



The Scratching Post

April 2024

*Welcome to Whiskers TNR of Warren County's monthly newsletter.
We're on a mission to make a difference, one cat at a time.*

[Visit our website](#)

Whiskers TNR by the numbers

Ever wonder what our volunteers have been up to behind the scenes? In this new feature, we'll share our spay/neuter and adoption statistics for each quarter. After all, as our motto goes, we're committed to "making a difference, one cat at a time."

For January through March:
Spay/neuter: 52 cats
Adoptions: 48



*And the numbers keep growing!
Kitten season has definitely arrived.
Dublin (above) was born March 17,
one of many new arrivals who will be
available for adoption soon. Check
out the **nursery page on our website**
for even more baby faces!*

We're ready to spring into our forever homes!



Nick

Nick is as handsome as can be, but he's also one of the calmest cats ever. "Nick is laidback," says his foster mom. "Once he gets comfortable, he purrs up a storm and loves to play with any string toy." He also relishes time with any playmate – whether that's a kiddo, fellow feline or drooly pooch. "He's got such a sweet personality. He's enjoyed having a kitty buddy in the house, so I think he'd do best with a playmate." Nick's other hobbies include bird watching, looking debonair with his plush gray coat and golden eyes and being the "perfect 10/10 loaf" with that mellow personality. Who's ready for some R&R with Nick?

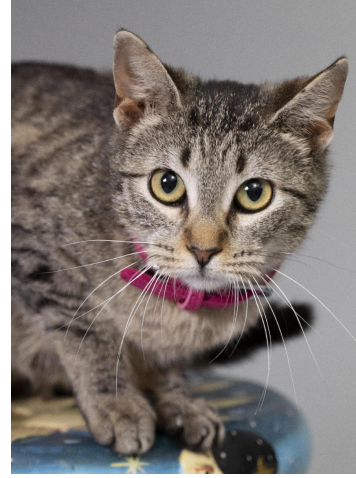
[Learn more](#)



Eugene

This handsome boy doesn't sport a mullet, but we see a resemblance to his namesake on The Walking Dead. A little shy at first? Check. Determined to love his people and become braver every day? Double check. "Eugene has quickly come out of his shell in our care," says his foster mom. "He is a calm, curious and sweet boy who likes to rub on me, get pets and purr!" Eugene also enjoys playing with ball towers, but nothing tops time with his humans. "I feel that as he gains more confidence, he will get even more playful, but for now he is content with a lap." Is your home where Eugene of The Walking Dead litter will really come to life?

[Learn more](#)



Rosita

Just like her namesake on The Walking Dead, Rosita needed to be a warrior to live in a large outdoor colony. But even after a short time with Whiskers TNR, she's showing that she can be brave in getting to know people, too! "Rosita is learning to trust her humans and opening up to more petting and cuddles," says her foster mom. Rosita's favorite things include playing with ball towers, exploring her cat tunnel and affectionately rubbing against people. Rosita would thrive in a quieter home while she continues to figure out that there aren't any zombies lurking. "She is so petite but has such a big heart!"

[Learn more](#)

NEWS KIBBLE

All the important bits you need to know!

🐱 The ever-popular Caturday is back Saturday, April 13, from 10 a.m. to noon at Norwalk Easter Public Library! Join us to meet some of our cutest adoptables, chat with our volunteers and, special this month, find out why $1+1=53$. (Curious, aren't you? Trust us -- it adds up!)

🐱 The time is nigh for cupcakes! And not just any cupcakes -- Scratch Cupcakes. If you ordered (or sold) for our sweetest fundraiser of the year, remember that pickup is Wednesday, April 10.

🐱 Speaking of a tasty fundraiser, don't miss Dine at Famous Dave's for Whiskers! From noon to 8 p.m. on Thursday, April 18, dine at their West Des Moines location at 1720 22nd St., and 20 percent of your bill will go toward our nonprofit. Learn more at [our Facebook event page](#).

🐱 Want to learn more about fostering? Join our Be A Foster online class on Monday, May 13, at 7 p.m. This will be a good refresher for current fosters and a great starting point for someone curious about getting involved. Learn more or RSVP at [our event page on Facebook](#).

CATURDAYS WITH WHISKERS TNR

Visit adoptable cats and kittens at the library!



Saturday,
April 13th
10am-12pm



HAVE YOU BEEN CUPCAKED?!



Congratulations!!

on your

2024 grant from . . .



