

Baltimore City Council Public Hearing on TNR, Tuesday, September 26, 2017
17-0042R Informational Hearing - Feral Cats

Sheri Artz
3725 Delverne Rd.
Baltimore MD 21218
443-255-0318
Sartz21@gmail.com



My name is Sheri Artz and I bought my home in Ednor Gardens in 1998 where I currently reside in Councilwoman Clarke's district. I am a licensed caregiver through the Baltimore Community Cat Project. I would like to thank you for the opportunity to speak today in support of the TNR Program of Baltimore City and the tremendous strides that it has made in our community.

For over 17 years, I have been in providing continued cat care services to the homeless/stray cat population in the Ednor Gardens Lakeside Neighborhood. Initially, in the early 2000's, I was successful in fostering/finding homes for several cats and would take money out of my own pocket to ensure they were spayed/neutered/ vaccinated before finding them forever homes. Over time what I observed was the continued need to care for "new" homeless & abandoned animals. Without any services in those early years, I started to feel of helpless and stressed financially but never wavered in my care for them. I couldn't understand the lack of compassion people were showing to our four legged friends. Over the years, through no fault of their own, cats were abandoned and dumped with the increase of foreclosed and rental properties, the homeless animal population has also increased, particularly feline. The good news is through TNR cat community programs and compassionate cat caregivers here in Baltimore City and throughout the United States we have been able to make several positive strides.

The TNR Program of Baltimore City has been a godsend to me in so many ways. As a result of working with them, we have been able to "freeze" my cat colony for since 2014. I have in partnership with the TNR Program have provided an invaluable public health service to our community over the years by working with the Baltimore Community Cat Project to become a licensed caregiver to ensure the health and humane treatment of this forgotten population. Some of the benefits of her continued care are:

Benefits of the TNR Program

1. TNR – Humane trapping of stray and feral cats followed by spaying and neutering, vaccination to reduce and prevent future unwanted litters.
2. Provide food, care, litter and outdoor shelter to homeless cats.

3. Support and improve the health of TNR cat community through daily care, observation and review of animal health/behavior.
4. Utilize local community resources and organizations to ensure continued health and safety needs are met of the neighborhood and surrounding area.
5. Attempt to find forever homes for cats that can be reintroduced into loving adopting families' homes.

Please see attached pictures of my neighborhood, healthy colony and the surroundings in addition to supportive letters for my efforts as a licensed caregiver over the years. This is one of many examples in our City that show what a successful, supportive, holistic and collaborative way to humanly address *the issue with*

I ask that you continue to please support the continue TNR Program of Baltimore City and the best practices that are currently put in place. If anything, I ask that you increase your support so we have continue our efforts.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

 9/26/17
Sheri Artz
3725 Delverne Road
Baltimore, MD 21218

Frozen Healthy Cat Colony in Ednor Gardens with help of TNR Program of Baltimore City



