

# Standish HUMANE SOCIETY

www.standishhumane.org  
P.O. Box 634 | Duxbury, MA 02331 | 781-834-4663

## TALL TAILS NEWSLETTER

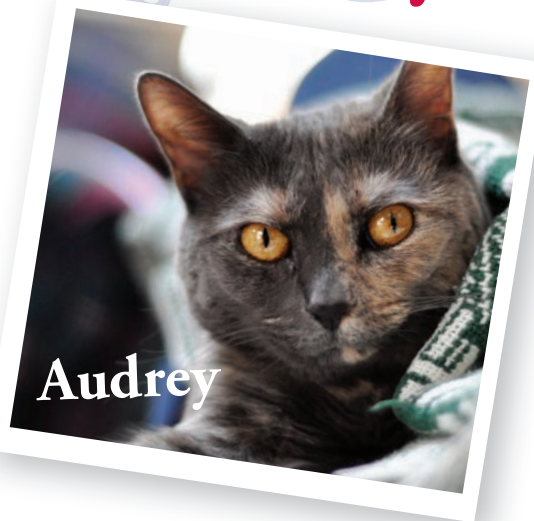
# Where Are They Now?

**Some cats leave a lasting impression on the volunteers at the shelter, and we often wonder how the cats are doing after adoption. We checked in on four unforgettable cats. Here are their stories.**

## AUDREY

Audrey, known as Gigi at Standish, was a kitten with a very complicated liver malformation that required surgery to save her life. The cost of the surgery was prohibitive, but no one was willing to let her die. A public appeal was made to raise funds for the surgery. Audrey's story tugged on a number of heart strings, and donations from the public quickly made it possible for her to have surgery. After recovery from her ordeal, Audrey was adopted seven years ago by Standish's volunteer cat photographer and her husband.

Since her adoption, Audrey has been pronounced "perfectly healthy" at every one of her veterinarian check-ups. She is a very affectionate, happy cat today. Her mom and dad cannot imagine life without her.



## O'DELL

O'Dell came to Standish in dreadful condition because of uncontrolled diabetes. Despite his good nature and entertaining antics, he languished at the shelter because he required insulin and daily diabetes management. Standish volunteers and staff gave him insulin shots, monitored his blood glucose, and did their best to get his diabetes under control. The cost of O'Dell's insulin was a strain on Standish's budget, but O'Dell was a cat who was worth every penny.

During our DoggiePawLooza fundraiser several years ago, we put O'Dell's photo on a poster and asked for someone to adopt him. The sign was captioned, "I HAVE DIABETES--SO WHAT."

As it happened a wonderful Standish supporter, who also owns an animal pharmacy, saw the poster. She herself has diabetes and decided to adopt O'Dell. Dealing with diabetes was second nature to her. O'Dell joined her other pets and fit right in.



Today O'Dell is a very handsome cat with glossy, silver grey fur. He is no longer skinny and even has a girlfriend, Skreetch, whom he loves.

O'Dell's diabetes is under control, and he gets his insulin shots every day. He is perfectly healthy on his carefully monitored diabetes regimen.

## HAZEL

Hazel was part of a very sick litter of kittens. Our shelter director nursed them back to health in her own home, but Hazel had such a bad eye infection that her eye had to be removed. This was an unexpected medical expense that Standish had to cover, but sweet Hazel accepted the surgery without complaint and did well.

A very nice couple saw Hazel's picture on the Standish website and fell in love with her. Their only concern was whether their resident cat might not welcome Hazel. When the couple came to Standish, Hazel was so affectionate and had such a great disposition, they decided she was right for their home. Hazel quickly became best friends with her new sister, and they are now inseparable.

(cont. on bottom of page 2)



**Standish Humane Society  
Board of Directors**

Julie Salamone-President  
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Jen Case-Pouliot  
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**Shelter Director**

Julia Fratalia

**Tall Tails Newsletter**

Lynn Allain  
Kathy Bergeron  
Marilyn Phillips  
Heather Cipullo



(cont. from bottom of page 1)

**PISTACHIO**

Pistachio, called Falcor at Standish, was diagnosed with a significant heart murmur during a routine veterinary exam at the shelter. We could not believe such a vibrant, sweet-natured cat with the white fur and quizzical black eyebrows might be seriously ill.

