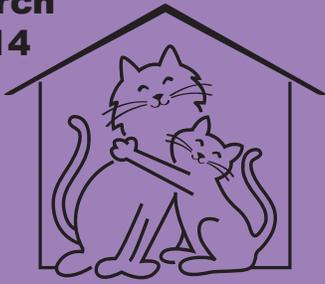


March  
2014



**HARMONY HOUSE  
FOR CATS**

# Harmony House News



**Eco-friendly Cageless No-kill Adoption Center**  
**2914 N Elston, Chicago, IL 60618 • 773-293-6103**

**Adoption Hours:** Wed - Thurs 2-5 pm, Sat - Sun 1-5 pm

**Mailing Address for donations and correspondence**  
PO Box 18098, Chicago, IL 60618

**Website:** [www.hhforcats.org](http://www.hhforcats.org) **E-mail:** [info@hhforcats.org](mailto:info@hhforcats.org)

## Dear Friend of Harmony House,

At first all five of Ridley's newborn kittens seemed to be nursing and thriving. But one tiny black kitten sometimes struggled to find a spot to nurse, and when her littermates got older and began to walk, she would go backwards rather than walk forward, or flop on her side confused and crying for help. Each time, she got right back up and tried again, and was named Backup for her courage and determination. Her balance issues are caused by a neurological condition called Cerebellar Hypoplasia in which the cerebellum is not fully developed at birth. The staff at Integrative Pet Care works closely with our staff teaching them exercises to strengthen little Backup's leg muscles and improve her balance.

Just when we thought we were making progress, little Backup started bumping into walls and yowling in distress. She could no longer see. Backup was referred to neurologist Dr. Podell, who diagnosed her with Hydrocephalus, a buildup of too much cerebrospinal fluid in the brain. Normally, this fluid cushions the brain. When there is too much fluid, it puts harmful pressure on the brain. She now takes 2 medications to relieve the pressure and has regained part of her vision.

We would not be able to care for Backup without your generosity. Like all her littermates, Backup Helpinstine is named for a member of the Integrative Pet Care staff who helped develop a long-term care plan for this special little kitten, and provide a quality life for her. Please make a donation today for Backup and all the cats here at Harmony House. Any amount is appreciated, and provides life-saving care for a stray cat or kitten.

***With gratitude,***

**Ann Dieter  
President**

