



Humane News

News for the friends and supporters of Alley Cat Advocates

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MISSION

To provide for the humane treatment of unowned cats in our region by directing a Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) program in the safest, most efficient and cost effective way possible.

Making Louisville the safest city in the country to be a community cat.

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We're Open and Helping More than Ever!

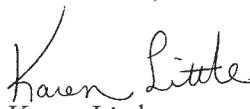
Just under six months ago, Alley Cat Advocates officially opened the first and only Community Cat Complex in the country. Designed to provide all community cat services under one roof, the opportunities were endless. And then came COVID-19 and all its early ramifications. But we kept our work going through it all. Today, we are so very proud of our community for supporting us as we continued, and continue today, to provide much needed spay/neuter services to our community cats.

It is the volunteers of whom we are proud. The volunteers who felt safe continued to come to the Community Cat Complex throughout the crisis and contributed to the work in large and small ways. Others worked from home to make masks and cut covers for the traps our caretaker's use. It is our supporters and friends — that is YOU! — of whom we are

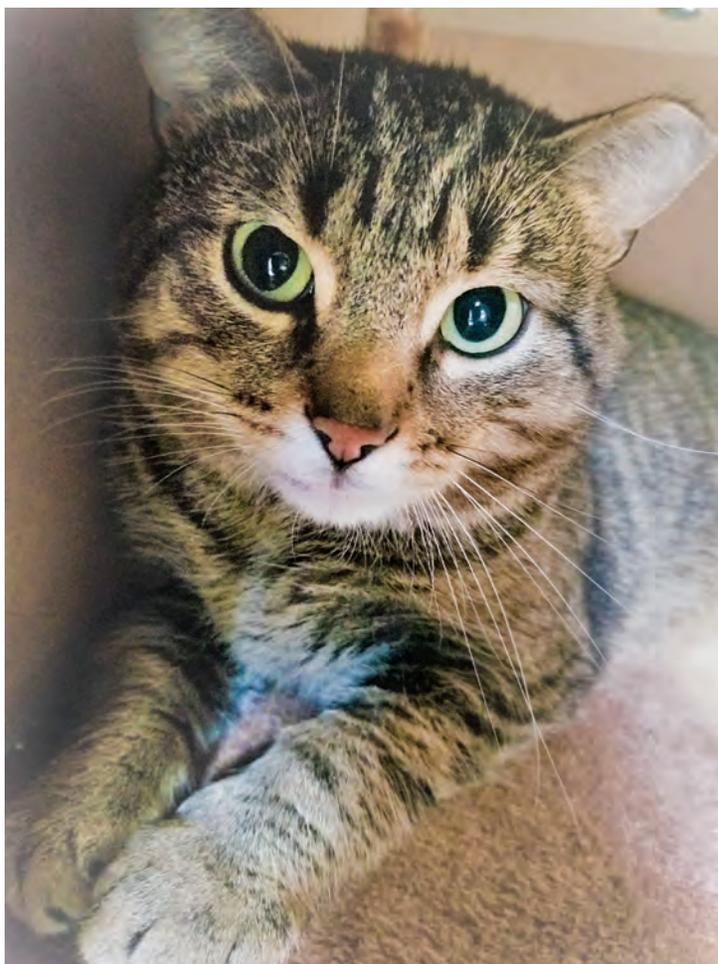
proud. You continued to send well-wishes and supplies and hard-earned dollars that allowed us to make the most of this awesome facility during the initial challenging days of COVID-19. And the caretakers. Who could not be proud of them? Trapping in isolation, handing over their beloved cats in the Community Cat Complex parking lot for their surgeries and returning to pick them up — from the parking lot — to take them home.

Challenges remain, of course. Please continue to contribute — in ways large and small — to this important work. Important to the cats, for sure, and to the caretakers who love them!

For the cats,


Karen Little
Executive Director

Putting Them Back Together Again



Meet Mr. Johnson. He had quite a rough time of it on the streets. He was one of those shy, introverted kitties who got picked on all the time, it seems. He came to us with a broken left front wrist and more puncture wounds than we were able to find . . . until they opened up and showed themselves over and over again. But we did not give up on him and he started to appreciate some of us who cared for him.

