



# Forgotten Cats News

August 2023

## July Status:

In July, we sterilized 1929 cats and placed 173 cats into loving forever homes.

## Delco TNVR Program - A Win for Delco Cats!

By Collette O'Neal



Several weeks ago, Forgotten Cats trapper Sharon Sponheimer was driving through Chester, PA at night when she spotted a stray cat near a car wash. Curious, she asked the man sitting nearby if he knew where the cat came from and learned that it was one of several strays in an alley. The next day she and a fellow trapper went back and caught 32 cats. After being sterilized, vetted, and evaluated for friendliness, 11 of them returned to the community and 21 were ready for loving homes.

This is a handful of the 1,200+ cats throughout Delaware County that have been helped because of the Delco funding that serves low-income communities. *In the Fall of 2021, three generous donors came together to offer a matching campaign to help the cats of Delaware County. Together, along with*

*FC's dedicated supporters, \$60,000 was raised to support this mission.* Not only has the funding been instrumental in FC's own TNVR efforts but it also allowed smaller non-profits like Animal Friends of Lansdowne and Helping Paws of Upper Darby to increase their TNVR efforts in the county. One of the largest obstacles in TNVR is finding the funding to support the spay/neuter. This program eliminates that obstacle and allows these groups to focus all their energy into TNVR.

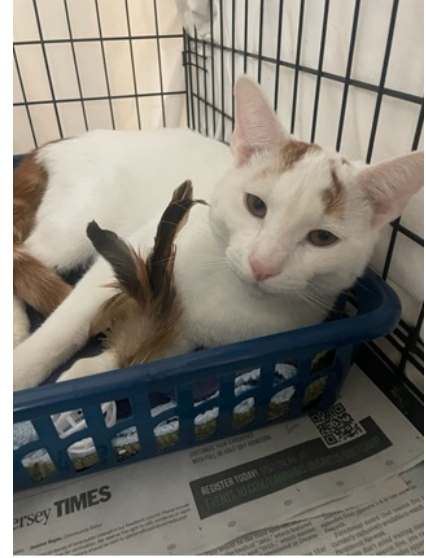
Even during the pandemic trappers like Sharon never stopped working, so everyone did their part to ensure our doors stayed open through all the restrictions. *As one of the only spay/neuter clinics available at the time, those short-term clients became dedicated*



*collaborators who continue to benefit from the program that FC supporters contribute to.*

Before having access to the Delco funding, Sharon says she only had the bandwidth to trap in Chester. Although she still focuses on that area, she has now expanded her footprint to far reaching areas like Springfield, Bryn Mawr, and Glen Mills.

*Some of her biggest projects included clearing a hoarding house of 30+ strays, rescuing a kitten from a carrier that children were tossing around like a ball, and trapping a mama cat that was shot with a bb gun.* These cats would have kept reproducing and been exposed to further neglect in ways that couldn't be remedied without proper intervention.



*Cat rescued after being dumped in Essington.*



*Cats rescued from hoarding situation.*

Despite all this, *one of the leading factors in the Delco overpopulation crisis is that 75% of townships do not have animal control or spay/neuter clinics within a reasonable distance.* More strays on the streets means more cats are likely to get accidentally run over or cause property damage due to marking behaviors. This ultimately creates tension between everyone and leads to mistrust towards those trying to help.

"Most people that live in these areas care about the cats and want to feed them, but there are just too many to manage. When we come in to help them get their colony under control, the neighbors are more neighborly because they don't feel overwhelmed. *People don't realize that a colony of four can quadruple in a year. You have to get in there as early as possible,*" she says.

So far this year Sharon and her small team have



trapped 735 cats and continue to average between 20 and 40 cats per week. She says she has been continually impressed by the commitment everyone at FC has shown to ensuring the mission continues, even when the clinic is at full capacity.

**“This program has been critical in helping us increase our numbers because we had the availability to fund it. When you need to fundraise on your own, that takes time out of your trapping capacity. When all you need to think about is how to spend the money correctly and the number of cats that need your help, you can stay focused on what’s in front of you.”**



As trappers' presence increases throughout the county, more communities become aware of Forgotten Cats and the variety of services we provide. To meet that need we built a second floor for our Trainer, PA location. The expansion includes additional holding space for cats coming in for spay/neuter, which will allow us to add more clinic days to help the 40,000+ homeless cats in Delco.



In the meantime, it's important for TNR advocates to educate others and help dispel any misconceptions that make people wary. A few of those myths include the idea that ear tipping causes permanent pain to the cat or that sterilized cats will lose their prey drive as good hunters. Also, many people are unaware that females as young as six months old can have litters, or that cats with genetic lineage will mate with each other.

