

# Atlantic

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## Tire & Service



The very wise Mahatma Gandhi once said,

*“The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated.”*

This statement is inherently true, as good, genuine people seem to be hard to come by. As we watch news stories on the brutal lives of homeless shelter pets and inhumane treatment of livestock, we fail to learn about the selfless acts that happen every single day by people all around us.

This particular story could not have come at a more appropriate time, as Thanksgiving rounds the bend. The account involves a car mechanic, an animal-loving marketing professional, and an altruistic army veteran.

It was a typical Wednesday morning at Atlantic Tire & Service, a locally owned auto service shop in Raleigh, when a woman who had driven 15 miles came into the store for a routine car checkup. As Drew, the mechanic,

started working on the car, he heard a faint meowing noise. When he looked under the hood, he was greeted by a tiny black and white kitten face, whose blue eyes stared at him in terror. He gently took the kitten into the warm office, and continued working on the car. About five minutes later, another meow occurred. A second little face was seen poking out of the same spot. Once again, he took the kitten inside and placed it with its sibling. About 10 more minutes passed and Drew heard one more little meow. A third kitten appeared, and joined the rest of its family inside the store. According to Drew, it was amazing that the kittens were not killed by the fan, as they were tucked away up inside the car.

Jason, the Raleigh store’s manager called Nancy, the marketing director. Nancy, a devoted animal lover, set in motion a plan while Drew posted photos of the kittens on his Facebook page. Nancy left work a few minutes early to get a cat crate, thinking about the kittens’ fate if they were to be left outside in the frigid 27-degree weather. Nancy took the kittens to the local Unleashed, a pet supplies store, and happened upon an army military recruiter named Bonnie, who is also a volunteer with the Wake County SPCA. Bonnie was immediately touched by the story, and graciously agreed to take the kittens. She placed them in an SPCA official foster program where they will be vetted, fostered and socialized.

In the meantime, Atlantic Tire’s corporate clients such as Qual-Comm, and other supporters took to social media, recounting the story and praising Atlantic Tire for their good deed. The support they received was truly overwhelming, and Nancy appreciated knowing how many animal supporters she is indirectly connected to.

As for the kittens, they are all very small and underweight. Nancy suspects that they would be killed in shelter, as many animals are only held for 72 hours. Nancy said, “Because of everybody saying ‘yes’ to these little guys and all the ways they contributed, we now have a foster home until they have forever homes.”

