



## New Beginnings: Tater

Angela Hartley, Development Director

With apologies to your favorite mashed side dish, Tabby's Place is confident we've found the sweetest potato of the holiday season.

Life wasn't always a feast for Tater. Born with a spinal abnormality,



Tater

the newborn was abandoned by her mother when she was barely bigger than one of Santa's buttons. Tater was tumbling towards a tragic tale.

But under the Tabby's Place star, there's always one more seat at love's table. We live to embrace those cats the rest of the world "doesn't want," and so Tater joined our rag-tag family of phenomenal felines.

As of this writing, we're still determining the exact nature of Tater's "disability," but don't let her hear you use that word. As far as she's concerned, Tater is triumphant in every way. Like her Tabby's Place elders [Anka](#), [Olive](#), and recently-adopted [Cotton](#), she just moves in her own magical way. If reindeer can fly, why can't one little licorice-drop of a kitten scoot and shimmy?



Tater will have a loving holiday season thanks to wonderful people like you!

As sweet as a marshmallow yam and as zingy as a shooting star, Tater is the epitome of all we do at Tabby's Place. Thanks to you, she'll have a warm and wondrous holiday season...and a lifetime of love yet to come. Thank you for treasuring Tater and all the cats!

## Give In Honor

Your loved ones don't want another candle, and your online orders may be stuck in supply-chain



Rose is excited to make your family's holiday season warm and wonderful

limbo, but don't despair. Tater and her hundred best friends have just the right gifts for everyone on your list.

You can make this the year that love itself makes spirits bright. Donate in honor of your dear ones, and the Tabby's Place elves will get to work creating a special personalized card. Your friends and family will receive a special keepsake, while knowing that little whiskered wonders will flourish in their name.

Click here to honor the kindest people in your life, or to pay tribute to dear ones whose legacy lives on. You can even have a beautiful memorial brick engraved in honor of

someone whose love inspires your own kindness.

Sweater socks and figurines? Not this year: you've got love on your list, and the cats will thank you all year long.



Nemo can help you honor your loved one this holiday season

# Profile in Wonderful: The Wessons

The Tabby's Place cats couldn't dream of a truer friend than Jan Wesson. With steadfast generosity and joyous affection, Jan and her late husband Bill have been among our kitties' most devoted benefactors for many years.

We were heartbroken by Bill's passing in 2017, but his legacy of love shines brightly in the lives of the cats who continue to thrive through the Wessons' generosity.

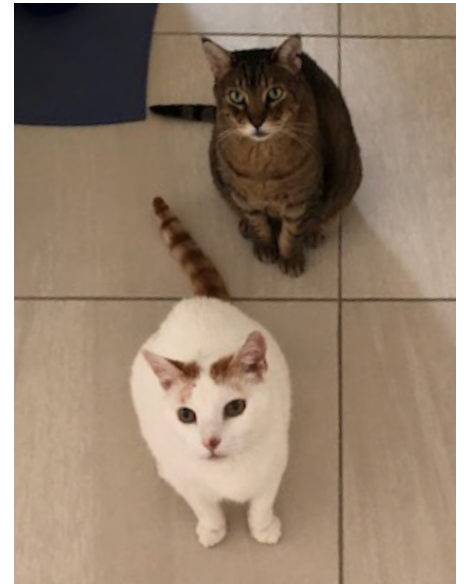
Jan grew up delighting in her family's cats, but Bill had no experience with them. In fact, Jan was warned on her wedding day that Bill hated cats! But, as they say, there are only two kinds of people: cat people, and people who have yet to know a cat. Bill would

swiftly move from one category to the other, courtesy of Jan's little black cat, Roo. Bill and Roo bonded immediately, and cats became the Wessons' shared passion.

In retirement, the Wessons divided their year between New Hampshire and Barbados, where they met Nutmeg, Georgie Girl, and a remarkable marmalade male they named Amahl. Next came a frail white kitten, who acquired the noble name The Squire. Meanwhile, a shelter in New Hampshire introduced the Wessons to Mr. Anderson, and their family was complete.

By the time the Wessons moved to Florida, The Squire was their only cat still in Barbados. Unwilling to subject him to the trauma of a commercial flight, Bill – the man who “hated” cats – arranged for a private jet to bring The Squire home. The Wessons wondered if Mr. Anderson would embrace his far-flung “brother,” but all fears were put to rest when The Squire came out from under the bed and did “rolly pollies” to announce his friendly intentions. The brothers were devoted to one another until The Squire's passing at age 20 this year. Mr. Anderson, also age 20, continues to flourish, and is Jan's dearest companion.

Both The Squire and Bill are honored on the [Memorial Walkway](#)



[The Squire and Mr. Anderson](#)

at Tabby's Place, and Amahl's amazing life will be celebrated with a special [Naming Opportunity](#) in our Quinn's Corner expansion.

Jan notes that Bill first discovered Tabby's Place on the internet many years ago, and “we immediately knew that this was a place we would like to support, since you are so good to cats who are less fortunate than our own. Over the years, we realized that you were well run and really did an excellent job caring for your charges.”

It is a tremendous joy to serve the cats with Jan, and to continue Bill's brilliant legacy of love at Tabby's Place.



[Jan, Bill, and The Squire](#) depart Barbados

## Double Your Love

We know: your heart is bigger than your wallet. If you could, you'd give twice as much to save the cats. But maybe you can.

Your donation to Tabby's Place can work twice as hard, at the same cost to you.

Many businesses will happily match their employees' charitable donations. If you'd like to see your donation go twice as far for the cats you love so much, ask your employer if they offer matching gifts. You may need to provide them with Tabby's Place's tax ID (EIN) number, which is 22-3695520.

