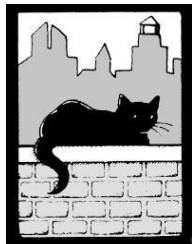


# C T matters

Every Cat Matters. Every Person Counts.

Fall 2020



## CAT-DEMIC

The 2020 global pandemic forced the world to come to a halt, and GNHCP was no exception. We quickly had to adapt and improvise to effectively care for our foster cats, keeping them and our volunteers safe. We are so thankful to everyone who helped out during those months. With so many people working from home (WFH), we wanted to share great stories about some alumni foster cats who stepped up to show their fur-ever families just how great WFH can be!

**Charlie Binx Heckler:** Charlie (formerly Sherman) is 1 year old and his mom's best buddy. With his human WFH due to the pandemic, he settled into his role as a PA (pet assistant) quickly! At night Charlie likes to bring up clothes from the basement laundry - which he then strategically arranges on the living room carpet. Next, they are working on training him to actually DO the laundry. He is a gentle, loving being who his mom can't imagine living without!

**Isa and Le Feu:** Isa (ice in Swedish, formerly Leisha) and Le Feu (fire in French, formerly Barley) were adopted in 2018 and 2019. Their parents were unsure how it would go with Isa because they have dogs, and later with Feu because of Isa, but the cats are best buddies and they make sure the dogs know who rules the roost.

The Greater New Haven Cat Project, Inc. (GNHCP) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization formed in 1996 to address the problems of cat overpopulation, neglect and abuse in our area. GNHCP provides spay/neuter assistance for feral, stray and abandoned cats, and promotes responsible pet ownership through educational workshops. The organization is comprised solely of volunteers, and is funded through private donations, fundraising events and grants.

## The GNHCP Board

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Ellen Su, Webmaster & Graphic Designer

### Newsletter Committee

Ellen Su, Aileen I Fernandez, Rhea Hirshman

### Visit us Online!

Website: [www.GNHCP.org](http://www.GNHCP.org)  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/GNHCP](http://www.facebook.com/GNHCP)  
Instagram: [@gnhcp.inc](https://www.instagram.com/gnhcp.inc)



From left to right: Charlie, certified PA; Isa & Le Feu (right; branch manager, left; assistant to the branch manager); Fe, experienced supervisor; Below: Persephone, WFH expert

**Persephone:** (Persey for short) is the sweetest cat ever. She's loving and affectionate, and has been great company since her human started working remotely in March. They absolutely adore her and talk all the time about how lucky they are to have her. She has had some dental procedures recently, but is a little trooper so that does not slow her down!



**Fe and Penny:** Fe's main role at GNHCP was to inspect and supervise your work. Turns out quarantine was the perfect opportunity to revive this role! Sitting diligently every day, she ensured her mom did not slack off. Her sister Penny (formerly Venus) on the other hand would retire to her 'spot of the week' and functioned as the end of the work day (and dinner) clock. Quarantine made the hert grow fonder as they'll now greet each other every morning with a nose kiss and are ok with playing together (even if Fe can be a bit 'energetic' at times).

Continued from Page 1

**Tino:** Tino (formerly Rey), was adopted by his family in December 2019. It only took two days for Tino and the resident feline, Nola, to fall completely in love with one another. From running through the house, jumping up and down the stairs, wrestling each other, indulging in catnip, to snuggling for naps, the two are inseparable. Since coming home, Tino has learned to play fetch with his favorite ball, and has a very proud king of the jungle stride. His purr is loud and throaty with such a rhythm to it; he is undeniably sweet and completely irresistible! He loves his face and head pets and drops down to roll over on his back whenever he is feeling extra playful. He cries like clockwork when he knows it's almost time for him to eat- his favorite thing to do! His parents feel so lucky to have welcomed this little bundle of love into their home!



