



CAT CARE
DURANGO

Cat Care Durango
72 Suttle Street, Suite J
Durango, CO 81303
a 501c(3) non profit organization
PACFA Certified

(970) 946-0768
Monday-Saturday
9:00am-4:00pm

More about us: [here](https://www.catcaredurango.org)
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CAT-TASTIC MONTHLY NEWS



FEBRUARY 2024
Issue 7

MISSION STATEMENT:

To protect the welfare and dignity of all cats in every stage of their life through trap, neuter/spay, return programs, proper medical care-both physically and mentally, and adoptions, foster, and sanctuary programs for our wild and peaceful feline friends.

A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR...



PADGIE KIMMICK WITH A MAUI CAT RESCUED FROM THE LAHAINA FIRE

Aloha! I have just returned from an emotional trip to Maui accompanied by Tara Triplett. Tara was formerly from Durango where she worked at the Durango Animal Hospital and is now currently a Vet Tech at the Pecan Grove Vet Clinic in Texas. We spent time at the Maui Humane Society (MHS) learning about their Reunification Program for the hundreds of cats

SHIANN SWAPP Director of Operations



Cat Care Durango is excited to announce that Shiann Swapp has accepted a full-time position as the Director of Operations managing all aspects of the cattery. Shiann was previously working in this position part-time as well as working as a Veterinary Assistant at D-SNIP Spay and Neuter Program, a local non-profit providing low-cost spay/neuter services to the public and also to Cat Care's TNR and cattery cats. She is now in her full-time role and looking forward to being able to focus all her

that survived the Lahaina fire. Touring the devastation of the fire first-hand and feeling the continued duress of the natives and their pets was completely heartbreaking.

This has moved me to support Operation Fire Cat created on Maui to reunite missing cats with their owners, as well as re-home the local cat colonies that were displaced by the fire. MHS has joined efforts with Maui's Neighborhood Cats in efforts to provide new homes to the many Lahaina cats who do not have a place to return to, as well as offer peace of mind for their Lahaina caretakers who compassionately cared for these feral colonies in the past. They are taking pairs of colony cats and placing them in a temporary housing enclosure at various locations for 3 weeks in order to acclimate them to a new area. MHS is providing all the food, materials and support needed so that these cats can then be released to continue living the fulfilled lives they once had, prowling pests and basking in the sun.

I want to do my part to contribute to their cat community mission. I have started my own local campaign to bring a number of the Lahaina domestic cats back to my cattery to provide care and adoption opportunities for them. I have selected a number of friendly cats that are unable to return to their homes on the island, as they no longer exist. This effort will involve raising funds to charter a direct flight to bring the cats to the mainland. Currently, there are over 700 displaced cats and I want to do something to help make a difference and relieve some of the pressure on MHC from this current overpopulation of their facility and their resources.

I am in the process of applying for a grant to help assist with the cost of the charter flight but I personally ask you to please consider helping the fire cat victims of Lahaina by making an 100% tax-deductible donation to Cat Care Durango for supporting our efforts of giving these cats a future. I appreciate anything you can offer towards help with this project.

Thank you for considering-
Padgie Kimmick

**BELOW: My hands on one
of the Lahaina fire survivors**

attention on helping Cat Care fulfill its mission. We welcome Shiann on board full-time with open paws!

TIPS FROM THE VET TECH: LAUREN JOHANSEN



TEMPS ARE DROPPING!

Here are some tips if you happen to find a kitty outside showing signs of hypothermia in these cold temperatures:

Most important is to warm them slowly!

1. If you can get the cat inside your home, you can wrap a towel around 2 warmed water bottles and place on both sides of the body. Replace as needed.
2. Offer room temperature water to drink.
3. Offer some kibble with room temperature water on it.
4. Once shivering has slowed down, call your local veterinarian to get the cat some extra care.

If a cat is stuck to the ground, DO NOT pour hot water around or on the cat to "lift" them off. Follow the above steps and try to remove the cat once they have raised their temperature more naturally. You do not want to risk burns or refreezing.



MAUI FIRE CAT DONATION

Maui Humane Society

PO Box 1047, Puunene, HI 96784
(808) 877-3680
Info@MauiHumaneSociety.org

Operating Hours

Monday - Saturday: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sunday: 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**DAVE & CHERYL
DUFFIELD
FOUNDATION**

Maui Humane Society is a proud recipient of funding from the Dave & Cheryl Duffield Foundation.



HOW DO CATS FIND THEIR WAY TO THE CATTERY?

Well, that is a good question! We all know that Padgie Kimmick has a special aura that draws those kitties in need to us but in addition there are a number of situations that arise where cats need help.

