



CAT TALES

HILLTOP HUMANE SOCIETY, INC. NEWSLETTER
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*Hilltop Humane Society, Inc.
A non-profit and strictly no-kill
animal shelter*



Making A Purrfect Match

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Nothing is as exciting as hearing from our adoptive “parents” about the gifts that a cat or kitten (or 2 or 3!) from Hilltop bring to their home and family. Many relationships get off to a perfect start right away. Mel has



only been with his new family for a couple of weeks but seems right at home in this photo.

Some of the “gifts” are a little more tangible. While checking out a basement renovation,

Oliver caught a mouse and proudly brought it upstairs, where it was rescued unhurt and sent outside. The next night he deposited a baby garter snake at dad’s feet, much to the dismay of his mom. The snake was freed and “fierce hunter” Oliver settled into his other role as a



cuddly bed companion.

Sometimes the gift is to fill the void left by the death of a cherished companion. PJ’s face reached out from the

PetFinder webpage to Holly, lonely since the loss of her 20-year-old cat. Now, energetic PJ



fills Holly’s days—and the hole in her heart—with purrs and love.

A few months ago a thoughtful daughter came to Hilltop for a pet to keep her ailing father company and perk up his spirits. Pepper—tattered ears and all—looked a lot like a cat her family had when she was a child. The choice was

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How we behave toward cats here below determines our status in heaven.

Robert A. Heinlein



EMERGENCY Donations Needed

Hilltop Humane Society is critically short of funds to continue rescuing and caring for homeless, sick, and abused cats and kittens.

With mating season in full swing, we receive multiple calls every day about mother cats and litters in need of help. Add that to the usual calls for assistance and the costs of food, litter, veterinary care, and maintenance for our aged shelter and we have a severe financial shortfall.

Of course, all contributions from our supporters go directly to the care of the cats.

To make a tax-deductable donation, please send a check in the enclosed envelope or visit www.hilltophumane.org and donate through the PayPal secure site. **THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!**



A Purrfect Match, Continued

perfect—it was love at first sight! Pepper adored having a home of his own after a tough life on the streets and showed his



appreciation by curling up in his new dad's lap all the time. As his owner's health deteriorated, Pepper and his dad moved to the daughter's home. Pepper gave comfort in the only way he

knew—he would not leave the bed, going up to lick his beloved owner's face frequently, then snuggling beside him. Too soon, Pepper's dad died, and, although the little black cat loves his new home with a neighbor (due to the daughter's rambunctious dogs), he spends a lot of time staring out the window at the house where his friend died. Anyone who thinks of cats as aloof and uncaring, never met Pepper.

Cats certainly mourn the loss of a loved one—either an animal or a person. Oscar was very lonely after his companion cat died. His

owner came to Hilltop and found Maggie. As you can see, Oscar and



“his” kitten are now inseparable and Oscar is much, much happier.

Your purrfect match could be on the next page. Or see more at www.hilltophumane.org and www.petfinder.com.



Kittens Everywhere! Please Spay/Neuter YOUR Cat!

PLEASE DO NOT allow your pet to have a litter and take homes away from homeless cats! Cats who are spayed or neutered before they come into sexual maturity live happier, healthier lives. Call Hilltop Humane Society at 781-961-3638 or visit www.hilltophumane.org for information about low-cost spay/neuter options. It is the responsible thing to do!

Remember—thousands of homeless cats and kittens are put to death every year because there is no room left at no-kill shelters. It is a constant struggle for a poor little mother cat to give birth to a litter of kittens out in the wild and to try to keep them alive without food, shelter, or protection from predators (including cruel humans). Every day countless numbers of helpless cats and kittens die of starvation, exposure, animal attacks or abuse. All they want is a safe place to live.



Ask everyone to spay or neuter their pets so there will be room for us!



Volunteers Wanted—All You Need Is Love!

Without our wonderful volunteers there would be no Hilltop Humane Society. No one in the organization is paid for their services to homeless and abused cats, except in purrs, cuddles, and a feeling of accomplishment.

New volunteers are ALWAYS needed! In addition to cleaning,

feeding, and socializing cats at the shelter, there is a need for more foster homes, for trappers in the TNR program, for fundraising and event help, and for people who will collect and donate food and other materials (see the How YOU Can Help list). The shelter building is in constant need of repair and improvement. Electricians, carpenters, roofers, masons,

landscapers, and other craftsmen can all make a contribution by donating materials and services.

Please leave a message at 781-961-3638 or e-mail gdentch@aol.com (subject Hilltop Volunteer) if you would like to volunteer in any way. We'd love to have your help, even if you only have a few hours to spare!

Adorable And Available! Am I Your Purrfect Match?



I'm 3-month-old Cinnamon and I'll spice up your life!

I'm a lover-boy called Dice. If you take me home it will be your lucky day!

I'm Asia and my heart is as big as the continent!



I'm named Love-Bug—doesn't that say it all?



See all of Hilltop's adoptable cats and kittens at www.hilltophumane.org or www.petfinder.com or call 781-961-3638.

Hilltop cats and kittens are tested for FIV/FELV, vet checked, vaccinated, spayed or neutered before going home with you.

Lights, Camera, Look Cute!



Big Hercules is hangin' ten!



Zeus votes for Hilltop to win the Pepsi Challenge!



Willie and Whitey were born to cuddle!

Raven says: I didn't think my tail was THAT long!



Pepe and Sox do their two-headed kitten imitation!

See www.hilltophumane.org for more Happy Endings!



We need your online vote every day while the Pepsi Challenge continues!



Hilltop is competing for a \$250,000 grant from Pepsi for a vital renovation of our shelter.

To win we need to finish one month at #1 or #2 in our category.

Online voting takes just a few minutes a day and it doesn't cost you anything!



See www.refresheverything.com/shelterrenovation for information on how to register with Pepsi in order to vote.

Please ask your friends, co-workers, and families to vote, too!



With Help, Feral Cats Can Lead Long Lives

Volunteers from Hilltop Humane Society have been feeding and maintaining shelters for three colonies of feral cats in Randolph for at least 8-10 years. No matter how bad the weather is, every day the cats greet their faithful caretakers and wait patiently for them to replenish the feeding stations with canned and dry food and water.

Three cats in particular stand out for their longevity: the boy, named Babe, and two girls, Nevada and

Terry, who were trapped and neutered years ago then returned to their home. At another colony, volunteers have trapped Jewel twice to have a tumor removed and he is still going strong. Stable colonies that are cared for, like these, do not grow because of the TNR program, and the cats do not spread disease to the domestic cats population because their health is monitored.

the problem of free-roaming cat



Killing ferals does not control the population because new cats will just move into the area. TNR is the only effective, humane answer for

overpopulation. The dedication of the people who continue to care for these animals year-after-year is miraculous!



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Read All About It

- So far in 2010, 23 kittens and 15 cats have found "forever" homes. (There are still about 28 kittens in the shelter or in foster homes.)
- Hilltop Humane Society has received a \$5,000 grant from the 2010 Massachusetts Animal Friendly License Plate program to help fund a part of the spay/neuter program for feral cats.

FUNDRAISERS PLANNED — check out www.hilltophumane.org for details.

- Watch the *MoneySaver* for dates of yard sales on Rte. 139 east of Randolph Center.
- Sat., Sept. 11th, 8:30AM to 1:00PM—bake sale at Curves, 550 Adams St., Quincy.
- Dates for a Psychic Fair and an October Wine & Chocolate Tasting announced soon.

