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HAPPY  
HOLIDAYS

December 2023

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The end of the year is always a time for retrospection. Here at Home Again we have had an exceptionally busy year with our dogs and cats.

We've had several large litters of puppies come into our care. Thank you to each foster parent who took the time out of their life to partially socialize and train these small beasts. They have almost all gone to their forever homes, but would likely have had a much less positive outcome without you.

There is a similar situation with our kittens and cats. For the first year in a very long time we have had an abundance of kittens at Home Again, and so many fosters who stepped up to make sure that they were loved and nurtured before going to their new families.

It likely goes without saying, but please spay or neuter your pets. Sometimes it is even difficult to find loving homes for planned litters. Aside from preventing potential health issues with the adult dog or cat, spaying or neutering it will help to ensure that pups and kittens aren't subject to potential abandonment.

Through your support, Home Again has had tremendously successful fundraising efforts! We received a grant from Hastings Highlands, a donation from the 100+ Women Who Care Bancroft chapter, and donations and contributions through some general fund-raising and our quilt sale. Thank you to each person who purchased a ticket or made a donation! Remember that Home Again receives no government funding; we fund-raise every penny, and every penny goes back into the completely volunteer-run Home Again. The more successful fund-raising we do, the more dogs and cats in the region we are able to help.

Our success is your success. We share every adoption, every tear of joy or of sadness, and every scratch behind a dog or cat's ear with you. Thank you so very much for your support.

Happy holidays to you and your family from the entire team at Home Again.



## Hunter's Corner

In early November, we went away for a week and left Hunter with a trusted friend.

Given his history of not loving every dog he met, and also being a bit fussy on which humans he likes, we were a small bit concerned that he might be a problem. What we forgot is that this is a dog who likely roamed with a pack of other dogs before he came to live with us.



He loved his time away!! Played with the other dogs and he especially fell in love with this little boy.

We had perhaps forgotten the need for socialization, thinking that our love for this dog would be enough. And although Hunter returns this love tenfold, we realized that he needs more in his life than just the two of us. Look at those adoring eyes!! And so Hunter will have regular play dates with his other dog friends, and with this little boy. And we expect he'll be happier for the exposure to

others, and know that it doesn't mean he loves us any the less.

## The Holidays and Your Pets

It's natural to want to include your pets in the season's activity, but...

- \* Watch out for your Christmas tree! Make sure it's anchored so that an exploring kitty won't bring it down. Make sure that there's no tinsel which can get stuck in the intestines and become a life-threatening issue. Avoid glass ornaments or edible decorations which may be irresistible.
- \* Many Christmas plants such as poinsettias and holly are toxic to dogs and cats. Make sure that they are well out of reach.
- \* Make sure those beautiful scented candles are out of reach of a wagging tail or kitty paw-swipe!
- \* Holiday dinners taste just as good to your pets as to you! But so much of it is bad for their digestive systems. Turkey bones will easily splinter and cause problems with choking or blocking. Chocolate is toxic to dogs. Dried fruits often contains grapes which can cause renal failure. And alcohol is poisonous to cats and dogs. Make sure that your food is out of reach and put away after the gorging has finished!
- \* Lastly, when you're taking your dog out to try to counteract the vast amount of food you've just eaten, watch the roads. Rock salt and antifreeze can cause huge issues if ingested, or if it gets into cuts and scrapes. Try to wipe down paws after a walk.

Have a wonderful holiday, and let your pets enjoy it too!!

## Dogs and Puppies for Adoption

We have more puppies and dogs for adoption than we've seen in a very long time. The pups below are a representative sample; please go to [homeagainbancroft.ca](http://homeagainbancroft.ca) to view each individual puppy available for adoption.

And a reminder: giving a puppy as a Christmas present is almost never a good idea unless it has been carefully thought out. Owning a dog is a serious commitment and something that should never be taken lightly. It should never be a surprise gift to a recipient; that's one of the reasons there are so many puppies in rescues in January. Remember, this is only a sample of the pups currently available.



Representing a litter of 9 Beagador (Beagle/Labrador cross) is Rocket!! Take a look at his brothers and sisters on our website.



Ellie, female Coton de Tulear, 6 years old and 26 lbs. Ellie was a former breeding dog, and is looking for a forever home to enjoy retired life.

Representing a litter of Boxer/Malinois crosses is Rocky!! This litter is developing into confident, playful and adventurous pups!



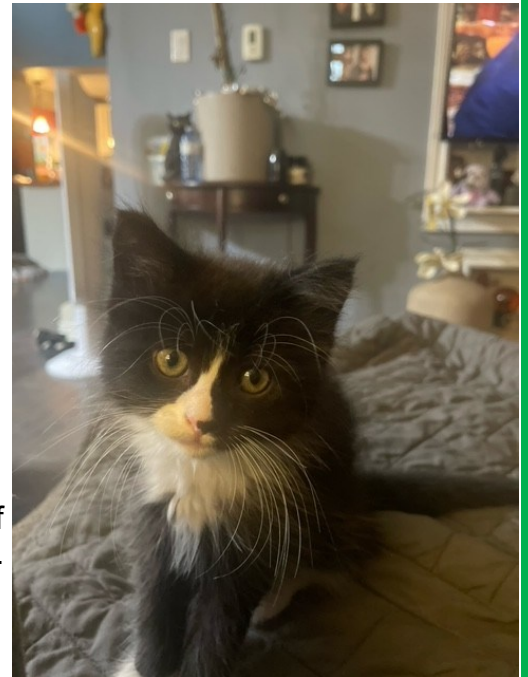
## Kittens Available for Adoption

We also have many kittens for adoption, right now learning and loving in foster homes. Again, please see [homeagainbancroft.ca](http://homeagainbancroft.ca) for details on all of the available kittens—at the writing of this newsletter there are over twenty kittens looking for forever homes!

Here's just a sample of kittens looking for their families:



Representing grey striped kitties is Faye, part of a litter born in early August.



And meet Whiskers, part of a September 7th litter, each of whom are sweet, loving and playful.



And this is Benji, who with his littermates was born in late June. He and his brothers and sisters are playful and cuddly, loving attention.

Remember, see all of our available kittens and cats on our website, [homeagainbancroft.ca](http://homeagainbancroft.ca). If you think one of these darlings would fit right into your home, we can arrange a meet and greet for you.

Got my cat a bed for Christmas...



HE SEES YOU WHEN YOU'RE EATING ...



HE KNOWS WHEN YOU'VE GOT SNACKS ...

*Happy Holidays and Happy New Year from Home Again in Bancroft!! As always, thank you for your support and caring!!*