It is not rare for heart murmurs to be found when a veterinarian listens to a cat's heart. When a murmur is found, the only way to definitively determine whether it is innocuous or a major health issue is through a very expensive ultrasound.

No one wants to adopt a cat knowing that there is something wrong with its heart but also not knowing whether or not it is a

serious condition. Standish, therefore, orders ultrasounds for most heart murmurs. To raise funds to cover the cost of the cardiac ultrasounds, Standish started the Heart of Gold Fund. Pistachio is the poster boy for the campaign.

The results of Pistachio's ultrasound were not as good as we had hoped. He would require medication, possibly for the rest of his life. Fortunately, his adopter fell in love with the little fellow anyway and decided to take a chance on him.

At his first check-up after his adoption, Pistachio's veterinarian found that his medication was working well to slow his heart rate and to reduce the heart's workload. Today his heart rate is normal, and his medication will help prevent cardiac complications.

Standish is committed to taking care of our perfectly adoptable, but maybe not physically perfect, cats. Please consider donating to the Heart of Gold Fund so that we can continue to take care of cats who need special medical attention before they can be adopted.

There has been a lot of activity at the shelter this year. We have expanded some old programs and events and begun some new ones. We are continuing our socialization program for feral kittens, and many of these kittens have been placed in their forever homes. Our wonderful volunteer socializers have taken tiny, wild, frightened, hissing balls of fur and, by lovingly holding and petting them as well as feeding them by hand, changed them into the sweetest, most friendly kittens you can imagine. As a result, the kittens thrive in their forever homes, getting along with people and other pets alike and showering their families with love and affection. As you can imagine, these kittens would have faced horrendous, short lives had they not been rescued by Standish.

We have significantly increased the number of foster kittens that we can take in. We held a very successful kitten shower. We received so many gifts of Fancy Feast kitten food that we thought we would never run out. Recently, however, we had to ask our wonderful supporters for more, and they very generously donated more Fancy Feast for kittens. Our foster moms were delighted with the gifts from the kitten shower. We received tiny bottles with special kitten nipples, kitten food, toys, playpens to corral the kittens, scales to make sure the kittens were growing, and many other terrific items. We served wonderful refreshments (for humans, not kittens), we had shower favors, and we gave shelter tours where guests could meet our adult cats.

This year we held our first Stray Cat Strut 5K Walk/Run fundraiser. It was a success, and we plan to hold the race annually. We had lots of people register for the race, the weather was great, and everyone had fun. We want to thank our corporate sponsors for making the race possible. Check out their logos shown on the Stray Cat Strut page of this newsletter and please frequent their businesses whenever possible.

This year we have continued to increase our adoption numbers. Our cat sponsor program is going strong, and we have a shelter full of happy kitties. Finally, our volunteers, the real backbone of our organization, are even more enthusiastic than ever. They are a very hardworking group and the lifeblood of Standish.

**Thank you for all your help.**

**--Julie Salamone**

**Donations can be made to  
The HEART OF GOLD  
Fund by donating online  
at [standishhumane.org](http://standishhumane.org)  
or by sending a donation  
in the enclosed envelope.**



