



# Tabby's Place®

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[www.tabbysplace.org](http://www.tabbysplace.org)

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## New Beginnings

### Hanna

*Hanna's owner committed suicide, leaving poor Hanna alone and unattended. Thankfully, the local rescue squad discovered Hanna after 3½ weeks and took her to a nearby emergency vet hospital. When this 10-year-old torbie arrived at Tabby's Place, she was wary, shy and depressed.*

*As Hanna's sweet personality emerged, we discovered that she adores being brushed, and her drool flow increases proportionately with her happiness level. Hanna is ready for adoption. Even though she may act shy at first, she relishes attention if you'd like to meet her.*



## Introducing the New & Improved Tabby's Place Website!



After three and a half years, the Tabby's Place website has a fresh look and new features.

Check it out at:

[www.tabbysplace.org](http://www.tabbysplace.org)

Email us at [webmaster@tabbysplace.org](mailto:webmaster@tabbysplace.org) and let us know what you think. Your feedback is important to us.



## 🐾 **Ninety-Five Patients Are All in a Day's Work**

By Laura Collins, DVM

As the veterinarian at Tabby's Place, I am responsible for the medical care of our residents. My job involves examining each cat as it enters the facility, running necessary blood, urine and other tests, administering vaccines, dispensing medications, diagnosing and treating sick patients, performing surgery and referring to specialists as needed. The medical facility here allows me to perform non-sterile surgeries, which include dental cleanings and extractions, laceration repairs, skin biopsies, and abscess repairs.

In a normal veterinary hospital, what's best for the feline patient has to be weighed against what a client is willing or able to do. I love working at Tabby's Place because I know that if a cat can be helped, we will do whatever is needed. The medical care given at Tabby's Place exceeds what most shelters are able to provide. Jonathan Rosenberg, the Founder, has made it our mission to treat each cat as if it were our own.

I also love it here because the cats are happy. It's fun for me to see my patients in their 'home' environment. It's a perk that I don't get from my other job.

*Dr. Collins has been with Tabby's Place since we opened three and a half years ago, reducing her hours at another veterinary facility to devote time to our resident felines. She drives an hour in each direction to get here. 🐾*



Dr. Collins does a post-op checkup on Sardi after surgically removing her eye. Sardi arrived at Tabby's Place with a ruptured eye caused by an untreated infection.

### **What you should know about pet food contamination**

You are undoubtedly aware of the recent large scale recall of many contaminated brands of cat and dog food. The contaminant implicated is melamine, a chemical substance used in the production of plastics. Melamine first appeared in the wheat gluten used by Menu Foods, a large commercial pet food manufacturer headquartered in Canada. There is now also evidence of melamine in the rice protein ingredient used in some pet foods.

Animal studies have shown that ingestion of melamine may lead to kidney stones, cancer, or reproductive damage. Kidney failure is the primary affliction caused by this toxin, with problems in cats appearing more often than in dogs. Most foods in question are of the wet variety, since wheat gluten is a component of the gravy in canned food. The recalled foods should be off store shelves by this time, but you should double check any cans or pouches before purchasing. You can find a comprehensive list of recalled foods on the [AVMA website](#).

If you have fed any food on the recall list to your pet – or if you observe unusual signs, such as excessive thirst, lethargy or frequent vomiting – we recommend that you contact your veterinarian immediately. He or she can conduct simple blood and urine tests to evaluate your pet's kidney function. If the test results are normal, it is unlikely that your pet has been affected. If the tests indicate problems, your veterinarian can recommend the best course of treatment to help your pet.

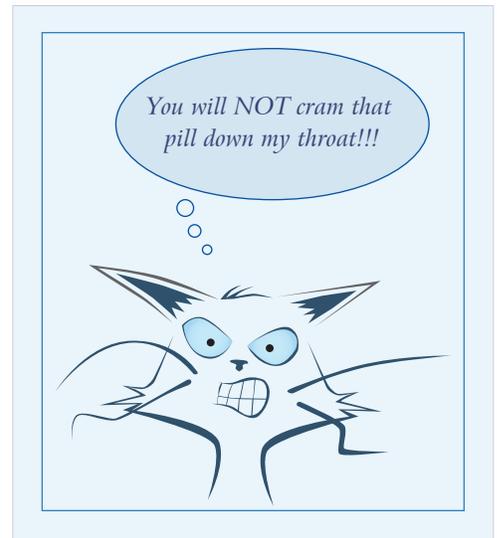


## 🐾 **Compounded Medications Can Be a Lifesaver**

Most cats run the other way when medication time arrives. Once caught, they typically don't take their pills without a fight. If you have difficulty administering a traditional form of medication to your cat, you may benefit from medication in a compounded form.

A *compounding pharmacy* can reformulate medication to make it more convenient to use. For example:

- Some people find liquid medications easier to administer, but many common drugs are made only as pills or capsules (e.g., Tapazole, Baytril, or prednisone). Most medications can be compounded into liquid form.
- Cutting small pills into pieces can be difficult and error prone. Smaller dosages can be compounded into liquid form to eliminate these problems.
- Does your cat require several pills or liquids? Multiple medications can be compounded into a single capsule, reducing medication time to a single event.
- Pilling is more difficult if your cat can taste the medication. Bad-tasting medications can be compounded into capsule form to hide the taste; they can also be compounded into liquid form and disguised with fish, beef, or liver flavor to make them more palatable.



