The Feline Wine & Dine is just around the corner! This year's event will be held from 6:30 to 10 p.m. Saturday, May 5 at the Worthington Hills Country Club, 920 Clubview Blvd. S., Columbus, OH 43235.

Last year the Feline Wine & Dine sold out weeks in advance. This year we’ve increased the number of tickets available, and there is still time to get in on the fun! Don’t delay. Go to www.felinewineanddine.org for dinner details and to order your tickets online. If you or your guests are not current Cat Welfare Association members, join now and save on the ticket price for this event plus receive many more benefits throughout the year! If you prefer to mail us your ticket order, please use the form provided on Page 10, pick one up at the shelter or download the form at www.catwelfareohio.com.

In addition to our Silent Auction, we’ve added two opportunities to go home with fabulous prizes. Only 40 $40 tickets will be sold for a chance to spend November 3-10, 2012, at the Star Island Resort and Club, just minutes from Walt Disney World, SeaWorld and Universal Orlando. The spacious villa sleeps 9-12. Last year’s winner said, “Star Island was a perfect place for relaxing, soaking up the warm sun, walking and enjoying time with friends in a beautiful setting.” Also new is a Wine-and-More Raffle featuring wine-inspired items.

Put on your Top Hat and Tails (formal attire is optional) and join us for Cat Welfare’s marquee dining event of the year! Cattail cocktails and music begin at 6:30, followed by a delicious dinner and desserts. See you there!

For more information, contact Gail Harbert at 614-268-6096, Ext. 103.
Local Business Fosters Elijah

Elijah is one lucky kitty. He had been with us for several years before Aire-Flo Heating & Cooling decided they wanted to participate in our fostering program and whisked this handsome boy away to live with them as their “Office Kitty.”

Elijah immediately made himself at home while stealing the hearts of all the employees and visitors who frequent their corporate offices on the outskirts of Clintonville. He spends most of his time curled up with Steve or Kimmy or nestled in one of his favorite spots around the office. Shortly after arriving in his new foster home, Elijah was diagnosed with kidney disease, and it looked like his time would be limited. But with some loving care and attention, he has bounced back and is doing great. You can even catch him “helping” with the daily chores of running the business or just simply running down the halls with excitement.

Today he is affectionately known as Kitty Wompum, Lij or Lij-E, and he seems to be genuinely enjoying life. There are many studies that suggest that having a cat reduces stress and makes people happier; Elijah is certainly proof of that. These studies show that playing with a cat can elevate levels of serotonin, the feel-good hormone, and dopamine, which calms and relaxes while also reducing the production of cortisol, the stress hormone. Research has also shown that having a shared pet in the workplace can increase morale, creativity and even productivity. Short breaks to nuzzle the kitty or play a game of “catch the shoe lace” (one of Elijah’s favorites) can help give us a rejuvenating brain break and a few minutes of peace.

“We love having Elijah here and I honestly look forward to seeing him every time I come into the office,” says Steve Alexander, President of Aire-Flo. “Sometimes I will even make special trips just to see him. And, in addition to the many wonderful ‘personal’ benefits of having Elijah as our office kitty, we have also found that he has bridged a gap with our customers. People generally love animals, and the connection sparks a better relationship with most of the people we do business with.”

“It is nice to look forward to getting to work to see our boy,” explains Kimberly White, Executive Administrator of Aire-Flo. “He can hear you coming and will greet you at the door with some kitty lovin’ to help you get your day started just right. Plus, it feels good to know that we are helping out a wonderful cause by working alongside Cat Welfare to help find these homeless kitties a place to call their own.”

All care and medical expenses are covered by CWA through the fostering program, so why not help out a kitty in need and improve the lives of the people who work with you at the same time? Call us to find out more about our fostering program at 614-268-6096 or email us at cwafosters@gmail.com. You can also follow Elijah’s adventures on Facebook at www.facebook.com/Elijahsadventures.

Our Mission

Cat Welfare Association is dedicated to the care of and education about cats and kittens. Our pledge is to cherish, nurture and provide veterinary care for homeless, abused, injured and abandoned felines. We strive to find each cat an appropriate, safe and loving home, allowing those not placed to live their lives in the care and comfort of our shelter.

