



Rude Ranch Animal Rescue

mewsletter

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Dedicated To The Rescue, Care And Adoption Of Homeless Animals



Getting a Leg Up on Life

We don't know what kind of life the big orange tabby had for the first 3 or 4 years of his life. He was born somewhere in Queen Anne County, MD. He probably had a family that cared for him when he was little. At some point he might have gotten in the way, bitten someone or in some way became an unwanted burden to his family. One day last fall, he was driven out to a rural area and thrown from the car. He might have landed on rocks or very hard asphalt or another car may have hit him. Either way, one of his hind legs was broken, leaving him with a very painful injury.

The cat eventually managed to make his way to an old run down farm further down the road. There were other cats already living there in the barn, and he was able to survive on their food and water. The owner of the farm didn't really want another cat, especially one with an injury, but as long as the cat stayed out of the way and caught a few mice, the cat could stay. However, the farmer wasn't going to pay to care for the cat. Although the broken leg must have been painful, the cat could survive limping on three legs, until the broken bone poked through the skin and the wound became infected.

The farmer knew that most of his barn cats were not spayed and neutered. Although he really didn't want to invest any time or money in the cats, he knew that if he didn't do something, he would have a lot of unwanted kittens in the spring. He contacted Road

Runner Rescue to see if someone would come to his barn, trap the cats, and have them spayed and neutered. A date was set to trap the cats. The cats would be transported to the Spay Spa & Neuter Nook to be spayed/neutered and vaccinated.



After a life of neglect, BuBu Tiger is ready for a loving home of his own!

Rude Ranch Animal Rescue provided funding for the surgeries. Humane traps were brought to the farm and set. Maybe the orange tabby realized that the metal traps (with the tuna and chicken) would be a good thing for he was one of the first cats to go into a trap. He was promptly covered up and loaded into the van. He and several others were transported across the Chesapeake Bay to the Spay Spa & Neuter Nook.

The ride and the trip into the clinic was terrifying for the cat but because his leg hurt so badly, he didn't seem to care. By now the months old injury and infection had left a gaping open hole in his leg down to the bone. The infection was slowly eating away the muscles surrounding the broken leg. The only way to help him would be to amputate the leg.

This was definitely more than the farmer wanted to deal with. He said to just "put him down" . . . it's only a cat. Everyone at the Spay Spa and Rude Ranch felt that this guy deserved a chance. After a group vote, he was named Tiger. With Road Runner Rescue's permission, we went ahead and amputated his leg, and neutered him. As there was nowhere

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A Note from our Executive Director

Welcome to our Spring Mewsletter!

We hope everyone had a happy and relaxing holiday season with your families and pets! At Rude Ranch the time flies by! It seems like just last week I was writing about our plans for the fall and winter!

We are proud to announce that the Spay Spa & Neuter Nook, our high quality, low cost spay & neuter clinic, will celebrate our 10,000th spay/neuter surgery very soon! That's a lot of cats, dogs and rabbits! We are planning several contests and open houses to celebrate!

We had a busy fall fundraising season visiting more than 30 federal and state agencies. Bunny, the miniature pinscher, did a great job as Rude Ranch's ambassador. We're hoping for another great year from all our Federal and State employees to help us continue our mission to help animals.

The weather for the 6th Annual Putts Fore Mutts Golf Tournament, sponsored by Bacardi at Queenstown Harbor last September, was spectacular! Golfers and non-golfers all had a great time. After the round of golf, everyone enjoyed a wonderful dinner prepared by Annapolis Catering.

We had a great turn out for Photo's with Santa again this year. A big thanks to all our volunteers who helped at the event, all the people who brought their animals to pose with Santa, and to Crunchies for allowing us to use their store to host the event. We had more than 200 animals visit Santa for their pictures this year!

Looking ahead, we are excited to participate in our 4rd Annual Longaberger Basket and Vera Bradley & Coach Bags event, on April 26th. In addition, we're planning to host a "Shop for a Cause" day at Talbots clothing stores on Saturday, April 18. We also plan to attend several pet expos and spring fairs over the next few weeks to encourage everyone to have their pets spayed and neutered.

In closing, I want to extend a special thanks to our adoptive families, contributors, supporters and volunteers who are vital to our success in our efforts to save abandoned and neglected animals and place them in loving homes. Without you, we could not help the animals.

Sincerely,



Robert J. Rude
Executive Director

Moving? Trying to Cut Down on the Paper in Your Mail Box?

Planning on moving across the street/state or country soon? Don't forget to let us know so we can update our mailing list. Just send an email to info@ruderanch.org with your new address and we will take care of the rest.

