Touched By An Animal &
Cats-Are-Purrsons-Too
P.O. Box 59067
Chicago, IL 60659
773-728-6336
tba@touchedbyananimal.org
www.touchedbyananimal.org

Our SPRING beauties BLOSSOM and THRIVE with LOVE, CARE & PROMISE!

Our Dear Friend, Cathie Hilton, who died on her 75th birthday, February 21, 2025.

We miss you greatly
We love you more
We cherish you with gratitude
for your many years devoted
to the cats and Mission of TBA
as a Volunteer helper
greeter
ambassador
never-miss monthly donor
regular attendee, promoter of our
Benefits, Bingo, yard sales
Treasurer, Board Member
Weekly data recorder
Newsletter compiler
Responsive advisor
Cheerful friend
Cherished by our TBA Family, Felines
Quiet, Humble, Strong ———
until your chronic, long-fought respiratory condition
declared: ENOUGH—REST IN PEACE, REST IN LOVE,
God's and Ours.

We Miss & Love You

"Although the world is full of sufferings, It is also full of the overcoming of it!"
-Helen Keller 1880-1968

Some of the EARLY Blooms & Dedicated Gardeners of our 2025 Garden

Cordelia M.

TBA is one of the warmest and most caring shelters around. Melanee and her hardworking crew do an unbelievable job. Lucky, lucky kitties.

February, 2025

Hello!

Hope all is well with everyone at Touched by an Animal. I wanted to update you on my Daphne, (formerly Jelly Belly). She was 6 months old when I adopted her, is now 9 months old. She is full of energy! She is the most lovable little purrson I could ever imagine. She is inquisitive, playful, and a constant companion to both my 97 year-old mother and me. We couldn't possibly love her any more than we do! Thanks to all who work to provide care and affection to the cats at TBA, preparing them to go to a loving forever home. Also, for providing a loving home for those who reside at TBA.

C.P.

Emma & Jake B.

Thank you for providing such a wonderful service to the community. We are deeply touched by the love you show to both animals and people in need.

Anonymous

TBAA has been a blessing. When all other shelters and Humane Societies couldn't help me place my 5 feral kittens, TBAA stepped up immediately.

Linda R.

When no one else helped Chuckles the cat when his human died, TBA did. We will never forget them. Nor did Chuckles.

Bonnie B.

Our beloved Potter crossed the Rainbow Bridge after 28 and a half loving years. We visited Cats Are Purrsons to adopt a kitty and Potter chose us!

Maura & Carlos S.

Thank you Melanee and Touched by an Animal for all you do for the animals and people in our neighborhood!

Lee & Debbie S.

We have gotten such wonderful and truly family members from our adoptions going all the way back to Eleanor Fuchs and Marijon Binder.

Global Heroism

A girl plays with a dog on July 19 at a pet shelter in Kyiv, Ukraine. Volunteers opened a shelter to take in family pets shellshocked amid the ongoing war with Russia. EFREM LUKATSKY/AP

Shelter in Ukrainian capital rescues war-haunted animals

By Hanna Arhirova
Associated Press

KYIV, Ukraine — Shell-shocked family pets started roaming around Ukraine's capital with nowhere to go in the opening stages of Russia's war.

Volunteers opened a shelter to take them in and try to find them new homes or some human companionship. Every day, Kyiv residents come to visit cats and dogs evacuated from cities on the frontlines or left without owners because of the nearly five-month war.

Hrystyna Sairova and her 12-year-old daughter Anna walk rescued dogs three to four times a week. Many of them arrived at the temporary shelter with lost paws or other serious injuries, Sairova said.

"They don't deserve this, nor do humans. They are members of our families," she said.

Like people, animals face trauma from war, suffering psychologically from bombing, shelling and shooting, Mazur said. Some of the animals were withdrawn and wouldn't eat when they first arrived at the shelter.

"To get out of this state, they need someone," Mazur said. "The animal needs human care."

The makeshift space fulfills more than one kind of need. When the staff held an open house last weekend, more than 1,000 people showed up to walk the 25 dogs then staying at the shelter along with 11 cats.

"People now want to take care of someone," Mazur said.