Months later, he is one of those awesome happy endings. He came to us to get neutered, battered and bruised with holes, literally, everywhere on his body. But time and care and love and patience won and he's a sweet, FAT guy now. He's still introverted and shy, but boy is he shiny. (And, really, he is on the tubby side!)

Miracles like Mr. Johnson happen over and over at Alley Cat Advocates. The cats suited to going from house to house to catch a bite to eat or to sleep on the lawn furniture or to roll in the grass get spayed or neutered and go back to their (usually many) people. The others get put back together again and find a new life.

How awesome is that? Join us in this lifesaving work. Make a donation today at <https://alleycatadvocates.org/make-a-donation/>



The Easiest Gift of All

Donating monthly is the easiest giving of all. Monthly donors provide a regular monthly gift that is automatically transferred from a credit card or your bank account and can be suspended at any time. No matter the amount, your monthly donation has serious impact. Knowing we can count on receiving your gift every month helps us prepare for the unseen challenges around the corner.

Thank you to all who contribute in this way. For those interested in doing so, please go to this link for easy instructions — <https://alleycatadvocates.org/make-a-monthly-donation> — or call us for assistance.



Patio for Cats? A Catio, of Course!

While our focus is on spay/neuter services for community cats — and the huge majority of cats we help need nothing but that — sometimes cats come to us with medical concerns. Of course, if that concern can be treated so that kitty can return home, happy and healthy, we treat it and home they go! That is the goal of TNR!

But sometimes the issue is not correctable such that kitty can go back to their outside home. Maybe we discover the kitty has diabetes or just did not demonstrate that they do well outside. Let's admit it, not all of us are comfortable foraging for ourselves out in the wild! So they (with their caretaker's permission) get offered a special place in our Color Me Special Suite and its connected "Nigel's Catio."

A catio is a safe, enclosed space outside that is connected to an inside space

So what is this catio idea? And who is Nigel?

A catio is a safe, enclosed space outside that is connected to an inside space designed and built with cats in mind. Through a cat door cut in the concrete brick, the cats in the Color Me Special Suite can go in and out to their heart's content. Too cold outside? Inside I go! A wonderful sunny day? Ahhh!! That sun feels good.

And Nigel? He is a beloved outside cat of a special couple who saw what a difference Alley Cat Advocates and TNR

made in their neighborhood. With the creation of Nigel's Catio, they are paying it forward. They sponsored the creation of the space and the awesome landscaping that attracts birds and butterflies to keep the kitties entertained. But no worries. The cats AND the birds and butterflies will stay safely away from one another. You should see those birds tease the cats!

And the greatest thing of all? These cats are up for adoption through our partnership with Louisville Metro Animal Services. So if you are inclined to adopt a blind kitty, a diabetic kitty, a kitty with early stage breast cancer or any of a number of ailments making them truly special, please reach out. The space currently houses nine such felines and they would love to meet you!



Summer Tips for Cool Community Cats



Summer can be a dangerous season for community cats. Here are some suggestions for keeping your community cats healthy, happy, and cool.

Food and Water

- Cats need water! Provide fresh water at all times.
- Place water bowls in a cool, shaded area. Add a few ice cubes to keep the water cool.
- Add a little water to dry food on extremely hot days. Canned food attracts insects so use it sparingly. It does, however, provide additional hydration and nutrition.
- Put food out at a set time each day and pick it up within an hour. This prevents insects and other wildlife from visiting your site.
- To keep insects out, elevate food dishes, place your food dish in a slightly larger bowl filled with an inch of water, or put a ring of baking soda around the food dish.

Cool Places Are Best

- Make sure cats are not locked in sheds, garages, or cars as the heat will harm them.
- Do not leave a cat where there is no ventilation as the heat can cause heat stroke or death.
- If it is too hot for you, it is too hot for kitty!

Find more tips in our Cat Care Center at alleycatadvocates.org/communitycat-care-center/

Thanks for all you do to keep our feline friends safe!



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THE IMPACT WE MAKE TOGETHER



550

Kittens receiving lifesaving care each summer



49,000

Community cats spayed or neutered throughout our region



7,200

Calls for assistance answered annually



To learn more about how you can help community cats in Kentuckiana, please visit alleycatadvocates.org

