

December 2013



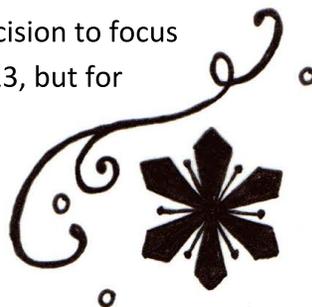
A Chapter In A Story...

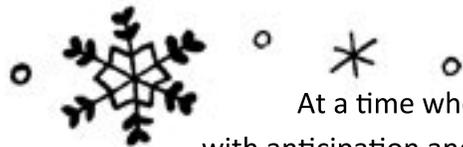
A chapter in the story of an animal's life—the time spent in a cage, in a shelter. The time spent in the safety of a no-kill shelter. The time spent in a place with warmth, ample food and water and a clean litter box. The time spent with loving people looking out for their best interests. The time spent with qualified people searching for the right forever home for each and every animal. The time spent in CatNap.

While we at CatNap cannot write the story of an animal's life, we can absolutely guide how things turn out for the animals within our care. We can absolutely ensure that each animal is cared for and loved as if they were our own. Not a single animal walks through our doors of their own choice, and we can provide the environment in which each animal can flourish. After 16 years and over 12,000 successful adoptions, we take pride in all that we have accomplished in the past as well as seek ways to improve in the future. Each and every one of you is responsible for the success of CatNap. You are the ones that have walked into our shelter looking to foster, adopt, donate and volunteer. You are the ones that have spread the word and encouraged people to stop in. Thank you.

Did you know CatNap has done over 1,000 adoptions as of November 18th? That is a LOT of happy endings for some pretty incredible animals. For a shelter of our size, that is very impressive (2,300 square feet). While we might get wrapped up in the animals still available for adoption at the shelter, we need to also reflect on some of the wonderful adoptions we've done this year. In just ten and a half months, 429 animals that were surrendered by people no longer able to care for them have found loving homes. 212 strays that were brought to us off the streets have since found loving homes. 303 animals that were transferred from other shelters into ours have found loving homes. 14 animals that were abandoned at our front door are now spending the holidays in a loving home; and 42 animals that were born in the shelter have found loving homes. Your donations have supported all of these animals and those still in the shelter waiting to go home. Your donations keep them safe, warm and fed until we find the right home for each and every one of them.

This year, in this letter, we have made the conscious decision to focus on all the wonderful work we have done not only in 2013, but for the past 16 years. As with any shelter, we have experienced our share of heartache and tribulations.





At a time when everyone is looking toward the holidays with anticipation and excitement, we did not want to burden you with stories rife with disappointment and sadness. While those stories have their time and place—and you are all sure to see those types of messages from various other charities you support—we felt that this was neither the time nor the place this year. With these stories of happy endings and successful adoptions, we hope we can put a smile on your face this holiday season.

As some of you may know, we rescued a cat from Chicago Animal Care and Control in May with a broken leg named Balboa. When he came to the shelter, we realized that the break was much worse than we had anticipated and our vet recommended amputation. Balboa had been through so much and we felt we owed him the opportunity to heal and recover in the hopes of becoming someone's pet. We sent out a plea on Facebook to all of our friends in the hopes of raising the funds for the costly surgery. You came through and we were able to cover the cost of his surgery. Your compassion and willingness to help us at a time when expenses were tight meant the difference between life and death for Balboa. Your generosity is not taken for granted—every penny, every kind thought and every prayer is appreciated wholeheartedly. While waiting at CatNap for his forever home, Balboa met another cat at the shelter named Tip Toe. Balboa and Tip Toe became fast friends and were often found chasing each other around and playing with toys. We are happy to say that Balboa recently got adopted with his best friend, Tip Toe, in November.

If you follow our blog or our Facebook page, you will also know Debbie. Debbie had been at the shelter exactly 900 days when she was adopted. Debbie came to the shelter pregnant in February of 2011 as a stray. She had a single kitten in March of that same year while in a foster home. After some time in a foster home with her kitten, she came back to the shelter for adoption. As the years passed and Debbie remained here at CatNap, we knew she needed someone to take a chance on her. Several months after her adoption, we can proudly say that Debbie is adjusting wonderfully to a multi cat household. Debbie plays mommy to foster kittens brought into the home and even tolerates the dog. And for the first time since she's been in a home, Debbie curled up with her owner on the couch for a nap. Your donations supported Debbie for 900 days and ensured that Debbie had someplace warm to lie, had food to eat and water to drink, and had medical care when needed. You allowed her time to find that home.