Left: Penny taking a well-deserved break  
Right: Tino poised to snuggle

## EVENTS

**GNHCP** **OCT 16**  
**#GlobalCatDay**  
**FUNDRAISER**

[gnhcp.org/globalcatday](http://gnhcp.org/globalcatday)



Order your 2021 GNHCP calendar:  
[gnhcp.org/calendar](http://gnhcp.org/calendar)



**GNHCP 2021**

C A L E N D A R

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*Save the Date*

**FERAL FELINE FESTIVAL**

*...is going virtual!*

**KICKOFF: NOV 7 → FINALE: NOV 14**



To learn more and to join in the fun, go to:  
[gnhcp.org/feralfelinefestival](http://gnhcp.org/feralfelinefestival)

## #GIVINGTUESDAY™



**December 1st, 2020**

Help us support cats like Rosie!

Forget Black Friday and Cyber Monday, join the international Giving Tuesday movement by donating to GNHCP on 12/1, the Tuesday after Thanksgiving!

Go to our website or Facebook page to learn more!

## Fill the Forester for Ferals

A Cat Food Drive for GNHCP



**Saturday, 12/5, 10am-2pm**

**Premier Subaru Branford** 155 North Main Street  
Branford, CT 06405  
(800) 411-4551



# VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

ERICK VILLANO

About ten years ago, upon the recommendations of our vet, my wife Diane and I contacted GNHCP to see about getting our neighborhood feral tomcat fixed. After learning more about GNHCP and meeting several of the volunteers at the GNHCP Center, we became interested in helping the cats. We started visiting on weekends, donating food and toys, and going to fundraisers. Since we were living with several cats already, we enjoyed visiting the center and interacting with the cats.

There came a time when we needed advice about another feral who we were feeding and who was hit by a car. We had a choice — euthanize him or amputate his injured rear leg. Thanks to GNHCP, we chose to operate and so Caruso became an indoor cat. He never let his three legs slow him down, and he lived a full, long life at our house.



Trinket

After I retired from the automotive field, I started volunteering for the Friday and every-other-Monday morning shifts at the Center. Being pretty handy with tools, I have become the “go to guy” to help with repairs at the Center. GNHCP assembles shelters for outdoor cats, and I’m involved with other volunteers when the organization hosts workshops with youth groups.

I get great satisfaction from knowing that I can help with caring for the cats and socializing them to help them on their way to adoption. You can’t help but get attached to each and every one of them and it’s sometimes hard to see them leave. But it’s good to know they are going to good homes and people who love them.

During the middle of March, the GNHCP Center foster cats were evacuated to keep them and the volunteers safe during the state’s lockdown. Diane and I agreed to foster “Buttercup,” who was a recent rescue. The Center re-opened three months later, and by that time, we had fallen in love with Buttercup, and she had settled into our home. We had become foster failures, the best kind of adopters!

Diane and I are blessed currently with eight cats: two from GNHCP and six strays that found their way to us. Being involved with GNHCP has become a rewarding part of my life in retirement. I’m looking forward to helping out for many years to come.



Buttercup and Amelia

## Holiday giving with GNHCP

At GNHCP, we keep our overhead costs low and the benefits for felines high. We have a strong tradition of stretching our donors’ dollars as far as they can go. Our work would not be possible without the generous financial support of caring people like you. In 2019, GNHCP was able to provide spay/neuter and veterinary assistance to 535 feral and stray cats in the greater New Haven area.

Your donation will go to work instantly to enable GNHCP to continue its mission to address cat overpopulation through spaying/neutering and public education. If you prefer, you can designate where you would like your donation to be used: to provide food and veterinary care for our foster cats or our special needs cats (The Tommy Fund); to the spay/neuter program or feral and stray cats; or for over head at our Center (i.e., electric bill, rent, etc). With the flurry of activity that takes place from mid-November through the end of the calendar year, now is the time to consider an end-of-year donation to GNHCP. GNHCP can also receive securities.

GNHCP is an authorized tax-exempt, non-profit organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. What does it mean to be a 501(c)(3) organization? For donors like you, this means your contributions may be fully tax-deductible to the amount allowed by law.

