

## New Beginnings

### Jasmine



We received a call from a veterinary office in Tennessee about a 14-year-old cat who had just been diagnosed with heart disease. Despite having had Jasmine since kittenhood, the owner requested to have her put down. Since Jasmine had no symptoms, the vet thought that euthanizing her would be senseless. Tabby's Place agreed to help, so the vet arranged transportation for Jasmine to New Jersey.

This sweet southern gal is now one of our newest "special needs" residents. Would you like to be her first sponsor? Please [click here](#) to learn more and help us care for her.



# 3<sup>rd</sup>



## ANNIVERSARY

## Tabby's Place Turns Three!



Emma, 6 yrs.



Desi, 3 yrs.,  
plasmacytic gingivitis



Hillary, 16 yrs.



Polly, 5 yrs., asthma  
and heart disease



Tumbles, 5 mos.,  
cerebellar hypoplasia

### To Date:

🐾 **We have saved more than 400 cats**

Approximately 125 were Special Needs cats (e.g., FIV, diabetes, heart disease, cancer)

The oldest cat to enter Tabby's Place was 20 years old

The youngest cat was 3 days old

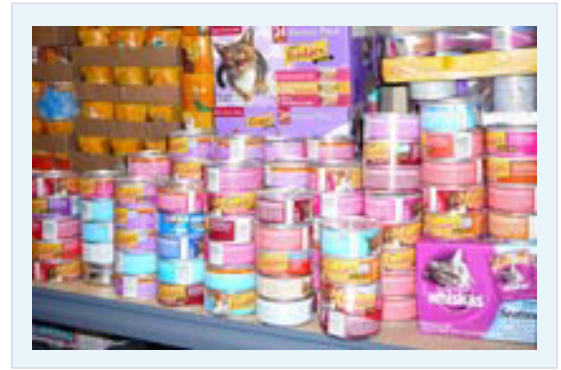
🐾 **We have adopted out 280 cats**

Approximately 75 were Special Needs cats

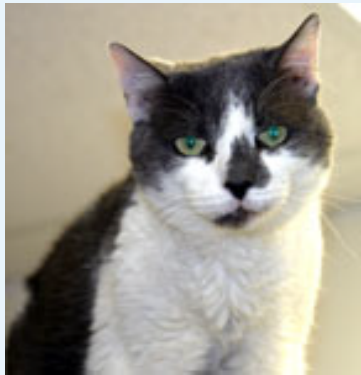


🐾 **2007 by 2007**

Though Mt. Zion Methodist Church in Hillsborough, NJ, has only 12 members in its congregation, it has led several successful canned food drives for the Tabby's Place residents. Despite its diminutive size, the church has committed to donating 2,007 cans of food before 2007. 🐾



🐾 **For Some Senior Felines, It's off to the Nursing Home**



**Patches was adopted by a nursing home facility**

Patches is a sweet cat, but she was overlooked by adopters during her year at Tabby's Place because of her age (10 years) and shyness. Patches finally caught her lucky break in a most unusual way – she was adopted by the Fountain View Care Center in Lakewood, NJ, where she could provide companionship to the nursing home residents and receive the same in return.

The Fountain View staff care for Patches and four other felines at the facility. They consider it a small effort with a big payback. Studies have shown that, compared to seniors without pets, those with pets have lower blood pressure and cholesterol levels; are more likely to survive a heart attack; make fewer visits to the doctor; feel less isolated and depressed; rehabilitate faster from physical illness; and have less difficulty sleeping.

Senior cats, in particular, are excellent companions for senior people. Unlike dogs, cats do not need to be walked or bathed, and their food can be left out throughout the day. Unlike kittens, cats are calmer and better socialized, and the risk of being outlived by them is smaller.

