



The Cat People news

1930 18th Street, Bakersfield, CA 93301. 661 327-4706

www.thecatpeople.org

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Safe Hallowe'en

We've finally awakened to the fact that Hallowe'en poses significant dangers to children – so much so that no responsible parent lets their kids go trick or treating alone, and many communities hold "Safe Hallowe'en" parties at churches and community centers. But have you considered what this holiday can mean for your cat or dog? How are you planning to keep them safe this Hallowe'en? Here are some things to think about.

Take Precautions

- Protect your cat on Hallowe'en by keeping it indoors. A cat that's out at night with trick or treaters might get spooked by their excited voices and costumes and could easily run off and get lost.
- If you have a black cat, you should be especially careful about keeping it indoors on Hallowe'en. Some people dislike black cats and may try to harm or frighten them.
- Keep your cat confined and away from the door while you're greeting trick or treaters to prevent it darting outdoors. Put it in a back bedroom with the radio playing softly.
- If your cat has a dog companion, the dog may feel that his territory is being invaded by the constant onslaught of visitors. Keeping your dog in a secluded area of the house will help it stay calm and prevent it from growling or possibly biting your visiting ghouls or goblins.
- Keep candles and jack o'lanterns out of your cat's reach. These are a fire hazard if knocked over, and can burn a kitty's paws if played with.
- Keep Hallowe'en candy well away from all pets – it can make them very sick. In fact, chocolate can be fatal to both cats and dogs. (If you suspect that your cat or dog has eaten chocolate, you need to call the emergency vet AT ONCE.



Bootsie, a cute black and white 5 month old female, is ready to go to her forever home.

- Celebrate Hallowe'en with your pet by giving it goodies that are made especially for its species, like dog biscuits or cat treats.
- If you're considering giving someone a black cat to celebrate Hallowe'en, please don't. Most animal welfare groups will not adopt out black cats around Hallowe'en to keep them out of the hands of people who wish them ill. Give your friend a gift certificate and let them come and select their own pet.

Use Common Sense

I don't know about you, but I would never leave my cats outside on Hallowe'en (or any other time, either, for that matter). Animal welfare groups report an alarming rise in the number of people reporting lost cats around Hallowe'en and an equally alarming rise in the number of cats brought to shelters. And groups like Last Chance for Animals in LA tell us that black cats, white cats, and grey cats are targets for pet theft in the two weeks preceding Hallowe'en. So use common sense and you and your cat will come through this holiday just fine.

Gift Shop News

At The Cat People Gift Shop, we're already preparing for the holiday shopping season. Be sure to drop by during our **Holiday Open House on Saturday, Nov. 15th, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.** The shop will be festively decorated. While you're shopping, there'll be goodies to munch on and hot cider to sip. We have a unique selection of gifts for the cat lovers on your shopping list. For kitty, we have Hot Cat toys, spring toys and feather toys to stuff in their stockings. Don't forget to bring something for the Hart Park cats. We need your old towels and blankets for the park shelter to help the kitties there stay warm as the weather turns colder. We'd also appreciate donations of dry cat food and large cans of wet food (no seafood, please). Thank you for your support in caring for the abandoned felines at Hart Park.

Our team of volunteers continues to grow at the Gift Shop. We'd like to welcome Amy and Lisa to our staff. Amy works at a nearby winery during the week, but she is able to work at the shop a couple of Saturdays a month. Lisa is studying to be a veterinary technician at Bakersfield College. You can meet her when you visit the shop on Fridays. If you'd like to become a shop volunteer, contact our volunteer coordinator through our website, or you can leave a message on our phone at 327-4706. You can even fill out a volunteer application online at our website now. We especially need volunteers who can staff on weekdays.

The Gift Shop is open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday. You can find us at 1930 18th Street in the HP Sears Building in downtown Bakersfield. We'll be closed on Thanksgiving Day, but we'll be open for business until Christmas week. Our volunteers will be taking a break then so they can enjoy the holidays with their family and friends. We'll open again right after New Year's Day. At this time, we'd like to thank all our loyal customers and hope they enjoy the upcoming holiday season with their friends, family and furry companions

by Marleen Ray

Food Assistance Program

Before our report on the Food Assistance Program, we'd like to point out that our organization increased the monthly funding of our Spay Today and Colonies Assistance (CAP) programs during the summer. Thanks to your generosity, we've issued around \$1,000 in spay/neuter vouchers every month this past summer. That amounts to about one \$30 voucher to help get a female cat spayed every day of the month. We've even given out full-cost vouchers to people who could not afford to pay anything to get their cat altered. So, give yourselves a pat on the back for helping to curb the unwanted growth in the cat population in our area.