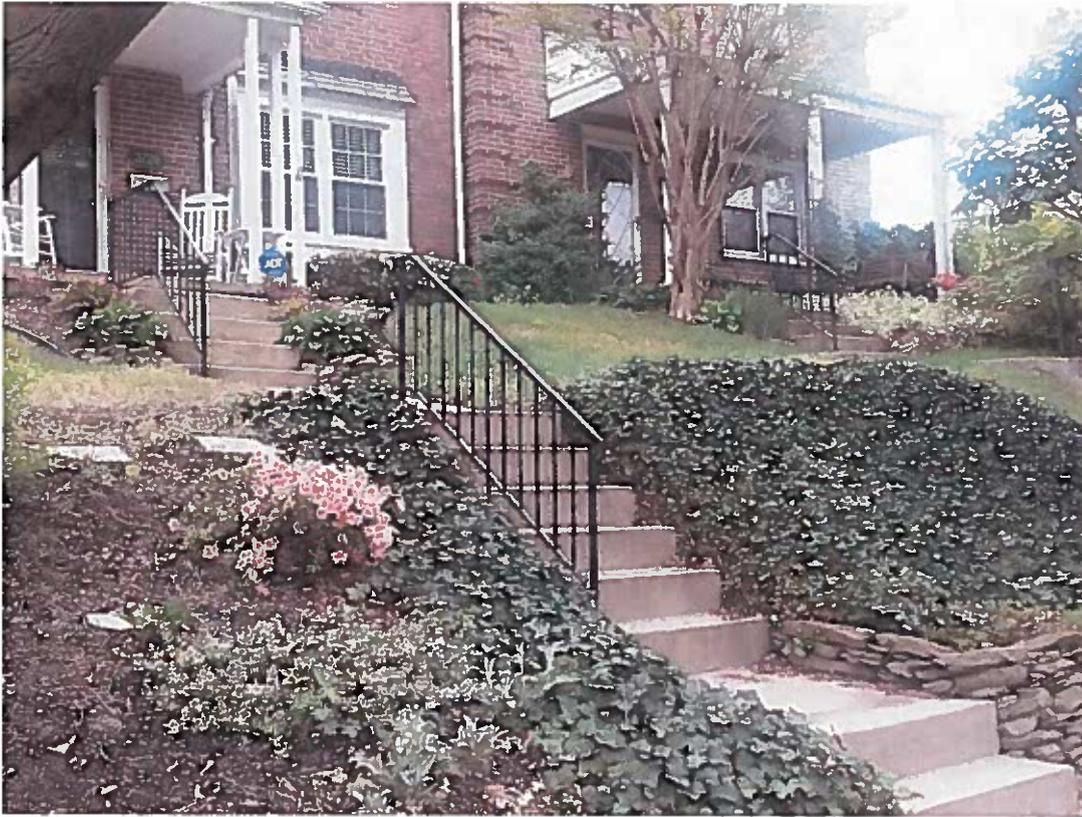
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9-26-17





received
9-26-17

3722 – 3712 Delverne Road, Baltimore MD (across from my house)

