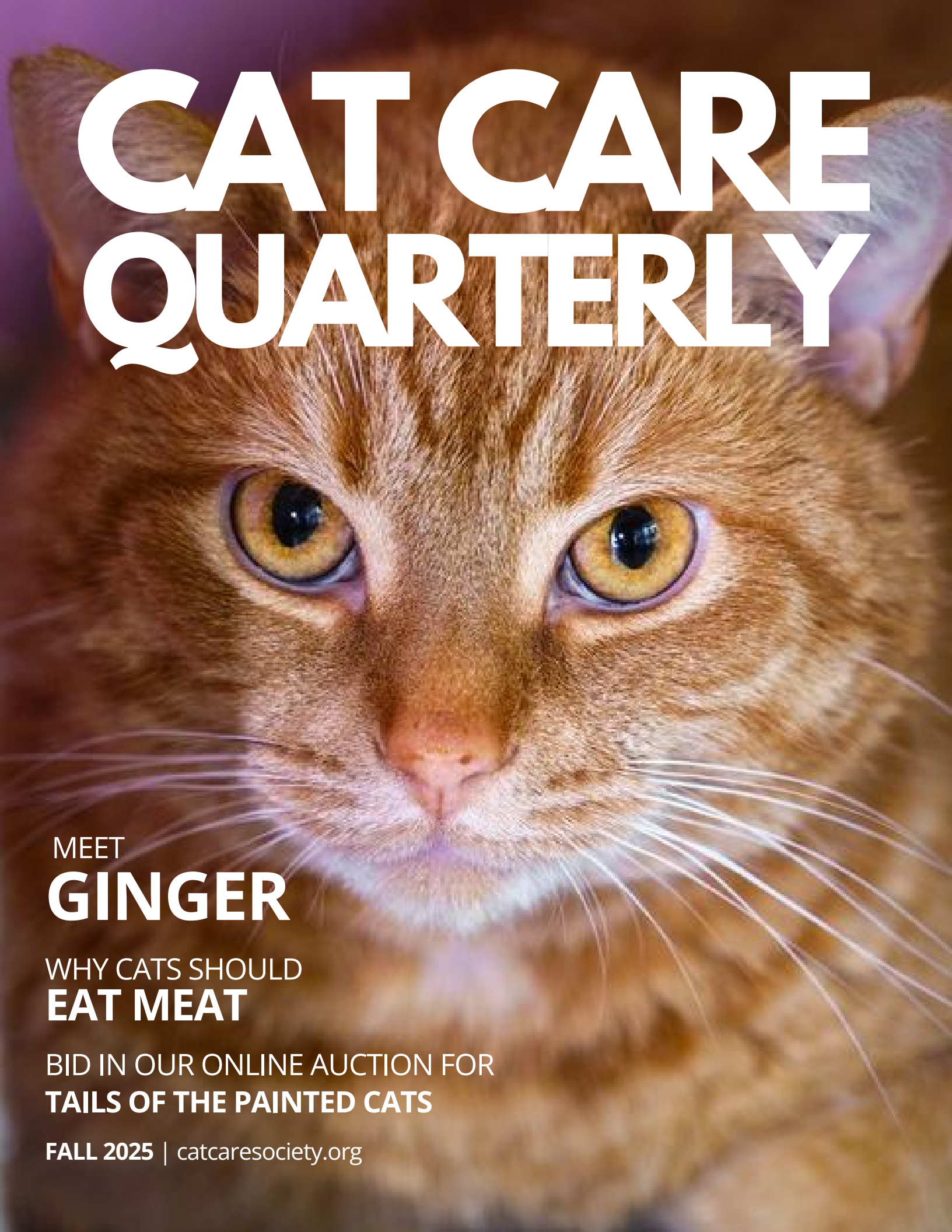


A close-up, high-resolution photograph of a ginger cat's face. The cat has bright yellow-green eyes, a pink nose, and long white whiskers. Its fur is a mix of orange and white. The background is a soft, out-of-focus brown.

