

# Catmatters

Every Cat Matters. Every Person Counts.

Spring 2022



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 primarily of volunteers, and is funded through private donations, fund-raising events and grants.

## The GNHCP Board

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### GNHCP Catmatters staff

Aileen Fernandez, Ellen Su,  
Rhea Hirshman

### Visit us Online!

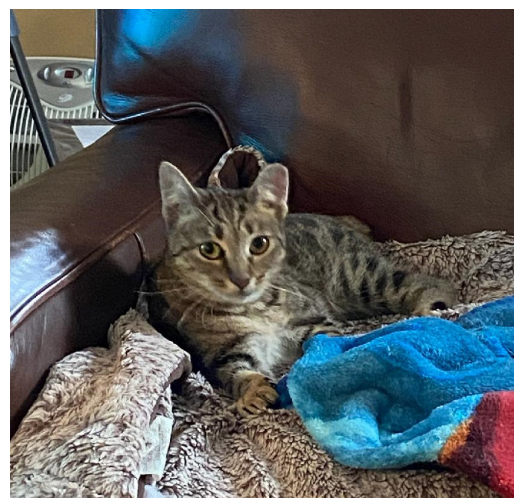
Website: [www.GNHCP.org](http://www.GNHCP.org)

## SAVING MOLLY BY JEANNINE

I would like to take this opportunity to thank The Greater New Haven Cat Project. Without them “Molly” would not be with us today.

Molly first came to us approximately 1.5 years ago. She showed up in our yard as a kitten licking up the bird seeds under the birdfeeder. She would not let us get near her, but we thought she might be a baby bobcat since she had no tail. As time went on, we noted she was not growing as a baby bobcat would and it became apparent that she was a domestic cat, specifically a Manx.

My daughter continued to put food out by the birdfeeder for her to eat over the next few months and one day, she showed up on our deck for food. It was at this point that we realized the horrific trauma she had endured. It appeared like her tail was somehow scalped from her body. There was a very large wound where the base of the tail should have been. The edges were not clean and it didn't seem like there was any skin that could be pulled together to suture it. Some days the wound look like it was drying out and then other times, sometimes for weeks, it would be red, raw and bloody. Unfortunately, she would not let us near her. I started making numerous phone calls to different vets and organizations in the Naugatuck area, and no one was able to help.



*Molly happy at home post-surgery!*



*Molly recovering from surgery*

Winter was coming so we purchased a cat house and put it out on the deck- she barely slept in it. I continued my search and thankfully found the Greater New Haven Cat Project (GNHCP). After a few conversations with Cheryl, we devised a plan to capture the cat and get her evaluated. My children and I were able to capture Molly in a crate and I brought her to New Haven to Cheryl at the Cat Project. When they saw the cat and the extent of the injury, they were nervous that Molly may have to be euthanized. The idea made my stomach sink.

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Luckily, the veterinarian that evaluated Molly devised a surgical plan to save her. Fortunately, there was enough skin to suture the wounds around the base of the tail and over the tail stump. There were a lot of bumps in the road with one of surgical sites, but everybody kept caring and rooting for Molly and she pulled through! Between GNHCP and the veterinarian hospital, they treated Molly for over a month. Besides her surgical repair she also was spayed, received all her vaccines and was FeLV/FIV tested. The Greater New Haven Cat Project literally saved Molly's life! There is no way she would be able to continue and survive in the condition she was in.

Molly is an indoor cat now, too! I will be forever grateful for the care they gave to Molly and the assistance to my family.

# FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!.....



Did you know we are on Facebook, Instagram and Tiktok? Follow us to meet our fosters, learn about our fundraisers, and to learn more about feral cats with our educational material!

@GNHCP



# EVENTS.....

PSST...MEOWTHER'S DAY IS  
MAY 8TH!

[www.gnhcp.org/mothersday](http://www.gnhcp.org/mothersday)

**\$20**

Order a Mother's Day card online before April 30th!