741 Wetmore Road
Columbus, OH 43214
614-268-6096
www.catwelfareohio.com

We are open daily on
Monday, Thursday, Friday,
Saturday & Sunday
from 11 a.m.- 3:30 p.m.
Tuesday & Wednesday
11 a.m. - 7 p.m.
(Closed the first Thursday of each month and all major holidays)

The adoption fee of $80 for adult cats and for kittens includes spay/neuter surgery, initial vaccinations, testing for feline leukemia and FIV, microchip identification, flea treatment & de-worming.
The shelter has established an Altering Fund to subsidize spay/neuter surgeries for cat owners with limited incomes. Contact 614-268-6096 for an application.

Current Board of Directors
Paul Calderone, President
Steve Hebenstreit, Vice President
Brenda Martin, Recording Secretary
Kathryn Hart, Corresponding Secretary
Cathi Easley, Treasurer
RoseAnn Ballangee • Sue Godsey
Larry Kingera • Peggy Kirk
Erica Kittleson • Laura Modisette
Andrea Ward-Ross • Sheila Zirkle
Quilt Raffle Slated for Saturday, June 30

Quilters Elizabeth Bowling and Sharon Warrington have created another gorgeous work of art to raise money for Cat Welfare. The raffle drawing will be held at noon on Saturday, June 30, in the shelter's Main Adoption Room. You need not be present to win. The winner will be notified that evening or on July 1.

Tickets are $5 for one, $20 for a lot of five. They can be purchased at the shelter or by mailing in the form at right. Good luck!

Quilt Raffle Ticket Order Form

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Mail to: Cat Welfare, Attn: Quilt Raffle
741 Wetmore Road
Columbus, OH 43214

Help Cat Welfare save money by going green. By asking to receive our newsletter by e-mail, you are helping the shelter to decrease our printing and postage expenses. To make the request, just send a note to teamcatwelfare@gmail.com. Be sure to include your first and last name, your street address and the e-mail address where you would like to receive the Feline Forum.

Kroger Rewards

Are you one of our Kroger Community Rewards supporters? April 1 is the opening date to renew your fundraising commitment to Cat Welfare in the program. If you want Cat Welfare to continue to benefit from your Kroger sales, you must renew your request. Since last April, this program has raised just over $5,100 for our kitties!

To register or renew, visit www.krogercommunityrewards.com. The NPO# for Cat Welfare Association is 83895. If you do not have Internet access and would like to participate, you may pick up a barcode form at the shelter or contact Gail Harbert, Program Manager, at 614-268-6096, Ext. 103.

Are you moving?
Be sure to notify us of your new address so we can keep our records up to date!

Go Green!

Follow us!
facebook.com/catwelfareohio
twitter.com/CWACatChatter
Cat Welfare Committee Roundup

Fundraising Committee
The Catique and their volunteers continue to work magic for the residents of Cat Welfare. In the first two months of the year, the Catique has earned an income of $10,683.43! We thank all of the volunteers who are so dedicated to the weekly preparations of the shop and to those who work with the public on Saturdays.

Membership Committee
Life Members and current Patron Members are now acknowledged on our CWA website. Members’ names can be found online at www.catwelfareohio.com, under the Become a Member tab. View the listings by clicking on Membership Opportunities, Life Membership or Patron Membership.

Thank you for your unwavering support!

Marketing Committee
Cat Welfare Association is now on Pinterest! You can view our boards by requesting an invite from Laura at ljmodis@gmail.com or Gail at cwavolunteers@gmail.com. In an effort to keep up with technology, CWA has adopted several QR codes. Look for our QR codes on all of the latest Cat Welfare literature.

Foster Care Committee
The Foster Care committee will be hosting a kitten shower on May 20 from noon to 3 p.m. Our wish list includes: dry and moist kitten food, KMR milk replacement, kitten bottles, clay litter, toys and human baby food in meat flavors. Foster parents will be on hand to answer all of your questions, and we hope you will consider joining our foster team.

