

your news

Las Palmas 1 residents step in to curb feral cat problem

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 "YOUR NEWS" CONTRIBUTOR

Monterey County has some of the most amazing animal rescue groups. Recently, two neighbors and I had the opportunity to work side by side with a cat trap/fix/release organization called Community Cat Allies, Inc. The story begins with two Las Palmas 1 neighbors who are both cat owners and both feeding the family of feral cats that live on the hill behind their houses.

We all have heard how one cat pregnancy results in a litter and that litter results in additional litters and so on and so on. An organization tried to trap the cats but was not successful and since then, one cat has gone missing. Coming home one day, I saw both neighbors outside and we discussed the feral cat situation and that TNR was the best option.

Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) is the best practice for humanely managing the feral cat population. So the local shelters were contacted, but none of them actually did the whole process: trapping, fix and release.

Since we didn't know how to trap a cat on our own, a post on Nextdoor.com was done and a member in Las Palmas 2 suggested we contact communitycatallies.org

Immediately I got in touch with the founder of Community Cat Allies, Inc., discussed the situation and set up a time frame to begin the process. Fast forward, that's when we met a volunteer who sets up the traps and catches feral cats.

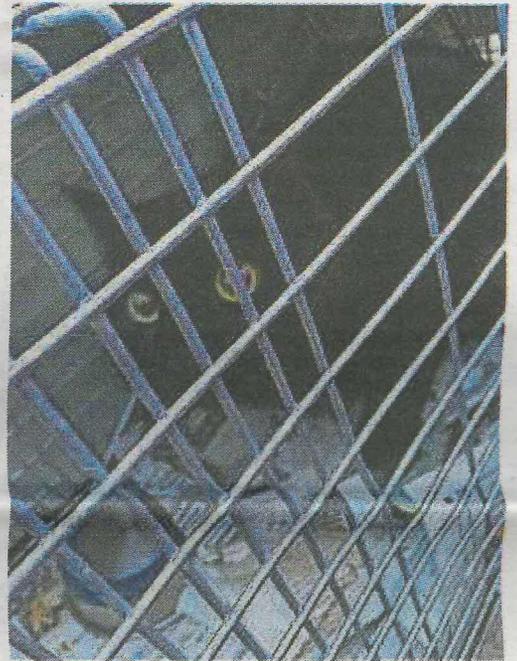
Trap day was a nail-biting day for all of us. We had four cats to trap and best scenario was to trap all four and hope, as they got trapped, one by one, the remaining cats wouldn't be scared off. One by one, except for one cat, they took the bait.

Thanks to Community Cat Allies, Inc., all four cats have been successfully fixed, vaccinated and released and are back to enjoying their meals from both neighbors houses. We have, Mama Patches, who is thought to be roughly 9-years-old and may have been someone's pet at one time. She has had several kittens, and the three that have survived are Marmalade, Gabby and Blackie. All four cats had one ear tipped, like a "V", that identifies them as being fixed.

Thank you to all the neighbors that made contributions to help cover their vet fees. Community Cat Allies, Inc. is a non-profit organization and gladly accepts donations to help cover the cost of spay and neutering to help



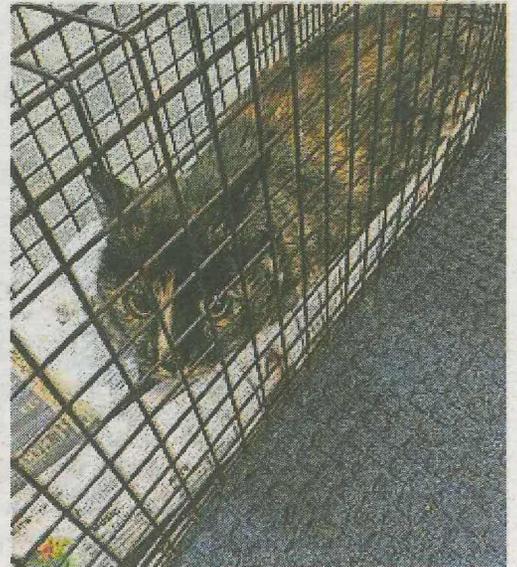
Marmalade PROVIDED/JULIE SUTLIFF



Blackie PROVIDED/JULIE SUTLIFF



Gabby PROVIDED/JULIE SUTLIFF



Mama Patches PROVIDED/JULIE SUTLIFF

control the feral cat population.

Julie Sutliff worked with Community Cat Allies, Inc. on this project. Your News" articles

are submitted by community members and edited for grammar and style.