

# Short Tails From the Hilltop 2012



Kitten Robyn, needed hip surgery!

## CATS AND KITTENS EVERYWHERE!

- ☛ Keeping track of the number of cats and kittens that Hilltop took in during 2012 has been overwhelming! By late Spring we were bursting at the seams and searching for more foster homes. Due to the mild winter, everyone found a litter in their yard and the phone rang off the hook. Reluctantly we had to refer callers to other no-kill shelters who were also rapidly filled to capacity.
- ☛ The new cats, old and young, brought a variety of medical issues—from broken bones to heart murmurs—requiring costly treatments and surgeries. Not to be outdone, shelter favorite, big Leo, dislocated his hip and serious issues with other long term residents kept volunteers' cars racing from vet to vet. Of course, the number of spays and neuters needed soared just when organizations that offered free spay/neuter clinics in the past were unable to find enough volunteer vets.

## 2012 ACHIEVEMENTS

- ☛ Over 90 beautiful cats and kittens have been adopted into wonderful forever homes... and still counting!
- ☛ Formed an adoption partnership with PETCO and held events every month in both the Hanover and Avon stores to publicize our organization and find adopters for our kitties. As a loyal adoption partner Hilltop will receive a generous donation from PETCO's holiday collections.
- ☛ For the 4th year Hilltop was awarded a Massachusetts Animal Coalition grant to fund some of our many spay/neuter surgeries.
- ☛ Sweet Hanna, the Hilltop shelter's oldest resident, rescued on the street as a kitten with crippled hind legs in 1996, is still beautiful, feisty, and thriving despite some medical issues—but who doesn't have a few after reaching the equivalent of 75 human years!



President Barbara and Hanna share a smooch!

## WE GET BY WITH A LOT OF HELP FROM OUR FRIENDS!



Young volunteer, Chelsea, cleans up!

- ☛ Volunteers are the lifeblood of the Hilltop organization. It takes a lot of loving hands to care for Hilltop's rescued kitties. We would go out of business without the generous people who offer their time to clean the shelter and give the cats food, medication, and affection twice a day; foster; drive cats to the vet; care for feral colonies; help with mailings, adoption days, and fundraisers; repair and improve the shelter; clean out the garage; and perform endless other vital functions.
- ☛ We are always so grateful for the generosity of the many people who support us with monetary and in-kind donations of food and supplies.
- ☛ A welcome surprise was the contribution we received in April from Purina of two pallets of Friskies canned food and very appreciative of the help of a special friend who is always there to lend a helping hand and who paid for the truck to pick it up. In June Hilltop was also awarded a much-needed supply of the World's Best Cat Litter in online voting.