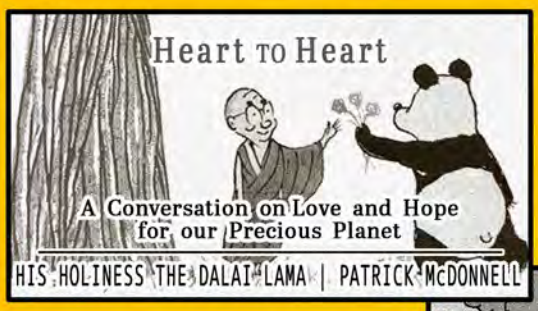
More than 195 animals have come through the doors, including 160 that either were reunited with their owners or found new homes, Mazur said.

"We're actually evacuating not the animals themselves, but the people, who won't go anywhere without their pets," UA Animals founder Oleksandr Todorchuk said.

Volunteers plan to keep the temporary shelter going as long as the war continues.

Nadiya Oleksyuk has a full-time job in computer programming but goes to the shelter every morning "because she has to." In a trembling voice, Oleksyuk explains she feels "a general guilt as a human being that the animals are in this situation."

"It's not the animals' fault that war happened," she said.



Animals Lebanon volunteer Kamal Khatib with kittens rescued Friday from debris of buildings in Beirut. BILAL HUSSEIN/AP

Activists rescue animals amid Lebanon rubble

By Bassem Mroue
Associated Press
Sun. Chicago Trib 10/18/24

BEIRUT — Hours after an Israeli strike destroyed a three-story building in Beirut, killing at least 10 people, Maggie Sharawi received a telephone call from a person living nearby saying that the attack had killed a cat that had several kittens.

While civil defense members were combing through the rubble for human victims or survivors, Sharawi and other members of Animals Lebanon, an animal protection organization, rushed to the scene in Beirut's central Burj Abi Haidar neighborhood Friday.

They began climbing through rubble, twisted metal and collapsed walls to reach the kittens. The animals, just a few days old, were pulled out, put in a plastic carrier and taken away as the rescuers continued searching for other cats whose cries could be heard emerging from under the debris.

Over the past three weeks they have managed to rescue 190 animals from strike sites in Beirut and its southern suburbs. "We believe that caring for animals is caring for humans. In the end it is the people who are calling us for help," Sharawi said.

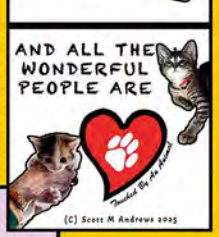
Since Lebanon's Hezbollah started attacking Israeli military posts along the border in October last year and Israel responded with airstrikes and shelling in much of southern Lebanon, animal rights activists have been going to the south to help rescue pets.

"Our teams are working 24 hours a day," Sharawi said, going into homes in the southern suburbs to bring animals to safety.

Many of the animals they rescue have suffered injuries, including broken bones, as a result of walls falling on them.

"We are dealing with cases that we have never seen before," Sharawi said.

CATS-ARE-PURR SONS-TOO!



Betty White, known for her dedication to animal welfare, wears a pawprint earring.

Why Do We Do What We Do?

A terrified scream drew us to the front door. There, between the screen and entry doors was a tiny kitten – so scared with big pleading eyes! It couldn't tell us that the young child who had cuddled and loved and reassured it last night, hoped it would be safe amongst the contented cats in our screenhouse she observed from the alley on her way to school every day and longed to play with.

But her mother said, "No pets – landlord does not allow. Do you want to be homeless? Get it out of our apartment!"

The heartbroken child didn't ring our doorbell, but left her tears on the kitten, sure that it would be safe with us. Days later, a shy child asked one of our people in the yard about that kitten.

A man came to our door with a cat in a carrier. "I don't want it anymore," was his explanation as he hurried away.

Judgmental thoughts and harsh statements came to mind as we closed the door on him and took in the young pregnant cat.

Next morning this man's picture was in the news. He had given up on life and jumped off a bridge, overwhelmed with problems.

But first he saw to it that another precious purrson and her unborn lives would have the future he could not see for himself. He had given up on himself, but found hope for his cat.

We hope and pray, that his final caring act -- and being TOUCHED BY AN ANIMAL -- brings him ETERNAL PEACE and LOVE.

Because EVERY LIFE Deserves HEALTH, HAPPINESS, HOPE, and a LOVING HOME

Bro (AMBROSE) is a 5 yr. old cat beloved to all of us, currently receiving 24 hr. continuous lifesaving care with tube feedings, IV fluids, and cuddling, by our Vets, staff, and volunteers.

Bro grew up very much loved in the home of a dear lady who died this year, leaving him to her sister. Both grieved, trying to console each other until the woman, too, became ill and Bro was again left alone while she was in the hospital.