CAT CARE QUARTERLY

MEET
GINGER

WHY CATS SHOULD
EAT MEAT

BID IN OUR ONLINE AUCTION FOR
TAILS OF THE PAINTED CATS

FALL 2025 | catcaresociety.org



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CONTACT US
303.239.9680
info@catcaresociety.org

VISIT US
5787 W 6th Ave
Lakewood, CO 80214

Our Mission

To be a safe and enriching place for all cats on their journey to a loving home. We do this by providing compassionate care, shelter, adoption services and community engagement.

UPCOMING EVENTS

October

11 | **Another Duet Drag Show**
at VYBE Denver

21 | **Cat Takeover**
at New Terrain Brewing

18 | **Tails of the Painted Cats Gala**
at Pinehurst Country Club

25 | **Free Seminar: Clicker Training**
at Lakewood Library

November

01 | **Cats on Mats Yoga**
at the shelter

09 | **CatFest Colorado**
at National Western Complex

December

06 | **Santa Paws**
at the shelter

09 | **Colorado Gives Day**
online only

Learn more and sign up for these events at catcaresociety.org.

PAST EVENTS



During Clear the Shelters Month (August 1–31), Cat Care Society helped **117** cats find new families! This year, we ran a special promotion offering waived adoption fees for cats one year and older, making it even easier for these wonderful cats to connect with loving homes. Thank you to our community, adopters, and volunteers for making these happy endings possible.

From the Executive Director

Dear Friends,

At Cat Care Society, we see the power of partnership every day. Over 50% of our cats come through our doors as transfers from other shelters. These relationships allow us to support open admission shelters—vital, safety-net organizations with limited resources, rural shelters needing more support for cats with special needs, and animal control teams addressing challenging cases.

Through these transfers, we're able to provide greater visibility for cats and access to our incredibly special community of adopters who have become partners with us in providing homes to cats with special needs. Last year, we welcomed 710 cats through these connections, each with a story to tell.

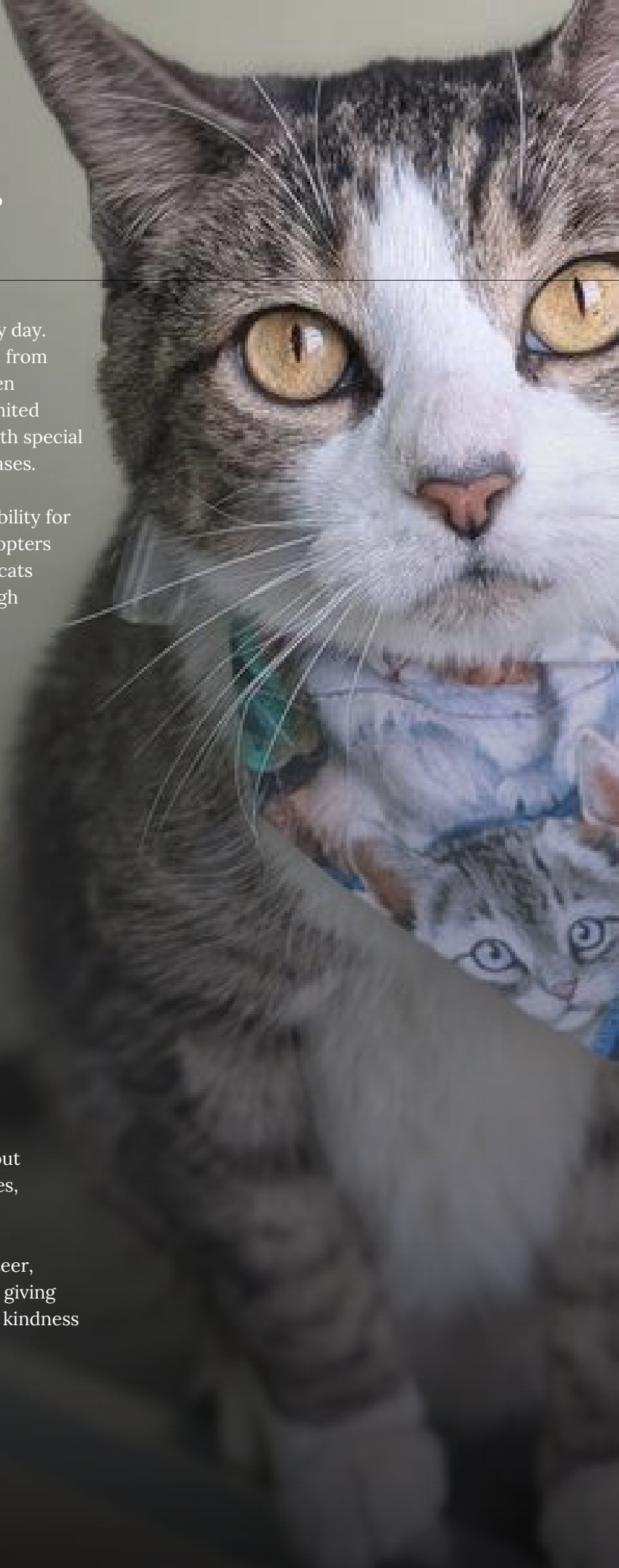
Partnership extends far beyond the shelter doors. Local businesses like Good Kitty Behavior Consulting and Training, New Terrain Brewing Company, LaDawn Sperling Coldwell Banker Realty, and others have hosted events, raised funds, and spread the word about our work.

