



cat depot[®] connection

Rescue • Adoption • Education • Resource Center



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Issue 16



A Happy Ending For 150 Cats On Adoption Day (see page 3)





Hundreds of Little Feet in Cat Depot's Fleet

THE INSIDE SCOOP

A growing number of individuals have registered their feral cat colonies in Cat Depot's Community Cat Program. Some cats are personal pets, but the majority are free roaming, or what we call community cats.



Pepper, on the road to recovery, came in with pneumonia and a collapsed lung

colony hotline for advice, and a food distribution program.

They live behind stores, in alleyways, near dumpsters, and in the shadows. Sadly, their life span is shorter than an indoor cat, and they struggle every day to find food. They are our community's cats, and they need our help.

The best way to control overpopulation of community cats is to manage cat colonies through spay and neuter efforts. Cat Depot supports these efforts through a full circle program that includes registration of colonies, availability of humane traps, free and no-cost sterilization resources, educational classes on both safe trapping procedures and colony care, a cat

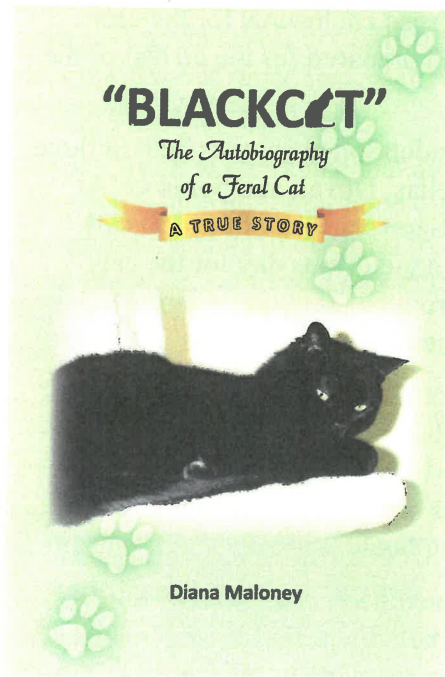


Muffin, rescued off the streets, undernourished and dehydrated

Cats in colonies can be monitored for population growth, proper health and sterilization. Newcomers can be pulled for TNR (trap/neuter/return) or, if friendly, placed in an animal shelter for adoption.

The goal to help colony caregivers with food every month is challenging. Cat Depot is looking for financial support to feed an enormous number of empty tummies. If you can help, please call Shelley Thayer at 941.366.2404 or email, ShelleyT@catdepot.org.

"BLACKCAT" The Autobiography of a Feral Cat



"BLACKCAT" by Diana Maloney

We asked author Diana Maloney what compelled her to write this book. "I feel strongly that there are some important messages that aren't being received, in particular that homeless feral kitties should never be ignored," she stated.

Diana, known for her compassion for downtrodden animals expressed her opinion that black cats and community cats are the "least wanted and most maligned." By writing this book, she hopes to reach out to readers of all ages.

BLACKCAT is a beautiful story, written in short, one page chapters with accompanying photos. Once you read it, you'll think twice about turning your back on a neighborhood stray.

Diana and her husband Pat are generously donating 100% of every sale to Cat Depot's cats. "We are convinced," Diana said, "that Cat Depot is absolutely dedicated to their mission to help cats in need."

Available in Cat Depot's gift store for \$9.99 or online at www.catdepot.org, BLACKCAT will save lives. Thank you, Diana and Pat for your compassionate hearts.

Babs Is Beautiful

Much like the movie, *Home Alone*, Babs suddenly found herself abandoned. Upon arrival at Cat Depot, she was frightened and confused. Volunteers and staff worked to brighten her mood, but it did little to restore her confidence. After a weekend retreat with Dr. Sherry Zenor, Babs blossomed and became curious and full of life.

To further her socialization skills, Babs entered our foster rotation



Beautiful Babs

program. She greeted her caregiver daily by purring loudly and loved playing with a feather toy. Babs also liked being stroked under her chin and would lick her foster mother's hand. She basked in the sun during the day and according to her foster mom, Babs was gentle, sweet and a pleasure to have in her home.

With her newly gained confidence, Babs is now ready for a happy ending all her own.

Kiki

Occasionally, a special someone comes into our shelter and asks to adopt one of our cats who is most deserving of a home. One that comes to mind is Kiki, a three-year-old polydactyl (extra toes) with way too much seniority.

Kiki came to Cat Depot from a "hoarding" household. Barely a year old, she arrived filthy, full of fleas, and with four young kittens in tow.



Kiki is looking for love

Growing up with lots of cats and very few humans, she was shy, but sweet. Kiki just returned from a successful foster home program that appears to have helped her socialization skills.

Kiki now appreciates a loving home environment and looks forward to a forever family of her own. Please have a heart and visit Kiki in Donovan's Den.

Storm Sewer Survivors

Beginning in March 2011, a local student began feeding two cats who had taken up residence in a local storm sewer system. Growing concern over their welfare escalated when the female cat gave birth to four kittens.

In April, Cat Depot volunteers joined forces and captured Sunshine, one of the four-week-old kittens.

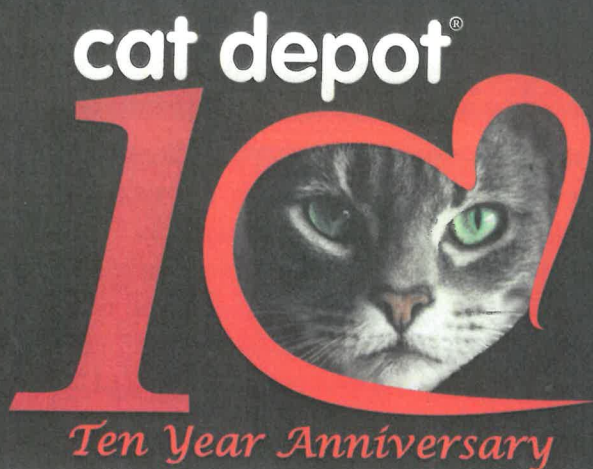
Two months later, severe weather and extensive flooding made it imperative to relocate all of the family members. A rescue volunteer climbed through sewage and fire ants to reach the remainder of the family who had moved further into the drain. The kittens were captured, but the frightened parents fled.

The following day, both parents, obviously searching for their young, were observed peering into the window of a local business. A very moving reunion occurred later that afternoon when both parents were trapped and reunited with their kittens in a foster home.

It took four long months, Cat Depot's medical intervention, and many dedicated volunteers to give this story about Sunshine, Pippa, Pepper, Merlin, Misty (the mother), and Storm (the father) a happy ending. The entire family is available for adoption and waiting for you at Cat Depot.



The rescued kittens, Sunshine, Pippa, Pepper and Merlin



Who would have thought . . .

the rescue of one cat would lead to
the adoption of thousands

Let's Party!!

Jail Break!!

Adoption Event, Saturday and Sunday, November 17-18, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Raffle Drawings

Refreshments

Ask the Vet
(available to
answer questions)



Our cats are
breaking out!

Bail set at:

- \$10 black adult cats & kittens
- \$75 adult cats
- \$100 kittens

Join Us In Celebrating
Cat Depot's
10th Anniversary!

Forget Me Not Gala

It's All About Cats...

Save the Date
Saturday, Feb. 9, 2013

Laurel Oak Country Club



cat depot®