

Feeding Feral Feline Friends: Citizen Provides Care to Stray Cats

August 31, 2024



Rick Beal is on a mission!

For the past 15 years, rain or shine, Beal has been feeding and caring for the stray cats along Howe Drive and Battery Point at sunset every night. The 15-20 feral felines have grown to trust, depend on and love Beal for his effort and dedication.

Besides feeding the cats since 2009, Beal has been trapping and spaying/ neutering these critters with the assistance of the Humane Society. The Purple Cat, Humboldt Wildlife and good Samaritans have helped Beal with dry cat food donations. This night, Rick was busy helping feline friends Thomas and Sylvester. He recently claims he rescued an orange Tabby he affectionately called Trump.

Beal's experiences with the cats is humbling. Recently, Beal rescued two kittens and a mama at 9th and 101, fed the trio and arranged to have the mother spayed.

Some of Beal's experiences have been heartbreaking. He said, " many folks bring their dogs down to where the cats shelter down with the intent to harass the cats, just for entertainment. It's awful the way some folks are so mean and cruel." Recently, Beal retrieved a deceased cat who was hanged, again, cruel human and felony criminal behavior.

Beal appreciates dry cat food donations, gift cards, and help in taking care of these creatures. Rick can be contacted at: therickbeal@gmail.com ...and the same address at yahoo.com. Or you can drop off donations on the walkway, between the City Pool and Cultural Center, every sunset, daily.

Rick Beal continues his mission and he and the cats thank you.