Our upcoming 10th Anniversary Tails of the Painted Cats gala is another example of what's possible when a community comes together. Business sponsors help us reach more donors. Community partners such as Lakewood Cultural Center, Lakewood Arts Council, and Red Rocks Community College hosted our "painted cats" during their art tour, while media partners helped spread the word.

The beauty of these partnerships is that every organization brings something different to the table—and that's what makes us stronger. By working together with small and large shelters, and the people who care about them, we are able to serve more cats, support more families, and build a more compassionate community.

Thank you for being part of this work. Whether you volunteer, donate, or sponsor, your support matters. Together, we're giving every cat a chance to thrive, and reminding ourselves that kindness and collaboration make all the difference.

With gratitude,
EC Michaels



Get Ready to Bid!

Tails of the Painted Cats
Online Auction Opens October 11



This year's silent auction is bigger and better than ever, and for the first time, bidding will be available online starting **October 11**. That means you don't have to wait until gala night to secure your favorite pieces. From breathtaking cat-inspired sculptures and paintings to handcrafted pottery, gift baskets, and gift cards, there's something for every bidder.

**The auction will close on
 October 18 at 7:30 PM, so be sure
 to get your bids in early!**



SCAN ME

Winning bidders not attending the gala will be able to pick up their items directly from Cat Care Society.

Every bid you place helps us continue our mission of providing shelter, veterinary care, and love to the cats who need us most.

Explore the art and register as an online bidder, visit catcaresociety.org/topc or text "catcaresociety to 855-800-4975.

Together, we'll make this milestone year of Tails of the Painted Cats the most impactful yet!



BECOME A



Colorado Gives Day is coming on Tuesday, December 9th — and this year you can double your impact for cats in need! An anonymous friend of Cat Care Society has generously pledged a \$20,000 matching gift for donations made by noon on December 9th. That means your gift can go twice as far to help cats who need lifesaving care.

This year, our theme is "Be the Cat-alyt," highlighting how your generosity sparks life-changing care for over a thousand cats every year. One powerful way to support our mission is by joining our Cat-alyt Club, the new name of our community of monthly donors, whose consistent, ongoing support helps us plan and provide care every day of the year.

**Make your Colorado Gives Day donation starting
 November 1 at catcaresociety.org/catalyst-club**



SCAN ME





meet Ginger

Ginger is a 4-year-old orange tabby with a sweet personality who's ready to spice up your life!



If you spend time scrolling through cat videos on TikTok, there's a good chance you've seen her. Ginger, a striking orange tabby with a personality as bold as her fur, has gone viral on social media, and even made headlines in USA Today, for her remarkable journey at Cat Care Society.

Ginger has Hyperesthesia Syndrome. A condition that caused her to attack her tail continuously while being overstimulated. After thorough treatments and behavioral assessments, we deemed that tail amputation was necessary for her to recover. Since her surgery, she has done very well and has no signs of attacking her tail.



She'd love to be an only cat in a quiet home that's willing to keep up with her daily medications.

Check out our social media for more about Ginger's story!

Ginger may need a little extra care, but she has so much love to give in return! Could she be your perfect match?

