



Meowing Messenger

709 South 8th St. (Between Gum & Hickory), Fernandina Beach, FL • 904-321-2267 • Email: CatsAngels@CatsAngels.com

CATS ANGELS THRIFT STORE HAVE YOU VISITED LATELY?

If you have, thank you very much. If you have not, please walk through our door and be greeted with "Hello, welcome and please look around." We have a new, dedicated and helpful team of volunteers eager to assist you with your purchases and provide helpful advice with your selections.

The Thrift Store displays new merchandise every day thanks to the many donations we receive. The newly expanded kitchen area has gently used items in clean, working condition. We are especially proud of Cats Angels Thrift Store Pet Boutique which offers a large array of new toys, crates, carriers, cat trees as well as items which have been lovingly used. The Library Room is a great place to browse our large selection of used books and magazines.

The Thrift Store is open Monday through Friday from 11 AM to 5 PM - Saturday from 10 AM through 5 PM and offers everything from fine china, crystal and jewelry to that book, game or puzzle for a cold, rainy day. For a special treat, visit the Cats Angels booth located in Trailer Park Collectibles, 702 Centre Street in Fernandina's historic district which is open daily.

A special thank you to our donors who provide us with quality items to pass along at great prices and to our loyal customers who support us with their purchases.

The Thrift Store has always been the backbone of Cats Angels' revenue to support our Spay/Neuter, TNVR (Trap-Neuter-Vaccinate-Return to Caregiver) and Adoption Programs. Cats Angels is a 501c(3) non-profit volunteer based organization and receives no government monies.

Don't forget like us on Facebook and see a pictures of the items on display for sale every day.



Life Lessons from Lydia



Ask Miss Lydia... Tables Turned

Hello peeps. This issue we are changing things up a bit and instead I am the one asking the questions. I had an opportunity to sit on the lap of our wonderful volunteer Tess Sopp recently and ask her a few questions about her volunteering experience with Cats Angels.

Ms. Lydia: So, Tess do tell me where were you born?

Tess: Well I was born in Bonn, Germany which is a lovely city on the banks of the Rhine. You know it is considered the unofficial second capital of Germany.

ML: I understand you have quite a large family

T: Oh yes, I have 3 adult children, 9 grandchildren, and now 3 great grandchildren. All are such a blessing to Ebby and I.

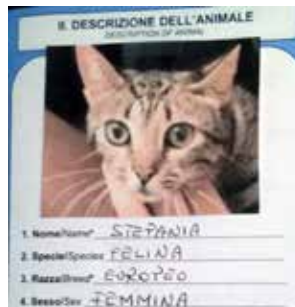
ML: So how long have you been with Cats Angels?

T: Oh my, I have been with Cats Angels over 15 years now. I remember meeting in Ms. Libby's house many years ago and it was only a handful of us then.

Travels with Stephanie

by Tony Koziol

I recently had the unique experience of transporting a lovely young cat named Stefania from Italy to the United States. She was adopted by a family in California from Passione Gatti di Canepina (which is run by Cats Angels volunteer Rose Slattery). It was a bit of an unnerving experience, mostly because of the fact that I did not know what to expect. I learned, from personal research, that the cat would need a Pet Health Certification and a pet passport to travel from Italy. Cats are not routinely vaccinated against rabies in Italy, because it is not considered to be a risk factor. However, the rabies vaccination is required for entry to the United States and to obtain the pet passport. Further, a veterinary health exam, no more than 3 days prior to obtaining the passport is required and once issued the pet passport is only valid for 10 days. This required multiple trips for me and Stephanie to the veterinarian and government offices to obtain the health certificate and passport.



At the last visit to the veterinarian, I was given a sedative for her should she need it while travelling. He was not willing to give me a sedative for the trip. Stefania is a very quiet cat. During the course of her travels, I only heard her make a noise one time when I had to remove her from her carrier at airport security. After her carrier had been x-rayed and we had gone through the metal detector, I was able to place her back in her carrier and had no further issues. During the flight, I would regularly lift her carrier from under the seat in front of me and pet her, or just lay a hand upon her to calm her and let her know that I was there for her. She made it safely to Newark and I was never asked to provide her pet passport to anyone for viewing. Stefania is now living in California with her new forever family.