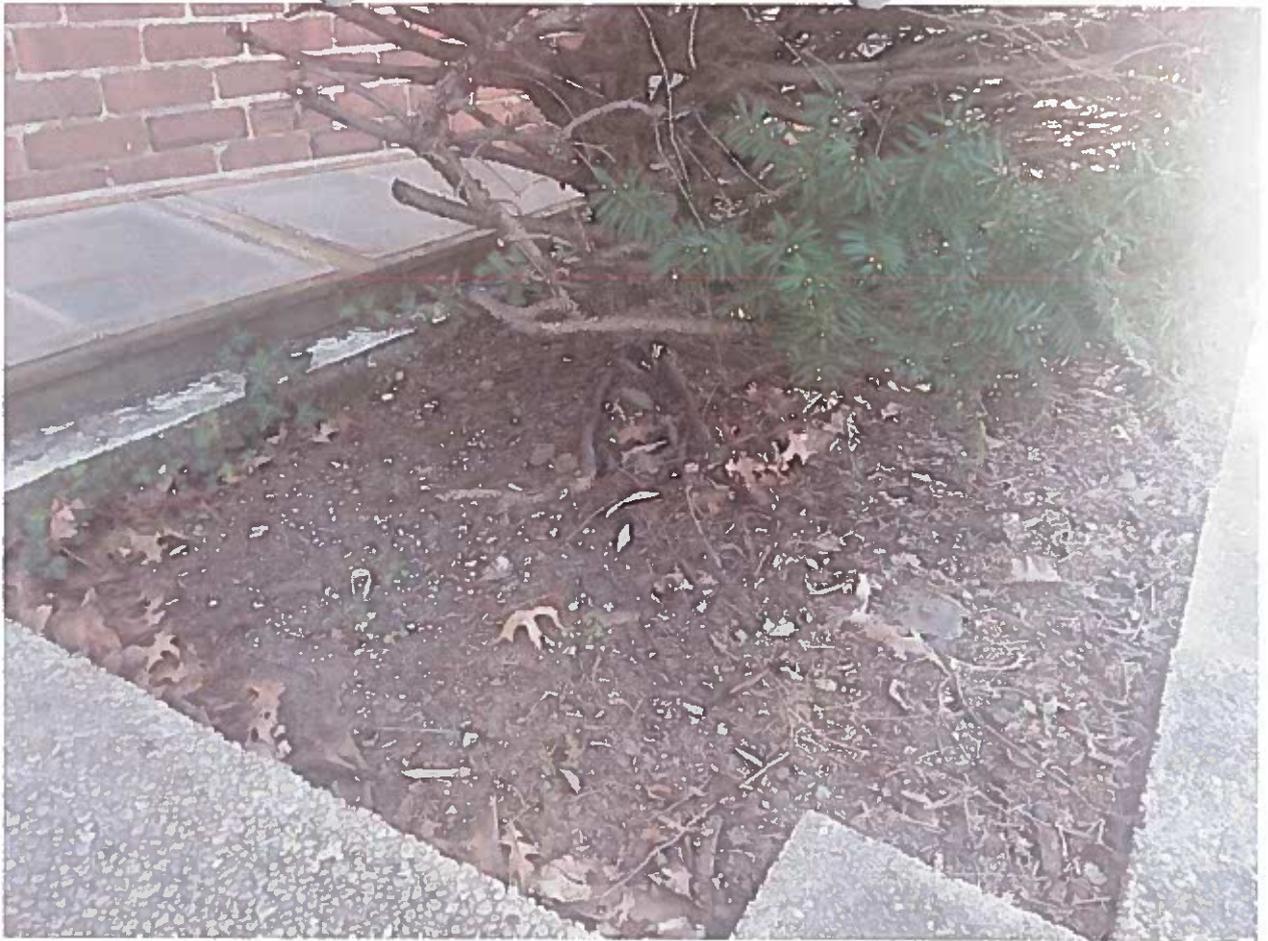


3722 & 3720
Delverne
Road

3718 – 3712 Delverne
Road

