Gourmet Hot Dogs for a Good Cause
Have you been Downtown yet to Dirty Frank’s Hot Dog Palace at 248 S. Fourth St.? Well, now’s your chance to check it out and raise some money for Cat Welfare. Dirty Frank’s will donate 10% of all sales on Tuesday, May 15 to the shelter. The fundraiser runs from 11 a.m. to midnight, so you can grab some lunch, dinner or even a late-night snack. Nearly all of their gourmet hot dogs can be made vegetarian and many can even be made vegan. Check out their menu at www.dirtyfranks columbus.com. See you there!

Calendar Deal
The early bird may get his worm, but this year the early cat photographers get free votes! The first 25 people to submit one or more photos in the CWA 2013 Calendar Photo Contest will receive vouchers for five free votes. Votes typically cost $1, so this is a deal!

The vouchers will be emailed to the entrants, who can use them to vote for their favorite photos in the online photo contest on the CWA website: www.catwelfareohio.com.
Cat Welfare 2013 CALENDAR CONTEST

Cat Welfare invites you to submit your best photo(s) of your favorite cat in the CWA on-line contest. If your photo is chosen, it could be published in the CWA 2013 Calendar which will be on sale this fall!

CONTEST RULES:

- Be sure your photo is focused and of good quality. If your picture is blurry, then it is not likely to be selected for the calendar. The larger the JPG file size, the better the quality.

- The contest is open to everyone. You can submit as many entries as you want, provided you pay the $10 entry fee for each photo. Photos may be taken at any place or time, but the subject must be a cat. Other animals may be in the photo. Sorry, no humans allowed in the photo.

- You must own the rights to the photo. Photos that have appeared in CWA’s Feline Forum Newsletter or in previous calendars are eligible, provided they have not been published elsewhere.

- Voting will be performed on-line at: http://catwelfareohio.com/calendar.htm beginning in March. You, your friends, and family may vote as many times and apply as many votes to each photo you want. You may purchase one vote credit for every $1 donated to support CWA. Voters must purchase a minimum of 5 votes for a $5 donation. Forward your pet's CWA photo page to your friends and family and then ask them to donate to vote for your pet!

- A panel of judges selected by the Cat Welfare Association will determine the winning photos. Complete rules will be published on the 2013 Calendar Contest website. The CWA judge's decisions are final. Winners will be notified via the CWA Fall Feline Forum Newsletter.

- To enter the contest, starting in March, follow the steps at http://catwelfareohio.com/calendar.htm by uploading your JPG format photo and vote for your favorite entries. You may also enter by sending this form. **Entry form(s) must be postmarked and electronic entries must be submitted before June 1, 2012. Voting for the contest ends at midnight EST on Friday, June 8, 2012.** Be sure to include a 100 word story or description along with each photo.

Your Name: ______________________________ Kitty’s Name: ______________________________

Street: ___________________________________ City, State, Zip: ______________________________

Daytime Phone: ___________________________ E-mail: ______________________________

Photo Title: ______________________________ Photographer’s Name: ____________________________

Number of photos enclosed: ______ Entry Fee enclosed: ____________ ($10 for each photo)

By signing, I accept the below disclaimer

MAIL TO: Cat Welfare, Attn: Calendar Contest

741 Wetmore Road

Columbus, OH 43214

Signature: ______________________________________

Disclaimer: By submitting this photo(s), you agree to transfer to Cat Welfare Association (CWA) all rights to the photo(s) without license, limitation, or compensation. All submitted photos are property of CWA, who may do with the photo(s) what they please. If you want the photo returned, you must enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope with your photo. CWA is not responsible for any errors, loss or damage regarding the photo entry/entries. All contestants agree to release and hold harmless CWA, all sponsors, and representatives from all claims or actions, they, their heirs, executors or assigns may have arising directly or indirectly from the contest. Winners consent to the use of their name, for advertising and publicity purposes without compensation.

Cat Welfare is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that promotes better care and understanding of cats while providing for the physical welfare of homeless cats and kittens.
I met Willard Scott about two years ago at CWA. I knew he was a special kitty from the start because he let me scratch his belly right away. He was so good natured and very calm around all the other cats.

Once I decided to adopt a cat, I knew it was going to be Willard Scott. When I got him home, he climbed out of his box and looked around as if to say, “This will do.” He never hid, and he never seemed frightened. He has made himself at home ever since.