ML: What in your opinion is the best part of volunteering with Cats Angels?

T: I think that volunteering really completes me. I look forward to my cleaning shift and working with the Animal Expo each year, as well as working with the TNVR program. It is the satisfaction of a job well done.

ML: What would you say is the biggest change you have seen during your volunteer career?

T: I think the biggest impact is the number of homeless cats decreasing. It wasn't very long ago that so many cats and kittens were living without food or medical care. Many found hit by cars, starving and in need of medical help. But now cats like these are spayed and neutered, vaccinated, given medical attention and have humans who make sure they eat daily and have shelter.

ML: Tess what is your biggest inspiration?

T: Well without doubt that would be my husband Ebby. He has supported me and worked so hard by my side. But also the other volunteers. It is such a wonderful group of people who come together without any kind of compensation. The cleaning staff, the store clerks and the Board of Directors all inspire each other daily.

Well folks there you have it. Very inspirational words from a wonderful woman....and one of my favorite humans. Thank you, Tess, for taking time to speak with me.

Meooooooooooooowwwwwww

Ms. Lydia

DO YOU LIVE IN CLAY COUNTY OR KNOW SOMEONE WHO DOES?

Clay Humane is offering completely FREE CAT SPAY/NEUTERS! No qualifying paperwork or special requirements... all you must do is have a cat and make an appointment. No excuses! Just call (904) 276-SPAY.

The Clay Humane Spay It Forward initiative is aimed at lowering animal intake in area shelters to reducing euthanasia in companion animals. Thirty-five percent of cats in U.S. households are not spayed or neutered, yet the procedure is one of the most effective ways to reduce the homeless pet population! BISSELL Pet Foundation has awarded Clay Humane \$8,000 toward their FREE Spay It Forward program. Thank you BISSELL Pet Foundation for your continued support.

Spay It Forward! Call (904) 276-SPAY

**SPAY AND NEUTER
THE RESPONSIBLE SOLUTION**

Cats Angels Charity Night is the 2nd Thursday of every month at Four Seasons Bistro on A1A/200 just off

**Four Seasons
Bistro**

Amelia Island. They have great food in a relaxed atmosphere. Four Seasons Bistro gives 10% of sales back to selected charities in Nassau County. **Be sure to tell your server you are there to support Cats Angels for us to receive credit.**

Visit www.fourseasonsbistro.biz for menu info and reservations can be made through opentable.com

100+ Cats in January = Spay/Neuter and TNVR

Success

In January 100+ cats went through the Spay/Neuter and TNVR (Trap-Neuter-Vaccinate-Return to Caregiver) Programs at Cats Angels. Most were feral or community cats and half of those were females. With approximately 50 female cats not reproducing, it will make a big impact on the upcoming kitten season helping to keep our area shelters from being overcrowded.

**1 FEMALE CAT
AND HER OFFSPRING
can produce 40,000 cats
in just 7 years.**

visit our website www.catsangels.com



Cat Tips: Myth Busters

Cats Only Purr When They Are Happy

Purring is the first sound a kitten makes at the early age of 48 hours old. Cats purr mainly at times of comfort and contentment but may also purr when in pain.

Cats Always Land on Their Feet

This is not entirely 100% true. While most cats in fact do land on their feet, there are many factors to consider. Specifically, the age and health of the falling cat as well as the height of the fall itself play a large factor. The older and less healthy the cat is, the least likely the chances are of the cat landing safely as their reflexes are not as quick of that of a younger, healthier cat. When cats begin to fall they shift their balance from the moment the fall begins. A cat's body reflexively corrects its course so that his feet are in position to hit the ground first. His legs will absorb the shock of the landing. A healthy cat with quick reflexes will likely be able to land on their feet and survive a fall from 5 stories or below with minimal injury. *Please don't test this at home!*