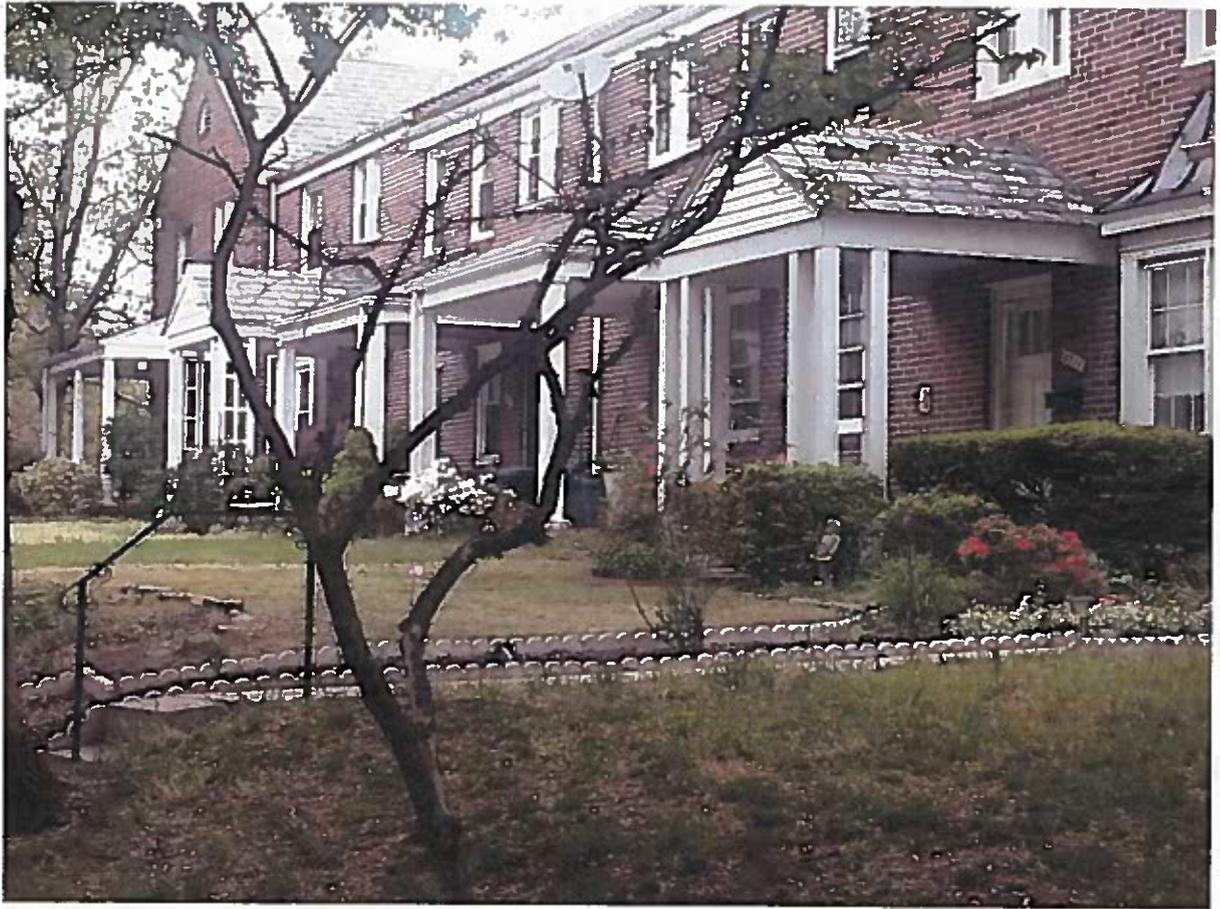


received
9-26-17

3725 (my house) – 3703 Delverne Road, Baltimore MD (my side of street)







