

❖ ANIMAL ANTICS ❖

Volume 24 Issue 2

FALL 2018

Special Highlights From 2018

Here we are at the end of another year, a year that was filled with hard work, lots of animals and happy endings! We would like to highlight just a few of those here on the cover, many more inside these pages....

POLAR: This senior girl came in as a stray, badly in need of grooming and attention, at least 10-12 years old. The volunteers were all drawn to her, she was older and abandoned and who was going to come along and give this sweet older girl a home? Sure, she moved a little more slowly but those eyes of hers spoke volumes, she had so much love to give! Fate intervened and sent us wonderful adopters who had recently lost a dog that could have been her twin, and her age did not put them off at all. She has been with them for months now and she is adored and cared for in the way we wish every senior could enjoy!

BUTTERS: 13 year old Butter's owner passed away and sadly, there were not any family members willing to take her in. Imagine being a senior pet, who just lost your favorite person and having to start all over again - how she must have felt!. The shelter volunteers showed her the TLC she needed to help transition to shelter life while we started the search for a new home. Then, another senior in need of companionship, this time a lovely lady who was in the market for a senior cat came in to meet her - and a match was made!

TACO: Taco is a tiny brown Chihuahua who was brought into us by a good Samaritan who saw him *pushed out of car...* he was scared and quiet but looked generally okay. Taco was quiet and very sweet, loved everyone he met despite what he had ben through. The vet discovered his hip had been dislocated and would need repair from a specialist. This deserving boy got all the medical help he needed, and then was fostered by our Animal Control Officers while he recovered from the procedure. A lovely couple who has a soft spot for special needs ultimately adopted Taco, and he now lives with a three legged dog and a blind cat!

ANNABELLE: A kitten found in a gas station with multiple fractures at only 4 weeks of age! Being so young, she was too small for surgery, but some things can only be determined with time and patience. A volunteer couple generously took her home and saw the vet every 2-3 weeks for almost four months. Cage rest and limited exercise coupled with close veterinary supervision and special attention from her foster parents did the trick: She was adopted with a limp but avoided surgery thanks to everyone's efforts. Her adopters had followed her recovery process almost from the beginning and took her months later, so a success story from every angle!



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&
TRUSTEES**

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POLAR



BUTTERS



TACO



ANNABELLE

I work for a local animal hospital and Clifton Animal Shelter brought a dog into us to be examined. Penelope came in as a stray with hair missing on her neck and back. I immediately fell in love with her. She was so sweet and so happy, and just wanted to be loved. I took her as a foster, but quickly realized she had found her forever home with me. She is an amazing little dog who is just happy to have food, a warm bed, and love. She has become a frequent visitor to the animal hospital I work at due to the staff's request for "Penelope Love". She brightens everyone's day. She loves to play with her toys and is the best snuggler. She has been a great addition to my family and I would like to thank Clifton Animal Shelter for everything they have done for her and myself, and for helping Penelope find her forever home.

-Lauren



Penelope

We are so happy to have Max in our lives! He is the perfect companion, and an amazing addition to our home. If you were to see him now, you would think he had always been a part of our family, and it's hard to believe that just a short while ago, he was clinging onto Liz the night he was brought into the shelter. He now greets us at the door when he hears our keys, joins us at the dinner table, and sleeps right between us at night. Amazingly, our once-22 pound boy is officially down to 19 pounds! We couldn't be happier with our experience with Liz and the rest of the Clifton Friends of the Shelter.

Our family is finally complete! Brianne & Joe



YES! I WANT TO HELP!

ENCLOSED PLEASE FIND:

\$ _____

for SPAY/NEUTER/TNR/MEDICAL

Please make your contribution payable to:

The Friends of the Shelter

P.O. Box 4923
Clifton, NJ 07015



Please Join Us in Celebrating the Holiday Season!

SANTA PET DAY Sunday, December 2

Santa Paws will pose with your dog, cat, rabbit, ferret, guinea pig or whatever pet shares your home and heart. **The cost is \$10** and you will be able to pick up your prints the next day at Foster A.H. and you will have the option to order additional photo cards or enlargements from our professional photographer! You are also welcome to take your own photos.



**To Be Held At:
Foster Animal Hospital
1347 Broad St. in Clifton**

**Sunday, December 2 ONLY
12:00 pm-4:30 pm**



SPRING TREE OF LOVE

These beloved animals were remembered earlier this year...

