

## In Loving Memory of Sinatra



The shelter is sorry to announce the passing of our beloved shelter cat “Sinatra Tamone Fax”. Sinatra lost his battle with liver failure on October 10, 2008. He came to live at the shelter when he was about 2 years old and lived to around 14 years old.

He entered our lives so many years ago as a young adult who was brought to the shelter after a house fire in Frewsburg. The staff nurtured Sinatra back to health for several months and decided we could not place him up for adoption so he

became the shelter mascot. Sinatra was

named for his beautiful blue eyes after the old blue eyes singer himself, Frank Sinatra. He was also named for his habit of faxing documents when he became bored at night. The staff would often find various returned faxes and would instantly know he had been busy during the evening hours.

Throughout the years, we noticed that Sinatra had a special talent. He soon received a job at CCHS to assess dogs. He seemed to know when to stay away from the dogs that weren't cat friendly and when to acknowledge those that were. To test his skill we would bring him into the room with a dog and watch his reactions, always making sure that he would be safe. After the interaction he was let out to see if the dog would pursue him. Sinatra held this position at CCHS for many, many years.

A typical day for Sinatra would be greeting the first staff member who arrived to let him out in the morning and then wandering throughout the shelter to greet the rest of the staff as they arrived. He could be seen hanging out in the office “sharing” a chair with Amy or Sue, hogging most of it. He also liked to visit the front office where he would check out the customers just in case one might have pizza or a milkshake in hand. If he didn't find much going on out front he would make his way back to the



lunchroom, where he would almost always find someone eating. Some of his favorite foods were Chef Boyardee ravioli, yogurt, ham, turkey, rice pudding, and pepperoni pizza. His all time favorite treat was milk. He would be relentless in getting it, sometimes placing his paw on the bowl and pulling it out of your hands.

Sinatra became fond of the CCHS volunteers too. A very clever cat, he figured out a way to get a friendly stroke of the head while getting fresh water. If a volunteer passed him he would go to the sink and each and every volunteer would continuously turn on the water for him and stop for a short visit. Other volunteers would play with the laser light with him and bring him catnip. He loved to entertain himself like this to help pass time throughout the day.

Around closing time Sinatra would play hide and seek. Eventually the staff would find him tucked into the clean towel cabinet or in a carrier that was left open. Other times he would gladly walk to his room after a full day of testing and being loved.

He will be sadly missed by all whose lives he touched and his legacy will be hard for another to fill his shoes.