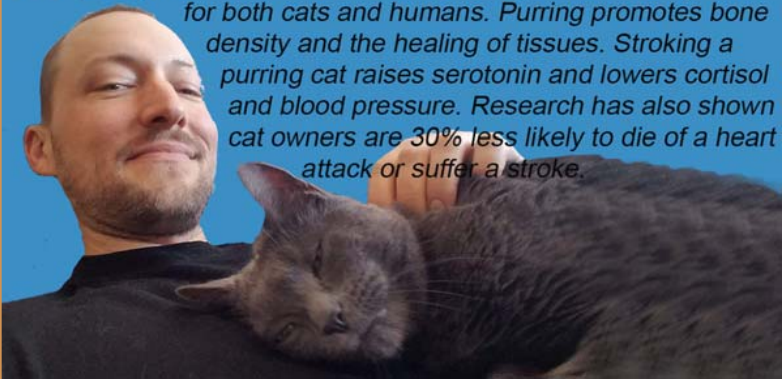


PAWS
Animal Welfare Society, Inc.



ARE CAT OWNERS HEALTHIER?

A cat's purr is more than just a sign of contentment. Cats purr at a frequency between 20 and 140 Hz, a range that's therapeutic for both cats and humans. Purring promotes bone density and the healing of tissues. Stroking a purring cat raises serotonin and lowers cortisol and blood pressure. Research has also shown cat owners are 30% less likely to die of a heart attack or suffer a stroke.



860,000 cats are euthanized each year due to overcrowded shelters

These numbers could drop significantly by getting pets spayed or neutered. Doing so can prevent unwanted litters and abandoned cats. Help fight against overpopulation, schedule your pet today.

*Low income households qualify for assistance with the cost. Call 207-231-5257 for more information



PAWS helped the following homeless cats in 2021:

SHELTER ACTIVITY:

- At shelter as of Jan.1, 2021 - 15
- In foster care - 5
- Cats taken into shelter - 122
- Spayed/neutered - 43
- Extra medical care (x-rays, dentistry, etc.) - 27
- Adopted - 89
- Transferred to other shelters - 14
- Returned to owner - 8
- Euthanized - 3
- Died - 1
- At shelter as of Dec.31, 2021 - 9
- In foster care - 3

CATS CAME FROM:

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| Ashland - 1 | Madawaska - 47 |
| Bangor - 2 | New Canada - 1 |
| Caribou - 1 | St. Agatha - 3 |
| Eagle Lake - 2 | St. Francis - 8 |
| Fort Kent - 17 | Sinclair - 1 |
| Frenchville - 2 | Soldier Pond - 12 |
| Grand Isle - 4 | Van Buren - 9 |
| Limestone - 4 | Wallagrass - 1 |

SUPPORT OF OWNED CATS:

- # of cats s/n through PAWS S/N program - 77
- # of cats s/n directly from PAWS - 6
- # of cat owners that received financial assistance from PAWS for emergency medical care - 7
- Total of owned cats helped by PAWS - 90



2021 marked another successful year for Paws Animal Welfare Society, Inc. In spite of the pandemic, we were able to take 122 cats into our shelter, Valley Cat Haven, and provide spay/neuter assistance or other assistance to an additional 90 owned cats resulting in 212 cats. These cats now have healthier and happier lives and we have prevented hundreds of kittens from being born.

And, thanks to the generosity of many of you, only 2% of our budget was spent on cat litter and food last year versus 5% in 2020 and monetary donations increased from 48% in 2020 to 58% in 2021. We are extremely grateful for the outstanding support we receive each year.

The new fundraiser we started in January, 2021 was a resounding success; as a result we have continued it this year. This fundraiser replaced our usual single event fundraisers. This has enabled us to maintain a steady cash flow and decreases the need to request additional funds via grants. Each month we mail a letter to 30 people with two tickets that the receiver can either buy or sell. On the last day of each month we draw a ticket. The person who purchased that ticket wins a \$50 gift card that can be used for any purchase. If you are interested in participating in the raffle, let us know.

Another accomplishment in 2021 involved streamlining and safeguarding our administrative data by distributing it more equitably and maintaining it online versus manually. This has made the data more readily available to all the board members and makes our operation more efficient. We could not continue to operate successfully each year without our dedicated volunteers and generous supporters. Thank you!

DONATIONS & MEMBERSHIPS WELCOMED!!!

