

CONTACT: Mike DeFina, Media Relations Manager (617) 293-3530 <u>mdefina@arlboston.org</u>

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Rescued Neonatal Kittens Ready for New Homes

Kittens raised by surrogate mother cat

A pair of kittens who were saved by the Animal Rescue League of Boston (ARL) and just a day old when they were found in a driveway in Hyde Park have defied the odds and are now ready to find their permanent homes, thanks in large part to the care provided by a surrogate mother cat. **Update – 2 of the 3 kittens have already been adopted!**

It was a hot July day when a resident discovered the kittens in a driveway, and shocked by the discovery, contacted ARL's Field Services for assistance. It's unknown whether the mother cat had abandoned the kittens or that something had happened to her. ARL responded quickly, rescued the kittens, and brought them to ARL's Dedham Animal Care and Adoption Center for critical care and treatment.

At approximately one day old, the kittens were literally helpless. The umbilical cords were still attached, their eyes were closed and were far too young to care for themselves. While initially bottle-feeding the kittens, a long-term solution was needed.

ARL did have a young cat in foster care who had given birth a couple of weeks prior, and ARL staff introduced the idea of seeing if the cat, named Victoria, could serve as a surrogate mother to the kittens. The kittens were introduced to Victoria, who immediately took them in, and for next nine weeks, cared for them as if they were her own.

The kittens, now named Willie Nelson and George Strait, are happy, healthy and ready to find their new homes at ARL's Dedham facility. The pair also made fast friends with their adoptive brother Tim McGraw, who is also looking for his new home.

The stars aligned for these two kittens, and ARL is thrilled that they will now have the opportunity to live the long lives they deserve.

For photos of the kittens, please click the Dropbox link below: <u>https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/udvz7ut6g4btqcwfiyvru/AOwN0tblEZYWTGOyvt2WhLw?rlke</u> <u>y=58tdo60gz3xpro9cfx3q5lqaq&st=3mivmhdz&dl=0</u>

ABOUT THE ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE OF BOSTON:

The Animal Rescue League of Boston (ARL) is an unwavering champion for animals in need, committed to keeping them safe and healthy in habitats and homes. Founded in 1899, ARL provides high-quality veterinary care, adoption, and rescue services; while also confronting the root causes of animal cruelty and neglect through innovative community programs, police investigations, and public advocacy. In 2023, ARL served 20,964 animals throughout Massachusetts. ARL is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization. The Animal Rescue League of Boston does not receive government grants or public funding and relies on the generosity of our supporters to help animals in need. For more information please visit us online at arlboston.org; and be sure to follow us on Facebook, LinkedIn, and Instagram.

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