During July and August, we distributed 800 lbs. of dry cat food and 320 cans of wet food to families needing help feeding their cats regularly, including three requests for emergency assistance. Our thanks go out to the following supporters for their donations of cat food and supplies to this program and to our other activities aimed at improving the lives of our community cats: Freida Jackson; Jennifer Keller from Fantasy Frocks; Judy Keolker; Dinah McHone; Joyce Martinson; Susan Moore; Chris Olofson; Tom Pasek; Gloria Reynolds; Peggy Soltis, and to Erin for knitting dozens of kennel-size blankets.

by Marleen Ray



This trio of kitties plays tunes when you wind them up. They'd make a great gift for cat fanciers on your Christmas list.



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***We commend the efforts of The Cat People.
They turn forsaken felines into furry friends.***

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Who We Are

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT	Barb Hays
VICE PRESIDENT	Brenda Bynum
TREASURER	Pam Ames
SECRETARY	Shelley Ash

CHAIRPERSONS

SHOP & OFFICE MANAGER	Marleen Ray
VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR	Dianna Knapp
WEBSITE/PETFINDER	Shelley Ash
WEBSITE/FACEBOOK	Courtney Clerico
WAYSIDING	Barbara Kitchen
MEMBERSHIP	Shelley Ash

To contact any of the above personnel please call:
327-4706

Sanctuary Report

Many of you know of our dream to build a sanctuary/office/gift store/adoption center somewhere in Bakersfield or the immediate vicinity, but some do not. In case you don't know, that's what our "Sanctuary Fund" is dedicated to. We have had some very generous donors in the past and have accumulated a large amount of cash (which is in a restricted account) but we're not quite at the total. We estimate we will need about \$300,000. When we get to half of that amount we can start looking for matching grants -- so you see, we're almost but not quite there!

All of us on the Board, and all our volunteers and supporters, share our dream of a place where adoptable cats can roam free in indoor/outdoor quarters, and where we can run a really spiffy gift shop. In the meantime, please keep those donations coming. Any little bit helps. Our total to date is:

\$133,279.18

Photo Gallery



Thelma and Louise were adopted by the Tillett family.



A former Park cat, Bailey now lives with Cat People member Frieda Jackson.



Ross and Ralph are available and will be 4 months old soon.



Milo was adopted by Terri Goldstein.

The Park Report

Feeders and cats alike, I am sure, are anxiously awaiting cooler days with fall now here. We are hoping maybe the plentiful, huge red ants always circling the cat food will go underground as well. Remind us never again to complain about feeding during the cold months!!

Thanks to some wonderful community support and our ever diligent hard-working park volunteers, some darling abandoned park felines found some new homes over the summer months, while others are now safe in foster care. Little Emily, featured in our August newsletter, is now living in Sacramento with her loving new owner. Star, a gorgeous park kitten also found a home, thanks to the efforts of rescuer Carol Lair. One of the three orange kittens found by Cindy and Jill found a new home while the other two are enjoying the safety and love with foster mom, Brianna. Three little frightened kittens were coaxed into a carrier by our patient helpers Ann and Carol; two were adopted in September, and one is still in foster care with Ann. Jill and Cindy recently brought in a darling little black kitten and hopefully by the time you read this, she has found a home. Often, when we are out of foster care and an emergency rescue must be done, it is boarded and shown at Coffee Road Animal Hospital, thanks to the generosity of Cindy and Jill.

Compassionate community members often visit the park and a few times a month will stop our feeders and make a donation to purchase some cat food, inquire about our park efforts or just thank us for the support given the abandoned park cats. A few weeks ago, however, I had the surprise of the summer when a very gracious lady pulled up and asked if she could throw some bread to the cats. I explained that we made sure they were fed well seven days a week. She handed me \$100 and said she hoped that would help. This certainly made our day and will help with our food costs. Another kind soul gave us a \$100 check when I met her at Auburn Vets. It is so heart-warming to see these tokens of generosity for our cats, not just from strangers but from all of our members who care about the welfare of these often-forgotten felines.