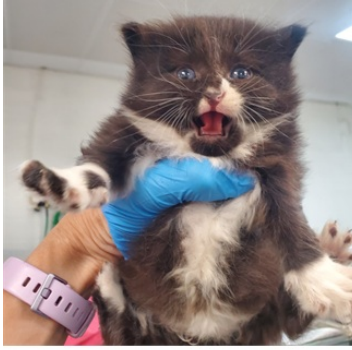
Another great way that community members can contribute is to be a guiding voice in their local government to ensure there are trapper friendly laws. Some towns like Brookhaven have been harder to work in due to strict regulations that close off neighborhoods needing urgent assistance.

These actions would be a massive help in making the next kitten season a little easier for all our dedicated trappers. One day Sharon hopes that each township has four to five trappers so that as soon as someone sees a homeless cat they can be picked up and be promptly cared for.

“People think that making the phone call is enough and get confused when they’re put on a waiting list. To truly make a difference in reducing the population in the long haul, the community has to educate each other, learn how to TNR, foster, adopt, and care for colony cats,” says Sharon.

We want to make sure that all communities continue to receive assistance through the Delco TNVR program. If you'd like to help us in that journey you can do so by sending a check or by PayPal with a “Delco cats” notation. As a volunteer run organization every donation goes straight back to the cats we help. If you'd like to learn more about the Capital Campaign currently going on for the Trainer facility expansion, please visit our website.





Delco TNVR Program – Rescued Kittens

## Trainer Facility at ZERO Intake . . . Can You Help?



This is the time of year when we bring in hundreds of cats and kittens every week. Currently, we are inundated with nursing mothers and babies. If fosters are not available, we are forced in most cases, to return the mom and kittens to where they were living outside. *We would prefer to put them in foster homes and then, once old enough, into our adoption centers.* The kittens we would like fostered range in age from a few days old to a few weeks. We also have

"bottle babies".

### **Please consider opening your home to foster a mom and kittens.**

They can be kept in a large dog crate which we will provide. All you need to do is provide food and water for the mom and clean her litter box once/day. They can stay in a basement, bathroom, or any spare room in your home. The crate is about 2' X 3' and can sit on the floor or table. The kittens will be ready for adoption in a few weeks' time and at that point we will take mom and kittens back.

**They are the cutest little balls of fur. You will get so much enjoyment from watching them develop and knowing that they will be going to homes where they will be cared for the rest of their lives.**

If you want to foster or if you need more information, please contact [info@forgottencats.org](mailto:info@forgottencats.org) and include your phone number and we will be in touch very soon. Or complete our foster application at: <https://forgottencats.org/foster-a-cat/>. Every day counts!

Please share this email with anyone who can help!

**\*\*We are also seeking fosters for adult cats as well.**

---

## Meet the Keys to Getting the Brookhaven Adoption Center Up and Running Post Covid!

By Mary Ann Emely



*Mom, Jill Carter, left, and daughter Natalie, right.*

The Forgotten Cats manager at the Brookhaven PetSmart adoption center, Holly Goldfeder, speaks fondly of this month's spotlighted volunteers (yes, they're a team!), mother-daughter combo, Jill and Natalie Carter. Holly says they have been volunteering at least once a week for the past five years, picking up extra shifts as needed. "Jill and Natalie helped us to reopen after the Covid shutdown. They were

some of the few volunteers that would come in for shifts at that time, so they were there most days, enabling us to function again. I remember thinking we wouldn't have been up and running without them."

Jill says that they have been volunteering since Natalie was in 8<sup>th</sup> grade (she is now getting ready to begin her freshman year at West Chester University). She adds, "Natalie needed to do some volunteering hours for her school. Because she was a minor, I needed to be involved so it made sense to choose something we would both enjoy doing. We both loved animals; as a child I always brought home strays to care for and find homes if necessary. Animals always had a special place in my heart. So one day, because it was close to our home, we decided to stop in the Brookhaven PetSmart and see if there were volunteer opportunities there. We talked to the volunteer on duty, Fred, who gave us a lot of helpful information. We then decided to become FC volunteers at the Brookhaven adoption center; we completed the training and have been volunteering at least once a week since then. "

"We enjoy volunteering so much for FC!" continues Jill. She says they truly enjoy helping to care for the cats and getting to know potential adopters. They clean condos, give food and water, socialize and play with the cats and kittens, clean the cat center, talk to people about volunteering and about the adoption process.