Want to receive our Mewsletter online? Just send us an email at info@ruderanch.org and we will send you a link to our newsletter when its available online!

**Saving Lives,
Four Paws At
A Time**



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Harwood, MD 20776
Phone: 410.798.9559
Email: info@ruderanch.org
www.ruderanch.org

Please contact us if you would like to be added to or deleted from our mailing list or know others who would like to receive our mailings. Also, let us know if you are moving so we can update our mailing list. Email your new address to info@ruderanch.org.

Rude Ranch Animal Rescue is a volunteer based, 501(c)3 organization dedicated to the rescue, care and adoption of homeless animals in the Maryland and DC area. Our goals are to find permanent loving homes for adoptable animals placed in our care; to provide a safe haven and rehabilitation to feral and neglected cats rescued from abusive situations; and to put an end to needless euthanasia because of pet overpopulation.

Rude Ranch Animal Rescue, Inc. Board of Directors

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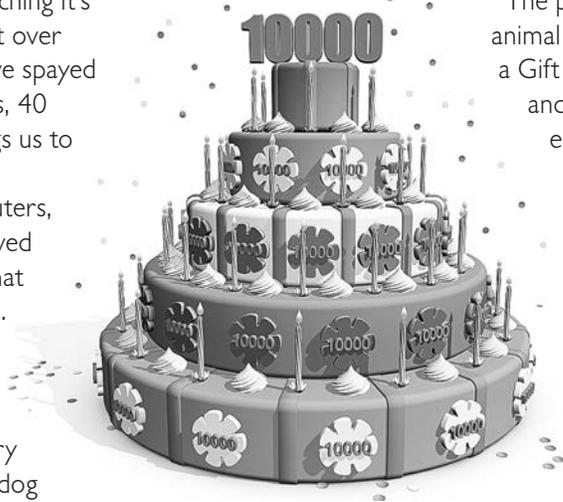
10,000 Surgeries and Counting!

That's right! The Spay Spa & Neuter Nook, Rude Ranch's spay/neuter clinic is quickly approaching its 10,000th surgery since opening just over 2 years ago! As of February 1, we've spayed or neutered 2,500 dogs, 6,492 cats, 40 rabbits and an opossum! That brings us to a grand total of 9,032 surgeries! While we were doing the spay/neuters, we also repaired 75 hernia's, removed 43 sets of dewclaws and 8 things that were technically growths or masses. (Sometimes we just labeled them as icky).

We plan to hit our 10,000th surgery in the next few weeks! Will it be a dog or a cat? Maybe even a guinea pig! (We neutered two in February!) What day will it happen? To celebrate, we are

holding a contest to guess when we will hit this milestone.

The person that guesses the day and type of animal that will be our 10,000th surgery will win a Gift Card and a "Best Little Cat House" book, and a Spay Spa & Neuter Nook hoodie! It's easy to enter: Stop by the clinic and fill out an entry card, or email or Facebook message your name, phone number, date and species of animal who you think will be the 10,000th surgery. Our email is info@spayspa.org! (Hint: we spayed or neutered 143 dogs, 321 cats and 2 bunnies in January!) The winner will be announced right after the 10,000th surgery is finished! If more than one winner, we will have a drawing to determine the winner. (Rude Ranch Animal Rescue Employees and families are not eligible to participate.)



Back by popular demand! Rude Ranch's Spring Basket & Bags Bingo

Back and Upgraded this year! Get your bingo daubers out! Back by popular demand, Rude Ranch will hold a Spring Basket and Bags Bingo on April 26! If you've never "bingoed" at a Basket and Bags Bingo before, here's how it works: For the low admission price of \$20 you play 20 rounds of bingo, and are eligible for many door prizes. There are extra "special games" that feature additional prizes

you can choose to upgrade to during the bingo. The winner of each round of bingo will receive a beautiful Longaberger Basket, or a Vera Bradley, Coach or Longaberger bag filled with all kinds of useful gadgets! The doors open at 11 am on April 26 and games begin at 12 noon. Food and Bake Sale to benefit Rude Ranch! The Basket and Bags Bingo will be held at the Roland Terrace Democratic Club, 619 Matthews Avenue,

Brooklyn Park, MD 21225. For more info or to purchase tickets go to Rude Ranch's website, www.RudeRanch.org, call Linda Resuta at 410.916.1449 or send a check or money order to: Rude Ranch Basket Bingo, C/O Linda Resuta, PO Box 222, Glen Burnie, MD 21060



SELFIE OF THE MONTH: Xena taking a catnap

Back to School . . . the Furry Version!