3725 - 3717 Delverne Road

3721 below



3719
Delverne Rd



3717
Delverne Rd



3715 - 3703 Delverne Road





















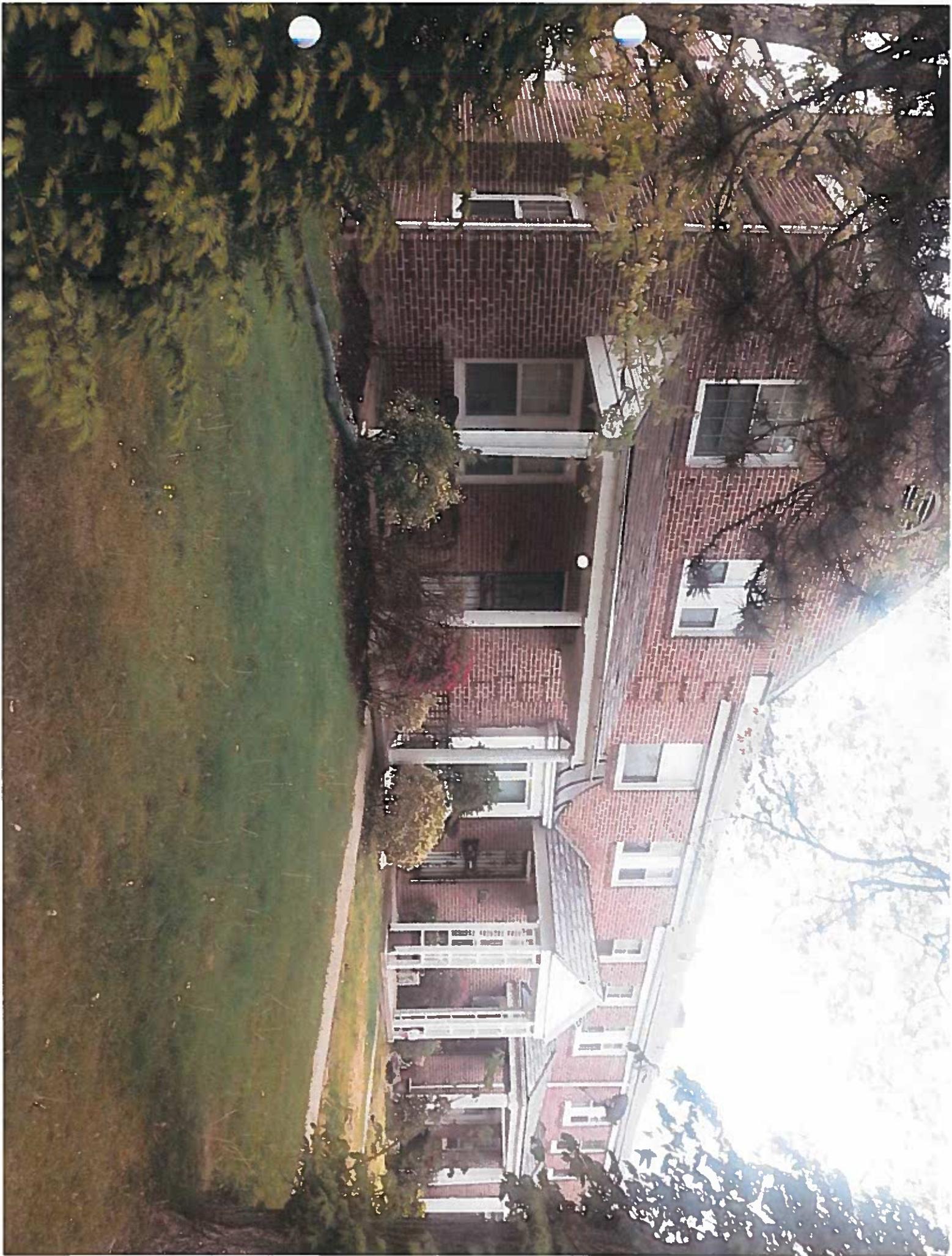


















April 28, 2016

received
9-26-17

Dear Chairperson of Animal Hearing Panel,

My name is Florence Noppenberger and I live at 3718 Delverne Road. My house is across the street and about three doors down from my neighbor Sheri Artz. I am writing this letter to fully support and commend Sheri in her continuing efforts to provide care to the homeless/stray cats in our community. I have known Sheri for nearly 18 years, since she first moved into the neighborhood back in late 1998. Sheri and I share many common interests; one in particular is the love and care of animals. She is patient, kind and has a way with animals to the point that she can gain the trust of even the most feral cat in the colony. Her mission has always been to help provide health care cat services that involve TNR and vaccinations and, whenever possible, find forever homes to a forgotten population.

I have always believed we should as a community help out all our citizens even the four legged ones. In part, I have supported taking care of the cats with Sheri in a number of ways over the years. I have been a back-up caregiver to feed and check-in on them when she is out of town. I have provided bedding and materials for shelters, clipped coupons, as well as, provided an occasional unsolicited donation here and there that I insisted she take knowing it has probably cost her a small fortune to care for them.

Some of the things I have witnessed Sheri do for many years that not only benefits the cats but also the neighbors in our community as well are:

- Work with local community cat organizations to TNR and vaccinate cats to help prevent potential public health hazards and cat population explosion. Cats would most likely be in the hundreds, maybe thousands, if she hadn't acted and stayed with it.
- Provide care, food and outdoor shelter especially in some of the worst winter weather conditions over the last few years that included heated blankets. It's amazingly how well they have done under her care in extreme conditions.
- Takes money out of her own pocket to get cats vaccinated, tested and fixed as well as provide starter packets of food, toys and litter supplies to families that adopted kittens and cats she could rescue and never takes a dime from any of them. I know she has used her family/friends network to ensure lifelong placement from Hagerstown to Baltimore. Many of them have lived well past 15 years I believe due in part to the care and compassion Sheri has given them early on in life.