About working with prospective adoptive parents, Jill says "We enjoy caring for the cats, helping them find good homes – seeing them get adopted. I enjoy greeting people and talking with them in the hall to invite them to come in! And once they've adopted, it's so nice to see pictures of new families with their newly adopted kitties!"



Besides their work at Brookhaven, they have also stepped forward to serve as fosters when needed, to care for cats and kittens in their home, and to socialize them for adoption. Holly says that they have cared for cats and kittens with serious medical conditions that need a lot of care. She notes, "Jill and Natalie are both very sweet and dedicated – not only do they work at the adoption center, they always help at the adoption events – such a cute mom and daughter team!"



*Jill and Natalie's most recent foster kittens, left to right, Misty, Dusty, Periwinkle, and bonded Raven and Tigger.*

Jill says Forgotten Cats is the only animal rescue organization for which they have volunteered. They say it is like a second family to them because they enjoy working with the other volunteers on the team so much. Their two "families" sometimes merge – Jill has persuaded her mom, Bev Massey to help them during "kitten krunch time" when kittens fill every space at FC and when every foster is already on duty! Bev showers the Carter kittens with love and affection and helps to domesticate them since they were born outside to a feral mother.

Jill and Natalie have also recently done some "non animal" volunteering. They volunteered this summer in Glen Mills at the Concord Liberty Vacation Bible School for preschoolers where they both worked with the energetic and enthusiastic preschool toddlers.



*Jill, Scott and Natalie Carter this Summer*



*Jill and Natalie meet the West Chester Golden Ram*

When not busily engaged with their FC family, Jill and Natalie love spending time with their human family, which includes Jill's husband, Scott and stepdaughter, Megan. Jill is a 5th grade teacher at Chichester Middle School and she likes to read and watch movies. Natalie just graduated from high school and is looking forward to her college classes where she plans to major in English because she would like to be a writer some day. She also works at PetSmart and, besides writing, she enjoys reading and watching movies. The whole family

enjoys the beach and playing with their cats – their babies! – at home!

Of course, there are also furry members in the Carter family. Besides the fosters who come and go, Jill and Natalie have 4 pawsitively adorable kitties of their

own. See them below!



*The rest of the Carter family: Squirrt, Annabelle, Hershey with Natalie, and Becca.*

Jill and Natalie, Forgotten Cats is extremely grateful to have your competent dedication and care on our team. Thank you both for all that you do!

## THANK YOU & CONGRATULATIONS!

Hip to Tip Delco TNVR Raffle Fundraiser



On behalf of our volunteers and the cats and kittens that we serve, **THANK YOU** for making our Hip to Tip Delco TNVR Raffle Fundraiser a success!

Not only did we reach our goal of \$10,000, but we exceeded it, raising close to \$12,000, thanks to **YOUR** generosity. *This is great news for Delco cats in need of Forgotten Cats' services.*

Congratulations to the winners (we will be reaching out to you soon):

Angela S. - Phillies vs. Angels - 2 Tickets - Hall of Fame Section

Sue M. - Phillies vs. Braves - 2 Tickets - Section 131, Row 7

Kim C. - Chaddsford Winery Gift Bucket

Amanda W. - Penns Woods Winery Tasting for 4 & Moscato!

Chrissy L. - "Live, Love, Meow" Cat Themed Basket

Cathy J. - Vera Bradley Tote Filled w/Lavender Themed Items

Sharon S. - Pamper Yourself Spa Gift Set

Gayla F. - Woven Tote - Perfect for a Day at the Beach!



Carolyn M. - Cat Tote w/Dunkin' Coffee & Gift Cards, etc.  
Marianne F. - Lunch Tote, Gift Cards & More  
Noreen C. - Handmade Tote w/Cat Themed Items  
Beth F. - Sterling Silver Irradiated Blue Diamond Necklace  
Teena A. - Collection of Handmade Cat Earrings  
Kim C. - Lottery Ticket/Basket of Cheer!

Many thanks to everyone that donated the awesome raffle prizes - Chaddsford Winery, Stephens Jewelers, Penns Woods Winery, Patrycja (Cork & Charm), Alex, Deb, Marie, Deana & Sandy!

Again, our most sincere thanks!



**Cork & Charm**

**Fashion For a Cause!**

Featuring Unique Novelty Earrings

**CHADDSFORD  
WINERY**

## Operation Addams Family - Morticia & Gomez's Happy Ending!

This beautiful, bonded pair of kittens, Morticia and Gomez were adopted at the beginning of August from our Jenkintown PetSmart Adoption Center. We received a lovely update from their new family and as you can see, it did not take them long to settle into their forever home!

