



Animal Services Volunteer of the Year

A Cat Lover Extraordinaire

Plano Animal Services is responsible for protecting the health and welfare of the people and animals of Plano and adoptions are part of that service. Beginning January 2004, donating over 2725 hours as a volunteer, **Nancy Cate** has served as a foster parent for cats and kittens, giving them loving care and attention.

"I had retired, involuntarily, and wanted to have structure, so I began volunteering three days a week to have something to look forward to." Nancy explained. It gave me an opportunity to love on the animals anytime I wanted." Now back at work, Nancy visits often giving each cat individual attention, exercise and play, brushing their coats and cutting nails when necessary.

Nancy is instrumental in counseling visitors about cats available for adoption, helping match the animals to their new families, cleaning the cat and visit rooms, stocking supplies and providing care and comfort. "Last week I introduced a brother and sister (4 & 6) to their new orange tabby cat and it was wonderful the way they immediately starting hugging and kissing on the cat. It was amazing to watch, I thought what a great match this will be."

"I'm proud to be a part of the shelter! When people come in they compliment us on the work we do, the cleanliness of the facility and how we are with the animals. It's always a positive to volunteer and I'm thanked for helping every time I am there," Nancy proudly stated.

Kathi Cavanagh, the shelter's Volunteer Coordinator, tells us "In addition to her work in the shelter, Nancy has opened her home to over 100 shelter cats and kittens. She fosters kittens that were too ill or too young to be adopted, takes in pregnant cats and provides a safe place to give birth until they are old enough to be adopted out."

Nancy donates items such as cat toys, grooming brushes and treats to make their stay more comfortable. She is a team player cooking for special occasions and taking part in staff activities. "Nancy Cates' dedication to the people and animals at the shelter has made her truly deserving of 2010 Animal Shelter Volunteer of the Year," says Kathi and the shelter staff all agree.