

Domino's House

For Cat Lovers Around the World

May, 2011

Featured Adoptions



Max was brought to us by a concerned citizen after he had been living on his own for a while. He is a complete love muffin...purrs and head butts for anyone who passes his way. He is a middle-aged fellow with lots of good years ahead of him. Because he was abandoned, he is a little thin but has begun to regain his handsome physique and amazing coat.

Audrey is a beautiful 7-month old polydactyl tiger with mesmerizing eyes. She was rescued from the back of a warehouse, so she is shy, but with some love and affection, Audrey will be a real winner!



Kittens!

We have almost every size and shape imaginable... each and every one in need of a loving home.

Letter From the President...

Hello everyone!! Kitten season is in full bloom. Domino's House has a full nursery with litters of kittens without Moms as well as two Moms who are keeping busy with their broods of very pretty newborns. The two very pregnant Moms went into labor at the same time resulting in a total of seven kittens between them. All are well and thriving. Keep checking our website to watch their progress.

Plans are fully underway for our June 12th event that offers loads of fun for all here at Domino's. We are celebrating our 10th anniversary with a Feline Fun Feast that not only will provide good food and entertainment but also an opportunity for the general public to meet our staff and all our "residents" both young and old.

Our 10th Anniversary offers the public a venue in which to appreciate all the humane and educational services that we have afforded Martin County and nearby counties. Our spay/neuter services have tripled over the years, and we have found homes for hundreds of cats and kittens that would otherwise have had no chance for survival if not rescued and cared for at the shelter. Domino's House has been, and will continue to be, a vital community resource for all cats and kittens who seek refuge from abandonment and abuse. Together with community support, dedicated volunteers and generous donors, our coming years will provide a local no-kill major spay/neuter program combined with a wide variety of adoption programs for all cats and kittens.

We welcome all volunteers, compassionate donors and community opportunities to continue to achieve our goal of a No-Kill community.

Until next time,

Maris Sine, President
Domino's Cat Rescue League, Inc.



Domino's
Cat Rescue League

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Board of Directors News

A cocktail party was held on March 9 at Domino's House to welcome Mallo Bisset to the Board of Directors. Mallo is the owner of Red Barn Furniture Inc. on Monterey Road in Stuart and is also a renowned local artist. She and her husband, Jimmy, are long-time cat lovers. They have opened their home to 10 feline friends as well as a beautiful dog who seems to get along very well with his kitty companions. Later in March, we regretfully accepted Sandie Criddle's resignation from the Board. We wish her well in her future philanthropic endeavors and thank her for her hard work while she served on our Board.



Domino's Cat Rescue League

Board of Directors:
Maris Sine – President
Polly Campenni – Vice President
Ellie Booth – Treasurer
Mallo Bisset – Secretary
Marie O'Connell – Assistant Secretary

Board Advisors:
Charlie Sine

And Some Special Thanks!

Our special thanks go to Katrina Glasser and Samantha Helton. These young cat lovers raised money to benefit Domino's House by setting up a lemonade stand in front of their house in Port St. Lucie. They raised \$18.80 by selling lemonade at \$.50 a glass....and that's a lot of lemonade. We applaud their entrepreneurial spirit and their concern for the welfare of cats and kittens in the community. Thank you, Katrina and Samantha!



Katrina (left), Samantha (middle) and Anita Hooper, shelter manager (right)



Domino's House would like to thank some of our amazing supporters out in the community who have allowed us to put donation boxes in their establishments:

- Dr. Elise Hillmann – Jupiter • Martin Downs Animal Hospital - Palm City
- Nautical but Nice - Stuart • Sub Shop – Palm City
- A Stitch in Time - Palm City • Gattuso's Italian Market - Palm City
- Walls by Wanda - Stuart • Bloomingdeals – Jensen Beach
- Peter's Hardware - Palm City • Domino's Boutique - Palm City





Important Health Information: **Adopting a Neighborhood Stray**

As a reader of this newsletter, it is safe to assume that you are a cat/animal lover. So, when you see a stray cat or kitten in your neighborhood, you are probably tempted to bring it into your home. But, the road to domestic bliss can have some bumps which can be minimized with some planning.