"First, I would like to thank you and the rest of the team for doing an outstanding job getting Gomez and Morticia ready for adoption. These kittens have such a wonderful demeanor and super great personalities, it's unbelievable really, and we owe all to the care team.



We are so happy and feel so blessed to have them in our home. It's been a little over 24 hours and to look at them, one would think





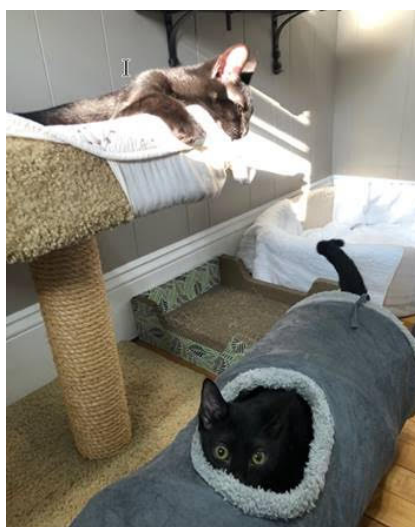
they've been here for months.

This photo was taken within 10 minutes of arriving home. Gomez walked out of his carrier immediately, but Morticia was a little hesitant, so Gomez decided to help make his sister feel at ease by going into her carrier.

To us, when we see a cat showing "stick arms" (both arms stretched out in front) we know we've got a comfortable and happy cat. In this photo, not only does one cat have double stick arms, we have two cats with double stick arms. Quadruple stick arms – it doesn't get better than that!! "



Gomez literally tucked himself into bed!



"Morticia looking at her goofy brother."



Playtime - so happy together!

Their mom goes on to say that "They seem very happy to be here, and we, of course, are ecstatic to have them join our family!!

Thank you again for approving us and all of the support provided to get these little guys to their forever home. Honestly, we couldn't be happier!!!"



**As you can see, Morticia and Gomez are two happy kittens - a "purrfect" example of why two kittens are always better than one!**

---



# Barn Cats Looking for Jobs!



- Fully vetted, no fee, hard-working cats
- We deliver! – PA, DE, MD, NJ

Contact us!

(215)-219-8148

[info@forgottencats.org](mailto:info@forgottencats.org)



---

Upcoming Events

# FORGOTTEN CATS ADOPTION EVENT

**WILLOW GROVE PETSMART  
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2ND  
10:00 AM – 4:30 PM**

Forgotten Cats, Inc.



**3995 WELSH ROAD  
WILLOW GROVE, PA  
19090**



**Apply online to adopt:**



**Allow us to introduce Oscar!**

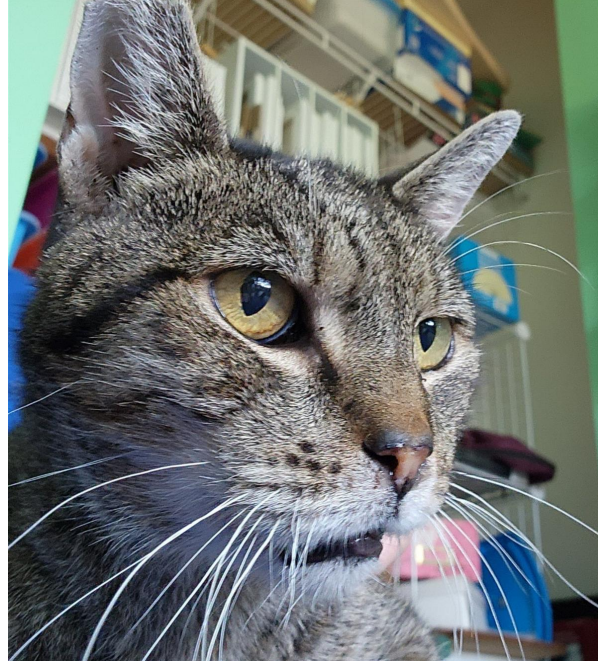
GENTLE, LOVING SENIOR GUY - OSCAR!

This wizened senior gentleman has a heart big enough for everyone. Simply entering the room and calling his name



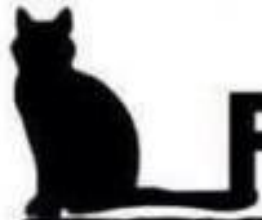
brings him to you. He is a loyal boy, and we are certain he will love you for the rest of your life. He is pretty much unbothered by other cats but adores human affection. Oscar has a hoarse purr and will use his raspy meow to call to you if you are distracted from him. He wants to put his nose against your nose and his forehead against your head. He also enjoys being cradled and kissed on his head and face.