Spend a **Buck** and try your **Luck!**

**GNHCP RAFFLE!**

- \$250 American Express gift card
- \$200 Amazon gift card
- \$100 Olive Garden gift card
- \$50 PetSmart gift card

[www.gnhcp.org/raffle](http://www.gnhcp.org/raffle)

**May 1 - July 30**  
Drawing on **July 30th @6 PM.**

Winner need not be present to win




**THE great Give**  
MAY 4-5, 2022  
A 36 hour, online giving event to support local nonprofits

**The Greater New Haven Cat Project**  
[gnhcp.org/greatgive](http://gnhcp.org/greatgive)

Help us win prizes and increase your impact during the Great Give, a 36 hours giving event with a variety of matching prizes and awards!

Visit the link between May 4th and 5th to contribute!



The Greater New Haven Cat Project is hosting a...

**Tag Sale!**



**Saturday, May 21st**  
9AM - 3PM  
2 Belfast St, Milford

For more details, go to [gnhcp.org](http://gnhcp.org)





# VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT BY RHEA HIRSHMAN

## KATE & BRYAN WEBBER

Growing up in West Haven, Bryan Weber always had dogs. Kate Weber, on the other hand, who also grew up in West Haven, always had cats in her family. Now, it's cats all the way for the couple – except for one rabbit, who belonged to Kate's granddaughter but is now a permanent resident sharing the Webbers' home with six feline companions.

Kate and Bryan both worked for over thirty years at Eder Brothers, a wholesale wine and spirits distributor — Bryan as a driver and warehouse supervisor and Kate in both the purchasing department and the credit department. They connected at the company when Kate and other colleagues helped Bryan sort through the belongings of his first wife, who passed away in 2002. When Bryan and Kate married in 2009, Kate's cats were part of the deal.

After retiring in 2016, Kate explored volunteering with some local animal rescue facilities, and ultimately connected with GNHCP in January of 2017. Bryan retired from Eder Brothers about a year later – although he continues to work as a part-time trailer driver for a local company – and subsequently joined Kate at the Cat Project. Together, they do the Wednesday morning direct care shift and Kate participates in other activities such as building the outdoor shelters that are distributed to community cat caregivers.

Of their six current feline residents, three are from the Cat Project — Babette, Jackson, and Riley (*pictured on the right*). Kate fell in love with Riley (formerly Birdie) soon after she began volunteering with GNHCP. When the City of New Haven shut down in March of 2020 due to COVID-19, the Center had

to close, and all the cats had to be evacuated to foster homes. Kate and Bryan volunteered to foster Jackson and became happy foster failures. And, in December of 2019, Bryan brought home Babette as a Christmas present for Kate.

Thanks to Kate and Bryan for opening their home to so many kitties, and for caring for those being fostered at GNHCP while awaiting their own forever homes.



*Kate and Bryan's cats adopted from GNHCP!  
Riley (top), Jackson (bottom left) and Babette (bottom right)*

## A HEARTFELT THANK YOU FROM GNHCP

Grants play an essential role in providing financial resources for GNHCP programs and, during 2021, we were very fortunate in receiving funds from a variety of organizations. We would like to recognize and sincerely thank the following funding organizations for their sponsorship of GNHCP: Allan Louis Loeb Foundation, American Humane "Feed the Hungry", Bartlett Foundation, Bernice Barbour Foundation, BISSELL Pet Foundation, Connecticut Department of Agriculture: APCP, Community Foundation for Greater New Haven, Doris Day Animal Foundation, Funding in Memory of Toro Weston & Karot Perry, George A. and Grace L. Long Foundation: Bank of America, N.A, Co-Trustee, Petfinder Foundation, R.E.A.P. (Rights, Education, Adoption & Protection for Animal Welfare), and Robert J. and Kathleen G. Bradley Fund. We are truly grateful for the support that was provided to help fund the spaying and neutering of feral and tame cats, as well as new beds for foster cats, veterinary care for foster cats, operation costs, and food for feral cats.



### Memorial Contributions



Charles Iadaresta, In Memory of Josephine Earley-O'Connell  
Beverly Johnson, In Memory of Richard Fitol  
Christina Bliss, In Memory of Paul Bliss  
Noreen & Ted Endriss, In Memory of "Jessie"  
The Zagres & Vrontas Families, In Honor of Peter Zagres



# Donations

The Greater New Haven Cat Project, Inc. (GNHCP), founded 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 support this ongoing, vital work, 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.

## Operating Costs:

With an annual donation, 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) : \_\_\_\_\_ Operating Costs : \_\_\_\_\_ 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*  
Visit us on the web

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