Compounded medications are generally more expensive, which is why most veterinarians do not suggest them initially. To find out if compounded medication is an option for your cat, speak to your vet. The following websites may be helpful in locating a compounding pharmacy: [IACP](#) and [Health World Online](#). If you cannot locate an appropriate pharmacy near you, please note that many compounding pharmacies will mail drugs. 🐾

## 🐾 **Cutest Pose**



### **Meet Macho**

He may look like a stuffed toy, but this adorable Persian is real! Macho's squished-in face leaves no room in his little mouth for his tongue. Hence, his tongue is always tasting the air. His flat face also prevented him from breathing through one of his nostrils until our vet gave him a nose job. Macho is an absolute mush and is clearly content. Macho has become a new favorite among the staff. 🐾



## 🐾 Tabby Cats 101

Did you know that all tabbies bear the mark of an "M" on their foreheads? (Theories that the "M" stands for "magnificent" have not been proven.) There are actually four types of tabby patterns:



- The most common pattern in the United States is the **mackerel tabby**. A cat with this pattern has a solid stripe along its spine and stripes down its sides, resembling a fish's skeleton (hence the name). Pictured here is two-year-old Tucker, modeling his mackerel tabby stripes.



- The **classic tabby** cat has blotches or swirls on its sides, resembling a bulls-eye or marble cake. FIV+ George displays his classic tabby pattern.



- The **spotted tabby** cat may have stripes on its face, legs, and tail, but those on the body are broken up into dots. Elegant Ilana shows off her spotted tabby pattern.



- The **ticked tabby** cat may have stripes on its face, legs, and tail, but the hair on its body is flecked, creating a salt-and-pepper appearance. Rusty, another FIV+ resident, sports the ticked tabby look.

## 🐾 Forever Loved



Kayla

Young, sweet Kayla required daily medication and an annual ultrasound due to her heart disease. Two and a half years ago, a kindhearted woman took a liking to Kayla and adopted her, unperturbed by her medical needs. Sadly, Kayla recently went to the Rainbow Bridge. In the end it was brain cancer, not heart disease, which took her. We are so grateful to Ruth Long for providing a happy and loving home to Kayla during her time on Earth. ♥



**🐾 Meet Danielle Rice: Sanctuary Operations Manager Extraordinaire**

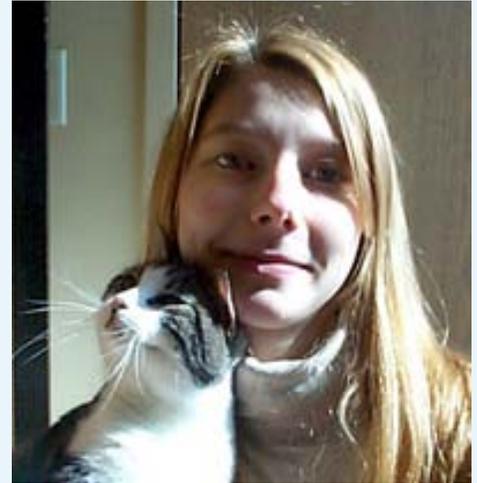
By Pamela Garfield, Development Director

One year ago, college student Danielle Rice unassumingly walked into Tabby's Place to become a volunteer. Half an hour later she walked out of Tabby's Place as our newest employee. It turned out Danielle had an impressive skill set in cat care, based on three years of work at a local animal shelter.

Danielle's home became a refuge for cats whose time had run out at her former place of employment. Her Mom and three siblings helped care for them and find them permanent homes, keeping a special few felines along the way.

One keeper was Gertrude, who was only a few months old when she was attacked by another animal and left paralyzed in her hind end. Despite her handicap, Gertie is outgoing, affectionate, full of life, and downright adorable. Danielle lovingly provides the daily care Gertie needs, which includes manually expressing the cat's bladder.

Having graduated from college in December with a degree in Animal Biology, Danielle was ready to pursue her calling full-time. Tabby's Place promoted her to Sanctuary Operations Manager, and at just 21 years of age, Danielle leads our staff with impressive maturity, confidence, and heart. We are very lucky to have her. 🐾



**Danielle with Gertie**

**🐾 Merry Month of May**

Honor your favorite Nurse, Teacher, or Mom in a meaningful way – with a gift to help cats in need. Tabby's Place will send a card, personalized by you, to your gift recipient. [Click here](#) to create an honorarium.



Nurse's Day  
May 6th



National Teacher's Day  
May 8th



Mother's Day  
May 13th

**🐾 Jasmine Update!**



**Heidi & Jasmine**

Remember Jasmine, featured in a [previous issue](#), whose owner requested to have her euthanized after Jasmine was diagnosed with heart disease? The vet believed that euthanizing Jasmine would be senseless and arranged for Jasmine's transportation from Tennessee to our sanctuary in New Jersey.

Fourteen-year-old Jasmine and her 11-year-old suitemate, Alice, were adopted together by one of our volunteers! Heidi reports that Jasmine is a champion lap cat and Alice is a playful kitten in disguise. 🐾



**🐾 Benefactor Program**

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

**Major Benefactor**  
Jim Fedors

**Contributing Benefactor**  
Steve Ma

**1200 Club**  
Bert and Karen Baron  
Adrian and Joanne Jeanguenin  
Jaime Raskulinecz and Linda Varas

The Benefactor Program seeks the support of individuals who wish to make a lasting impact at the sanctuary. Program members provide the critical financial foundation for Tabby's Place to continue its mission of saving cats in hopeless situations. For more information, please [click here](#).



**Tabby's Place Donor Wall**

**🐾 Happy Endings**



**Peanut & Twinx**

Eight-year-old Peanut and her seven-year-old daughter, Twinx, were the first felines accepted into the sanctuary through our [Guardian Angel Program](#). While they were living contentedly at Tabby's Place, we believe the best outcome for the majority of our residents is to be adopted into loving families of their own. Peanut and Twinx are devoted to each other, and we would only let them go as a pair. A visitor who was originally determined to adopt only one cat was touched by the affection between the two girls. As she watched them groom each other and then curl up Yin-Yang style, she decided she could not leave without taking them together. 🏠