# Memorials & Tributes

## *In Loving Memory of the Following People:*

Mando Aldrovandi -  
Bridgewater, MA

Charlie Anderson -  
Norwell, MA

Marjorie Bishop -  
Duxbury, MA

Paul Carroll -  
Kingston, MA

Patricia Christy -  
Bridgewater, MA

Michele Kendrick -  
New Durham, NH

John Heinstadt -  
Duxbury, MA

Eleanor Leahey -  
Pittsfield, MA

Margaret Lee -  
Scituate, MA

Kathleen Morse -  
Pembroke, MA

Liz Ounanian -  
Needham, MA

Max Perriello -  
Grantham, NH

Edwina Vosburgh -  
Canaan, CT

Joanne Wakefield -  
Duxbury, MA

## *Donations Made in Memory of:*

Lynn Allain - Romeo, Patch

Barbara Ayotte - Steve

Kathleen Bates - Nigel

Barbara Berg - Peaches, Ditto

Janice Connolly - Bumble

Melinda Damon - Pretty

DJD Medical, Inc - Romeo

Lynn Farnham - Blazer

Elizabeth Hills - Teak, Stoney, Asia

Norma Infusino - Rainbow, Sophie,  
Mrs. Stevens

Patricia Leighfield - Sergio,  
Teen Tiny, Antoinette

Harriet Nichols - Stella

Marilyn Phillips - Junior

Karen Pimental - Cassandra

Julianne & Bob Salamone -  
Teen Tiny, Patch

Jessica Sauls - Chris

Lisa Sauls - Carla

Melinda Tarsi - Buddy

Ann Thompson - Tiana,  
Nemo, Molly

## *Donation Made in Honor of:*

Alexander Allain - Lynn Allain

Craig & Lori Anderson -  
Marilyn Phillips

Holly Beaudoin - Bobby

Valerie Callaghan - Janet Callaghan

Ashlee Coosaia - Sage & Spice

Tanya & John Cutler -  
Marilyn Phillips, Betsy

“Deependers “ from Kingsbury  
Club - Marilyn Phillips

DJD Medical, Inc. - Joyce Keyes

Karen Drucker-Stern - Finnegan

Elaine Johnson -  
Dr. Ann Thompson

Patricia Leighfield - Betsy

Poppy Mastrovita - Our long line of  
English Setters

Joann McLaughlin -  
Ann Merriman, Kevin Hollis,  
Angus, Holly, Mobetta, Loxy

Milepost Tavern Restaurant -  
Marilyn Phillips

Family / Friends - Klaire Perkins  
Birthday

Laurie Solomon - Reggie,  
Clancy, Ollie

Aurora Stone - Brigid Courtney

Marilyn Phillips -  
Dr. Ann Thompson

Judith Pratt - Goldie



## STANDISH Stray Cat Strut 5K RUN/WALK

In September, Standish held its first annual **Stray Cat Strut 5k** fundraiser. The weather was great, there were almost 100 registrants, and it was such a success that we plan to make this a major annual event. As you can see from the photos, a great time was had by all.

Thanks to our many volunteers who helped set up the race and hand out snacks and water along the route. We also want to thank our corporate sponsors whose logos are on this page. Their generous gifts of support made it possible to hold the race. Please support the sponsors by using the services they offer and recommending them to your friends and family. They are great companies.

### Stray Cat Strut Sponsors



D U X B U R Y  
ANIMAL HOSPITAL

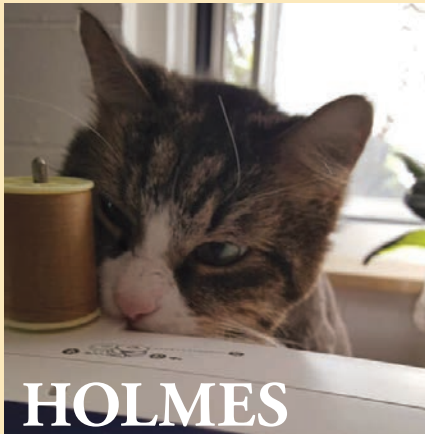


# Forever ♥ Homes



**DARCY**

is a great companion to the children in her home, and she is even learning to play board games with them.



**HOLMES**

is an 18 pound Maine Coon mix who is spoiled rotten and currently living in Minnesota with his adopter.



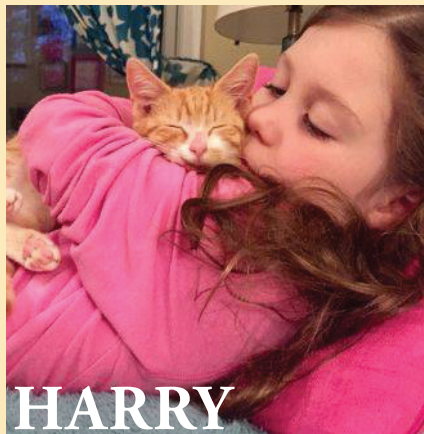
**BUZZ**

lives with his two best friends, a preschool boy and young girl, who adore him and with whom he has shown great patience.



**BENSON**

was adopted several years ago, and he rules the roost at his house. He is a mischief maker who is dearly loved by his mom and dad.



**HARRY**

(formerly Gingerbread) came all the way from the South to find his home. He loves to listen to bedtime stories and has the best personality.