Please help GNHCP continue its good work. Thank you.

## Memorial Contributions

**In memory of Carolyn Link:** Carolyn loved cats, especially her cats Oliver and Cookie who she fondly called “my babies.” During the last years of her life, her beloved babies offered entertainment, companionship, unconditional love, and comfort. Over the years, Carolyn’s generous spirit and warm heart offered: a helping hand to neighbors, a listening ear to friends and family, and a contagious laugh. She also cared for strays – often keeping food out for them. Carolyn wanted to leave a legacy that would help rescue and care for cats in the surrounding area. The unique work of GNHCP, especially its programs for strays and feral cats, made it the right place to leave a bequest. As we honored the one year anniversary of Carolyn’s death in August, it is comforting to know that her generous gift of stock is making a difference – especially through this time of COVID – to so many cats and kittens in need.

**In memory of Richard Donenfeld:** A lifelong animal lover and supporter, Rich’s family and cats were most important to him. One of his last wishes was to donate to nonprofit rescues that provide services for homeless animals in need. Rich worked for the state of Connecticut for over 35 years as a rehabilitation therapist. He genuinely loved his career, leaving a huge impact on his clients and co-workers. He was a loving and generous man with a unique sense of humor, and took great pleasure in giving back to the community. Rich was a man of character and dignity who adored his family and will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

In memory of Philip Perillo, from Judith & Rodney Chepul

In memory of Josephine Earley-O’Connell, from Charles Iadaresta

In Memory of “Scar”, from Colleen Swaller & George Durso

In Memory of “Matilda”, from Karina & Larry Danvers

# Donations

The Greater New Haven Cat Project, Inc. (GNHCP), begun in 1996, works to combat the cat overpopulation dilemma with a comprehensive spay/neuter program that focuses on the numerous feral colonies and abandoned cats of Connecticut. We also locate excellent, stable homes for the friendly cats and kittens that are found or abandoned in the streets and houses of the Greater New Haven area. Finally, we offer other programs such as The Tommy Fund, Barn Home Project and regular operations at our Center. If you would like to aid and abet our burgeoning mission, then please consider one of the following options for your gracious donation:

## Basic Donation:

With an annual donation of \$25, you will receive copies of our newsletter, Catmatters twice a year.

## Population Donation:

With an annual donation of \$45, you will receive a copy of our newsletter, Catmatters, twice yearly as well as a 10% discount on all tickets for a GNHCP fundraising event. Most importantly, this type of gift enables GNHCP to spay one female cat and to promote a healthy, humane approach to the cat overpopulation problem.

## Gift Donation:

With a minimum donation of \$25, this gift is a great idea for a birthday or holiday for the fellow or sister cat lover in your life. The recipient will receive an acknowledgment on your behalf in addition to our newsletter, Catmatters, for one year.

## Memorial Donation:

You can recognize a special animal or person in your life with a donation that will help other cats.

## Additional Contribution:

Any additional donations received through our newsletter will help to fund our spay/neuter program, The Tommy Fund (for extraordinary veterinary expenses) or operations at our Center.

## Foster Cat Sponsorship:

With a donation of \$125, you will receive our newsletter, Catmatters, for one year, a photo and update on your sponsored cat and a 10% discount on GNHCP merchandise or tickets for a GNHCP fundraising event.

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Please sign me up for a:

Basic Donation (\$25) : \_\_\_\_\_ Population Donation (\$45) : \_\_\_\_\_ Gift Donation (\$25) : \_\_\_\_\_ Sponsor a Foster Cat (\$125): \_\_\_\_\_

Memorial Donation: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ In memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

Contribution to GNHCP: Spay/Neuter Program \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Tommy Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Center expenses \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

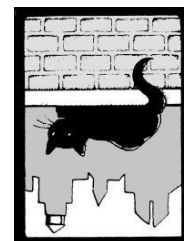
Full Address \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for your support of our efforts. All donations are tax deductible.



*www.gnhcp.org*  
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