The first few days of school are always exciting and terrifying for teachers, kids, parents and lunch room ladies.

With so many new faces, changing schedules and information, no one knows what to expect. We are sure one teacher in particular at Richard Henry Lee Elementary School in Glen Burnie got a huge surprise one Friday morning last August when she walked into her classroom and her first pupil of the day was a cat!



After "graduating" from school, Stephanie moved to Rude Ranch.

Unfortunately, the terrified cat took off for parts unknown in the school before the teacher could do anything to catch her. The school was "locked down" while the hunt was on for the furry intruder. Officials eventually closed the school for the day to the delight of both kids and teachers. In the meantime, animal control officers tried to find the elusive feline, even going so far to set motion sensors and traps throughout the building. The officers monitored the traps and cameras over the entire weekend with no sightings of the cat. Everyone assumed she slipped out of the building

the same way she got in . . . mysteriously.

The school was re-opened the following week. Most students and teachers chalked the feline intruder up to an interesting adventure at the school. Then another teacher opened a supply closet and found cat hair. Upon further investigation she found a terrified cat huddled at the back of the closet. Fortunately, she closed the door before the cat took off. It didn't take long for the animal control officers to come back and corral the intruder.

Despite spending several days trapped in a closet without food or water, the little cat was in good condition. The animal control vet pronounced her healthy, but very antisocial. Feeling that Rude Ranch would be a better fit, arrangements were made to transfer the little cat, now named Stephanie to us. Upon arrival she finished her medical evaluation, got her vaccines and was spayed. Stephanie has moved into our feral area, where Rude Ranch volunteers are working with her to help her be more comfortable around people.

Although Stephanie's story has a happy ending, there are still quite a few mysteries: where did she come from? How did she end up in the school? How long was she in the school before she was found out? Did she study while she was there? If so, what was her favorite subject? 

Rescue Update: Olaff

Olaff was a sweet kitty that found himself abandoned on the side of the road when the baby in his family was allergic to him. Despite losing his home and family, Olaff was a laid back kitty that quickly adjusted to his new situation. He loved to drape himself over cat beds, chairs and people, and quickly became a Rude Ranch favorite.



It didn't take long for Olaff to find a new home, with a big comfy couch to drape himself over. In addition, he now lives off of a golf course so he can spend his days lounging (or draping) and watch the golfers go by.

Mark Your Calendars . . . Talbots Community Day April 18!

It's time to update your wardrobe for spring! Talbot's Clothing, located at The Annapolis Towne Centre in Parole is having a community day to benefit Rude Ranch! Come on in between Noon and 4 pm on Saturday, April 18 and 10% of your total purchase will be donated to Rude Ranch. Rude Ranch volunteers will be circulating throughout the store to talk about Rude Ranch and model the new Spring Talbots fashions. 



The Spay Spa & Neuter Nook: Expanding a Life Saving Mission

In 2012, Rude Ranch Animal Rescue built and opened the Spay Spa & Neuter Nook, the area's only high quality, low cost spay/neuter clinic. The goal of the clinic is to reduce the area's over population problem by providing spay/neuter services to anyone that wants to spay or neuter an animal, regardless of income or geographical location. Since then we've spayed/neutered thousands of cats, dogs and rabbits, formed partnerships with many rescues to help them prepare homeless animals for adoption, and created several new programs for Maryland.

In partnership with the Maryland State Spay/Neuter Fund, we created a program to spay/neuter and vaccinate cats and dogs belonging to senior citizens, individuals and families on fixed incomes. The overall goal of this program and the State Spay/Neuter Fund is to prevent unwanted animals from being born and to lower euthanasia of healthy animals at shelters and animal control agencies across the state. Our program and only 13 other initiatives (out of 51) were approved. So far we have spayed and neutered 65 dogs and 85 cats with this program. Everyone we've helped has been extremely grateful. To learn more, call the Spay Spa & Neuter Nook: 443.607.6496.



In addition to the new programs and partnerships we've formed, word about the clinic has spread so much that the clinic now has a completely full surgical schedule every day!

In order to keep up with the needs of the community we plan to expand the clinic in terms of space and personnel! We are in negotiations to add an additional 1500 square feet to the clinic. This will allow us to add two more surgical prep and surgical areas. In addition to Dr.

Alison Mocko, our resident surgical vet (who is considered to be one of the best spay/neuter veterinarians on the East Coast) we will add a second surgical vet.

Please join us in our effort to help more animals by becoming a clinic expansion sponsor. You can sponsor the clinic in general or choose to help purchase a specific piece of equipment, like an anesthesia machine (\$5500) or a spay pack (\$100). Check out our clinic expansion page at www.SpaySpa.org/Expansion for more details. Check out the Spay Spa & Neuter Nook's Facebook page for expansion updates!