Eva Consoling Bro

By the time a caregiver brought him to us, he had stopped eating, and Fatty Liver Disease began to threaten Bro's life. His eyes, ears, and mouth turned characteristically yellow, and his spirit had given up. But everyone in our TBA home, and our dedicated Vets, see a very special, most loveable, heartsick cat who deserves a new life.

We will do everything we can to give it to him as well as to the person who adopts a loving, healthy Bro.

TBA is not able to save the world, but we can change the world of each purrson and person who seeks our help.

TOUCHED BY AN ANIMAL'S PRIMARY MISSION

*Helping people to **keep** their beloved pets **in their homes**, derives from our*

CORE VALUES

*of **respecting, valuing ALL living beings,** and **affirming the mutual love and healing** benefits that humans and companion animals give each other by enabling people to keep their pets through health and financial challenges.*

Touched By An Animal

Gentle the Earth

Cats-Are-Purrsons-Too

Our 42 Year Essential Mission

TOUCHED BY AN ANIMAL has grown from a grassroots neighbor-helping-neighbor group to a solid 501 (c)(3) organization, continuing and expanding its unique Mission of helping people, especially the elderly and homeless, keep their companion animals, and caring for rescued cats in our home, where CATS-ARE-PURRSONS-TOO.

HOW DO WE CARRY OUT OUR MISSION?

- ***We have pet food, litter, supplies, sent to people who need help.***
- ***We will board cats (and arrange for foster care for dogs, birds) for people who must be hospitalized or in nursing/rehab facilities, or in transition from homelessness.***
- ***For those in long-term facilities or hospice, we have volunteers take their beloved pet to visit the person or arrange for FaceTime visits.***
- ***We do not ask for any payment from those in hardship, as they should not have to choose between care or relinquishment.***
- ***We accept rescued abandoned cats and kittens as our space, finances, and help allow, providing all vet care, nurturing, and adoption counseling.***

A Depressed cat on our front porch, with a disheartening note, greeted our Early MORNING Worker

Hi.
my name is Luna. I am 4 yrs. old.
I am aggressive. I was loved and spoiled, but my mom is scared of me, and can't take care of me anymore. She is terrorized by me. I love fancy feast and I love to play. I don't do well with others. usually I need to be sedated before my vet appts. I am not fixed and I had my shots 2 yrs ago. I am cuddly when im ~~off~~ comfortable but I don't like meeting new people. Please find a home for me that is safe and is equipped to handle my aggression.

i'm sorry. I tried. She attacked me/ my partner mult times unprovoked. I tried surrending her but no one will take her. Please help her.

Dear Luna, invite your humans to TBA's SPRING BENEFIT when STEPHEN QUANDT, CERTIFIED FELINE BEHAVIOR SPECIALIST, will answer questions.

Remember:

- **ADOPTIONS** allow us to accept more cats and kittens in need
- **DONATIONS**, especially ongoing, provide needed vet care, food, and supplies
- **VOLUNTEERS** are the **HELPING HANDS** so very much needed for daily caregiving, nurturing, cleaning, special events, and new ideas
- **NETWORKING** lengthens & strengthens our outreach
- **SHARE** our Facebook posts with friends and family
- **BRING GUESTS** to our Benefits

Scan me to Donate

Gentle the Earth

Cats-Are-Purrsons-Too

A special thank you for remembering our needs each month. Without your love and generosity we cannot do what we do.

But with **YOUR AFFIRMING PARTNERSHIP** -- Financial, Helpful, and Networking -- we can continue our 42 years of bringing **NEW LIFE, LOVE, HOPE**, to the Purrsons and Persons who seek our help.
Yes, we can **SAVE THEIR WORLD!**

Join Touched By An Animal Staff, Volunteers, Adopters, Friends for our Spring Books & Baskets Brunch

Sunday, May 18
11 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Irish American Heritage Center,
4626 N. Knox Ave., Chicago, IL 60630

Author, Speaker: Stephen Quandt,

Feline Behaviorist, Animal Care Centers of N.Y.C.
Fear Free Certified Professional –
Animal Behavior Institute

Stephen will discuss and answer your questions/examples of cat behavior –
Please send ahead.

He will also autograph his informative Book,
Written for ages 6 – 9, but helpful for all,
And delightfully illustrated by Thom Heyer.

We encourage gifting copies to your school and public libraries.