In closing, I would like to say how much I have enjoyed being Sheri's neighbor and friend as well as seeing the cats in our neighborhood over the years. Sometimes they take an afternoon nap in my chair on the front porch or occasionally pass by with a little playful friend. What is surprising to me is how they have never disrupted any of my garden or plants in my front or back yard, minus an occasional climbing excursion in one of my trees which I welcome anytime.

Sheri is truly an unsung hero to our community. Her unwavering commitment to the health of our neighborhood and all that exists within in it is one that should be commended. I wish we had more people like her in our community.

Sincerely,

Florence Noppenberger

AFFIDAVIT

Administrative Hearing Panel - April 29, 2016
Chairperson of Animal Hearing Panel

I, Keith Lewis reside at 3723 Delverne Rd, Baltimore, MD 21218 and do hereby support my neighbor Sheri Artz of 3725 Delverne Road, Baltimore, MD 21218, in providing continued cat care services to the homeless/stray cat population in the Ednor Gardens Lakeside Neighborhood. The cats that Sheri cares for all started out as abandoned/unaltered cats that came from foreclosed and rental properties in our neighborhood. None of the cats are ones she "adopted" as pets and let outdoors.

Sheri has provided an invaluable public health service to our community over the years by working with the Best Friends Animal Society's Baltimore Community Cat Project to become a licensed caregiver to ensure the health and humane treatment of this forgotten population. Some of the benefits of her continued care are:

1. TNR – Humane trapping of stray and feral cats followed by spaying and neutering, vaccination to reduce and prevent future unwanted litters.
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3. Support and improve the health of TNR cat community through daily care, observation and review of animal health/behavior.
4. Utilize local community resources and organizations to ensure continued health and safety needs are met of the neighborhood and surrounding area.
5. Attempt to find forever homes for cats that can be reintroduced into loving adopting families' homes.
6. Assist with reducing the rodent population.

Sheri has actively and humanely stepped in to avert an out-of control animal population that would have soared by the hundreds and would have created a public health hazard without proper health care and vaccination. She has done this willingly both given of her time and finances year after year and it has benefitted the Ednor Gardens community greatly.

I declare that the above written statements herein are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

4/27/16
Date

Keith Lewis
Print Name

Keith Lewis
Signature

Notary Acknowledgement

Sworn or affirmed before me on April 27, 2016

Michael F. Alexander
Notary Public

8-1-2019
Commission Expires

AFFIDAVIT

Administrative Hearing Panel - April 29, 2016
Chairperson of Animal Hearing Panel

I, ELIZABETH T. ELLIS reside at 3717 Delverne Rd. and do hereby support my neighbor Sheri Artz of 3725 Delverne Road, Baltimore, MD 21218, in providing continued cat care services to the homeless/stray cat population in the Ednor Gardens Lakeside Neighborhood. The cats that Sheri cares for all started out as abandoned/unaltered cats that came from foreclosed and rental properties in our neighborhood. None of the cats are ones she "adopted" as pets and let outdoors.

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I declare that the above written statements herein are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

4/26/16
Date

ELIZABETH T. ELLIS
Print Name

Elizabeth T. Ellis
Signature

Notary Acknowledgement

Sworn or affirmed before me on April 26, 2016

Michael J. Alexander
Notary Public

8-1-2019
Commission Expires

AFFIDAVIT

Administrative Hearing Panel - April 29, 2016
Chairperson of Animal Hearing Panel

I, MONICA HARRES reside at 3801 DELVERNE RD. and do hereby support my neighbor Sheri Artz of 3725 Delverne Road, Baltimore, MD 21218, in providing continued cat care services to the homeless/stray cat population in the Ednor Gardens Lakeside Neighborhood. The cats that Sheri cares for all started out as abandoned/unaltered cats that came from foreclosed and rental properties in our neighborhood. None of the cats are ones she "adopted" as pets and let outdoors.

