

# cat tales

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE FELINE FRIENDS NETWORK

## A little Angel finds heaven on earth

by Holly Roulston

Our littlest “Angel” came to us after FFN received a call asking for help with a young female cat and three kittens dumped at a country property on the outskirts of Sebringville.

When Angel was trapped with her kittens, they were all in rough shape: the kittens had eye infections and were dehydrated and Angel had an eye injury, a puncture wound in her neck, and difficulty with her back left leg/hip. She also had no milk to nurse her babies. We wondered if she had been shot and her hip appeared to have been fractured or broken.

At an initial visit, the vet recommended that we start Angel on some pain medication and give her a few days of rest before reassessing. The kittens were old enough to be introduced to wet food and, within a few days, foster mom Lesley P. reported that they were looking much healthier and that Angel was already walking better. According to Lesley, Angel was just the sweetest little cat. Even with her injuries, she was gentle and loving with her kittens and wanted nothing more than to be in the presence of people.

After a week of antibiotics Angel was ready for her spay surgery and to have her eye – which unfortunately could not be saved – cleaned out and stitched up. She has since made a full recovery. When Angel looks at me with her one bright eye (portal to her kind little soul), I can feel how much she trusts and appreciates everything we have done for her. This little girl has touched all of us!

FFN could not have helped Angel if it had not been for foster moms Lesley P. and then Cheryl J. The rewards of fostering are so great when you get to see a cat that had very little chance of survival – at best living in pain and struggling daily – transform from a bedraggled, sad little creature to a healthy, happy, playful cat.

Angel’s kittens were fixed and vaccinated and were quickly adopted into loving indoor homes. Angel’s happy ending



was a little longer in materializing. Although her days of struggle were over, it took time to find the special people who would cherish this pretty, petite little angel as she deserved. We are thrilled to announce that Angel has captured the hearts of FFN members and volunteers extraordinaire Pat and Larry and found a little heaven on earth where she will be cuddled, spoiled, and beloved for the rest of her life.



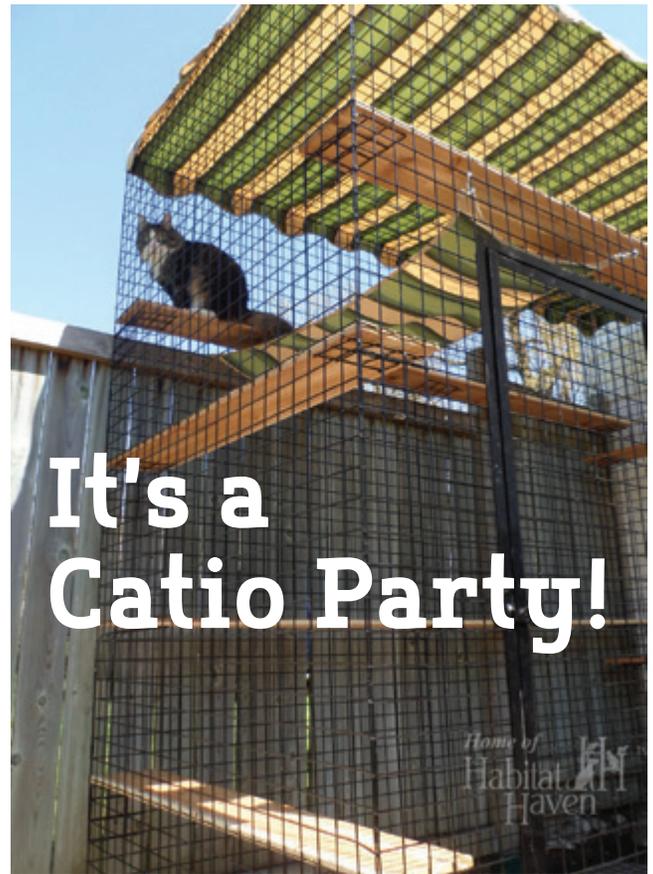
## The party is on!

The forecast looks good so the FFN Catio Party will take place as planned this Sunday, September 11. Details at right.

Just a few small reminders ... parking is not permitted on Britannia Street so please park on the side streets. There will be a handicapped parking space in front of Cheryl and Paul's porch in the driveway. Enter the event through the garden gates – and ladies, please don't wear heels!

### OUT AND ABOUT

"About-Town Kashi" gets around! Not only does she visit Greenwood Court residents on a regular basis (often with her friend L'il Lady Grey), but on August 16th she brought companion Cheryl Simpson along to spread the word about FFN and Trap/Neuter/Return to the kids attending the Stratford-Perth Humane Society's summer day camp. Now they know all about Feline Friends – what we do, and why we do it!



### OPEN HOUSE FOR FFN MEMBERS & FRIENDS

Join us at 47 Britannia Street  
(home of Cheryl & Paul Simpson)  
Sunday, September 11, 2016 | Noon to 3pm

Meet Kris Kischer, founder of Home of Habitat Haven.

Enjoy nibbles and a glass of wine or non-alcoholic punch as you chat with Kris & other FFN members. See catios at work in our back yard and watch videos of other felines enjoying their own Habitat Haven catios.