As you might notice in photos, his coat is a bit rough looking and scabby. We're trying to identify the reason. He's currently taking Zyrtec daily in case it is allergies. Please give this sweet boy a home, and he will give you the love of a lifetime.



Oscar is FIV+, which means his immune system is slightly compromised. This can result in dental problems, but no worries. Oscar just had a full dental cleaning and removal of problem teeth. FIV+ and FIV- cats can live together in harmony. Please check the quick facts sheet below.

If you would like to schedule a meet & greet with Oscar, please submit our no-obligation application to adopt: <https://forgottencats.org/adoption-application/>.



# FIV+ Cat Facts

Cats who test positive for Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (FIV) are often euthanized or are considered unadoptable. In fact, cats who test positive for FIV usually live long, healthy lives and do not infect other household pets.

**Transmission:** "FIV is mainly passed from cat to cat through deep bite wounds, the kind that usually occur outdoors during aggressive fights and territorial disputes—the perfect reason to keep your cat inside." - The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA)\*

"Casual non-aggressive behavior" does not spread FIV. "Cats in households with stable social structures [...] are at little risk for acquiring infections." -Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine\*

**MYTH:** A cat can pass on FIV by living with other household cats, sharing water bowls and cleaning each other.

**FACT:** FIV is only transmitted through deep blood-drawing bite wounds. FIV+ cats can happy lives in socialized multi-cat households.

**MYTH:** FIV+ cats will become ill and die at an early age.

**FACT:** FIV+ cats do not have a higher incidence of illness, and live the same lifespan as non FIV+ cats.

**Lifespan:** Multiple medical studies show that cats who test positive for FIV live just as long as FIV-negative cats.\*

**"FIV itself does not cause severe clinical signs, and FIV infected cats live many years without any health problems."**

- Hartman, *Veterinary Immunology and Immunopathology*, 2011

\*Addie, Toth, Reid, Jarrett, Dennis & Callanan, *Veterinary Record*, 2000

\*Gleich, Krieger & Hartmann, *Journal of Feline Medicine & Surgery*, 2009

\*Little, Bienzie, Carioto, Chisholm, O'Brien & Scherk, *The Canadian Veterinary Journal*, 2011

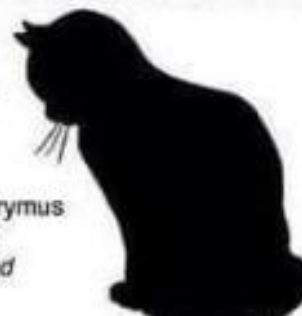
**Please spread the facts about FIV+ cats to your veterinarians, rescues, shelters, and friends!**



**FIV+ cats need love too!**

\*Hosie, Addie, Belak, Boucraut-Baralon, Egberink, Frymus & Lloret, *Journal of Feline Medicine & Surgery*, 2009

\*Walker, Canfield & Love, *Veterinary Immunology and Immunopathology*, 1994



## Fall Raffle

Thanks to some generous supporters, there will be another raffle in the fall featuring Eagles tickets and lots of other fun and awesome prizes! Stay tuned for details . . .





### Chewy Wish List

It's never been easier to give back! Help our animals in need by shopping our Wish List on Chewy to donate much-needed pet food and supplies directly to our organization. Just click on "Chewy Wish List" above.



Please donate to our  
Wish List!

### Amazon Wish List

*Unfortunately, Amazon has decided to discontinue their Amazon Smile donation program.* But please keep in mind that we also have a Wish List on Amazon for much needed items - just click on "Amazon Wish List" above. This makes it super easy to help Forgotten Cats by donating much needed food and supplies to our organization.

## **We Want to Hear from You!**

If you have an idea for an article or a story you would like to share about a rescue, special volunteer, your adoption center or recent adoptions from Forgotten Cats, please send story and photos if possible to: [info@forgottencats.org](mailto:info@forgottencats.org)

## **Our Corporate Sponsors**



We value the commitment of community businesses and when they partner with

us, they partner in our lifesaving efforts. Click the following link if you are interested in learning more about our sponsorship opportunities:  
<https://forgottencats.org/services/capital-campaign/>

**Forgotten Cats, Inc. | [www.forgottencats.org](http://www.forgottencats.org)**



Forgotten Cats, Inc. | Suite 422, 4023 Kennett Pike, Greenville, DE 19807

[Unsubscribe felcross@karmafur.com](mailto:felcross@karmafur.com)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by [info@forgottencats.org](mailto:info@forgottencats.org) powered by



Try email marketing for free today!