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the cats for an hourly fee of $11.71 for adults and $8.52 for children 12 and under. It's a heartwarming way to connect with these furry companions, while also supporting their welfare. Cedar collaborates closely with local shelters and rescues, ensuring that all adopted cats are tested, vaccinated, and microchipped before they go home. Adoption fees range from $50 to $850, depending on the rescue, and the process involves a brief interview and a check of potential adopters backgrounds.

Community Engagement and Expansion

Despite recent challenges, including the closing of its building partner, Triogy Kitchen, the DeLand Cat Cafe remains steadfast in its commitment to animal welfare. Its mission alongside a new restaurant, promising to remain a vibrant part of the community. Cedar highlights that while outside cats cannot be accepted back into the cafe if adoptions do not work out, the welcoming atmosphere does put many potential adopters at ease.

The Cat Cafe's achievements reflect a broader trend in animal shelters and rescues across the country. According to the National Kitten Coalition, which has been working to improve kitten survival rates since its founding in 2008, there is still a lot to be done. But progress is evident: In 2024 alone, an impressive 64% of cats entering shelters found homes, up from 62% the previous year. However, cat engagement rate, as 273,000 cats were euthanized in 2024, and kittens made up a significant portion of those numbers, highlighting the need for ongoing efforts to increase adoption rates and reduce euthanasia.

A Collaborative Effort

The importance of spaying and neutering cannot be overstated, as it plays a crucial role in curbing the number of unwanted litters. As emphasized by coalition efforts and reported by Kittens Coalition, partnerships among shelters, rescues, and veterinary professionals are key to tackling these pressing

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