Visit catcaresociety.org today to fill out an adoption application!

Follow us on Social Media so you don't miss more stories like Ginger's!



-  tiktok.com/@catcaresociety
-  facebook.com/catcaresociety
-  youtube.com/catcaresocietyofficial
-  instagram.com/catcaresociety

Why Cats Need to Eat Meat

By Beth Dokolasa, *Board Member*

Cats are often known for being picky eaters—whether it's an aversion to certain kibble shapes, a preference for pâté over chunks in gravy, or a liking for food served slightly warmed. For cat owners, finding a food that their cat enjoys while still meeting nutrition needs can be a real challenge. However, one thing remains certain: cats are obligate carnivores and need to eat meat.

An obligate carnivore is an animal that must eat meat to survive because its body is biologically adapted to derive essential nutrients solely from animal-based sources. Cats evolved as hunters that consume prey containing high amounts of protein, moderate amounts of fat, and minimal amounts of carbohydrates, and they still typically do best consuming those proportions today. Just like humans, cats also require certain amounts of micronutrients, like vitamins, minerals, and amino acids to thrive.



Key Nutrients Found in Meat

Cats require many kinds of micronutrients from a variety of sources. Below are some of the key nutrients that are either exclusively found in meat or for which meat is the best source.

Taurine: An amino acid, taurine is necessary for heart health, vision, digestion, immune system function, and reproduction. Unlike humans and other omnivores, cats cannot readily create taurine from other amino acids, making it essential for them to consume. Taurine is found almost exclusively in animal tissues, including muscle meat and organs. Cats cannot store taurine in their body, so it's important that they consume adequate amounts on a daily basis.

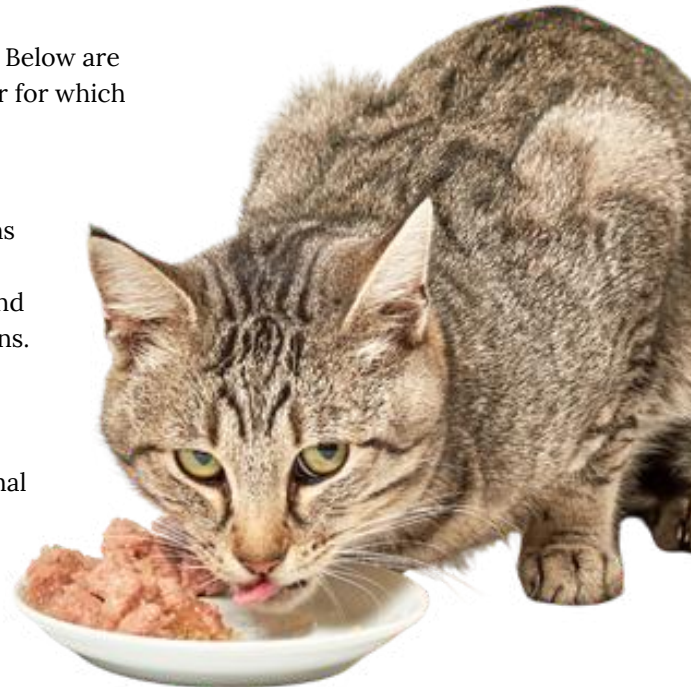
Arachidonic Acid (AA): An essential omega-6 fatty acid found in animal fats, especially liver and poultry fat, cats need arachidonic acid for normal growth, skin health and inflammation balance. Cats lack the enzymes to convert linoleic acid (found in plants) to AA.

Preformed Vitamin A and Vitamin D:

- Vitamin A is essential for vision, skin health, and immune system function. Cats cannot convert beta carotene (the plant form of vitamin A) into active vitamin A, so it's best for them to consume it through natural sources, including liver, fish, and animal fat.
- Vitamin D is essential for bone health. Unlike humans or dogs, cats cannot synthesize vitamin D through sunlight exposure. Liver, fish, and animal fat are great sources of the active form of vitamin D.

B Vitamins—Niacin, Thiamine, B6, B12: B vitamins as whole are essential for energy metabolism, nervous system function, the immune system, and healthy skin and coat.