We are not a drop-off rescue. If you are trying to relinquish ownership of your cat, we will make a courtesy post on our site to help you and also assist you in a number of avenues in order to find your kitty a new home. Under extreme circumstances, we will accept cats to be re-homed for a \$150 relinquish fee.

We see a number of extraordinary circumstances that arise, as in the situation of these two lovely 11-year old siblings pictured in this article. Their owner passed away and after her granddaughter took them in for four years, she was unable to continue with their care as she recently had a baby. We accepted Bunny and Brother into the cattery and they are currently up for adoption!

Last week we had someone bring in a young cat that was found and they were unable to track down the owner after many searches and posts. With diligent efforts from the cattery staff, they were able to locate the owner via a microchip in the cat.

Some cats come from other rescues and some are just in need of saving from a bad situation. These scenarios really pull at our

TNR (Trap/Neuter/Spay/Release) at the LA PLATA COUNTY AIRPORT



Sera Wacasey, Ralph Brawley, Padgie Kimmick

We received a call from Sera Wacasey, Environmental Assistant at the La Plata County Airport to help trap, spay/neuter and relocate a colony of cats that have taken refuge at the airport. Typically feral cats are returned to their original location after their

spay/neuter to continue to hunt and keep the rodent population to a minimum. In this situation, with the obvious hazards for the cats at the airport, Cat Care found a place to relocate the entire colony to a farm outside of Bayfield in their barn, as the owners reached out after the recent passing of their last remaining barn cat. With Sera's assistance, along with Ralph Brawley, we set up a feeding station on a crisp -4 degree morning at the airport. Ralph created the Michelle Brawley TNR Memorial Foundation at Cat Care specifically for funding TNRs in honor of his wife, who first met Padgie when she helped her trap airport cats back in 2009. This airport trapping is a continued work in progress but we look forward to completing this re-homing project and will keep you updated!



heartstrings.

We try to help in all situations presented to us at the cattery in one way or another, and are very proud of our adoption rate once a cat makes it to our place. Our careful evaluation efforts help to re-home those able to be adopted or placed into our sanctuary for those who are not. Our goal is to find forever homes!



BROTHER



BUNNY

ADOPTABLE CATS



LOVE IS IN THE AIR!

A HUGE "Thank You!" to our
January Adopters & Donors

Love makes the world go
around....as well as your
continued support!

JANUARY ADOPTERS:

Erin & Jack Lehmer
Larry Gurule
Hailey Holman
Reina Suazo

JANUARY DONORS:

Joanna Marks
Michelle & Frank Hegenwald
Ellen Collins
Al Harper
Elizabeth Gerstner
Sue Parks
Kara & Robert Wyatt
Alfred Riedinger III
R J Mini Storage
Susan & James Westhead

Cat Care Durango is a 501(c)(3) non-profit
and is primarily supported through tax-
deductible donations from cat lovers like you!
Whether it is an in-kind donation of cat



MICHELLE BRAWLEY MEMORIAL T-N-R FUND

Padgie Kimmick first connected with Michelle Brawley in 2009 when she reached out for help with a feral cat colony at the Durango airport. Michelle's love for animals and extreme concern for cats' well-being made them fast friends. Warmly nicknamed "The Runway Cats", they completed a TNR (Trap-Neuter/Spay-Release) together at the airport, and afterwards three of the cats came home permanently to the Brawleys.

TNR's are vital to stop the breeding cycle, limit contagious diseases through vaccination and compassionately manage cat communities in rural areas. In honor of Michelle's sudden passing in June of 2022, her husband, Ralph, made the initial donation into the "TNR Fund" at Durango Cat Care. The funds are specifically designated to support the continued TNR program for Cat Care. TNR's continue to remain free-of-cost to the public but the program is completely supported through donations. Contributions are never required from TNR recipients but always greatly appreciated. All funds go directly to the TNR Services in the community. Your consideration of a tax-deductible donation is appreciated.

**Michelle Brawley
Memorial TNR Fund**

supplies and products, or a cash donation, every dollar is used to improve the life of the well-being of the cat community.

**Visit our
Website**



SANCTUARY SPOTLIGHT



Meet Bridget....

Bridget has personality! If you stop into the cattery, she will be the first one to greet as well as assess you at the door! She is a transplant from Texas where she lived the first half of her life under a bridge. She currently has a variety of health issues we are treating but she has earned a place to live out the second part of her life as a permanent resident at the sanctuary. Stop by to visit and Bridget will find you!

Contact us at catcaredurango@gmail.com



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