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Making a difference in Warren County, one cat at a time

Welcome to February's The Scratching Post!

Once a month, we'll drop by your inbox to share our latest news, introduce you to just a few of our precious adoptables and share helpful TNR hints so that YOU can make a difference, right where you are.

Visit our website

We have your feline Valentine!





Chianti

Since arriving at Whiskers, Chianti has aged like fine wine. (Check out her stunning closeup as this month's "cover cat" above!) "I am so impressed with the progress that she has made ... to the sweetheart she is now," says her foster dad. No longer focused on protecting kittens, Chianti "loves attention." She's even gone out of her way to befriend other cats in her foster home, including an orphan kitten who needed a buddy. It turns out that Chianti had so much love bottled up, just waiting for the right people. Can she serve up her next round for you?

When we first met Storm, she was a devoted mama trying to care for her babies in a window well – even on

Storm

the stormiest day! Now "playful and curious" Storm is ready for sunny skies in a home of her own. Storm still has her shy moments but,

once comfortable, is a whirlwind of silliness. "She has a bin of toys, and she drags them out and scatters them. ... It looks like a tornado storm of cat toys has blown through the house!" says her foster mom. Storm will need a patient adopter as she continues to settle into indoor life. Ready for Storm to shower you with love and fun?



Elroy

We can only imagine how lonely Elroy must've been as a kitten living alone on the street. "He is a huge lover and purrs and rubs on me to the point that I can't work on my laptop much with him around," says his foster mom. "But that is fine – I always put my work down to love on him." After all, there's plenty to love: an extra-adorable meow, fur so soft that he feels like a

bunny, and his chummy ways toward other cats and even a "BIG yellow lab

friend!" Elroy simply "warms up to anyone that is patient and loving." Can ultra-lovey Elroy be your Valentine all year long?

Learn more

Learn more

Learn more

You 'donut' want to miss this fundraiser!

Who really needs an excuse to dig into a box of Krispy Kreme doughnuts? But if you're on the fence, buy a dozen doughnuts between Feb. 6 and Feb. 18, and Krispy Kreme will donate HALF of what you pay to Whiskers TNR.

Simply buy online at Krispy Kreme's fundraising page,

then stop by your local store and redeem your order using the code you're given. Head to **our fundraiser page** starting on Feb. 6 to take advantage of this sweet deal.



Meet Jane Walker, the 'Energizer Bunny' of kitty foster parents

Jane Walker may have a special knack for helping cats and kittens at Whiskers TNR, but her boundless energy reminds us of another type of animal altogether.

"Jane has been like the Energizer



Bunny," said Chris Nothaft-Hammerand, another Whiskers volunteer. "She keeps going and going and going!"

That's why we're pleased to name Jane as our February Whiskers Warrior, our monthly spotlight of a volunteer or foster. Jane has specialized in the latter since 2020, although she's also quick to help with transportation requests and special events like Caturday or meet-and-greets at Petco or Pet Supplies Plus.

"Jane is known to attend multiple events in a single weekend, much like a superhero!" Nothaft-Hammerand said.

But her commitment to fostering especially has made a huge difference at Whiskers. Jane is a standout for communication, seeing her fosters through challenging medical issues, and taking in one foster kitty after another.

"Due to Jane's willingness to take cats and kittens in without hesitation," said Nothaft-Hammerand, "many more cats and kittens have been able to find a forever home without having to fight the elements and struggle to survive in a less-thanstellar environment."

Even while keeping so busy with Whiskers, Jane finds time for a few other loves: knitting for friends who have a shop in the East Village, coffee time with friends, and traveling – especially when it's to see her three grandsons.

"My day job is being available to help all our fur babies," Walker said. "I have loved interacting with so many awesome kittens and cats and, most of all, meeting so many wonderful people."

And the feeling is mutual. "There are just not enough words," said Nothaft-Hammerand, to describe our appreciation for Jane. Boundless energy and love of cats seem to be knitted into the fiber of her being.

"If you ever go to visit Jane, you will see how her love of cats has spilled from her home into providing foster care to cats and kittens," Nothaft-Hammerand said. "She *loves* cats. I think it is just in her soul to do so!"

Thanks, Uncommon Grounds!



We'd like to raise a glass -- or coffee mug! -- to Uncommon Grounds in Indianola for donating a gift card for this month's Whiskers Warrior. The next time you're on the square in Indianola, be sure to stop by this cute coffee shop for a cup of joe or slice of their legendary cheesecake, and tell them Whiskers sent you!

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