The first and most important thing to do when adopting an outside cat is to have it evaluated by your veterinarian. Any cat with an unknown history should be strictly quarantined from other resident cats until he/she has had a full medical evaluation to check for infectious diseases, parasitic infestations, and other illnesses. You should also confirm with your vet that the animal has been spayed or neutered. Not only will this ensure that the homeless cat population does not grow but you will also be less likely to experience unwanted behaviors such as urine marking if the cat has been sterilized.

The second important step to a smooth transition is gradual integration. The integration of a new cat into an existing cat family creates the most stress for everyone involved. Keep the cats separated for several days by placing the new one in his/her own room with access to litter, food, water, a comfortable bed, scratching posts, and toys. This will help your new cat adjust to the new surroundings gradually as well as helping to establish good litter habits. Once you feel confident that the new cat is adjusting and is healthy, you can begin to introduce her to the rest of the "family." This should be done VERY slowly with short visits between the cats at first. You will need to ensure that there are an adequate number of litter boxes (boxes = total number of cats + 1 more box), feeding and water stations, toys, and scratching posts. If the new cat has accepted being in a carrier, one way to manage the first introduction is to place the new cat inside the carrier in the area where the other cat(s) congregate. This offers everyone some safety while you evaluate their reactions. If the carrier only adds to everyone's stress, you can monitor short face-to-face introductions until you feel confident that everyone has transitioned well.

And, you'll need to be open to the possibility that the cat may not adjust to indoor life at all...some cats will always be more at home outdoors. Even though being inside is safer for the kitty and may seem more comfortable to us, some cats will inevitably prefer the stimulation that only the outdoors can provide. But, the cat will have had the benefit of medical evaluation and care as well as being spayed or neutered which will dramatically increase his/her opportunity for a longer life.....even outdoors!

SAVE THE DATES!

June 12 – Feline Fun Fest will be held at Domino's House to celebrate our 10th anniversary and National Adopt-A-Cat month! This family-friendly backyard event will include lunch, music, crafts for the kids, pony rides, raffles, our "meow marketplace", vet experts to share their knowledge, and some additional surprises! Tickets will go on sale soon... visit the website for more information www.dominoshouse.org.

November 12 – mark your calendar for an evening of excitement to support the programs of Domino's Cat Rescue League. Details will be announced soon. It's an event you won't want to miss!



Heartwarming Story....



If ever there was a heartwarming story from Domino's House, this has to be one of the best!

On April 2nd, an event occurred that all animal rescuers dream about. The stars of the story are Chanel, a two-year-old calico; her daughter Coco, also a calico; Herbie, a handsome tiger; and Cola, a sleek black teenage lady. The heroes are Tammy and Michael Powley of Port St. Lucie, a couple who found themselves "catless" after their last cat family member died at the age of 17. A trip to a local shelter did not go well, and in desperation, the Powleys were planning to "pick up" any strays from the street to save their lives and provide them with a loving and compassionate home. A friend mentioned that they should consider looking at Domino's House, and this was how the story unfolded.

During the Powley's visit to Domino's, where they were introduced to all of our residents available for adoption, the Powleys choose four lucky kitties!

Cola, the sleek black little female was the first to win their hearts. Our staff and volunteers knew that Cola would find a wonderful home because she was always ready to leap into a warm lap and receive chin scratches from visitors. Her teenage antics kept us all smiling. But, she was still waiting to be chosen to share someone's home....that is, until April 2nd!

Herbie was next. He stole the show with his brilliant Tiger coat and penetrating green eyes.

Chanel and daughter Coco were the final pair. They had been abandoned in a large industrial park. Although they had been seen by the day workers in the area, they had been ignored by them as being "just another stray cat and her kitten." They have all adjusted to their new home and are living the lives they deserve. This story will be remembered at Domino's as the purrfect ending for 4 rescued cats who found their "forever home."

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