# FROM PIZZA PARLOR TO A HAPPY HOME

(WITH LIFE-SAVING BLOOD TEST)



When Britton stopped to pick up pizza in early 2015, she had no idea of the journey that was about to begin. While returning to her car, Britton noticed a feral mother cat with five kittens who were hanging out under the pizza parlor deck and hoping for help.

As Britton began caring for the cats, providing food and shelter, she was able to catch three kittens, finding good homes for them. Months went by. In the Fall, Britton noticed that one of the remaining kittens had a large swelling under its neck, which had burst and needed medical attention. She live-trapped the kitten, named him "Jenks," and took him to a local veterinarian.

Jenks' infected sore was treated, and the early signs of gingivostomatitis were noticed.

Five weeks after catching Jenks, Britton brought him to Magrane, where full-blown gingivostomatitis syndrome was diagnosed and treatment begun with antibiotics. Dentistry was recommended by Dr. Spake, with extractions of the most severely affected teeth. As usual, Dr. Spake recommended pre surgical blood tests.

Pre surgical blood tests are recommended at Magrane for all cats and dogs undergoing general anesthesia. These tests determine whether the pet's kidneys and liver are able to metabolize the anesthetic. The tests also establish a baseline of kidney and liver function in case of future illness. They can also detect previously unknown disease.

This is what happened in Jenks' case. Unknown to anyone, Jenks had chronic kidney disease with secondary anemia. Jenks' rescuer-owner now says that pre-surgical blood work has saved Jenks' life. Dr. Spake supervised Jenks' dentistry, and then began treating the anemia and kidney disease.

At home, Jenks is adjusting to becoming an official pet, and his attitude has improved. He has gained weight, and lets Britton know how grateful he is every day!

### **MESSAGE FROM OPIE**



by Vikky Warner

#### Dear Opie,

#### Do indoor cats need flea and heartworm preventatives?

That's a great question! And the answer is YES! Just like dogs, cats can be exposed to mosquitoes who carry heartworms. Even if your cat never goes outdoors, we all know that those pesky mosquitoes get indoors! And the same can be said for fleas. They can come in on our clothing, and they can come in on another pet, or even on mice that we never see. Keep your cat flea free with monthly

treatment. We have several excellent products that are quick and simple to apply.

What is important to know about heartworms is that heartworm disease in cats is not the same as heartworm disease in dogs. A cat is an uncommon host for heartworms so typically, the immature worms do not survive to adult stages. Cats most often develop a severe allergic reaction to these larva, which can result in life-threatening asthma attacks. In fact, one of the most common symptoms of heartworm disease in cats is sudden death.

With that said, even immature worms can cause damage. While we can treat heartworm disease in dogs, there is no treatment for heartworm disease in cats. This is why we strongly recommend that your cat be on preventative. To learn more about heartworms in cats, please go to our website, <a href="www.magranepmc.com">www.magranepmc.com</a> and click on our Blog "Spring is coming/Keep your cat safe from parasites".

By: Vikky Warner

# Thank You

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If you made a referral and your name does not appear on this list, please accept our thank you for the referral and our apology for omitting your name.