Pixie & Valentine Ackley
 Zack, Romeo, Max, Scooter & Mac & Ackley-Raps
 Brindie, Mac, Jersey, & Adam Anzaldi
 Misty, Chloe, Penny, & Baxter Bionci
 Clover & Boo Botti
 Shadow, Kirby, George, & Florence Bove
 Charlie Calabrese
 Chelsea & Valerie Caruso
 Mott, Mugsy, Hank, Harley, & Hoop Casamenti
 Taffy, Sabrina, & Lacey Chiarella
 Kelly, Lily, & Miss Molly Chipura
 Mocha, Jazz, & Ana Daisley
 Princess Dec
 Big Daddy, Tweety, Godzookie, TinkerBelle, & Penny DeLuca
 Tabithia DeVries
 Buddy, Morris, & Chopper Doyle
 Belle & Scruffy Dymek
 Bailey, Penn, & Smokey Feliciano
 Julie, Sundance, Etta, Butchy, Sophie, Jelly, Serena, Peanuts, Mama, & Arlo Fisher
 Kiwi, Tia, Cocoa Bean, Brandi, & Pippa Frim
 Barci Goodrich
 Rawley Gorbaty
 Moose, Duchess, Boots, & Belmont Gruno
 Shana Lee & Maggie Lee Hilsinger
 Miles, Coco, & Cindy Hochmuth
 Corki Huber
 Bandit, Baby, Perry, Mama, & Salem T. Hughes
 Onyx & Shadow Janusz
 Pepper Josephson
 Homer, Mr. Dinkins, & Rusty Kaminski
 Toosie, Mittsie & Keshmesh King
 Penny & Midnight Krajewski
 Coco & Rush Kuch
 Tora & Princess Lomuscio
 Shannon, Myles, Owen, Chloe, & Maisy Mariano
 Jimmy Marotta
 Precious, Muffin, & Tammie Marren
 Miss Kitty Matulewicz
 Rocky, Felix, & Kibbles Omelczuk
 Max Papay
 Sugar & Spice Papay
 Trouble & Romeo Pinchak
 Rocky & Sisqo Pisaturo
 Spotty Plokhooy
 Dayton & Mayreau Ramsahai
 Salem, Savannah, & Petunia Regetz
 Chopin & Smokey Robinson
 Emmy-Renee Romanowski
 Neegan & Lily Ruiz
 Simba & Alfalfa Russell
 Maggie, Penny, Toby, Gigi, & Annie Sadowski
 Mitzi & Sandy Sarkozi
 Travis Sciancalepore
 BJ Sciortino
 Finn, Oliver, & Edmund Seasock
 Brandy, Molly, & Teri Sinisi
 Lila, Coco, & Harlem Sinisi

Boots & Cliff Sinisi
 Lady Sisco-Rusnak
 Adam Sisco
 Deogee Skikus
 Smokey, Dukie, Tawny, Missey, Tiffany, Vivi, Suko, & Buttercup Smolensky
 Allagria Talaniec
 Princess, Blackie, Floures, Tuxedo, Dumbo, Katie, Puss Vanore
 Baby Waligorska
 Coconut, D.C., Traxie, Moushe, Kiddo, & Katie Weber
 Lucky Woehrle
 Beau, Andie, Harley, & Tony Zisa

After the loss of three companion kitties it was difficult to think of bonding again and getting attached only to risk losing yet another. But we aren't guaranteed "forever" with our loved ones so during August I was moved to start the quest for a new feline housemate. After visiting the Shelter to see 2 adorable kittens it became clear that "kittens" would definitely not be a match for my lifestyle. Many of the volunteers were very attached to, and protective of, a young adult calico that had been in their care for five months; her caretaker had passed away and everyone was hopeful that Callie would soon find a forever home. I was definitely steered in her direction and **soon became part of her fan club**. I visited her several times and knew she was the one I'd been looking for! I was told she would be "low maintenance", sit near, but not on me, and require only love and the security of being once more in a home. These words were all true...but did not capture this girl's true presence. She's a talker, a lap topper, playful, totally photogenic and never more than a few steps behind. We're adjusting to head bunts and paw pokes very early in the morning demanding breakfast. I can't write checks without her sitting on my checkbook and swatting the pen. She becomes crazed chasing a laser beam, has discovered every possible surface for comfy napping, loves being brushed and joins me each night when I go to bed.

Thanks to all who helped to make this connection.

Callie is Pure Joy!