We have a shelter full of animals with stories just like these. Stop in and let us tell you about Boots & Lulu's love story of how they met at CatNap. Take home Baby and let her tell you her story. The click of a mouse can also mean the difference of a home for these animals. Share the cute photos we have on Facebook with your friends. The world of social media has opened up so many opportunities for these animals and you can help in that way, too. If you are unable to adopt right now, consider fostering. Give a cat the chance at a loving home for the holiday season or give them a vacation from shelter life. If you are unable to foster, sponsor a cat for a month—we estimate it costs approximately \$20 per month to maintain each cat. Each and every donation is appreciated more than you know and no donation is too small. If you are not able to donate, volunteer. We rely on volunteers for a myriad of tasks both inside and outside the shelter—your time is just as valuable as your donations. Thank you for 16 wonderful years and we look forward to the years to come. Happiest of Holiday wishes from our hearts to yours.

Cats that have been in the shelter since 2012...



Baby



Boots & Lulu



Bogart



Little Bit



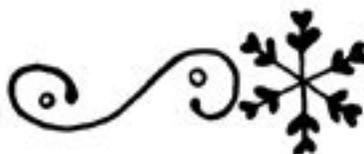
Ruby & Ringo



Martina

2013 Expenses (January 1st-November 15th)

Veterinary Expenses (daily veterinary care).....	\$8,509.34
Spay/Neuter Expenses (269 Spays/249 Neuters).....	\$12,377.50
Microchips.....	\$2,726.20
Supplies.....	\$47,096.84
Utilities.....	\$9,087.86
Phone/Internet.....	\$5,065.33
Gas.....	\$1,594.96
Electricity.....	\$2,427.57



THIS LETTER IS DEDICATED TO THE MEMORY OF JUDY WEINBAUER, A LONGTIME FRIEND OF CATNAP

♥ 2013 ANNUAL YEAREND APPEAL ♥

If you can't adopt, foster. If you can't foster, sponsor. If you can't sponsor, donate. If you can't donate, volunteer. CatNap is counting on your support to continue what we do.

Yes, I want to help the animals. Enclosed is my yearend donation of:

\$25 \$50 \$100 \$250 Other _____

In memory/honor of: _____

Check if new address Please remove me from your mailing list.
 Add me to your Constant Contact Email list (Event Updates & Shelter News)

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Name _____ Email: _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____



All donations are tax-deductible. We are a 501(c)3 organization.

Please mail checks payable to CatNap from the Heart, Inc.

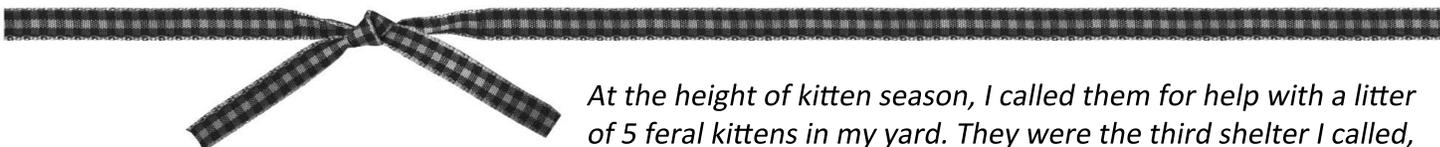
1101 Beach Avenue, La Grange Park, IL 60526

Phone: 708-352-3914, Fax: 708-352-3941 www.catnapfromtheheart.org



Name on Card _____

Card Type _____ Visa _____ MC _____ Disc _____ Card Number _____ Exp Date _____



At the height of kitten season, I called them for help with a litter of 5 feral kittens in my yard. They were the third shelter I called, the other 2 turned me down. They agreed to take my kittens, and helped me through the TNR for the mom cat, and the fostering of the kittens. It was a great experience. -Jackie P.

My experience with CatNap as a volunteer is that they do not only take care of cats that need homes, they truly care about the cats they take care of. I have seen more then on time a kiss on the head, someone sitting down to do paperwork with a cat in the lap petting them like they were at home. -Dawn I.

We have adopted from Catnap twice; 2 parakeets over the summer and then a kitten last weekend. Both times I have been to their facility I have been impressed with the level of care they give to all of their animals. The environment is clean and cats are all happy and well socialized, and it is obvious from talking to the staff and volunteers that they truly care about every little life in their hands. The kitten we adopted transitioned so smoothly, and I'm sure it is because of the top quality socialization they give all of their kitties. -Beth R.

Our experience with CatNap was outstanding! I saw the kitten on this page, said I had to have him, and within a few days Lucca was purring here in our home making us all fall head over heels in love. There is another shelter much closer to my home, but they don't even let you pet the cats unless you fill out a ton of paperwork. I love that CatNap encourages petting and loving the animals, but is still careful in checking out applicants to make sure the babies are going to safe homes. -Terri S.