Whiskers receives grant from Paws on Your Heart

We're so excited to announce that Paws on Your Heart Pet Rescue Support has selected Whiskers as a 2024 grant recipient!

This program based in Guttenberg not only offers grants to animal welfare groups, it also walks alongside them with support and services. We're so grateful to have their help!

Visit the [Paws on Your Heart page on Facebook](#) to learn about this amazing organization.

Garling has 'made a world of difference'



Abbi Garling, our latest volunteer of the month, has an eye for photography and a heart for cats in need.

Not only is she one of the nonprofit's photographers responsible for snapping adorable photos of adoptables, she and her family host a steady stream of foster cats and kittens awaiting adoption.

"Our house just doesn't feel like a home without pictures on the walls and kittens running around,"

said Garling. "We love that we get to help so many kittens and show the girls about volunteering, all while getting kitten snuggles."

And while Garling is the official foster for Whiskers, she pointed out that it's very much a "family effort" that includes her husband, Jon, and their young daughters, Olive and Andie.

"Jon cleans more litter boxes than the three of us girls combined and also helps with taking them to the vet and Petco adoptions," Garling explained. "The girls help so much with making sure they are weighed and food and water bowls filled. And we all enjoy the snuggles!"

Garling and her husband both work from home and homeschool their daughters, so their furry wards get plenty of people time. In addition to taking feline photos, this marks her 16th year at the helm of Abbi Garling Portrait Studios, which specializes in "full experience" senior and family portraits.

Otherwise, the Garlings relish traveling together, and that's when respite volunteers like Wilson are happy to take up some "babysitting" duties. On one such occasion, Wilson recalls, she was astounded to see just how friendly and adaptable the Garlings' foster kitten had become.

"He wasn't afraid in his new surroundings," she said. "Instead, he was curious and, within an hour, was high-jumping off furniture and racing down the hallway. Kittens can sometimes be shy in new environments, but this one was the best-socialized kitten I'd ever seen."

After all, feline guests in the Garling home are treated to the likes of homemade "cat houses" intricately crafted by the Andie and Olive – even a gently adoring fan club whenever the girls' friends come over to play.

"Abbi and her family are adept at preparing all kittens for their forever homes," Wilson said. "When a kitten is placed with them, you can be sure they will be affectionate and ready for any home. Abbi, thank you for opening your heart and home to these kittens and for all the hard work and effort you've put in to give them the best possible start in life," she continued. "Your kindness and compassion have made a world of difference."

Scooter, who spent his twilight years dearly loved



When Autumn J. adopted Scooter from Whiskers in 2022, he settled in right away and took advantage of every plush surface he could find, including the master bed, a heated bed in the office, the couch and the recliner!

As an older gentleman who hadn't received proper veterinary care earlier in life, Scooter was living with several health issues. Autumn wanted to do all she could to make Scooter as happy, healthy and comfortable as possible.

But in early March, Autumn noticed that Scooter "started to not quite act like himself." The dreaded diagnosis was cancer, and it was "too far along to be able to do much as far as treatment goes." Autumn did everything possible to "ensure he was comfortable and still had quality of life," but eventually it was time to say goodbye.

With deep love comes deep grief. "We had Scooter for 553 glorious days. We are heartbroken and wished we got more time with this special boy." Still, Autumn has no regrets. "I cherish the memories we created together. Our lives were so enriched by his incredible personality! I can't speak to his life before he ended up at Whiskers TNR, but I'd like to think we gave him the best life possible with the remaining time he had," she said. "The grief can be so painful and overwhelming, but we would do it again in a heartbeat. This experience has only solidified our belief and passion for helping those less-adoptable and passed-over cats."

In fact, though Autumn is still grieving for Scooter, she recently adopted Max, another senior cat with "health issues due to neglect. I truly believe he was sent to us by Scooter," said Autumn, who will "be his forever home and get him healthy to live out his golden years."

Thank you, Autumn, for giving Scooter, and now Max, a real home and so much love. Senior cats are truly special -- and it takes a special adopter to take them in. Find the rest of the heart-tugging story about Autumn, Scooter and Max on our Facebook page.

Whiskers TNR Of Warren County
PO Box 54
Martensdale, IA 50160
515-428-CATS (2287)

Connect With Us



Whiskers TNR of Warren County | P.O. Box 54, Martensdale, IA 50160

[Unsubscribe corissa@whiskerstnr.org](mailto:unsubscribe_corissa@whiskerstnr.org)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by corissa@whiskerstnr.ccsend.com powered by



Try email marketing for free today!