Adopted by: Erik Diekmeyer

There is no getting around it, Logan is a brat. When he wants attention, he nips. He always looks for an opening to squeeze between us on the couch. He announces his presence with a loud, wet sneeze. He abruptly pushes open the bedroom door and fills the air with his happy purring.

Logan (formerly Timmy) was a Special Adoption candidate on the Cat Welfare site in December 2002. The day after I found him online, he came home as my Christmas present. He has a mysterious sinus issue that causes him to sneeze a LOT! This allergy/issue has baffled numerous vets, but he doesn’t allow his “disorder” to get in his way. He is a people cat. He is our constant loyal companion, always under foot when we are cooking dinner or gently nuzzling our legs when we walk in the door. With such a large personality, it is easy to see why everyone that meets him loves him. Thank you CWA for taking care of our sneezy, lovable Christmas kitty. Logan is one of a kind and we love him, attitude and all.

Adopted by: Amanda Gregor and Tim Piotrowski

My daughter, Kira, and I first met Blaze at Cat Welfare in early fall 2005. There was nothing to see but a lump under a blanket in her cage, but there was plenty to hear—a myriad of angry cat noises! I told Kira, “Leave that one alone, she doesn’t want to be bothered.” Next thing I knew, Kira was holding Blaze in her arms.

We told Kira she could select any kitten or cat, thinking she would choose one of the playful kittens. Kira chose Blaze, and on October 20, 2005, she came home. She hid in our basement for a few days, but she never missed a meal! She doesn’t hide anymore and has become quite the princess diva!

In summer 2008, we met a tiny blue-eyed ball of white fluff at Cat Welfare. Both of Frankie’s rear legs were broken. Thank goodness he ended up at Cat Welfare! We visited Frankie frequently, and on September 10, 2008, he came home. He likes to lie on the kitchen counter and watch the things he displaces fall to the floor with a crash that doesn’t bother him since he is deaf. He keeps everyone in place and on their toes. We are very lucky to have Frankie in our family.

Adopted by: The Griffin Family

Send your “Happy Homes” photo(s) and short story (200 words or less, if possible) to “Happy Homes,” c/o Cat Welfare, 741 Wetmore Road, Columbus, OH 43214, or online at catwelfarecats@yahoo.com. View these and many more “Happy Homes” stories on our website: www.catwelfareohio.com.
Carisa Kaeri Ann

Hi, my name is Carisa Kaeri Ann, and I was adopted in August 2010. When I first came into Cat Welfare, I had a bum leg that was later amputated. When my new mom first saw me, it was after my surgery, and she was awed by my beauty and sad to learn of my leg amputation. For the next few weeks she came to visit the other cats and always made it a point to visit me. She was told that I needed exercise, and because I am 10 years old, they didn't want me to be a floor cat with my new disability and age. So she fostered me for two weeks and the rest is history. I think they call that Foster Care Failure! YEAH!

It has been fun. She also has an older cat, Spice, who came from Cat Welfare 18 years ago. Spice lived with another cat, Sully, who died of kidney failure in February 2010. My new mom was worried about getting another cat because of Spice's age and disposition after losing Sully, but we get along fine. There is also the dog, Baylee, who I really adore and love to give kisses.

I am very much a lap cat. I also love to go outside, with my harness on, of course. I just love to sit on the patio under the table and watch the birds and squirrels at their feeders. And as far as the missing leg, I get along just fine without it.

My thanks to Cat Welfare for such good care until I could find a new forever and happy home. Purrrrr!!!

Adopted by: Cheryl Hyde

Dan Mondo & Mikey Frenchfries

I adopted Ricky and Bobby (two brothers, part of a family of five kittens, two parents) in September 2009. I met Ricky when he jumped into my lap while I was petting a different cat! When I heard he had a twin brother, one of the ladies working found Bobby. I adopted them both. I couldn't bear to separate them!

We have since moved to New Jersey, but the boys are so happy! Renamed Dan Mondo (formerly Ricky) and Mikey Frenchfries (formerly Bobby), they have such distinct personalities yet remain the best of friends. They spoon and groom each other and play and roughhouse. Dan Mondo has grown into his name and put on a couple of pounds, while Mikey remains slender like a french fry. Dan is very independent and will grace you with his presence on your lap or on the counter while you are cooking when he deems fit. Mikey is very sweet and needy. He is my shadow, following me everywhere, constantly chirping and sleeping in the crook of my arm every night. They both race to the bathroom when they hear the shower turn on, then sit on the lid of the toilet or the edge of the bath waiting to lick the water dripping off the loofah!