-Kristin





Little Miss Brielle is living a life of love and happiness. She LOVES her new fur family. Especially Maui, my cat. They kiss each other through her cage.
- Maria



**FOS Volunteer
Alyssa walking
"CHANCE"
(now adopted :)**

It's hard to put into words my experience volunteering at Clifton Friends of the Shelter. Throughout my six years here, it has never felt like a routine and I never had the thought of leaving this place because there are so many wonderful animals and people I get to encounter every time I walk through the doors. The volunteers are always hard working and make such great efforts to get the animals the best home that fits them perfectly.

What makes my experience so great is the one on one interaction with the animals. I've seen a couple of dogs come into the shelter and they do not want to be bothered by anyone because let's face it, the shelter is a new environment for any animal and everyone reacts differently, even and especially our four legged friends. A few days later, they are a completely different dog! Tails wagging, tongue hanging out the side of their mouth, and barking up a storm because they are so excited to see you. When we get the one on one play time with the dogs or cats, that is what brings out their personality. Once they get comfortable with us, they can get comfortable with you. **That's all we want, for you to see who they really are instead of what the idea of a shelter animal is.** So I guess what I'm trying to say about my experience is, it is great and everything more.

- Alyssa, Volunteer

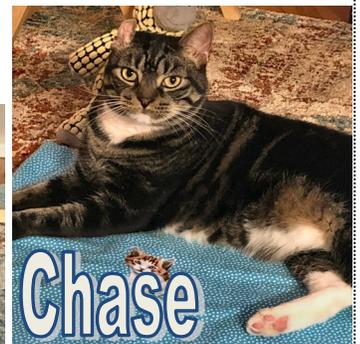
In August 2018, we had lost our beloved Clifton Animal Shelter alumni, Binx to heart disease. It was devastating for me, my boyfriend, my family and friends. Binx was a friendly warm cat who would sit on anyone's lap and turned the hardest cat critics into cat lovers. For the past 6 years, I am sure that anyone who came to visit me was in actuality there to see Binx. When Binx was first diagnosed with heart disease I was devastated and immediately crossed off any future of getting a cat. I did not want to ever consider to go through the pain or the count down to how much longer you have with a beloved furry friend. A week after Binx's diagnoses he had passed away. It was hard to deal with, particularly the emptiness in my home.

A week after Binx's passing, I reached out to the Clifton Animal Shelter sharing my circumstances and my realization that I would in fact do it all over again because in the end it was worth it all. They were comforting and understanding with what I was going through. I explained that again I wanted to adopt an older cat. They introduced me to Chase, a possibly 10 year old cat (or hopefully 7 years old), who sadly had a "different" looking right ear from a bad ear infection. Chase immediately showed his big loving personality. My boyfriend, Trevor, and I both agreed that Chase was exactly what we were looking for. Trevor and I both were excited and nervous to bring Chase home and wondered what our future would be.

Chase, now Miles, has been with us since August 18, 2018. We love his fun, quirky, loving personality. **He is perfect and always puts a smile on our face.** We are beyond grateful that we met him. He has adjusted well to his new home and our favorite part of the day is coming home to see him. He is surrounded by tons of love from not only Trevor and I but the extended family and friends who now only come over to visit Miles. We have already filled our phones with an abundance of pictures of him but here is one of our favorites.

Thank you Clifton Animal Shelter for your kindness, especially warm thank you's to Liz and Caroline for introducing us to our new family member.

Sincerely,
Nicole & Trevor



Dear Liz and the Clifton Animal Shelter,

We can not thank you enough for introducing us to our handsome cats! Siblings, two boys, just about a year old when we brought them home last May. They both have beautiful shiny black fur, with white spots which accentuate their faces, paws, belly and tail. **We call them Astro and Kaladin, formerly rescues at the shelter, named Phantom and Oreo.**

Both boys are doing great and settling into their new lives with our family. Of course, they are usually together, sleeping, playing, and looking out the windows. Every week they become more affectionate towards us and they enjoy cuddling with their human family now, as they do with each other.

They race through the house, up and down the staircases, playfully chasing toys, and then rolling around on the rugs. We love to watch them enjoying themselves and gaining confidence every day.

They seem to appreciate their bedtime routine as well. Each night when we tell them "it's bedtime" they go up to their room, often with a gentle nudge or two, and then snuggle on top of their blankets, atop their scratching post sky beds.