Courtesy of Vet Depot



From the Board of Directors

New Decade, New Direction – Nearing Our Goal

In September of 2010, Cats Angels Board of Directors announced to its volunteers that it would be taking a new direction and returning to our grass roots of providing low cost spay/neuter assistance and TNVR (Trap-Neuter-Vaccinate-Return to Caregiver) for Nassau County. As per our mission statement, "Cats Angels, Inc. SPCA will continue its work of ending the animal overpopulation crisis by providing a community-wide low cost sterilization, vaccination and adoption program." Cats Angels directed advertising to the local community and began to exclusively work with First Coast No More Homeless Pets who provides these services at a lower cost. Since 2001, Cats Angels has helped with spaying and neutering of over 17,000 cats. Over half of these cats were colony or feral cats who went through our TNVR Program. The cats continue their lives and without constant reproducing the colonies eventually phase out. Most importantly, the cats were not taken to a shelter where they would have been killed.

Cats Angels continues to "provide for the well-being of animals who are abandoned, injured, subjected to unfair or cruel treatment or otherwise in need." Intake was determined on a case by case basis and space availability. Overcrowding was placing both the animals and our volunteers at risk. Over the past 7 years, our intake has been decreasing. This is due in part to Nassau Humane Society and Nassau County Animal Services actively participating in spay/neuter and TNVR and the positive impact both programs are having on their shelters. The cats we intake now are mostly cats and kittens from dire circumstances, injured or very young kittens who have been trapped and can be socialized and adopted.

Our adoption outlet is the Cats Angels Adoption Center; we no longer have adoption outlets in the area pet retail stores. We are focused to find loving homes for the adult cats that are living at our Fernandina Beach Adoption Center. Many of these adult cats were overlooked for adoption because of the number of kittens we had in the past.

We are so grateful for the generous donations we continue to receive from our supporters. It enables us to sustain our low cost spay/neuter and TNVR programs as well as take care of the approximately 60 cats in our care. Cats Angels takes pride in providing a loving, clean, safe environment for these cats as well as taking care of their medical needs until they find their forever homes.

Cats Angels, Inc. SPCA Mission Statement

Cats Angels, Inc. SPCA (Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals) believes that animals, as living creatures, have value beyond economic measurement, and are entitled to legal, moral and ethical consideration and protection.

Cats Angels, Inc. SPCA will act as an advocate on behalf of animals and as an enforcer of their rights;

Cats Angels, Inc. SPCA will provide for the well-being of animals who are abandoned, injured, subjected to unfair or cruel treatment, or otherwise in need;

Cats Angels, Inc. SPCA will continue its work of ending the animal overpopulation crisis by providing a community-wide low-cost sterilization, vaccination, and adoption program;

Cats Angels, Inc. SPCA will cultivate respect and awareness for the rights and needs of animals through an educational program



Tenth Annual Nassau County Animal Expo

Hosted by **CATS ANGELS, INC. SPCA**

Saturday, March 24th, 2018

Atlantic Recreation Auditorium • 2500 Atlantic Ave., Fernandina Beach
10 am to 3 pm

ADMISSION IS FREE

FEATURING...



The purpose of the Expo is to:

- Introduce the public to the various area rescue groups
- Educate the public on the importance of spay/neuter/vaccination
- Promote Adoption of rescued animals
- Promote the respect and nurturing of all creatures that need our intervention

We will feature animals for adoption from all the local rescue groups.
Pet groomers and retailers will also be attending.

For every 5 lbs. of Dry Food Donated, a Ticket will be given to be eligible for Door Prizes.

THERE WILL ALSO BE A BAKE SALE AND A SILENT AUCTION.

Check us out on Facebook

Or call: **904-321-2267**

All Spayed/Neutered & Well behaved pets on leashes are welcome.

SENIOR CATS RULE!

As Cats Angels cares about the well being, health and quality of life for all of our cats, we are starting to see our 'senior' population increasing. All of the seniors are wonderful cats and each is unique in personality and story. These cats have not given up on finding a "forever" home and neither have we. Please stop by and meet them and more of our senior felines. If you cannot adopt, please consider our Sponsorship Program for one or more.



Gina (far left) sports her very short tail with a little bit of cattitude. She is a beautiful brown tabby cat with almond shaped green eyes. Gina is always one of the first to greet visitors unless, of course, she's napping in the sun.

Chatty Cathy (left) is a petite girl with black and white tuxedo markings. She is a very friendly cat. Chatty Cathy always has a story to share with you and is a good listener too.