These two boys are such a riot. I love them so much, and I wanted to thank you for doing the great work you do.

Adopted by: Jessica Kelly
Do your kitties have one (or several) of Cat Welfare's famous catnip pillows? They sure are popular among the shelter residents! Last year, we sold more than 1,575 of them, thanks to the dedicated volunteers who grow, harvest and dry the catnip and make the pillows. Their hard work made more than $4,000 for the shelter.

If you are interested in growing catnip for this year's batch, let us know! We're even happy to come harvest it for you. Contact Gail Harbert at 614-268-6096, Ext. 103.

Our Valentine's Day event at Due Amici raised $1,155 for the shelter. Thank you to Julie Carmona and Deb Dobson for all their help. It was a spectacular evening with tasty food and amazing wine. The generosity of Jeff Mathes, owner of Due Amici, and Cindy Embry, owner of Embre Cakes, was greatly appreciated.

We'd like to give a BIG thank you to all who donated to our St. Patrick's Day food and supply drive. Cat Welfare took in just over 2,200 ounces of moist food, about 450 pounds of litter, around 750 pounds of dry cat food, many much needed supplies and a treasure trove of cat toys. Thank you also to the volunteers who organized and worked at the event.

McKenzie Via turned 4 years old in March, and she asked for presents for our kitties. Her family brought in lots of litter, dry and moist cat food, treats, toys and cleaning supplies. Thank you so much, McKenzie!
Donor Gives iPad 2 to Raise Funds for Kitties

Cat Welfare is very excited to announce a hot raffle item for our May Community Open House. Brandon Okone has very generously donated an Apple iPad 2 to our shelter for the purpose of raising money for the cats he is committed to helping.

Starting on April 1, we are selling a single ticket for just $10, or you can purchase three tickets for $25. Brandon has also asked that we give our adopters the opportunity to purchase tickets for just $5 a ticket, but this offer is only good for the day they bring home their new kitty friend. The drawing for the iPad 2 will take place during the Open House on May 20 at 2:30 p.m.

Jean Collier Tribute

Jean Collier, who passed away in February at the age of 91, personified all the attributes of a great Cat Welfare member. Jean was an activist for the better care and understanding of our feline friends. Jean volunteered in the shelter cleaning cages, working directly with the cats, and she also organized and worked the Easter flower sale for a few years and helped to organize and run the garage sale.

One of Jean's greatest achievements was organizing and operating the Altering Fund, and that was no small task! Our Altering Fund for low-income and deserving people was one of the first in the area. Jean did a marvelous job. Jean would take calls at home after 6 p.m., and she was kind to all of the callers. Jean made many friends for Cat Welfare. So, goodbye, dear friend, and thanks from all the kitties, staff and volunteers.
Please join us at the

**Feline Wine & Dine**

*Top Hats and Tails*

Saturday, May 5, 2012
6:30pm to 10:00pm

**Worthington Hills Country Club**
920 Clubview Blvd South
Columbus, Ohio 43235
614-885-9516

Visit www.felinewineanddine.org
for event details and to buy tickets online.

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**Cash Bar**
- Vegetarian Buffet
- Homemade Desserts
- Lively Music
- Raffle
- Silent Auction

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★★ Bid and Win ★★ Silent Auction ★★ Wine Gift Raffle
Gifts for Mother’s Day, Father’s Day, Graduations and YOU! - 75+ items available including:
- 7 nights for 9-12 guests at Orlando’s Star Island Resort
- Original Art
- Designer Jewelry
- And many more wonderful items listed at www.felinewineanddine.org

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**LIMITED TICKETS AVAILABLE**

**BUY YOUR TICKETS BEFORE April 1st**
AND RECEIVE THE EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT!

- **10% Early Bird Discount**
  - # Members x $60
  - # Non-members x $70
- **After April 1st**
  - # Members x $70
  - # Non-members x $80

 Ticket pick-up at the event for the guest names provided below:

- We are unable to attend but please accept the enclosed donation in the amount of ___________
- Add a CWA membership. Members receive our *Feline Forum* newsletter, discounts on events and other offers. Learn more at www.catwelfareohio.com.
  - Lifetime - $250 one time gift
  - Patron - $100/year
  - Family - $50/year
  - Individual - $25/year
  - Senior Citizen - $10/year
  - TOTAL Remittance Amount

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- To reserve a table for ten or any other questions about the event, please contact Gail Harbert at 614-268-6096, Ext. 103.