Our family is so very grateful to the Clifton Animal Shelter for taking care of our boys until we could find them. We were so impressed with the shelter's cleanliness, the staff's loving attention to the animals and the time they took to make sure our family was a good match for the boys (and vice versa).

The night we took them home, one of the volunteers came running to our car to say goodbye and give them final affectionate pats. **We promised to give them the best care and our unconditional love.** They now have a human mom, dad, brother and sister. We love them with all our hearts! and know that they grow to love us, more and more each day, as well! **Thank you, Clifton Animal Shelter, for giving our family this extraordinary gift!**

- Shagawat Family



Hi Liz,
S'mores just wanted to say hi!
It's been a little over a year since she's been with us and she's a doll.
Thank you again for all you do!
See you soon for her "manicure"!

Gina



Everyone was fantastic. You can really feel the love for all the animals. We had a great experience as new dog parents! We felt so much more knowledgeable and ready to take on this new adventure with Luke.
Thank you so much!



Dear Clifton Friends of the Shelter,
I would love to thank you all for making my adoption visit so warm and friendly. I am so glad I adopted the most wonderful dog, and that Evelyn knew my entire family would love.

Thank you again.
Sincerely,
Nancy, Steve & Family.

When Freddy first came home, he was very scared and slept on the couch next to his Mommy and Daddy. He kept falling asleep while sitting up until he finally laid down which was on his mommy's head, but she didn't care. **Freddy is the most snuggliest thing ever.** He must sit on top of you as if he's a little lap dog and loves burying his head into your neck and giving kisses. He's not much of a toy player, but whenever we leave, he takes all the decorations out of the bowl from the coffee table and leaves them around the living room. If we are not in the same room as him, he will go into his bed which is in our bedroom, otherwise you can find him on his Yankees blanket on the couch. Yes, he's a Yankees fan along with the Kansas City Chiefs. He enjoys watching TV with his parents, walks on the trail outside and of course cuddling. We are patiently waiting for him to bark, but I think he's building up for one and we can't wait to hear it. **As each day goes, Freddy is becoming more trusting of us and is letting his guard down.** We can't wait until he fully breaks out of his shell!
- Samantha Spagnola



~HAPPILY EVER AFTER~

Dear Liz & Animal Shelter Friends,

Thank you from the bottom of my heart for bringing us the spitfire kitty we know and love as Sushi. Yes....she is still "Sushi" because if you know her...then you know that the name just fits her! I actually knew from the first time that I saw her on the website that I loved her and Liz, my hero, made it happen!

Slowly but surely, Sushi met her brother, Murph, an 11 year old Shih-Tzu, and her sister Jetta, an 80 pound German Shepherd. Needless to say, this little kitty is the smallest and youngest member of the family but I assure you that she has the BIGGEST presence! The dogs were quickly "schooled" as to who would be the new 'boss'. Yep...she showed them!

Sushi aka Squints aka Miss Magoo, is energetic, intelligent, inquisitive, and a force to be reckoned with! As you could imagine, she loves to play and has one heck of an appetite! Now that she is here, we couldn't imagine life without her!

Sushi is just one really special kitty! Thank you ALL for taking such amazing care of this little wonder. Most of all, thank you for letting her be mine (ours).

Love, Jody Montague



About 10 years ago I adopted a beautiful senior cat from Clifton Animal Shelter. She was a pretty tortie described as upwards of 13 years old and had no teeth. Well, it was love at first sight. I named her Catalina and she went on to live with me for 8 years and was the spunkiest of my bunch. Catalina must have had kittens in her younger years because she loved to take my kid's stuffed animals and put them in a pile under the dining room table for all to admire. She also loved to pal around with our youngest and hunkiest male cat who was always looking for adventure. Catalina was a true gem! When Catalina passed away at over 20 years old, I wanted to give another senior cat a home. I happened to go on Petfinder, just for fun. I saw cats from Clifton Animal Shelter come up on the page. **There was "Sid", who eventually became my Simon Peter!** Simon had a very rough start (story below) and surely would not have survived had the shelter not come to his rescue. I happened to come along at the same time. **I guess it was meant to be.** Simon has been with me and my family since April and is such a good cat. He blended right in with my other cats and dog and children. He is particularly fond of my teenage daughter and loves to sit by her when she reads. **Please open your heart to a shelter pet. It is the greatest gift.**

Amy, now Sid's mom

Now Sid would like to say a few words:

I guess you could say that I am living the good life, a cat tree, lots of windows to look out in my spare time and plenty of hugs and kisses. My life was not always this way. About 8 months ago I was found in a dumpster outside a restaurant with the trash. The people who found me weren't quite sure what they found as I was covered in cooking grease and not much more than skin and bones. The folks at the Clifton Animal Shelter were called and so my story begins. I spent a long time at the animal hospital where it was determined that I had diabetes and maybe bowel disease and a vitamin deficiency. **I must be special because there was no stopping my friends at the shelter and the animal hospital.** They were determined that I get well and find me my forever home. As time went by, I gained weight and I got better! And even more, I got adopted! I am still diabetic but mom says I am no different from my buddies. We all eat, sleep, play and most of all love having a home. **Every pet deserves a chance. Any pet can be a great pet, they just have to find their family.** Clifton Animal shelter helped me find mine and now look at me! Quite the handsome gent at 10lbs. and 10 years young.

Please don't pass up a pet with special needs, because their special need might only be going home with you.

The little story of how this little yorkie called “Tato” went missing. It was just around quitting time on a Friday when my girlfriend, while driving home saw a little yorkie walking on the sidewalk all alone. She had a feeling something was off, so she observed the yorkie to see if we could see his owner nearby, but no owner seemed to be with this dog. Then all of a sudden, he runs into the middle of Rt 46, and my girlfriend believed he had to have been hit by all the cars that just passed by, but he wasn’t instead he was curled up as a little ball but ok; my girlfriend stops traffic and the yorkie happy to be safe, jumped into her arms. She went around a few homes to see if it came out of a backyard, however no one recognized the dog. My girlfriend called and I told her to bring him home and we will take him to the Clifton Animal Shelter.

We brought Tato to the shelter to have him scanned for a chip, as there was no collar either but unfortunately no chip was found. Evelyn, the shelter President, told us that Tato was very old and had few teeth. Evelyn noticed my girlfriend had a strong bond with Tato and she suggested instead of leaving him at the shelter while we look for his owners, maybe it would be better if we took care of him and seeing how my girlfriend ran onto a highway to get Tato, she really wanted to stay with him until we found his home. The Clifton Shelter went above and beyond and gave us all we needed to take care of him, food, water, bed, bowls, pads, etc. and it really helped us out in giving Tato a warm welcome to our home. That same night I asked Facebook for help which led to over 1000 shares of my post ! We had a lot of people sending words of encouragement and even had a few yorkie owners who lost their dogs reaching

out in hope Tato was their missing yorkie, however none seem to lead to a happy ending and we were losing hope after five days and not hearing back. It was amazing how well trained Tato was, he went on the pad to use the bathroom, and for his age (16!) we learned he is able to scale a chair then onto a table then onto the counter-top which we thought was cool, this dog who had so much love to give had to have caring owners and we were even more determined to find them. I received a call later on from the Shelter saying that they might have found the owner as a message was left that matched Tato’s description. Two days later I get another call and Evelyn had told me that they found the owner and to come in.

Let me tell you, when Tato and his owner saw each other, they were both ecstatic and we instantly knew she was Tato’s owner. Tato’s mom began telling us her story about looking for him and her kids being grief stricken when they found out Tato ran away, **but thanks to the vigilance of the Clifton Animal Shelter and some amazing care from my girlfriend, we were able to bring Tato back into his family’s life** just one week after he went missing (even though those seven days felt like a year for Tato’s family). They will have plenty more time now to spend and love and enjoy Tato’s warm love and affection!

Michelle Ortiz &
Rosario Lisciandrello



TATO

Get in the holiday spirit by honoring a pet who holds a special place in your heart!

A \$5 donation purchases a light on our **HOLIDAY TREE OF LOVE** outside and an ornament with your pet’s name that will be displayed in the shelter. The HOLIDAY TREE OF LOVE tradition is observed

November 25, 2018- January 13, 2019.

All proceeds will benefit the homeless animals in our care.

HOLIDAY TREE OF LOVE ORNAMENT COUPON

Name:

Address:

Telephone Number :

NUMBER OF ORNAMENTS : _____ X \$5.00 = \$

ANIMAL’S NAME (S) :

Please make checks payable to **Friends of the Shelter, Inc. & mail to:**
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ANIMAL ANTICS

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All NJ Residents Welcome

Holiday Tree of Love

Nov. 25, 2018 - Jan. 13, 2019

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12:00 pm-4:30 pm
SUNDAY, DEC. 2 ONLY
AT FOSTER ANIMAL HOSPITAL

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