

Kittens Galore event on Saturday UCHS has a kitten crisis

The Kitten Foster Program, part of the Upper Credit Humane Society (UCHS), has a kitten crisis, according to program director Barb Johnson.

More than 80 kittens need homes.

This year has produced the usual overwhelming number of kittens but adoptions are just not keeping pace. By July 2009, 101 kittens had been adopted and this year only 79 have found forever homes.

The Kitten Foster Program is holding a "Kittens Galore" event, Saturday July 31, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Pet Valu, 235 Guelph St. (beside Dollarama) in Georgetown.

Many families are unaware of the Kitten Foster Program and that well socialized and healthy kittens can be adopted through the Humane Society. The program takes in abandoned or feral kittens and raises them in foster homes making them wonderful family pets. For the adoption fee (all adoptions are to approved homes) of \$160 the kitten will be spayed or neutered, have the first vaccinations, be treated for parasites and microchipped. Older kittens have age appropriate vaccinations.

"People often ask where the kittens come from or as one person inquired "when is your next shipment due and do you have a grey female tabby in it?" Others ask us why we would spay our breeding stock," said Johnson. "To answer these questions; we do not have shipments of kittens coming to us, nor do we breed kittens for profit."

The kittens, she said, come from unfortunate situations: this year five kittens were discovered in a car towed to be crushed, two were found in a taped cardboard box beside a dumpster, one injured mother took her litter to a friendly home. More often they are found under decks, in wood piles or under backyard sheds... just about anywhere.

The UCHS Kitten Foster Program is striving to break the reproductive cycle of unwanted kittens and provide affordable pets so all the cats and kittens are spayed or neutered before they are



"Foster mom" Alex Bolton gives 4-month-old Sunflower a hug good-bye just before he heads home with his new adoptive owner in a Kittens Galore event last fall.

Photo by Jon Borgstrom

adopted, said Johnson.

With adoptions being down this year, there is no space in the program to foster more needy kittens.

"If you or someone you know would like to adopt a new feline for their family, please adopt a kitten from the Kitten Foster Program. In doing this you will also support your local Humane Society," Johnson said.

For more information, pictures and profiles of the kittens, view www.UCHSkittens.blogspot.com

Le Tour de Terra Cotta returns on the Civic Holiday

Le Tour de Terra Cotta, a cycling race for everyone, whether you're looking for a first-time cycle race experience or a seasoned veteran will be held on the Civic Holiday, Monday, Aug. 2. Races include one for youth, ages 8-16, an adult short course, 27km and an adult long course, 108km. For details go to www.letourdeterracotta.com



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