Although senior cats make great companions for people of any age, the health benefits are becoming increasingly recognized by nursing homes and assisted living communities. A handful of Tabby's Place residents have been adopted by such facilities, creating win-win situations for everyone. 🐾

🐾 **Special Birthday Delivery**



Most girls enjoy receiving toys, jewelry, and clothes for their birthdays. Not Lianna. She decided that she had enough "stuff" and didn't need any presents. Instead, 9-year-old Lianna asked each of her friends to bring a bag of cat litter to her birthday party. Afterwards, she delivered the car load to Tabby's Place! 🐾



**Forever Loved**



**Gordy**

When Gordy, a diabetic senior, first came to us, he was thin and fragile; we didn't think he'd be around for long. He became the Executive Director's office mate and did remarkably well for many months, "tapping" you with a paw to ask for more attention whenever you stopped petting him. We lost Gordy to a sudden bout of pancreatitis, and we miss him very much. ❤️

**Benefactor Program**

We wish to acknowledge the outstanding generosity of the following supporters who recently joined the Tabby's Place Benefactor Program:

**Sustaining Benefactors**

Stacy O'Connell and Brian Cooley

**Contributing Benefactors**

Kimberlee, Matthew, Tyler and Travis Burhart

**100 Club**

Christine Elmer

The Benefactor Program seeks the support of individuals who wish to make a lasting impact at the sanctuary. Benefactor Program members provide the critical financial foundation for Tabby's Place to continue its mission of saving cats in hopeless situations. For more info, please contact Pam Garfield at [pg@tabbysplace.org](mailto:pg@tabbysplace.org).

**A Memoriam to Henry**

**Henry was a cat from New Orleans made homeless by Hurricane Katrina. The difficulty of his odyssey is believed to have caused him to develop Feline Infectious Peritonitis, which ended his life on March 4, 2006.**

*By Brian Cooley*

When Katrina hit, Henry's owner was forced to evacuate and leave her pets behind. Several days later, rescuers rounded up Henry and the other animals. Henry was shuttled through shelters in several states before being placed in foster care with my wife, Stacy, and me through the [Marin Humane Society](#) in Northern California. Henry doted on us: he didn't play with toys, preferring to watch us and follow us around.

Henry had been with us for several weeks, and the upper respiratory infection and diarrhea that he arrived with would not go away, nor would his gaunt appearance. All this nagged at something serious. Henry was seen by several vets, and they suspected he might have FIP - Feline Infectious Peritonitis – but that's a tricky diagnosis and only confirmable upon autopsy.

Experts believe that FIP is caused by a mutation of a common virus, the *coronavirus*, which is very contagious. But, it takes a trigger – such as stress – to morph the virus into the fatal FIP form. Being displaced by Katrina provided ample stress for Henry. [continued on page 4]



**Henry, 8 years old, had two different colored eyes, but was not deaf as such cats often are**





## 🐾 **A Memoriam to Henry**

[continued from page 3]

After six months of antibiotics and a hypoallergenic diet, Henry seemed to have turned the corner, though he remained gaunt. We were amazed at how good natured he was through it all. Henry was finally able to go up for adoption. We crossed our fingers, knowing his health was fragile and every day on the adoption line was a stressor.

Weeks passed and nobody considered Henry. The shelter staff only recalled one woman stopping to say, "Oh, look at him, he's ugly." We visited Henry frequently and finally decided that if he were still there in another week, we would adopt him when I returned from a business trip.



**Henry's Last Day**

A few days later Henry relapsed. His blood work showed a number of things going haywire. The shelter called my wife, who called me in Geneva: they had concluded Henry had FIP and wanted to put him down. I got on a plane and rushed to see Henry the following morning. I could tell he wasn't himself when I took him out of his holding cage; he growled for the first time since I'd known him and scurried back in his cage.

He was ready, I wasn't.

Days later, when I collected his ashes, all I could think was how little was left of a cat who had been a big part of our lives.

When I visit Tabby's Place I see a lot of "Henry's": cats who have no hope of achieving a standard definition of health; cats who need a level of care that would scare most people away. These cats are enjoying their days in a place that takes an ambitious and fresh approach to unwanted felines. If these cats never find an adopter it is OK, because they aren't "in the way" of more adoptable cats. Their lives have purpose in and of themselves.