Miranda Lambert's MuttNation Foundation Picks Rude Ranch!

You may have heard one or two of country singer Miranda Lambert's songs on the radio, but did you know that she is also an animal lover? Ms. Lambert and her mom created the MuttNation Foundation to help homeless animals all over the United States. Last year they chose one shelter or rescue from every state to receive a grant from their foundation. Individual shelters had to meet several criteria such as low administrative costs, low euthanasia rates and quality of care to even be considered by the foundation. In the end, Rude Ranch Animal Rescue was selected from all the shelters and rescues in Maryland! Thanks Miranda and Bev!





Ask Tommy: Advice from Our Feline to Yours

Welcome to the latest edition of Ask Tommy where your four-footed and feathered friends can ask Tommy for advice on how to handle humans. Tommy's life experiences include a brief career as a kitty condo model, food taster, and shelter spokescat. At the ripe old age of 17, he's now "writing" this column to pass his wisdom on to the next generation of felines.

Dear Tommy,

Help! My humans don't understand me! They have all kinds of furniture and things in the house, but everytime I try to scratch the side of the couch to mark these humans and couch are mine, I get in trouble. If I don't put my scent on stuff, how will other cats and critters know to leave it alone? It's also really tough to keep up on my manicure! What should I do?

Sincerely, Clawed

Dear Clawed,

I understand your dilemma. Our human families do not understand how important scratching is to us felines. Scratching is a great way to exercise and tone our muscles. Scratching will tone your muscles from your paws all the way up your shoulders and down your back. As you mentioned, it is also a great way to clean, sharpen and maintain your claws. A cat's scratching is also a way to leave scent markers or messages for other felines. However, as you have found, using your family's furniture for your scratching needs can get you into big trouble.

What you need from your family is stuff that you can use for your scratching needs. They can always get you a simple scratching post. Just make sure that it is at least as tall as you are when you stretch out. This will allow you to really dig your claws in and get a good back stretch. It also needs to have a sturdy base so it won't fall over when you use it. Your humans can also get you a kitty condo. Kitty condo's come in all shapes and sizes and are a lot of fun. They have lots of legs you can scratch on and shelves and beds you can curl up and nap on. You can also get a lot of exercise getting on and off of the condo. In case you like to scratch and stretch on a horizontal surface, see if your family will get you a couple of cardboard scratchers. These are infused with catnip, so they can be a lot of fun. Have your humans put one of these

scratchers by the furniture that you use to mark as your territory. That way you are still marking them as your humans, but not scratching the furniture!

Take care and see you next time,



Fleas!!

It's happened to everyone: you and your cat or dog are curled up on the couch watching TV. All of a sudden, you both start itching and scratching. Then you see it: little black bugs crawling over your pet, your couch and you. You are being visited by a horde of fleas.

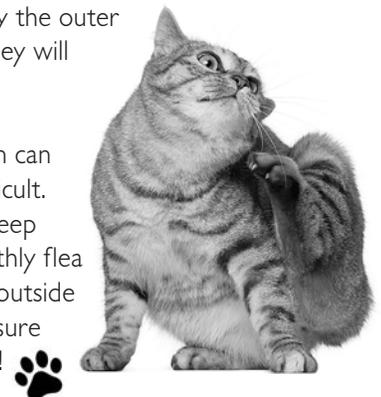
Fleas are ectoparasites that can infest most dogs, cats and mammals in general. Animals pick up fleas from contact with other animals or from the environment. Fleas do not have wings to fly, but have strong back legs and can jump from host to host. Once a flea infestation starts, it can be very difficult to stop.



The first step to fight a flea infestation is to treat your pet. There are many flea products, both prescription and over-the-counter on the market. Some over the counter products may not be as effective as the prescription counterparts. Lastly, never put a flea collar designated for a dog on your cat – it could contain chemicals that are deadly to cats.

To remove fleas from your home, start with your pet's bedding. Wash everything including beds, blankets, and pillows in hot soapy water. Cut up a flea collar and put a few pieces in your vacuum cleaner bag (or use flea powder) and vacuum frequently. For severe infestations, you may need to fog your home with an insect growth regulator. These products kill both adult fleas and destroy the outer shell of larvae or eggs so they will not hatch.

Eradicating a flea infestation can be time consuming and difficult. The best prevention is to keep your pet current on a monthly flea preventative. If your pet is outside a lot, check often to make sure no one has "hitched" a ride!



