



Sweet Naomi gets attention from Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury residents.

Garfield's Rescue Inc. visits Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury

Volunteers with Garfield's Rescue Inc. (GRI), and several energetic cats recently visited with 20 welcoming residents and staff at Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury (RWC) near Irvington.

The visitors included a two-year-old calico surrogate momma cat, Madison, with playful kitten, Miracle; lovable lap kitty, Tiger; and, sweet Naomi, a transfer cat from the Northumberland County Shelter. GRI enjoys the great collaborative relationship it has with the Northumberland County Shelter when they have limited space and GRI can take a transfer from them of adoptable cats or kittens such as Naomi, reported Kathy Haurand, GRI director of fosters.

What a diverse age group GRI brought to RWC, from 9-week-old baby Miracle to 10 1/2-year-old Tiger who questioned how baby Miracle had so much energy, and was he ever that young and active. Madison and baby Miracle are two of the 20 cats recently evicted from a Northumberland County property that GRI rescued, provided spay/neuter/vaccination and urgent medical attention to, and is currently fostering, said Haurand.

The cats entertained the delighted RWC residents and staff who cuddled and held the cats as they slept, or played with them with string toys. Cats can feel peace and contentment, just like humans do, she said. Their hearts are capable of "pure, innocent joy" just like humans.

Volunteers of Garfield's Rescue hope they provided all of these emotions to the RWC residents and staff with their visit.

These cats are just four of the 50 homeless cats and kittens currently being fostered in GRI's network of private foster homes throughout the Northern Neck, continued Haurand.

GRI is one of the larger homeless cat rescue, spay/neuter/vaccinate, foster to adopt organizations that serves the communities of Virginia's Northern Neck, fostering abandoned, homeless, often injured felines, where they thrive as they await adoption, she said. GRI volunteers educated the RWC residents about the urgency of the spay/neuter/vaccination of one's pets to prevent their endless cycle of reproduction and the spread of disease. These responsible duties of pet ownership make the Northern Neck communities safer, healthier places to live, work, start a business and raise their families.

Many of the residents took volunteer and adoption applications, thinking about adding a feline member to their families and to perhaps visit GRI's foster "Cat Cottage" to provide that very important socialization—and playtime—element to fostered cats and kittens. GRI volunteers and the cats and kittens look forward to their visits with RWC, said Haurand.

For GRI fostering, adoption and donation opportunities, visit www.garfieldsrescue.org, or call 480-2066.