

## New York Women Face Eviction Over Cats

**Woman and her mother must find new homes for nearly 30 felines.**

A Queens, N.Y., woman who at one point had 100 cats living in the studio apartment that she shares with her mother is facing eviction and looking for homes for her more than two dozen remaining felines.

Melanie Neer, 50, first gained notoriety five years ago when CNN did a story on her and the nearly 100 cats that she and her mother, Barbaralee Neer, 73, were taking care of in their apartment.

The publicity led to dozens of the cats being adopted, but 30 of the felines remain, and Neer is obligated by an agreement with her landlord to either reduce the number of cats to two or be evicted.

The landlord said that the eviction was a last-ditch effort to eliminate a health and safety problem, and that the Neers broke an agreement in 2001 to keep only two cats.

Workers with Animal Care and Control of New York City have been removing cats from the apartment daily, and said that those that are not adopted will be euthanized. Posted: May 2, 2006, 5:00 a.m. EST