Cats like Henry exhaust the options at even an excellent shelter like the Marin Humane Society. Tabby's Place picks up where the best shelters leave off. It's an important role to play in the universe of animal care and we are very pleased to support it in Henry's honor. 🐾

## 🐾 **Malachi Update!**



**Malachi, using Lucy's head as a footrest**

Remember Malachi, the one-year-old tabby featured in the [last issue](#) who came to us with severe bite wounds? After flushing his wounds every day for two weeks (a painful procedure that Malachi endured with patience and grace), Malachi was adopted by Joyce and Charlie Hertzog. The Hertzogs also adopted seven-month-old Lucy – and now Malachi and Lucy are inseparable. 🐾



**🐾 In Loving Memory**

**Remembering our Animal Friends through the Tabby's Place Memorial Walkway Program**

Tabby's Place is pleased to unveil its newly constructed Memorial Walkway, leading visitors from the sanctuary facility to Cherny's Garden, a contemplative and peaceful setting where the spirits of our animal friends rest. The Memorial Walkway offers a meaningful opportunity to pay tribute to your special companions and support the rescue and care of hundreds of felines that pass through our doors. Pets are memorialized through engraved bricks along the walkway. For details on inscribing a brick to serve as a permanent reminder of a loved one, please [click here](#). 🐾



*Cherny loved the outdoors. At 15, though she was incontinent and had cancer, Cherny had a zest for life that touched and inspired all who met her. Her death inspired us to create a garden that would honor the memories of all the Tabby's Place residents who have left us. The Memorial Walkway enables us to extend this honor to the memories of loved ones lost by friends and supporters.*



***A brick in the Memorial Walkway***

**🐾 “Miracles” Are Found in the Strangest Places**



***Miracle***

Little Miracle was given his name for surviving a seemingly impossible feat – a journey through the sewage treatment process at a wastewater plant in Union County, NJ. Eight-week-old Miracle fell into the rushing water, which travels at 7,000 gallons per minute! He was stopped by a screen that filters out sludge and debris, scooped up by a rake arm, and thrown down a garbage chute. Surprised employees found the drenched kitten in the garbage trough. They were amazed that this tenacious fellow hadn't been drowned or crushed!

Miracle is now at Tabby's Place and ready for a permanent home. Instead of an uncertain life on the street, Miracle earned himself the opportunity to become part of a family and live safely indoors. 🐾

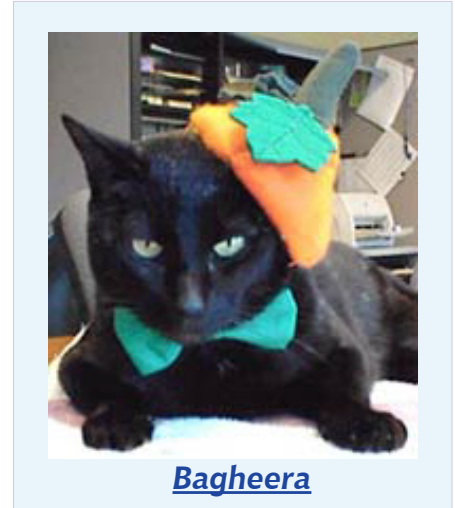


## 🐾 The Season of Giving Is About To Begin...

...treats at Halloween; thanks at Thanksgiving; and presents at the December holidays. Here are some ways to incorporate the spirit of giving into your festivities and help Tabby's Place continue to care for felines in need:

### Hosting a party?

- 🐾 [Let us know](#) and we'll send you brochures so your guests can learn about Tabby's Place.
- 🐾 Put out a collection jar with the brochures so that guests may make donations.
- 🐾 Consider proposing a fun challenge to your guests, pledging to match the amount collected in the jar.
- 🐾 [Contact us](#) if you'd like to have a Tabby's Place representative give a brief presentation to your guests.



**Bagheera**

### Looking for a meaningful gift?

- 🐾 Select a Special Needs cat to care for in your friend's name, and we will send your friend monthly email updates and photos of his/her sponsored cat. [Click here](#) to create a gift sponsorship.
- 🐾 Make a donation in honor of a friend, family member or pet. Tabby's Place will send a personalized card to your gift recipient. [Click here](#) to create an honorarium.

## 🐾 Happy Endings



**Malcolm**

In November 2005, a blue-eyed fluffy white ball of fur named Malcolm came to Tabby's Place from a Virginia shelter. He became an instant favorite with his welcome "Meow!" and eagerness to be held and to play. Five-year-old Malcolm is both deaf and diabetic, and his blood sugar levels need to be constantly monitored.

After many months, his levels are now regulated, and he has been ADOPTED! His new person, Cindi, previously cared for a diabetic cat and sought out another, knowing how hard it is for them to find homes. We think Malcolm has found his purrfect match! 🏠

