

**ANIMAL
RESCUE
LEAGUE
of BOSTON**



A champion for animals

CONTACT:

Mike DeFina, Media Relations Manager

(617) 293-3530

mdefin@arlboston.org

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ARL Staff and Volunteers Going Above and Beyond to Help Morbidly Obese Cats

Volunteers helping 30-pound cats groom, exercise to promote weight loss

With several morbidly obese cats recently being brought to the Animal Rescue League of Boston (ARL), the organization's staff and volunteers have dedicated themselves to helping these 30-pound cats in any way possible to help them lose weight and find the forever homes they deserve. To put into context, a typical healthy weight for a cat is approximately 10 pounds.

ARL invites members of the media to meet these cats, learn more about their stories, and also remind the public of the importance of keeping pets at a healthy weight.

Media Availability

When: Tuesday August 1, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Where: ARL's Boston Animal Care and Adoption Center, 10 Chandler St., Boston

For Maleficent, a 3-year-old female cat, and King, a 7-year-old male cat, they both exceeded 30 pounds upon arrival at ARL, and given their condition, they were unable to groom themselves, leading to painful mats in their fur, and were relatively immobile.

Following their initial veterinary exams, both cats needed a dietary plan to lessen their caloric intake, and as we all know, the key to weight loss is to get up and get moving. ARL staff and

volunteers have dedicated themselves to spending ample time with these cats during the day, help them groom so they will remain comfortable, and to get them out of their kennels for playtime and exercise.

To date, the cats are both responding well, and have both lost several pounds over the past month or so. Despite the progress, both cats will need to be in homes with families that are committed to helping the cats continue their weight loss journey, and help them in any way possible.

Like humans, excessive weight gain for animals can be extremely detrimental for their overall health and wellbeing. Health risks for obese animals include diabetes, high blood pressure, renal disease, respiratory disease, among others.

Both King and Maleficent are currently unavailable for adoption as ARL wants the animals to achieve a healthier weight before finding their forever homes.

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 2022, ARL served 20,601 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](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#).

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