Each year PAWS spends approximately \$40,000 to maintain its current service. Through fundraising and donations, we are able to continue helping homeless and owned cats. Please help us out by using the following coupon or donating through PayPal on our website: <http://www.ourvalleypaws.org>

Complete this form to make a donation or to become a member of PAWS. Members will have the right to vote at our annual meetings in May. Also, members will receive a membership card via regular mail.

Any donations are tax deductible.

Donation and/or Membership [Lifetime \$150 Family \$25 Student/Senior \$10 Single \$15]

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL: _____ DONATION AMOUNT: _____

Make check out to PAWS and mail to:
PAWS Animal Welfare Society, Inc.. PO Box 94, Fort Kent Mills, ME 04744

THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

Adopt a Pet Vanity License Plate



In Memory



Bingo



Bon Bon

Our tribute to Mitzy and Toni found in Madawaska - one lying on a blanket next to a dumpster and one thrown out a vehicle on Main St. during the early morning hours. Sadly, it was too late to save them when they were brought to PAWS by the kind citizens who found them.

Mitzy
Toni



S.W. Collins presented PAWS with a check of \$500 on April 27, 2021. We want to thank them for selecting us as a grant recipient for the first quarter of the S.W. Collins Co. Community Grant program in Fort Kent. And we want to thank all of the people who voted for us. We are very grateful for the outstanding support we receive from the St. John Valley communities.

Rags to Riches

Every once in awhile there is a certain cat that will completely touch our hearts and everyone around us. Not to say that they don't all melt our hearts, but this situation just took us all by surprise.

It was an extremely cold day in December and a good samaritan noticed a cardboard box on the side of the road.

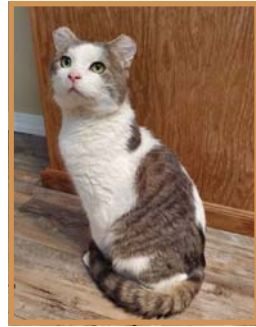


The only reason he noticed that something was in the box was because they saw a little paw sticking out of the handle slots and stopped to investigate. One of our volunteers met them at the shelter and got him all cozy in his own kennel with a clean bed, water, and food. He was obviously completely terrified but never even heard a hiss or growl from him. We think that at that moment he knew that his life was going to change forever.

As you can see in the before pictures he surely wasn't in the best shape. Both ears had been frostbitten and about a week into his stay with us one ear was literally hanging by a thread. Vixen (now Mac) was enjoying the affection and love from the volunteers so much that you could never tell that he was probably in so much pain. There is no reason for something like this to ever happen. If someone moves and can't bring their cat, we are there. If someone passes away or is too sick to care for their cat, we are there. It is heartbreaking to think that a cat has to be suffering like this for no reason, especially one as sweet as this guy.

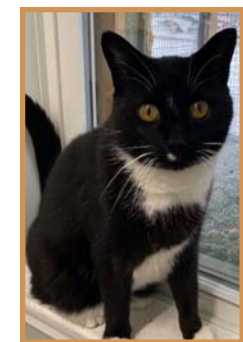


Let's fast forward to his recovery. His ears were healing nicely, as well as a few other ailments, and he was absolutely absorbing all the attention that he was getting. It was time to think about if he was ready for adoption or not. He became a fan favorite so many of us felt like he should stay a little longer for socialization but the perfect adopters came along and said everything right. We are proud to say that he is now living the life of luxury which is absolutely the only thing he deserves. He will live the rest of his life as the king of his castle and will no longer worry about losing other body parts to frostbite. We love you Mac!!!! ~ Vickie Gagnon

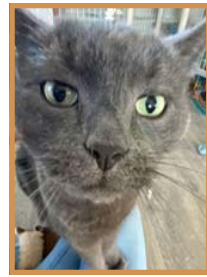


Loss of a Loved One

Most times when one thinks of an animal shelter they imagine it's mainly filled with strays. Yes the majority are cats found out on the streets, but there also some very sad situations where an owner has either fallen sick and placed in a home, or the owner has died. We had our handsome Smokey that was 14 years old and he lost his master due to illness. Fred Sr, our tuxedo cat's owner was placed in a boarding home. He was also a senior cat. It isn't always feasible for family members to be able to take on the care of their cats, so that is where we come in to help. Transitioning from a home that they have lived in all their life to being in a shelter is definitely quite a change for them. With that being said, that is where all of the wonderful volunteers come into play. With the generous amount of love and affection, along with yummy food and special treats they usually come around pretty quickly. Senior cats



are unfortunately the hardest to adopt out, but there are so many wonderful people out there that look mainly for older cats due to that specific reason. Smokey and Fred Sr. were very lucky to find perfect homes and they're now living the best, rest of their lives in a home rather than a shelter. ~ Vickie Gagnon

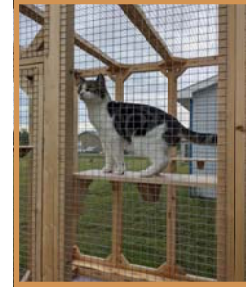


"Can I call you back? I'm with a piece of string."

