



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Charlottesville-Albemarle SPCA
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Adopt some Feline Luck this Saint Patrick's Day!

Charlottesville, Virginia: With so much talk about the *luck of the Irish* this Saint Patrick's Day, the Charlottesville-Albemarle SPCA reminds everyone that in Europe, black cats were once thought to be lucky. Some noteworthy black cat "tales" are:

- In Yorkshire, fisherman's wives kept black cats while their husbands went away to sea. They believed that the black cats would prevent danger from occurring to their husbands. These black cats were considered so valuable that they were often stolen.
- In Scotland, a strange black cat on your porch is a sign of upcoming prosperity.
- In Britain and Ireland, if a black cat crosses your path it is considered good luck.
- In England, it was believed that if a black cat lived in the house, the young lass would have plenty of suitors.
- Lastly, one tale of demise that surely demonstrates a black cat's luck is that of Charles I of England (1600-1649). Folklore says he had a black cat, which he carried with him everywhere he went, claiming that the cat was his luck. The day after the cat died from an illness, the king was arrested and later beheaded.

Makena Yarbrough, Director of Operations says that the SPCA "has a number of lucky black cats up for adoption." For a limited time receive a lottery ticket to test your luck when you adopt a lucky black cat and you can adopt two for one if you want to double the luck. Makena adds that, "at the very least, if you adopt a black cat it will be lucky for the cat, who will then live its life in a loving home."

The Charlottesville-Albemarle SPCA is a nonprofit animal welfare organization that provides a safe environment for the lost, abandoned, and homeless animals of Charlottesville and Albemarle County, and places them in good homes. We strive to set a standard of excellence and leadership in animal care, humane education, and progressive animal welfare programs.

For further information on the Lucky Black Cat promotion, please contact Susanne Kogut, Executive Director at 434-973-5959 at ext. 254. For more information about the Charlottesville-Albemarle SPCA and ways you can support our life-saving programs, we encourage the community to contact J.C. Ignaszewski, Development Director, at 434-973-5959 at ext. 251 or visit our website at www.caspca.org. Donations can also be made online at <http://www.caspca.org/Donations.asp> or mailed to Charlottesville-Albemarle SPCA, 3355 Berkmar Drive, Charlottesville VA 22901.

Come meet someone who loves you at the Charlottesville-Albemarle SPCA.

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