- Cats have a high requirement for niacin and thiamin compared to other animals, and because their bodies cannot synthesize these vitamins, they must be obtained through food.
- Cats need adequate B6 to metabolize protein, and fortunately, meat is a great source!
- Similarly, cats need vitamin B12 for digestive health as well as immune and nervous system function, and meat is the best source for the form of B12 cats can most readily use.
- Organ meats and muscle meats are some of the best natural sources of B vitamins.



Without adequate intake of these vital nutrients, cats can experience deficiency symptoms and even irreversible damage to their health, so it's important to provide them with a complete and balanced diet that reflects their biological need for meat-based nutrition.

Food Allergy Note



Don't Pull Out the Grill or Roasting Pan Just Yet!

If you're starting to think this is all leading to a time-consuming recommendation for homemade, all-meat meals—don't worry. Regardless of quality, feeding your cat only prepared muscle meat (such as chicken breast or ground turkey) can actually lead to essential nutrient deficiencies! Cats need a variety of nutrients found in organ meat and animal fat, too. For balanced and complete nutrition, cats typically do best consuming commercially balanced raw and cooked food.

Look for products that contain a nutritional adequacy statement on the label. This indicates that the food meets the nutritional standards set by the [Association of American Feed Control Officials \(AAFCO\)](#), a nonprofit that establishes nutritional standards for pet foods. Cat Care Society is a proud partner of Hill's Food, Shelter & Love program, and we feed Hill's to our shelter cats. Hill's recipes meet AAFCO nutrition standards, so our cats get the complete and balanced nutrition they need. (Note: AAFCO does not directly test or certify pet foods. Pet food companies use third-party testing agencies to analyze their foods according to AAFCO guidelines.)

Supplemental homemade meals can often be included as a part of your cat's healthy diet, provided that it's approved by the cat's veterinarian, safely prepared, and does not include any ingredients harmful to cats, such as garlic, onions, raw eggs, and excess sodium. Additionally, do not feed your cat raw meat. While cats eat raw meat in the wild, feeding them raw meat purchased at a traditional grocery store can cause illness due to harmful bacteria like Salmonella and E. coli.

Closing

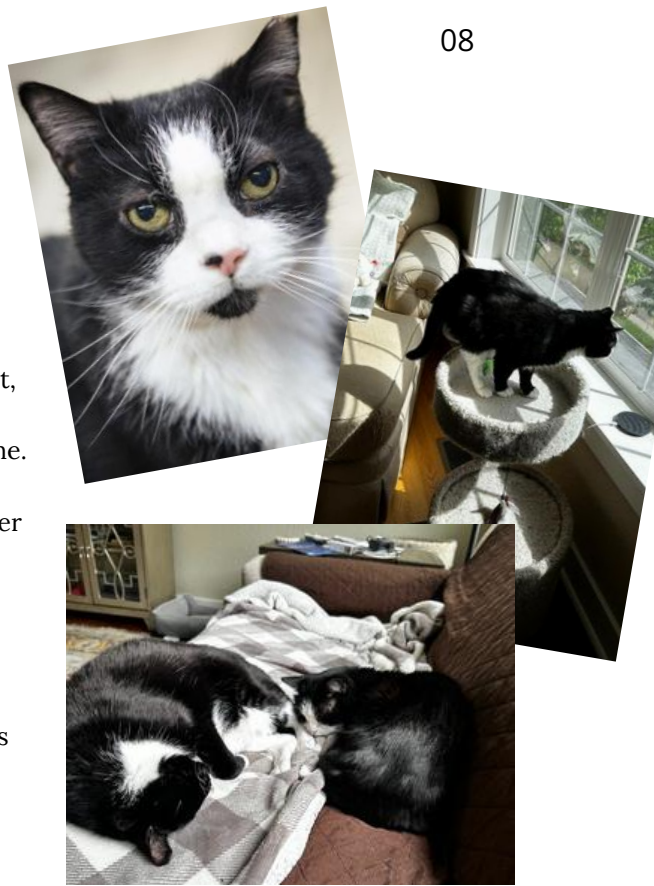
Understanding your cat's biological need for meat is essential to supporting their lifelong health and well-being. As obligate carnivores, cats rely on meat not just for protein, but for critical nutrients like taurine, arachidonic acid, and essential vitamins that they cannot make on their own. By choosing high-quality commercial foods that meet AAFCO standards and consulting with your veterinarian, you can feel confident that you're giving your cat the nourishment they need to thrive.

