

**PRESS RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Sweet & Beautiful Cat Available for Adoption Following Ophthalmologic Surgery**

**July 22, N. Andover, MA - Identical twins Leona and Laura Pease have more in common than just their appearance. The women, both animal control officers, share a love for animals and dedication to their welfare.**

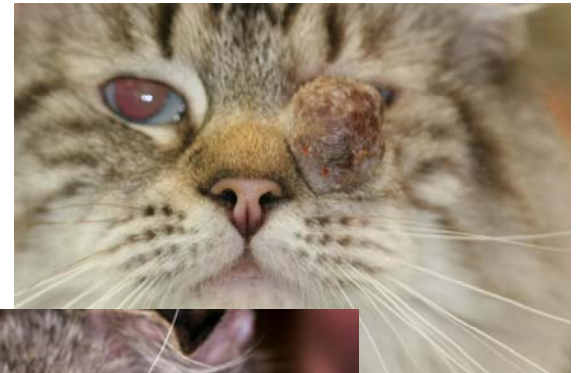
Leona is the animal control officer for the town of Shrewsbury. She found *Kitten*, a beautiful spayed female Ragdoll mix, as a stray kitten 4 ½ years ago. Her sister Laura took her in as a foster as she had room in her house at the time. Shortly thereafter *Kitten* started to grow a large mass below her left eye. Gradually it came to occupy nearly the entire space between her eye lid and her upper lip. The tumor made *Kitten* a less-than-ideal candidate for adoption, as many people are reluctant to adopt a pet with complex medical problems.

As *Kitten*'s eyelid mass grew, so did Laura's foster pet population. The latter was largely due to a poor economy that made it difficult for many people to keep their pets. Laura, the animal control officer for the central Massachusetts towns of Oakham and Barre, reports "she is such a sweet cat, but I just have too many fosters now to give them all the attention they deserve. If *Kitten* didn't have the eyelid mass she would have a much better chance of being adopted by a loving owner."

The shelter veterinary staff attempted to remove the mass but it was too large. One of Leona's pets, *D.D.*, recently underwent surgery with Dr. Ruth Marrion, the ophthalmologist at Bulger Veterinary Hospital in North Andover. Leona brought *Kitten* along with *D.D.* to the recheck examination. Since *Kitten* is a shelter cat, Dr. Ruth Marrion, PhD, DACVO and the hospital staff offered to perform the surgery at no charge.

Dr. Marrion removed the eyelid mass and performed an "advancement graft" to fill in the wound left. *Kitten* did very well and appeared to be quite comfortable after the surgery, eating well and cuddling up to anyone who picked her up. The surgery site healed well; the only visible evidence being the unusual hair pattern present as a result of the graft. The results of the pathology report were that the mass was benign (not likely to spread) and completely excised, therefore recurrence of the mass is not likely.

*Kitten* is now available for adoption through:  
Metrowest Animal Awareness Society of Hudson, MA: 508-460-2022.  
[www.metrowestaware.org](http://www.metrowestaware.org)



*"Kitten" before and after surgery.*

**Advancing the Standards  
of Veterinary Care**

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**Additional foster cats who are available for adoption include:**

“Jenny” a seal point Siamese.

“Molly” a Turkish Van mix.

“Puss Puss” a Flame Point Snow Shoe with long hair.

Two Domestic Short Hairs: “Outside In”, a torbie (tortoise shell-tabby), and “Kitty Cat” a torbie & white, who is very sweet and friendly.

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**For more information, updates and additional pictures:**

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