**Payment Method**
- Cash
- Check (payable to Cat Welfare)
- Credit Card

Send payment with order form to Cat Welfare Association
741 Wetmore Road
Columbus, Ohio 43214

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Proceeds support the Cat Welfare Association. Founded in 1945, Cat Welfare is the largest organization in Central Ohio dedicated to providing medical care, shelter and adoption services for abandoned and abused cats and kittens.

Are you looking for a feline friend or just want to pet the kitties?

Visit www.catwelfareohio.com
741 Wetmore Road ● 614-268-6096
Laura Kerekes, “In honor of Sam Vogel’s birthday”
Ruth Ann Branoff, “In memory of my beloved feline DJ”
Lee & Debra Martin, “In memory of Oreo”
Mike Weingard, “In memory of Pee Wee”
Melinda Repko, “In Memory of Patricia Perkins”
Sage Sisters
Jane Velzy
Anita Knoechel, “In memory of Tiger, beloved pet of Steve & Denise Dziczkowski”
Susan Roy, “In loving memory of Maggie, over 20 years of love and devotion”
Anne Riley, “In memory of Bub, Caly, Violet and Teddy - all former CWA cats”
RoseAnn Ballance, “For Sad Eyes”
Wesley Wedell
Richard Austin
Joy & Ed Weiler
Mary Alice & Leslie Susi
Valerie Snively, “In memory of my Darling Kitty”
Tammy Taylor, “In memory of Chloe, Carol Saunders’ beloved cat”
Lois Schultz, “In memory of Peanut – Marty Montgomery’s cat”

From January through February 2012, we adopted 458 cats into loving homes and subsidized 125 spay and neuter surgeries through our various Altering Fund programs.

Interested in volunteering for Cat Welfare? Call or mail your name and contact information to the shelter, or send a message to Gail Harbert, Program Manager, at cwavolunteers@gmail.com or call her at 614-268-6096, Ext. 103.

Shelter Wish List:
- Purina Cat Chow, Kitten Chow, moist cat food (non-fish flavors)
- brown paper grocery bags, Windex, clean newspapers, clean towels, clay litter, dryer sheets, bleach, liquid dishwashing soap
- Clorox wipes, Mr. Clean Magic Eraser pads, laundry detergent, stainless steel Chore Boy scrubbies, and Mr. Clean with Febreze.

Important Shelter Information

Cat Welfare would like to thank:

Gary and CompleteWeb.net for hosting our website.

W. Bruce Walsh for his generous support. In memory of Teresa Layne with thanks for thinking of Cat Welfare in her estate plans.

Outgoing members of the Board of Directors Penny Ellis, Nancy Flanagan, Carol Smith (Treasurer) and Lisa Wolfe, for their hard work and dedication. Thanks also to Sheila Zirkle for serving as President.
Hi. My name is Lucy. I am a stunningly beautiful calico cat in need of a new home. I am about 3 years old, a spayed female, and I have a microchip, too. My coat is so lovely and has such wonderful colors, and I was also blessed with a cute face. Top it all off with a splendid personality and there you have it: Lucy the perfect cat! The only trouble I have right now is that I need to eat special anti-bladder-stone formula food, which they do give me here at the shelter. The problem is that sooner or later they are going to have to let me out of my cage, since they don’t make us stay caged forever here. There are too many off-limits foods sitting out for the others to enjoy, and it would be so difficult for me to resist them! That is why I am appealing to a kindhearted person to help me find a home. Won't you come adopt me?

Cat Welfare has nearly 300 cats available for adoption. Find your new feline friend by visiting www.catwelfareohio.com or stopping by our shelter. The kitties would be happy to see you!