Kathy & Boo

Boo Radley spent over a year at the shelter waiting for the right home. Due to his ongoing medical needs and unique personality, finding an adopter proved to be a challenge. That's when longtime CCS supporter and current board president, Kathy, stepped in! At the time, she wasn't looking to adopt, but she was aware of Boo's medical issues, his inability to tolerate other animals, and knew she could provide him with a quiet and comfortable home.

At first, Boo had his own private suite away from Kathy's other cats. But after a few months, he gained confidence and decided to join the rest of the family. Now, he happily roams the entire house.

Kathy shares that Boo loves watching the world through the windows, spending time with his cat brothers, and curling up on "Dad's" lap to watch TV. With daily eye drops to manage his eye pressure and monthly injections to ease his arthritis, Boo's health and happiness have greatly improved.



“ I never dreamed he would adapt so well. We love him so much! ”



2026 Calendar

Keep an eye out for our 2026 calendar featuring silly moments from the shelter cats! Calendars will go on sale in November in our Meow Mart store. Plus, grab them at Catfest Nov. 9 and Santa Paws Dec. 6!

New Merch now on Bonfire!



SCAN ME

New merch just dropped in our Bonfire store!
Grab it now before it's gone!

www.bonfire.com/store/cat-care-society



Your Gift Matters More than Ever in 2025



As we head into the final stretch of 2025, we want to thank you—our compassionate and steadfast community—for standing by Cat Care Society through every step of our journey. For over 40 years, your love and commitment have fueled our mission to rescue, rehome, and advocate for cats in need. Because of your support, Cat Care Society is thriving and making the greatest impact in our history.

That said, we want to share a couple of recent funding challenges we are experiencing that are outside of our control. A recent change in Colorado law is redirecting funds from the Colorado Pet Overpopulation Fund to rural Trap-Neuter-Return programs. While we support this very important work, the shift puts the approximately \$15,000 in annual spay/neuter grant funding we have received at risk.

At the same time, changes to federal funding are impacting many nonprofits, with some facing steep reductions. While Cat Care Society doesn't receive federal dollars, we understand some donors may feel compelled to support those that do. That's why now—more than ever—we are deeply grateful for your loyalty and hope you'll continue to keep our unique mission close to your heart during your year-end giving.

As 2025 draws to a close, every gift—large or small—plays a vital role in sustaining our work. Whether you're making your annual contribution, increasing your support, or giving for the first time, your generosity helps us care for the cats and people who count on us.

If you're considering a significant gift, this is the year to act. Beginning in 2026, new tax laws will limit the value of charitable deductions for many higher-income donors—including the introduction of a deduction "floor" and a lower cap on itemized deductions. By giving before December 31, you can take full advantage of the current, more favorable tax rules—and increase your impact on our work. Please consult your financial advisor for more details.

Every contribution—no matter the amount—helps us keep rescuing, healing, and rehoming cats who need us. If you have questions about ways to give, please reach out to Ashleigh Leader at aleader@catcaresociety.org or 303-237-4559.



GIFTS MADE WITH LOVE

APRIL 1 - JUNE 30, 2025

Thanks to everyone who has made donations **in honor of or in memory of** someone special!

Gifts not listed here will be credited in the next issue. Please send corrections or questions to philanthropy@catcaresociety.org.