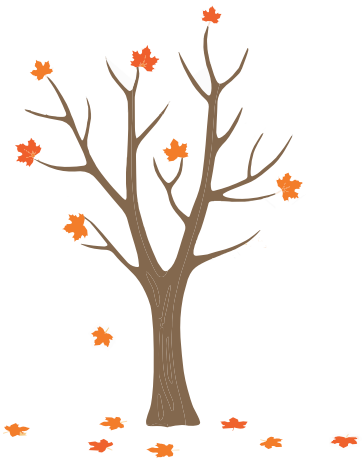
**GUS,  
SCOOTER,  
& SPENCER**

Gus (black/white), Scooter (orange tabby) and Spencer, formerly Tony, (white/gray) were adopted in December 2017. The “boys” love to share a lap and relax together.

## Holmes House







## Planet Subaru is Sharing the Love Again



Subaru of America is again running its Share the Love program through which millions of dollars are donated to charities nationwide. **Planet Subaru**, a Hanover Subaru dealer and a huge Standish supporter, has once again chosen Standish to be one of the local charities to receive funds from the Share the Love program. If you are planning to buy or lease a new car between November 17, 2018, and January 2, 2019, please go to Planet Subaru. If you choose Standish as your preferred charity, Standish will receive a donation as a result of your purchase or lease.

The funding Standish has received from Planet Subaru through the Share the Love program has been a tremendous help to us. It has even allowed us to establish a program to help owners keep their pets out of shelters and in their homes during times of unexpected, temporary financial crisis.

Many Standish volunteers have bought one or more Subarus from Planet Subaru. They can attest that Planet Subaru's sale and service teams are the best. That is why our parking lot is often full of Subarus from Planet.

## It's not all about the cats we LOVE dogs too!

Have you ever noticed that the Standish logo pictures both a dog and a cat? Although our physical shelter houses only cats, Standish does a lot for dogs.

We subsidize our extremely effective, low-cost spay/neuter program for cats to include dogs through a network of veterinarians who partner with us. Anyone with a dog needing to be spayed or neutered can call our Spay/Neuter Volunteer at 781-834-4663 (option 3) to learn about our low-cost spay/neuter program for dogs.

For years we have given small monetary grants to dog owners who could not fully pay for their dog's medical needs. In 2016, Planet Subaru and Standish created a new program, the Home Forever Fund, to help dogs and other pets when their owners are in need of temporary financial assistance to care for them. The fund has assisted owners in keeping their dogs in their homes and out of shelters during times of unexpected, short-term hardship. The fund has provided veterinary care, food, and medication for dogs to avoid the need for owners to surrender their dogs at a time when the dogs are most needed by their owners.

To help Standish continue to help dogs, please donate to either our **Spay/Neuter Program** or the **Home Forever Fund**. Donations can be made at [standishhumane.org](http://standishhumane.org) or by sending a donation in the enclosed envelope.

Please donate to the  
**PLANET SUBARU  
Home Forever Fund**  
to help keep pets in  
their homes by going to  
[standishhumane.org](http://standishhumane.org)  
or using the enclosed  
envelope.



Benny was an ailing  
stray nursed back to health by  
his rescuer who had him neutered through  
the Standish spay/neuter program.



# Health Care for Your Cat



At Standish we are very aware of how important it is to have our beloved, seemingly healthy, cats examined by a veterinarian at least once a year or more often as they age. (Of course, any time a cat appears to be ill or injured, the cat should be promptly cared for by a veterinarian.) Massachusetts law requires that cats be vaccinated against rabies, and at an annual visit, your veterinarian can give your cat any other vaccinations that are needed.

Although it might be tempting to have your cat who is showing no signs of illness vaccinated at a rabies clinic without an examination, there are many reasons for taking your cat to the veterinarian at least annually. Cats are adept at hiding their illnesses, so they may be sick even if they do not appear to be. Several of the conditions that they may hide are:

- **Hyperthyroidism (overactive thyroid gland)**
- **Declining kidney function**
- **Diabetes**
- **Cancer**
- **Heart murmurs and rhythm disturbances**
- **Dental problems**

Older cats, in particular, may have chronic problems with hyperthyroidism, impaired kidney function, or dental issues. You can add years to your cat's life span by taking your cat to its routine check-ups where such issues can be detected early and treated.