Shop for FFN merch, too  
(Pat's Puddy Products, FFN tees & hoodies)

There may be kittens available for adoption  
(if we have kittens in our foster program at that time)

WINE DONATED BY BELL'S WINERY

*Time spent with cats is never  
wasted.—May Sarton*



## FFN attends 1st meeting of Stratford's Animal Control Working Group

The City of Stratford has initiated a review of its animal control bylaw, which will include the question of whether to ban the sale of pets in pet stores. The bylaw review will also include limits on the number of pets per household, pet licensing, and licensing requirements for kennels, catteries and breeders and more.

The Animal Control Working Group (ACWG) will meet quarterly (the first meeting was held August 24), with the draft bylaw to be presented to Council in spring of 2017.

Sharon Morrice of the Feline Friends Network was invited to participate in the discussions, along with representatives of Stratford-Perth Humane Society, local pet stores, kennel owners, and City staff and residents.

The process of determining what changes are proposed to Stratford's animal control bylaw will also include public surveys and an open house or public meeting. FFN encourages all FFN members to take part and voice their opinions. As people who care about cats and who are aware of the problem of cat overpopulation and homelessness, your input is crucial to making Stratford more progressive in its approach to animal welfare.

To read the FFN document 'In Support of Regulating Pet Sales in Stratford,' click here: [http://felinefriends.ca/ffn\\_pet\\_sale\\_regulation.pdf](http://felinefriends.ca/ffn_pet_sale_regulation.pdf). If you wish to contact Sharon with any comments or suggestions, please email [sharon@uberdesign.ca](mailto:sharon@uberdesign.ca) or call her at 519.271.3401.

## THANK YOU!



Meet Ben Leberg and his cat "Little". Ben, who loves cats, is a Grade 5 student at Shakespeare School in Stratford. For his birthday, Ben asked for donations to FFN so that we can help more cats. What a great young man!

## SPOTLIGHT ON CAT CON

On Saturday, August 27, FFN participated in "Cat Con" hosted by the Stratford-Perth Humane Society at their new digs on Griffith Road. Thanks to Marg Usprech and Holly Roulston, four FFN kittens found their fur-ever homes. FFN's Pat Burnell raised almost \$200 for FFN programs through the sale of Puddy Products, including her adorable cat hats, just \$9 each! Pat contributed the following poetic report:

*Feline Friends had lots of fun and  
much success  
With kittens being taken home and  
interest in the rest.  
Puddy Products did their share  
Selling hats for cats to wear  
With Kittie Couture to lure the eyes  
Seeing cats that wear bow ties.  
And Kiddie Cats (that's toys for kids)  
We did amazing trade that day  
So three big cheers, "Hip, hip,  
hooray."*



## FFN's 6th annual Wine Raffle is well underway

Tickets are now on sale for the 2016 Wine Raffle. FFN's most popular and lucrative fundraiser has grown this year, with an additional 500 tickets up for grabs and some new donors to our prizes:

- 1st Prize | 65 bottles of wine – including some FFN favs, pictured at right
- 2nd Prize | 8 bottles of wine, as well as 2 sets of theatre tickets to the Stratford Festival, dinner for 2 at Foster's, and dinner for 2 at the Red Rabbit
- 3rd Prize | 2 CRP Adirondack chairs and a matching table – in your choice of colour – along with a gift basket that will include a VERY nice bottle of wine, glasses, wool blanket and selection of nibbles

The big draw will take place on Monday, October 17 on the radio with Eddie Matthews. That gives FFN just six short weeks to meet our goal of selling all our tickets.

In previous years, the wine raffle has raised in the neighbourhood of \$7,000 – that helps FFN help A LOT of cats. Please consider supporting our biggest annual fundraiser by purchasing tickets and/or contacting Holly Roulston about selling tickets to your family/friends and wine-loving neighbours/co-workers. Holly can be reached at [holly@felinefriends.ca](mailto:holly@felinefriends.ca) or 519.284.2649.

Once you have sold your tickets, please email Holly to arrange a pick-up of the ticket stubs and cash. Tickets and cash can also be dropped off to Paul Simpson at 47 Britannia St.

If you have UNSOLD tickets that you know you can't sell, please return those to Holly ASAP so she can redistribute them and ensure we reach our goal of being "sold out" again in 2016!!

ALL tickets must be returned NO LATER THAN Friday, October 14 in time for the draw.



### NEEDED!

Does anyone in Stratford have a **climate-controlled garage or shop** that could be used by FFN from time to time to house feral cats (in their traps) before and after surgery? (2–3 days total)

**Drivers** willing to take FFN cats to surgery appointments in London, Tavistock, or Kitchener. Morning drop-offs are usually around 8:30 or 9:00 am; pick-ups are around 5:00 pm. You can choose to do morning or afternoon drives – or both. Tax receipts will be provided for mileage.

**Foster homes** – always needed!

Remember FFN is volunteer-run – please help by volunteering if you can! Call us at 519.301.5735 for more info.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR  
garet markvoort

