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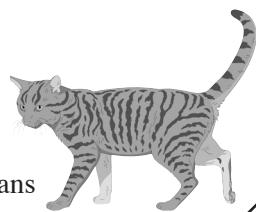
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## Fruitport clinic returns missing cat to Grand Haven family

(Courtesy, Detroit Free Press Websit, as taken from the Muskegon Chronicle)

"When Jesse White picked up the phone on a day last week, the last thing he expected was news about a long lost family member."

"But the April 9 phone call from the West Michigan Spay and Neuter Clinic in Fruitport was a good one — the staff had found Cory, the White's medium-haired gray-and-white cat, which had been missing for more than a year."

"I was like, wow. I didn't believe it," he told *The Muskegon Chronicle*.

"Cory went missing from the family's Grand Haven home in January last year, he said, after she darted out a door left open by one of the family's young daughters. The family went looking for the cat and even put up fliers and checked with the humane society, but she was nowhere to be found, White said."

"The loss was especially hard on his daughters, who are now 2 and 4 years old, he said."

"They were very sad and they just kept asking about her every day and wanting to go and look for her," White said.

"Cory found a new home in August that same year, when Deloris Millard's grandchildren spotted her running along the cattails of the Grand River."

"Don't go down after it," Millard remembered telling her granddaughters. "It's probably a feral cat."

"But they went down anyway, she said, and brought Cory to Millard's deck."

"(The cat) was very thin," Millard said. "You could tell he hadn't been eating well."

"They fed the cat and nursed it back to health, but Millard and her husband decided to keep the cat — which the grandchildren had renamed Lump — outdoors, thinking she would eventually leave."

"But she didn't, Millard said. Instead, the cat grew attached to the couple. She followed wherever she went and liked to play chase with Millard's husband, she said."

"After taking her to the veterinarian to get her shots, the Millards decided the cat should also get fixed. They took her to the West Michigan Spay and Neuter Clinic on April 9 and told the staff that they were not sure if she had already gone through the procedure."

"The staff shaved Cory's belly and noticed a little scar that indicated she might have already been fixed, so they decided to scan her for a microchip, said Anne Munford, one of the facility's directors."



"Microchips are about the size of a grain of rice, she said, and are placed between a cat's or dog's shoulder blades. Typically, they contain the owner's contact information and details about the pet, like a basic description and whether or not it has been spayed or neutered."

"When the staff scanned Cory, Munford said, they discovered that the Millards were not the cat's registered owners and saw White's name listed instead. They then called White to inform him that his pet had been found."

"White and his family stopped by the clinic right away, Munford said."

"When pets are found, Munford said, staff members ask owners to bring in a form of identification and, if possible, a photo of the pet. Although Cory had been missing for more than a year, White still had a photo of her on his phone."

"Meanwhile, they also informed the Millards of the situation. Deloris Millard said they were taken by surprise, because they didn't know the cat had a microchip inserted."

"Had we realized that, had we been thinking, we could've had the kids' pet back much, much quicker," Millard said.

"She said they had mixed feelings about saying goodbye to Cory. They had become attached to the animal, Millard said, but they were also happy she was reunited with her family."

"White said he hadn't met the Millards, but was grateful that they had taken such good care of the cat."

"White, Millard and Munford said the situation illustrates the importance of having the microchip process completed for pets."

"Munford said pet owners have placed chips in dogs for years, but have only recently started doing it for cats, even though the chances of finding a missing feline are slim. She said having the microchip in pets increases the likelihood they'll be found if they go missing."

"When you lose a pet, if the pet's been microchipped, there's always that possibility, even after a long time, that you'll be reunited," she said, adding that organizations like Pound Buddies and the Harbor Humane Society in West Olive scan each animal that comes into their facilities."

"White said the decision to have a microchip inserted into Cory made all the difference in bringing her back home."

"If she didn't have (a microchip), we wouldn't have gotten her back," he said."•



## Meet Bosco, the wonder dog

By Bosco with help from Mary Modderman and Mary Weimer

I am not an ordinary-looking German Shepherd. But in my own special way, I am gorgeous! I'm a bit shy, yet calm, gentle and friendly — a laid-back sort of guy. I have beautiful medium-length red brindled fur and I weigh about 80 pounds.

I have lived my entire life chained to a doghouse that was tipped on its side in a filthy yard. If I

## The Borden Family tragedy – 1912

By Joe Tomodachi

The final day of 1912 – December 31 was a perfect time to try out a sled on Spring Lake. Fourteen-year old Rayden Borden (some accounts spelled it "Barden") was pushing his two sisters, Lucille, age 8 and Jeannette, age 10. It was great fun to sled on the lake ice. The kids were beyond the Fruitport Pavilion and nearing the mouth of Norris Creek when the ice suddenly gave way and left the three struggling in the freezing water.

W. H. Kline, newly-elected supervisor of the village, managed to rescue little Jeannette, but the other two were

had not jumped the fence and almost hung myself, no one would have ever known. My unlucky accident turned out to be lucky because a wonderful volunteer from Heaven Can Wait saw me slowly dying and got me some help.

At that point, my owner surrendered me because "they couldn't handle the stress" of taking "care" of me. They did tell the shelter staff that I'm house trained, though.

I am 9 1/2 years old and really not that much of a hassle. Due to my lonely lifestyle, I will need to be socialized around people, which shouldn't be a problem if you are patient. My favorite pastime is to explore the earth with my nose. Since I was always chained in one spot, I've really not ever had much else to do. It is so wonderful to check out all the new smells in such a big new world!

My age makes me classified as a "senior," which makes my adoption fee only \$75.00. I will be grateful to you for the rest of my life in exchange for some love and attention. I am so ready to start living a real dog's life!

Pound Buddies is located at 1300 E. Keating in Muskegon. I receive visitors on Tuesdays and Thursdays, from noon to 2 p.m.; Wednesdays from 5 to 7 p.m. and on Saturdays from noon to 2 p.m. Or, you can call (231) 724-6500 for an appointment.

Please come and meet me and please, please, please give me the home I deserve."•

lost in the ten-foot deep water. The body of Rayden was recovered that same day, but his sister Lucille was not found until the next day.

These were the children of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Borden. He was a village Marshall.

I wasn't able to find out any more information about this family, where they lived, what happened to the parents or surviving sister, nor whether there were other children in the family. One can wonder what the future might have brought for Rayden and Lucille had they survived."•