FROM IN HONOR OF

Anna Baron.....Havana, Phoenix & Misha
 Jeanna Beard.....Rayo Burke - may you rest
 in Peace and bite everyone's hand in kitty heaven
 Emily Bezemek.....My sweet Cat Care Society kitties
 Carol Blair.....Leo & Pepper
 Carol Blair.....Rufus, Simon, Winston,
 Janjiro, Stormii, Roxi
 Coleen Brubaker.....Nala, Tomo & Socrates
 Ellen Buchanan.....Kay Higgins 80th Birthday
 Megan Burd.....Mojo Cat
 Brendan & Stephanie Carlton.....Frida & Tigris!
 Sue Carrick.....Charlie
 Marilyn Jaryno & Brandi Dantzler.....Bandit & Oreo
 Linda Ferraro.....Michelle Gill
 Monica Flaim.....Monica Flaim
 Janet Fletcher.....Ty, Edmond & Mercedes
 William (Bill) & Susan (Sue) Fox.....Happy Birthday
 Katie & Grace Fox!
 Lori Freedman.....All passed & present fabulous
 Freedman felines
 Richard & Wendy Goad.....Kay Higgins' Birthday!
 Jamie & Joy Harrison.....Spencer Whitlock
 Gary & Kristin Hathaway.....Our CCS rescues
 Mr. Pibbets & Tempest
 Jane Hedlund.....Maverick
 Janine Helton.....Mia- AKA Sprinkles
 Michael Hendrickson.....Bob Tinnin
 Glenda Hower.....All Black Cats III
 Susan Jiron-Garcia.....Lucy
 Teresa Kalber.....Joshua Carney
 Johnathan & Gillian Kastner.....Nancy Schmidt
 Christopher Larason.....Strays needing homes
 Mary Lemmer.....Gizmo
 Clare Lewis.....Kathy McChesney
 John & Linda Lodenkamper.....Happy Birthday
 to Katie & Grace Fox
 Chris Masters.....Scout
 Mary Matey.....Conan, Rambo & Roxie
 Susan McCaffery.....Pumpkin
 Sharon Minick.....Stephanie Gugel
 Delaney Monroe.....Willow & Buttercup
 Liz O'Rourke.....Happy Birthday
 to Katie & Grace Fox!
 Jane Parr.....Jesus
 Sandra Prostrullo.....Tux
 Cynthia Carman & Victor J Rich.....Paul Dokolasa
 Mark Ruthven.....Ollie's 11th birthday!!!
 Trudy Scott.....Pixie, Whiskey & Wiggles
 Barbara Shissler.....Tortie
 Rodolfo Sosa Cordero Camacho.....Frida Gato
 David Stone.....Pippa
 Greg Urciolo.....Lily
 Mary Vargas.....Oliver
 Sandy & Fred Waldman.....Scooter
 Nancy Wilcox.....Katie & Grace Fox
 Vivian Wilczak.....Hugo & Little Mama
 Janice Zinkl.....Jo Lynn Jarboe

FROM IN MEMORY OF

John & Marlene Becker.....J. Claudette Hamilton
 Douglas Beeman.....Sweetie
 Ruth & Patricia Borri.....Misty
 Mark & Linda Brandon.....Liliana Bella
 Dennis Burdick.....Penny Budick
 Carol Byrd.....Kim Kirk
 Susan & Martin Calhoun-Stubber.....Tiffany, Crystal,
 Jasper, Jasmine & Ginger
 Tony Carlton.....Sandra L. Carlton
 Mary Carosa.....Nancy Skinner
 Sue Carrick.....Jo Ann Maxner
 Ron & Michelle Catalan.....Kathy Grazi
 S.A. Chacon.....Orange
 Carol Coker.....Mel Hughes
 Susan "Sue" Corbell.....Penny
 Karen Coviello.....Connie Wolfe
 Linda Craig.....Helen Seavy
 Thomas Curigan.....Kay Alyn Black
 Clyde & Barbara Dawson.....Rico, a CCS cat
 David & Barbara Distinti.....Connie Wolfe
 Harry Dorcy.....Bob Tinnin
 Linda Drescher.....JaNeil Cillessen
 Peter Dupree.....Ceres Hamer
 Elizabeth Dymkowski.....Lala, Amy & Samantha
 Gary Eisenberg.....Kathleen Grazi
 Ava Elbinger.....Kathleen Patricia Elbinger Grazi
 Erin Ellebracht.....Harley Ellebracht
 Laura Ellerby.....Pumpkin
 Timothy & Charmaine Estep.....Sugar Pie
 Susan Fernandez.....My parents &
 my brother, with love.
 Vera Fischer.....Kathleen Patricia Elbinger Grazi
 Marilyn & David Flemming.....Kathy Grazi
 Abbi Fletcher.....Emmitt & Malcolm
 Celeste Foyt.....Lucy
 Vicki Fragasso.....My cat Lily
 My best girlfriend forever
 Jeffrey French.....Maggie
 Patricia "Patty" A & Daniel A Gibson.....Josephine
 and In Honor of Missy
 Mike Grazi.....Kathleen Elbinger
 Robert & Ann Greenbaum.....Buddy & Tiffany
 Lynn Gunney.....Connie Wolfe
 Kaaren Hardy.....Primrose
 Glenn & Linda Hardy.....Sugar
 Dick & Pauline Hartman.....Bob Tinnin
 Linda Horn.....Tuxedo
 Darlene Howell.....Kittyboy, Coco & Gizmo
 April Hrenya-Wood.....Our kitty Maverick,
 who we lost 3 years ago today
 Donald Hudson.....Bob Tinnin 1946 - 2025
 Kathy Husband.....Connie Wolfe
 Pamela Ingram.....Uno
 Steve & Marie John.....Doyle & Sandra Sorrell
 Pamela Kaiser.....Simon & Bailey
 Ingrid Karlstrom.....Ninja
 Marcia Ketchum.....Nancy Ketchum Marks