Petfinder Awards PAWS a Catio



One of our accomplishments in 2021 was to install an outdoor enclosure for the cats. This project was funded by a grant from the Petfinder Foundation. The enclosure was constructed by Safe Kitty in Buxton, ME. The enclosure allows the cats to enjoy being outside where they can walk on the grass and sit on shelves to look around. They are able to feel the breezes, hear the birds and smell the outside. Also, being in the fresh air improves their health. Now they can have all these benefits without the risks inherent in roaming outside freely. We are very grateful to the Petfinder Foundation and Safe Kitty for enabling us to improve the lives of our wonderful residents while they wait for their permanent homes.



Many Thanks to our Donors

We have had the good fortune to have had another year of outstanding support from within and outside the St. John Valley. Many businesses and individuals continue to support us each year and we are extremely grateful. We want to take this opportunity to thank as many of them as possible in this newsletter.

- Thank you to all the individuals who have made monetary or in-kind donations via mail, online, coin boxes and donation jars at our fundraisers.
- Thank you to Dr. Chris Yule and her staff at Fort Kent Animal Hospital and Dr. Victoria Swanson for excellent veterinary support.
- Thank you to all the businesses who held fundraisers or made donations. Special mention goes to Gas n' Go, an anonymous donor, John's Shurfine, China Garden, Red Devil Roast Coffee Co., Central Building Supply and the Bald Eagle store for the coin boxes they put out for us every year, Caron's Redemption Center in Fort Kent, Dave's Redemption Center in Eagle Lake, Kajais Redemption Center in Soldier Pond, Paradis Shop'n Save in Fort Kent and Madawaska, S. W. Collins Co., Fish River Rural Health, Tractor Supply, Deschaine Sanitation, MBIA Foundation and Towns of Fort Kent, Madawaska, and Eagle Lake.
- Thank you to these individuals who deserve special mention for outstanding support - Hana Strnad, Robert Bourgoin, Susan Hall, Sandi Coburn, Sue & Sam Greenlaw, Laura Nickerson, Jeanne Nadeau, Celeste Cobb & Oliver North, Rick Daigle, Chester and Rachel Bates, Larysa and Adam Locapo, Jennifer Klauer, Verna Charette, Sherry Forest, Kathleen Hafford, Colleen Yavorow, Patrick Dow, Pauline and Vernal Nadeau, Susan Voisine and Manon Raymond.
- Thank you to the families who have lost loved ones and designated PAWS for donations in lieu of flowers.
- Finally, a special thank you to the many adopters who gave loving and forever homes to our cats and kittens.

We have had so much support again this year that we may have missed someone. We hope not, but if so, please know that we are equally grateful for your support. *The PAWS Board*

PAWS Volunteers

Bouchard Family
Layla Cole
Vickie & Lexi Gagnon
Gina & Nicolette Martin
Isabella Pelletier-Soucy
Tony Pelletier-Soucy
Judy Schenck
Tardie Family
Alison Theriault
Samantha Williams
Shelbie Gurerrette
Autumn Bouchard
Vanessa Michaud
Tracy Corriveau
Kim Ouellette
Connie Ouellette
Roy Laframboise
Hannah Catlin
Ashley Stevens
Brandon Dayton
Sabrina Martin
Angela Shubinsky
Jeannine Ayotte
Emma Pelletier
Grange Family
Julie Clavette & Therese Walls
Karen Boucher & Mark Pellegrini
Cara Kopec
Jonathan Doyle
Kaylie Nadeau
Erin Mcginty
Mackenzie Corriveau
Jeremy & Aubrielle Babin

PAWS Board Members

Garry Bouchard, President
Gina Martin, Vice-President
Jean Cobb, Co-Treasurer
Diane Castonguay, Co-Treasurer
Connie Michaud, Secretary
Kathleen King
Lisa Bernier