The veterinarian will give your cat a thorough physical examination, checking for any abnormalities. The veterinarian may also order laboratory studies of your cat's blood, urine, and feces to check for internal parasites, thyroid disease, kidney disease, diabetes and other health problems that might be detected by such

tests. Generally, the earlier a problem is detected, the better the chances are that the problem can be cured or controlled.

Dental health in cats is very important. Gum disease caused by plaque (a residue on teeth that contains bacteria) is common in cats. Your veterinarian will advise you when your cat's teeth need to be cleaned or x-rayed. Dental plaque that is not timely removed can cause gum disease and may even require that some or all of your cat's teeth be pulled. There are also issues less common than gum disease from plaque that can cause a cat to need all of its teeth pulled. Red and swollen gums, pawing the mouth and refusal to eat dry food can all be caused by dental disease that often can be prevented by regular dental care.

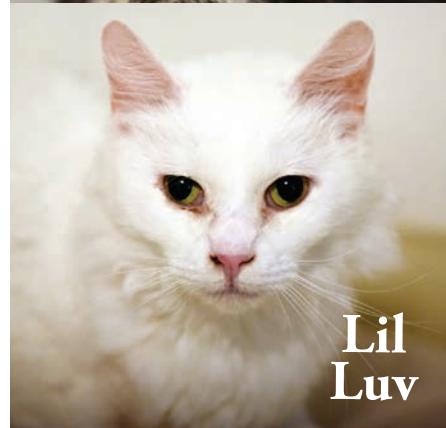
We know that many cats abruptly transform from happy, outgoing, friendly kitties to biting, scratching, hissing, growling balls of teeth and claws as soon as they realize a visit to the veterinarian is in the offing or as soon as the veterinarian does something that offends the cat. If you have such a cat, you might want to consider a veterinarian with a mobile office who will come to your home where the cat will be more comfortable.

At Standish we are extremely fortunate to have Dr. Ann Thompson, a veterinarian who volunteers her professional services. Whenever she examines one of our newly arrived cats, she checks the condition of their teeth so that we can provide the cat any necessary dental care.

Standish has recently paid for extensive dental work for the cats pictured below. They are now in forever homes where their loss of teeth does not seem to bother them at all.



Willow



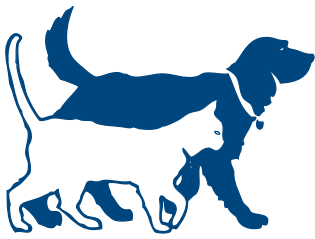
Lil Luv



Sunami



Please consider a donation to help us defray the cost of dental work for these cats. You can donate online at [standishhumane.org](http://standishhumane.org) or by sending a donation in the enclosed envelope.



# Standish

## HUMANE SOCIETY

P.O. Box 634  
Duxbury, MA 02331

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### YOUR CAR TELLS THE WORLD HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT PETS

Purchase the Massachusetts Animal Friendly license plate and help support spay/neuter programs throughout the state. The plate's initial cost is \$40, \$28 of which will be used to support sterilization programs. On renewal, the entire \$40 will go to those programs.



- Easy to order • Tax deductible

Go to **[www.mass.gov/rmv](http://www.mass.gov/rmv)**  
to purchase your Animal  
Friendly License plate!

*Visit [Petfinder.com](http://Petfinder.com) to view pictures and videos of Standish's adoptable cats!*



This Newsletter was printed by  
Webster One Source in Hanson, MA  
with the environment in mind.



## PLEASE HELP MAKE THE HOLIDAYS BRIGHT FOR BETSY

Those of you who visit the shelter know Betsy, pictured here in front of her holiday tree. Betsy, a life-long resident of Standish, is almost 19. She is very spry and keeps up with her shelter duties, one of which is collecting holiday presents for all the Standish kitties.

Betsy takes this job very seriously, and she is asking for  
donations from her Amazon Wish List at

[https://www.amazon.com/registry/wishlist/2BLQ8YB59392K/ref=cm\\_sw\\_em\\_r\\_mt\\_awl\\_s\\_N023BBRV71TP8](https://www.amazon.com/registry/wishlist/2BLQ8YB59392K/ref=cm_sw_em_r_mt_awl_s_N023BBRV71TP8).

Betsy loves to have boxes of presents pile  
up under her tree, and you can be sure she  
carefully inspects every box. Please go to  
the link above and help the Standish cats have  
a happy holiday.

