



NEWSLETTER

JULY 2024

Summertime Challenge: The Catlympic Games!

While talented humans are over in Paris competing at the Olympics, the crowds closer to home are roaring as Cat's Cradle's Summertime Challenge – The Catlympic Games – begins! Our finest feline athletes are 'competing' in sports like the 10-yard mouse chase, competitive cat napping, and team zoomies. They've been preparing for this moment their whole lives!

While our beloved furry friends are always winners in our eyes, it's Cat's Cradle that's hoping to take home the gold medal. The Summertime Challenge is our biggest fundraiser of the year as it helps us continue our vital work through the kitten-packed summer and fall months. We are champions at keeping costs low wherever possible, but our budget keeps getting larger because prices for services and supplies keep rising. Furthermore, demand for our programs has picked up. Despite these challenges, we're still running the distance for cats and families in need, and it's all thanks to incredible donors like you. Thank you so much for your continuing support!!

Last year's Summertime Challenge brought in just over \$63,000, which helped us do wonderful things like reduce shelter numbers (which keeps euthanasia low), get kitties altered to control the cat population, and provide medical assistance for families who cannot afford significant vet bills.

To keep these victories coming, our anonymous, world-record holder for 'most wonderful sponsor' has again offered \$50,000 matching money for the Summertime Challenge. That means we need an equal amount of community support to claim that matching money. On top of that – to meet the continuing inflationary pressures – **we're hoping to cross the finish line with at least \$65,000** in community support so that we don't have to scale back the important work we do.



SUMMERTIME CHALLENGE - CONTINUED

Any size donation helps with our life-saving work, and if you donate at one of the Olympic-themed sponsor levels, you'll be a legendary champion!

If you opt to give at one of the sponsor levels, please use the memo line of your check or the comment box on our online donation page to specify whether you wish to be acknowledged by name on social media, or acknowledged by name only in our newsletter, or if you want your gift to be completely anonymous. To donate, scan the QR code!



LET THE GAMES BEGIN!



The Catlympic Games

Summertime Challenge

Cat Wand Gymnastics Champion (\$1,000+)
Acknowledged on social media for a day with photo/video and story (if requested), thanked by name on our website, shouted out in radio/tv appearances (if requested), and named as a sponsor for an entire colony of cats spayed/neutered by Cat's Cradle.

Cardboard Box Sitting Champion (\$500-\$999)
Acknowledged on social media for a day with photo/video and story (if requested), thanked by name on our website, and named as sponsor for three adoptable cats/kittens.



Beach Yarnball Champion (\$300-\$499)
Acknowledged on social media (if requested) and named as a sponsor for a family of cats spayed/neutered by Cat's Cradle or one special needs adoptable cat/kitten.

Zoomies Champion (\$150-\$299)
Named as sponsor for two medical assistance client cats/kittens.

Be a Champion
July 15 - August 15, 2024

Want to help Cat's Cradle?



community rewards

We're giving
\$1.5 MILLION DOLLARS
to local nonprofit organizations

You can help!

Just shop, swipe your Plus Card and earn rewards for your favorite local nonprofit organization. Here's how to enroll:

1. Visit [KrogerCommunityRewards.com](https://www.kroger.com/community-rewards)
2. Locate your state and click "Enroll Now"
3. Sign in to your online account or create an account
4. Find and select your organization, and click "Save"

You can choose Cat's Cradle from the drop down list or enter the NPO# GG043

Thank you for helping Kroger support local nonprofit organizations through Community Rewards.



THE IMPACT OF YOUR SUPPORT

2024 NUMBERS

- 1,183 spay/neuter surgeries facilitated through 5/13
- 340 cats and kittens rescued from partner shelters through 5/31
- 189 cats and kittens adopted out through 5/31
- 98 families have been authorized or received medical assistance through 5/31



Meet Kathleen



Kathleen Albert is a New Orleans native who moved to the Virginia area about two and a half years ago. Before beginning her journey in animal welfare, Kathleen specialized in cleaning houses for special needs families. Upon moving to Virginia, she began her career in animal welfare as an animal care specialist who cared for both cats and dogs. She has also held the positions of adoption counselor, community cat manager, and animal care manager. Her favorite part of animal welfare is doing TNR and working within the community to help save lives. In her free time, Kathleen enjoys gardening, making jewelry, canning, and live music. Kathleen will be helping out at the Downtown Center as a phone counselor and adoption counselor. But wait - there's more! She will also be doing TNR! We are excited for you to meet Kathleen!

Goodbye Sam :(

Sam Bergman joined our team last September. We all knew that Sam was taking a gap year before going to medical school and her stay would be temporary. What we did not realize is how we would fall in love with this gal! Sam is headed to the Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine for a 4-year program to earn a Doctorate in Osteopathic Medicine. She was awarded a scholarship through the Office of Veterans Affairs, which will fund her medical school tuition! Following medical school, she will complete a 4-7 year residency program in her chosen specialty, then spend 6 years working as a physician for the VA to "pay back" her scholarship. Best of luck, Sam!!





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CAT'S CRADLE OF THE SHENANDOAH VALLEY, INC. RECEIVES \$10,000 GRANT FROM PETSMART CHARITIES® TO HELP MORE HOMELESS PETS FIND HOMES IN THE SHENANDOAH VALLEY

PetSmart Charities National Adoption Week In-Person Events to Take Place at Local PetSmart Stores

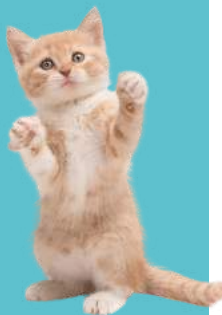
HARRISONBURG, VA – June 1, 2024 – Cat's Cradle of the Shenandoah Valley, Inc. has received a \$10,000 grant from PetSmart Charities to help prepare more homeless pets in the Shenandoah Valley for adoption. Some four million pets find themselves in U.S. shelters each year. In partnership with PetSmart Charities, Cat's Cradle will bring adoptable pets to two PetSmart locations in support of National Adoption Week, taking place June 10 - 16, 2024. With the help of this grant, the organization will offer cats and kittens for adoption fully vetted and spayed/neutered.

To read more about this cute ballerina and the full press release, please scan the QR code or visit our blog at www.catscradleva.org!



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**WANT THE PURRFECT INSTA PHOTO?
WANT TO LOVE ON KITTIES?**

**Come visit
Harrisonburg's first
Cat Café!**

Grab a cup of coffee and enjoy visiting with kitties in one of our private kitty rooms. All proceeds go to our spay/neuter program.



**BOOK YOUR
SESSION TODAY!
catscradleva.org**