Victor (far right) is one of the most handsome cats in the Adoption Center. He's a good size boy with black tabby fur and a white chest. Victor is 10 years old and lived at Cats Angels until he was adopted a few years ago. Sadly, his owner passed and Victor came back to his first home.

Kiki (right) is a sweet dilute calico with gray, beige and white fur. Kiki recently underwent extensive dental surgery and now she is back to enjoying one of her favorite things - Fancy Feast canned food!



YES, I want to help the Cats at Cats Angels.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Donation Amount \$ _____ **YOUR DONATIONS HELP CATS ANGELS SAVE LIVES**

Visit www.catsangels.com to learn more about the four levels in our Sponsorship Program and donate through PayPal or circle your level of sponsorship here on this form and send to us. You will receive a special Thank You from the kitty you sponsor.

- \$25 Whisker Licking Good Level - helps to purchase cat food
- \$50 Helping Paw Level - to cover yearly vet checks and vaccinations
- \$110 Gold Mouse Level - will cover the cost of FIV/Feline Leukemia testing, spay/neuter and vaccines.
- \$200 Cheshire Cat Level - will help cover the costs of dental treatment for our cats

If you don't want to sponsor, your tax deductible donations are urgently needed and always greatly appreciated. A donation of:

- \$10 purchases a rabies shot
- \$25 buys a feline leukemia/FIV combo test
- \$30 will neuter one boy kitty
- \$60 pays for one spay that will prevent thousands of unwanted births

Please make checks payable to Cats Angels, Inc. SPCA and mail to P.O. Box 16072 Fernandina Beach, FL 32035 in the enclosed envelope. *The kitties Thank You!*



CATS ANGELS, INC. SPCA

MAILING ADDRESS:

P.O. Box 16072

Fernandina Beach, Florida 32035

NONPROFIT ORG.
US POSTAGE PAID
Fernandina Bch., FL
PERMIT NO. 48



SATURDAY, MARCH 24

10 AM TO 3 PM

ATLANTIC RECREATIONAL CENTER

ATLANTIC AVENUE, FERNANDINA BEACH, FL

ADMISSION IS FREE

CURRENT RESIDENT OR

Fresh roasted and ground selections will be available at the Animal Expo

Every Sip Helps Save a Stray



Our Morning Mews Breakfast Blend is a smooth light-bodied coffee freshly roasted and packaged in Florida. Roasts include Breakfast Blend - regular and decaf, Roastmaster's Blend and Frisky Feline French Roast. Purchase a 12 oz. bag for \$10 at our Thrift Store. Call (904) 321-2267 or email to catsangels@catsangels.com for shipping details.

Garage Sale leftovers?

We accept clean, working items except clothing, computers or old TV's during business hours at Cats Angels Thrift Store.

Donations always appreciated

Adopt from Cats Angels

Cats Angels Adoption Center is located at 709 S. 8th Street in Fernandina Beach on Amelia Island is open Monday through Friday 11 AM - 4 PM and Saturday 11 AM - 4 PM.

Visit Petfinder.com or our website catsangels.com to see their pictures and read about Cats Angels kitties waiting for their forever homes.

www.catsangels.com



Watson Realty Corp. REALTORS®

Lesia Freeman Waldrip
REALTOR®

Direct: 904-556-2072
Fax: 904-261-9443
Toll Free: 800-395-4517
LWaldrip@WatsonRealtyCorp.com
LesiaOnAmelia.com

3321 South Fletcher Ave.
Fernandina Beach, FL 32034



Halo says, "Aluminum cans help homeless cats"! A collection bin is in the parking lot at our Thrift Store 709 South 8th Street, Fernandina Beach, FL.



EVERY DOLLAR YOU DONATE IS VERY IMPORTANT

Cats Angels receives no government funding.

All of our revenue is raised by private donations, grants and fund raising. The Nassau County Animal Expo, calendar sales, Coins for Kitties and various events throughout the year help bring in much needed money to carry on our Spay/Neuter, TNR and Adoption Programs. These monies help us give the best care possible to all the cats, especially our Adoption Center kitties.