Sheri has provided an invaluable public health service to our community over the years by working with the Best Friends Animal Society's Baltimore Community Cat Project to become a licensed caregiver to ensure the health and humane treatment of this forgotten population. Some of the benefits of her continued care are:

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I declare that the above written statements herein are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

4/26/16
Date

MONICA HARRES
Print Name

Monica Harres
Signature

Notary Acknowledgement

Sworn or affirmed before me on April 26, 2016



Michael F. Alexander
Notary Public

8-1-2019
Commission Expires

AFFIDAVIT

Administrative Hearing Panel - April 29, 2016
Chairperson of Animal Hearing Panel

I, Jacqueline Harris reside at 3901 Delverne Rd. and do hereby support my neighbor Sheri Artz of 3725 Delverne Road, Baltimore, MD 21218, in providing continued cat care services to the homeless/stray cat population in the Ednor Gardens Lakeside Neighborhood. The cats that Sheri cares for all started out as abandoned/unaltered cats that came from foreclosed and rental properties in our neighborhood. None of the cats are ones she "adopted" as pets and let outdoors.

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I declare that the above written statements herein are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

4/26/16
Date

Jacqueline Harris
Print Name

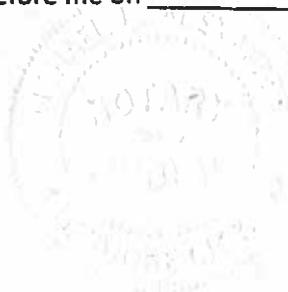
Jacqueline Harris
Signature

Notary Acknowledgement

Sworn or affirmed before me on April 26, 2016

Michael F. Alexander
Notary Public

8-1-2019
Commission Expires



AFFIDAVIT

Administrative Hearing Panel - April 29, 2016
Chairperson of Animal Hearing Panel

I, Anthony Rennick reside at 3802 Delverne Rd and do hereby support my neighbor Sheri Artz of 3725 Delverne Road, Baltimore, MD 21218, in providing continued cat care services to the homeless/stray cat population in the Ednor Gardens Lakeside Neighborhood. The cats that Sheri cares for all started out as abandoned/unaltered cats that came from foreclosed and rental properties in our neighborhood. None of the cats are ones she "adopted" as pets and let outdoors.

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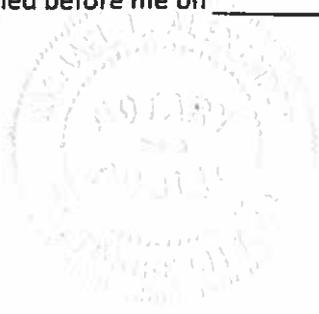
4/26/16
Date

Anthony Rennick
Print Name

Anthony Rennick
Signature

Notary Acknowledgement

Sworn or affirmed before me on April 26, 2016



Michael F. Alexander
Notary Public

8-1-2019
Commission Expires

AFFIDAVIT

Administrative Hearing Panel - April 29, 2016
Chairperson of Animal Hearing Panel

I, SHIRLEY GILLIAM reside at 3801 DELVERNE RD and do hereby support my neighbor Sheri Artz of 3725 Delverne Road, Baltimore, MD 21218, in providing continued cat care services to the homeless/stray cat population in the Ednor Gardens Lakeside Neighborhood. The cats that Sheri cares for all started out as abandoned/unaltered cats that came from foreclosed and rental properties in our neighborhood. None of the cats are ones she "adopted" as pets and let outdoors.