Kay Kishline.....45 Years of loving cat partners
 Kalea Kizzar.....Mr. Sox
 Kristopher Kolman.....Lana Kolman
 George & Judy Kostur.....Molly
 Anna Krappes.....Hercules & Magdalena
 Lee Lampert.....Kathy Elbinger Grazi
 Valerie Lavay-Borris.....Luna & Sasha
 Ramona Lidmila.....Loretta Swit
 Melanie Linton.....Peachie, Wiskie, Squeaky, & Pumpkin
 Robert List.....The Maxxx
 Sheila Long.....Daryl Carlson
 Trevor Alay & Sarah Makarechian.....All my kitties
 Susan Marcus.....Sherm Marsh
 Douglas L. & Susan C Maul.....Simba
 Carol McGill.....Nancy Sindt
 Michael F. & Maidie Mestek.....Maia & In Honor of Remy
 Robert Michael.....Cindy Cat
 Craig Miller.....Terri Miller
 Linda Miner.....Bob Tinnin
 Sarah Muckeman.....Power & Neo
 Kellie Murphy-Hicks.....Our cat Leo
 Kathleen Nicolai.....Cory
 Dianne Wood-Nicoletti & Stanley Nicoletti.....Ajax
 Kathryn (Kay) Nyquist.....Susie "Brown Tabby" Nyquist
 Maureen Parker.....Elaine & Charles Coyle
 Geoffrey Peck.....DeeDee
 Colleen Peppler.....Doug Sorrell
 Margaret Phillips.....Grace
 Arlene Pickett.....Luna
 Debra Reinhard.....Kathi Grazi
 Jena Requist.....Gregor
 Elizabeth A & K Douglas Riggs.....Miki, Mew, & Dori
 Kevin Ripper.....Rosa
 Steve & Julie Rotenberg.....Kathleen Patricia Elbinger.
 May her memory be a blessing for the
 family and friends who knew her.
 Debbie Rupprecht.....Max & Pepper
 Gabriela Salmeron.....George
 Michael & Kari Sanders.....Chloe Sanders
 Michael & Kari Sanders.....Chloe, Cirrus, Braveheart,
 Muggins, & Ziggy
 Shaundel Smathers.....Ace
 Michael Smith.....Sam, the Cat
 Robert "Bob" Smith.....Theo
 Eve Tallon.....Juliana
 Anthony Tamburello.....Liz Sutliff
 Nicole Tennant.....Sasha & Daven
 Loma & Don VanMeter.....Tippy & Skippy
 Laura Waterworth.....Chester Kitty Weathersby-Miller
 Diane Williamson.....Gisela Hauert
 Theresa Worden.....Our sweet girl, Nutmeg
 Jean Wulf.....Wulf Cats
 Mary Young.....Claudette Hamilton

FROM ON BEHALF OF

Alena Ellison.....Carrie Watts



5787 W. 6TH AVE
LAKEWOOD CO, 80214



Address Service Requested



Visit our Amazon Wishlist for a
convenient method of supporting our
cats without leaving your home.

