

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**CELEBRATE CAT INDEPENDENCE DAY THIS
WEEKEND AT THE MARYLAND SPCA AND BARCS**

Baltimore -- In honor of Independence Day, The Maryland SPCA and BARCS will hold Cat Independence Days on Saturday, July 5 and Sunday, July 6. Both shelters will have a special adoption fee of **\$17.76** for cats four months of age and older.

“Animal shelters have many more cats in the summer, so we are teaming up with BARCS to find homes for Baltimore’s homeless cats by promoting their adoption with special pricing this weekend,” said Aileen Gabbey, Maryland SPCA’s Executive Director. “We want cats to gain their independence – a loving new home – this weekend.”

“Animals are given up for many reasons, including people moving who are unable to take their pet with them because of landlord restrictions,” said Jen Mead-Brause, Director of BARCS. “This is happening more with the number of home foreclosures on the rise.”

“Adult cats have lots of love to give, and they have outgrown some behaviors that can be challenging with kittens,” says Allison Nozemack, the SPCA’s Behavior Manager. “Most adult cats are already litterbox trained, and they are much calmer.”

Cats adopted from both The Maryland SPCA and BARCS include spay/neuter surgery and are up-to-date on vaccinations.

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BARCS (Baltimore Animal Rescue and Care Shelter) is located at 301 Stockholm Street, Baltimore. Hours for this weekend are 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Additional information about BARCS is available at www.baltimoreanimalshelter.org.

The Maryland SPCA is located at 3300 Falls Road, Baltimore. Hours this weekend are noon – 3:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Additional information about The Maryland SPCA is available at www.mdspca.org.