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I declare that the above written statements herein are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

4/24/16
Date

SHIRLEY GILLIAM
Print Name

Shirley Gilliam
Signature

Notary Acknowledgement

Sworn or affirmed before me on April 26, 2016



Michael T. Alexander
Notary Public

8-1-2019
Commission Expires

AFFIDAVIT

Administrative Hearing Panel - April 29, 2016
Chairperson of Animal Hearing Panel

I, Malantina Davis reside at 3806 Delverne Rd and do hereby support my neighbor Sheri Artz of 3725 Delverne Road, Baltimore, MD 21218, in providing continued cat care services to the homeless/stray cat population in the Ednor Gardens Lakeside Neighborhood. The cats that Sheri cares for all started out as abandoned/unaltered cats that came from foreclosed and rental properties in our neighborhood. None of the cats are ones she "adopted" as pets and let outdoors.

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I declare that the above written statements herein are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

5/26/16

Date

Malantina Davis

Print Name

malantina Davis

Signature

Notary Acknowledgement

Sworn or affirmed before me on

April 26, 2016

Michael F. [Signature]

Notary Public

8-1-2019

Commission Expires

AFFIDAVIT

Administrative Hearing Panel - April 29, 2016
Chairperson of Animal Hearing Panel

I, Stephanic Gibson reside at 3622 Delverne Rd 21218 and do hereby support my neighbor Sheri Artz of 3725 Delverne Road, Baltimore, MD 21218, in providing continued cat care services to the homeless/stray cat population in the Ednor Gardens Lakeside Neighborhood. The cats that Sheri cares for all started out as abandoned/unaltered cats that came from foreclosed and rental properties in our neighborhood. None of the cats are ones she "adopted" as pets and let outdoors.

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I declare that the above written statements herein are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

4/26/16
Date

Stephanic B. Gibson
Print Name

[Signature]
Signature

Notary Acknowledgement

Sworn or affirmed before me on April 26, 2016



Michael F. Alexander
Notary Public
8-1-2019
Commission Expires

AFFIDAVIT

Administrative Hearing Panel - April 29, 2016

Chairperson of Animal Hearing Panel

I, Linda Worrel reside at 3620 Delverne Road and do hereby support my neighbor Sheri Artz of 3725 Delverne Road, Baltimore, MD 21218, in providing continued cat care services to the homeless/stray cat population in the Ednor Gardens Lakeside Neighborhood. Over the years, with the increase of foreclosed and rental properties, the homeless animal population has also increased, particularly feline.

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I declare that the above written statements herein are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

4/26/16

Date

LINDA WORREL

Print Name

Linda Worrel

Signature

Notary Acknowledgement

Sworn or affirmed before me on April 26, 2016

Michael F. Alexander

Notary Public

8-1-2019

Commission Expires

AFFIDAVIT

Administrative Hearing Panel - April 29, 2016
Chairperson of Animal Hearing Panel

I, [Signature] reside at 3609 Delverne Rd and do hereby support my neighbor Sheri Artz of 3725 Delverne Road, Baltimore, MD 21218, in providing continued cat care services to the homeless/stray cat population in the Ednor Gardens Lakeside Neighborhood. Over the years, with the increase of foreclosed and rental properties, the homeless animal population has also increased, particularly feline.

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I declare that the above written statements herein are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

4/25/16
Date

LELIA O'STEPPS
Print Name

[Signature]
Signature

Notary Acknowledgement

Sworn or affirmed before me on April 25, 2016



Michael J. Alexander

Notary Public

8-1-2019

Commission Expires

AFFIDAVIT

Administrative Hearing Panel - April 29, 2016
Chairperson of Animal Hearing Panel

I, Mary Anne Cunningham reside at 3601 Delverne Rd. 21218 and do hereby support my neighbor Sheri Artz of 3725 Delverne Road, Baltimore, MD 21218, in providing continued cat care services to the homeless/stray cat population in the Ednor Gardens Lakeside Neighborhood. Over the years, with the increase of foreclosed and rental properties, the homeless animal population has also increased, particularly feline.

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I declare that the above written statements herein are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

4/25/16
Date

Mary Anne Cunningham
Print Name

Mary Anne Cunningham
Signature

Notary Acknowledgement

Sworn or affirmed before me on April 25, 2016



Michael J. Rhoades
Notary Public

8-1-2019

Commission Expires

