



NORTHEAST ANIMAL SHELTER'S

animaltales

At Long Last, a Home for Kramer



One hot summer day, Kramer painfully dragged himself onto a nearby family's porch. When they found him lying there, they were shocked. Kramer's hind leg was so badly mangled that you could see flesh and bone from foot to hip. In a panic, they rushed him to the hospital that is near our Shelter.

All his life, poor Kramer never knew where his next meal was coming from. This kind family had taken pity on him by occasionally leaving food out, but he remained outside — fending for himself and sleeping with one eye open, aware of the dangers that lurked in dark corners.

Even though he wasn't allowed indoors, the whole family had grown fond of Kramer, which was understandable. You couldn't help but like the big guy! He was one of those tomcats who was just plain friendly and easy to have around.

But after not seeing Kramer for four days and worrying about him, they were stunned when they found him on their porch.



Although he wasn't their cat, they cared about his well-being and decided that they had to take him to a hospital if he was going to have any chance to recover.

Once at the veterinary clinic, Kramer couldn't have surgery right away because he was in shock. After a few days, the doctor was able to put him back together, with two pins to repair his broken leg and bandages to help mend his skin. The hospital staff had grown fond of their brave feline friend while he stayed with them during his long recovery. They struggled over whether to keep him as a resident hospital cat but knew that of all cats, Kramer needed to be with people. Long, lonely weekends in the clinic just wouldn't be fair to him. Kramer needed a place to call home and they asked us to find him the perfect family.

We knew that taking Kramer to our Shelter might mean that he would be with us for quite a while. Badly injured animals often remain with us for a long time because people tend to adopt the ones who don't have complications. And
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The Funny Bone



You enter into a certain amount of madness when you marry a person with pets. — Nora Ephron

The Importance of Spaying and Neutering

We all know there are millions of animals who aren't able to find homes. While the statistics may seem overwhelming to you as one person, there are things you can do on your own. Here are a few suggestions:

- Adopt an animal and set a good example of responsible pet ownership by spaying or neutering your pet right away.
- Make a donation to pay for the spaying or neutering of an animal at an animal shelter.
- Volunteer at your local shelter and educate your friends about your experiences.

- Encourage your local shelter to offer innovative programs like the ones at our Shelter.

At the Northeast Animal Shelter, we offer two important programs to help prevent the birth of many thousands of unwanted animals.

One was created after years and years of boxes and boxes of baby kittens being brought to the Shelter. Something needed to be done to break the never-ending cycle of unwanted animals!

So we started the **Mother Spay Program**. When people brought litters to us, we started providing certificates for the



*These animals were all spayed or neutered when they were adopted from the **Northeast Animal Shelter**. Please spay or neuter your pet so we can all do our part to reduce the number of unwanted animals born every year. Thanks!*

mother cats to be spayed, at the Shelter's expense. This way, families keep their mother cats, but now we don't see the same people over and over again with their litters of kittens. While the number of kittens being born each year is still high, things are improving and the population is decreasing.

Even though the **Mother Spay Program** was designed for mother dogs AND cats, we have found in recent years, that most dogs in our area have been spayed and their owners rarely need help from this program. Someday, we hope to say the same for the cat population!

To promote the spaying and neutering of stray cats in our community, we created the **Stray Cat Medical Program**. This program is a community effort involving well-meaning citizens

and local veterinarians. By offering financial assistance to concerned citizens who contact our Shelter after finding a stray cat, we act as the liaison between the "rescuer" and the veterinarian. We also provide the necessary education, financial support, and follow-up advice for the "rescuer." Happily, once these cats have had the necessary treatment, we are able to take many of them into our Shelter and offer them for adoption.

By offering these programs, we are also empowering people to take action rather than just taking their problem away from them. We are helping people to become a part of the solution and they are being educated along the way. We think it is a win-win situation!

Helping the Shelter Today...and in the Future

Thanks to your generous support, the Northeast Animal Shelter places thousands of cats and dogs in loving homes every year. Along with the gift you send today, please consider these other ways that you can help the animals — today and in the future.

Double – or Even Triple! – the Value of Your Gift to the Shelter

Did you know that many major corporations match their employees' gifts? That means for every dollar that you donate to the Northeast Animal Shelter, you could get your company to donate as well! To find out more, check with your Human Resources Department.



Honor a Special Animal or Person in Your Life

Through the Northeast Animal Shelter's Tribute Program, you can make a donation in memory or in honor of a person or animal special to you. By making such a gift, you pay tribute to their lives by putting your donation to work to support the good work the Shelter does on behalf of animals. The Shelter will notify the person of your choice of your gift and you, too, will receive an acknowledgment of your generosity.

Ensure a Future in Which All Animals are Loved and Cherished

Wouldn't it be a comfort to know that your lifetime savings will be handled with care once you are gone? Having a will is the best way to make sure your wishes are carried out. If helping animals beyond your lifetime is a goal for you, please consider including the Northeast Animal Shelter in your will. For the dogs and cats with no one else to help them, you will be providing a legacy of love.

There are many different ways you can include the Shelter in your will. The most common way people give to charities is to name a specific dollar amount, or a percentage of personal assets. The exact wording of this legal document is complicated and should be written by a lawyer.

Sadly, the need to help animals will not end in your lifetime. Your peace of mind will come from the knowledge that you will be helping our Shelter to continue our life-saving work well into the future. On behalf of the dogs and cats we all love so very much, we thank you.

Great News!!!

We are proud to unveil our new web site at www.northeastanimalshelter.org! Check it out!!!



A Home for Kramer

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what about his injuries? Would he ever walk without a limp? Would he have arthritis later in life? But with that winning personality, it was clear that someone would fall madly in love with Kramer. It just might take a while and we were prepared to have Kramer with us for as long as it would take.

Imagine our surprise when Kramer was adopted the very next day! As foster children, Amy and Anthony had been placed with Russ and Jeff two months earlier — after months and months of being bounced around. Russ and Jeff felt the children might relate well to a pet who might have had as rough a time as they had. So they all came to the Northeast Animal Shelter for a visit.



Being children, Amy and Anthony wanted kittens. “*There are some nice older cats,*” said Jeff, hoping that they could adopt an older cat in need of a home. The adoption counselor happily steered them to Kramer’s cage, explaining that he had an injured leg and had been a stray with no family to love him. The children, who could easily identify with this cat’s situation, both showed great sympathy for Kramer. As if a script had been written, Anthony said to Kramer, “*Do you want to come live with us?*” On cue, Kramer meowed and he instantly became the fifth member of the new little family!

Weeks later, Kramer still limps noticeably but doesn’t seem to be in much pain. He “bops” all over and manages to get around very well considering his disability. He has comfortably settled himself into his new life and seems to need his humans as much as they needed him to complete their family.

With a big house to roam in, Kramer now feels no need to go outside. Russ says Kramer actually comes when called. “*Well, sort of...*

in a cat sort of way!” The happiest part of the story is that two children who have been bounced around have been lucky enough to bond with one cat who had nowhere to call home. What a beautiful ending for all!



Things We Need

- Jars of all-meat baby food for orphaned puppies and kittens
- Cans of dog or cat food
- Safe puppy chew toys (no rawhide)
- Safe, chewable dog toys (hard rubber or Nylabones™)
- Cat litter
- Trash bags (13 and 55 gallon sizes)
- Paper towels (rolls)
- Liquid or powdered bleach
- Liquid laundry detergent
- Polaroid film (for OneStep camera)
- First class postage stamps – 37¢ & 23¢