Getting a Leg Up on Life Continued from page 1

for him to go back to the Eastern Shore, he came to Rude Ranch to recover. He also had to learn to walk on 3 legs. He was so grateful to be warm, dry and out of pain that he started rolling over for tummy rubs the next day. Before long the grateful kitty was given the affectionate nickname of BuBu Tiger.

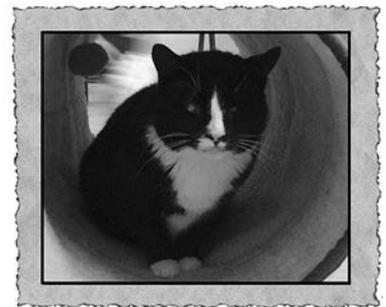
BuBu was a great patient during his recovery. He took all his medications and used his litter box without complaint. He did get into a little bit of trouble when he got the staples from his incision caught in his blanket, but even that didn't diminish his happiness.

Once BuBu's staples came out, he was ready to move into an area within Rude Ranch. Because he tested positive for FIV, he moved into Sophie's Salon, our FIV area. As soon as he arrived, Kasi and Tarzan ran over to say "Hi". Puff Puff, the resident grouch sniffed him and hissed as if to say "Welcome, don't touch my stuff".

BuBu has continued to heal and has settled into life at Rude Ranch without any problems. He has learned which volunteers bring treats and immediately sucks up to them. Although he is very happy to not be in pain and living in a cold barn this winter, he would love to have a home of his own.

Can't Adopt A Cat Right Now? Sponsor a Rude Ranch Cat!

Want to help a homeless animal, but can't take one more in? Sponsor a Rude Ranch long-term resident instead! Your tax-deductible sponsorship of a Rude Ranch long-term resident for just \$20 a month (67¢ a day) will provide food, kitty litter and toys for one of our special needs cats. The cats in this program include feral and abused cats, FIV positive and FELV positive cats. Right now, most of our FIV cats have sponsors, but many of the feral and abused cats are still hoping for a sponsor.



Piper is longing for a home of her own

When you sponsor, we'll send you an adoption certificate, with pictures and history of the cat you choose. We'll proudly display a picture of your cat with your name as the cat's sponsor on our website. You can even make an appointment to come visit your "virtual adoptee" anytime. For more information about our sponsorship program, visit our website at www.ruderanch.org and click on "Sponsor A Resident". Or email rrar@ruderanch.org.



YES, I would like to help the animals . . .

Rude Ranch Animal Rescue relies on donations and volunteers to carry out our mission to save the animals. We receive no federal funding. Your donation of a few dollars* or a few hours of your time can go a long way toward helping our cause.

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email** _____

Please check one: () \$250 () \$100 () \$50 () \$25 () Other \$_____ () I would like to volunteer

Our Mailing address is: Rude Ranch Animal Rescue, 3200 Ivy Way, Harwood, MD 20776

New! Donate online with your Mastercard, Visa, or American Express! Go to www.RudeRanch.org and click on the Visa logo. Donate online with Paypal.com. Our account name is "donate@ruderanch.org"

Does your employer have a matching donation program? If so, your donation will be doubled! Please send any matching donation documentation requirements to Rude Ranch and we will gladly process them. Thank you!



*All donations are tax deductible. ** Help us devote more of your donation toward the animals by receiving your receipt by email.



Show your support for animals by wearing a Rude Ranch or Spay Spa & Neuter Nook T-Shirt or Sweatshirt

New! Rude Ranch and Spay Spa T-Shirts and Sweatshirts

Show your support for Rude Ranch and Spay Spa & Neuter Nook by wearing one of our new T-shirts or sweatshirts! In new colors! The proceeds go right back to the care of our residents.

T-shirts

Sizes S - XL: \$15 plus \$5 shipping and handling

Sweatshirts

Sizes S - XL: \$20 plus \$5 shipping and handling

You can place your order on our website at:
<http://www.ruderanch.org/shop>

Special Thanks to:

Drs. Harrison, Roller, Hershey and staff at Belair Animal Hospital	Our many contributors & volunteers Lisa Davis for treats for the residents The Michele and Agnese Cestone Foundation
Dr. Amy Carney Our adoptive families PetSmart Charities Pet Valu Stores	Putts Fore Mutts Foundation MuttsNation Foundation & Miranda Lambert

Immediate Needs/Wish List

- Copy/Xerox paper
- Canned cat food
- Canned dog food
- Bleach & liquid laundry detergent
- Paper towels & plates



Rude Ranch Animal Rescue

3200 Ivy Way
 Harwood, MD 20776
www.ruderanch.org
www.SpaySpa.org

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