We invite you to join our Facebook family to see some of the great rescues and follow their progress. Courtney also likes to highlight follow-up adoptions as well. It is so satisfying for all of us.

Cooler nights are approaching so remember that we always need blankets, bedding, towels and old small rugs. Of course, if you have a few extra cans of cat food or a bag of dry the cats will really appreciate that, too. Cooler weather brings hearty appetites. Drop items off at our Gift Shop.

If you would like to tour the park or be a substitute feeder, contact me through our website or call the shop. Happy Fall weather!

by Barb Hays



This little park rescue is getting ready to meet Dr. Utt for her medical exam.

Automatic Giving Donors

Pam & Ed Ames
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Diana O'Neil
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Dorann Ruby
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Donald P. St. Clair
Claudia Sobel
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Joan Tambosso
Shirona Thomas
L.Y. Warrick
Bill Walker
Marie White
Debra Wingo



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Bakersfield, CA 93306
Telephone: (661) 872-0363

www.vethospitalbakersfield.com



The Cat's Meow

Every issue, as space permits, we make every effort to gratefully thank the generous people who have helped us,

PARK FEEDERS

Shelley Ash
Penny Calderon
Margaret Harrison
Barb Hays
Lee Anne Hendricks
Cindy & Jim Joslyn
Frieda Jackson
Dianna Knapp
Carol Lair
Ann Lariviere
Judy Long
Bob Rutledge
Laura Shaw
Jill Turner

DONORS

Phillip Anderson
Shelley Ash
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Patricia Basset
Jane Beckett
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Debbie Boone
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Linda Underwood
United Way
Katherine Walters
Sandra Wendt
Jaime Weyand
Cristina Wilkerson
Rosellyn Witer
The Woman's Club of
Bakersfield
Dorothy Wright

ADOPTIONS

Olivia Andrews (Gray
& white kitten)
Alexis Bingham
(Tiger)
Sally DesLaurier
(Jiminy Cricket;
Katness Evergreen;
Tarsier & Bush
baby)
Terri Goldstein (Boom
& Milo)
Kelsey Grogan (Toki)
Dallas McDonald
(Black & white
kitten)
Crystal Rose (Star)
Debbie Tillett (Thelma
& Louise)
Jonathan Trustman
(Gorge)
Hannah Turkel (Emily
Mill)

SPECIAL FRIENDS

In honor of James C. Jeffery III (*Donor's name withheld by request*)

In memory of Patches, beloved feline companion of Christopher & Serena Ash – Evelyn Ash Turner

In loving memory of our dear little cat, Chester – Diane Karch

In memory of the Fariss Family kitties, Isabella, Sylvester & Stafford – Tom & Sylvia Howard

In memory of Blackjack Theotig – Laura Stockton

In honor of the feeders, rescuers, fosters, vets, volunteers, and to all the kitties who enjoy safe loving homes, thanks to The Cat People – Gwenneth Barnes

In loving memory of my cousin, Dale Denison – Beryl Denison

In memory of Dale Denison – Myrna Olsen

To honor my husband, Bob, on our anniversary – E.J. Rutledge

To celebrate the birthday of my wife, E.J. – Bob Rutledge



Kitties love to be brushed and the Zoom Groom is a favorite.. It is available at our Gift Shop and would make a great stocking stuffer.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Count me in! I'd like to help THE CAT PEOPLE provide services to Bakersfield homeless cats. Enclosed is my check for: \$_____ to be applied to:

- | | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|-----------------------|
| ___ \$15 Junior (under 18) | ___ \$100 Sustaining member | AND an extra donation of \$_____ to be applied to: | |
| ___ \$15 Senior (65 & over) | ___ \$500 Supporting member | ___ Senior Citizen's Asst. Fund | ___ Sanctuary Fund |
| ___ \$25 Basic membership | ___ \$1000 Lifetime member | ___ Park Cat Care Program | ___ Food Pantry Fund |
| ___ \$50 Contributing member | | ___ SPAY TODAY Program | ___ where needed most |

Name _____

Phone _____ email _____

Address _____

Make checks payable to THE CAT PEOPLE and mail to P.O. Box 13610, Bakersfield, CA 93389 www.thecatpeople.org.

THE CAT PEOPLE is a registered non-profit organization 501(c)3. Your contribution is tax-deductible.

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