Thank you for all you do for the cats!



[Pepita and Bellamy](#) hope you'll double your love

# Trust Tabby's Place

Tabby's Place has earned its second consecutive elite 4-star rating from [Charity Navigator](#)! Only a third of all charities receive this honor twice in a row, and we hope it inspires your confidence in our care of the cats – and our stewardship of your hard-earned donations.



"Tabby's Place's exceptional 4-star rating sets it apart from its peers and demonstrates its trustworthiness to the public," according to Michael Thatcher, President & CEO of Charity Navigator. "Only a quarter of charities rated by Charity Navigator receive the distinction of our 4-star rating. This adds Tabby's Place to a preeminent group of charities working to overcome our world's most pressing challenges. Based on its 4-star rating, people can trust that their donations are going to a financially responsible and ethical charity when they decide to support Tabby's Place."

Tabby's Place couldn't have achieved this distinction without your confidence in us through the



Faye trusts Tabby's Place to always do right by her -- and so can you years. Thank you for helping us to shine as one of the most trustworthy nonprofits in the world! The cats – and you, our beloved Tabby's Place family – deserve nothing less.

## Make 2021 the Year You Leave A Legacy of Love!

You and I may be worried about the supply chain, world news, and what size sweater to get Uncle Bob...but all the cats want is to be loved.

This holiday season, you have the opportunity to make a major impact on the cats who need you. You can make 2021 a year that your family – and the neediest cats – will



Your love will be a comfort and a shelter to countless cats like Oscar in the years to come

remember forever. If you're in a position to "love big," consider a gift of love to help Tabby's Place expand.

We realize that not everyone can consider such a donation, but if you're able to give \$10,000 or more (payable over up to five years), you can create a permanent tribute at Quinn's Corner, Tabby's Place's new expansion.

Quinn's Corner will be a haven of hope for cats with feline leukemia virus and neonatal kittens, so your spectacular gift will help the most helpless. You can have a cozy cat cubby or other area engraved in honor of a beloved person or pet, and we'd be thrilled to include your dear one's photo on your special cubby.

[Click here](#) to learn more about making a donation that will change the world...and wrap cats in love this holiday season and far, far beyond.



Picture the name of your loved one – feline or human – adorning a kitty cubby, while your gift helps little ones thrive

# Profile In Wonderful: Pat Frontera

When it comes to faithful friends, the Tabby's Place cats have always been able to count on Pat Frontera. With a heart of gold, Pat continues her late partner Ray's legacy of love through her generous devotion to our kitties. Pat writes:

"Ray and I had been active in our local animal rescues, and when we first heard of a cat sanctuary with a cage free environment, we decided we had to take a ride down and see how this worked. It was well worth the trip.

"We were both excited to see the various rooms where cats were free to wander about, and the staff was kind enough to answer all our questions. We decided it was important to support this unique

organization.

"Before his death in 2019, Ray made it clear that he would like to ensure that a portion of his savings always be earmarked for Tabby's Place. It has been my pleasure to carry out his wishes.

"I am amazed at the challenges Tabby's Place has undertaken, and the care they have provided for Special Needs kitties. The Quinn's Corner expansion for FeLV+ cats is very special to me, as Ray and I



Ray's legacy, and that of his beloved cat Teejay, lives on forever at Tabby's Place

have had some personal experience with how difficult it is to find a safe place for these wonderful kitties.

"I am very grateful to Tabby's Place for being there for all of these special cats!"

It's a delight to serve the cats with the amazing Pat Frontera, and Ray's compassion lives on forever at Tabby's Place.

# Your IRA RMD can be a QCD that saves L-I-V-E-S!

If you're over 70 1/2 years old, you may need to take a Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) from your IRA.

And if your heart overflows with kindness, you can make this withdrawal a life-saving gift for the cats!

When you make a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) to a 501(c)3 charity (like Tabby's Place), you can satisfy your tax requirement while cherishing the cats who need you most.

Click [here](#) to learn more about the process of delivering L-O-V-E through your RMD!



Boobalah hopes you'll remember the cats this holiday season

# Profile in Wonderful: Tia Hockenberry

In the cats' secret dictionary, under the entry for "Super Adopter," you'll find the smiling face of Tia Hockenberry.

It's not just because she's adopted six Tabby's Place cats through the years. It's not even because she joyously opens her home to seniors and Special Needs cats. No; Tia has a special place in our hearts because her heart is bigger than the galaxy. As both an adopter and a sponsor, Tia lives to love.

Our Super Adopter writes:

"I love my kitty kiddos so very much, and I love

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the next page



Tia and Jingles on Jingles' first day home

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Tabby's Place just as strongly. My kitties are the kitties that they are because of the love they received at Tabby's Place. That's especially true of Jingles, a cat who touched my heart like no other. I never knew I needed a cat as much as I needed Jingles.

"But my love for Tabby's Place started in San Angelo, TX. I had just lost my first kitty love, Mr. Smoochers, and I was looking online for support. I came across Tabby's Place, and I just couldn't believe how wonderful it sounded...I wanted to move in! So I did what I could across the miles, which was to sponsor Special Needs cats.

"But then, it finally happened: the Army moved me within driving distance of Tabby's Place. I knew I had to visit this Kitty Heaven On Earth, where love is endless, happiness is the only state of mind, and kitties rule the land. And boy, oh boy, it was everything I imagined and more!

"When I was about ready to leave after my lengthy visit, I exclaimed, "I just want a sweet old man kitty!" Immediately, a kind older gentleman volunteer asked if I'd met Jingles. We went to Jingles' suite, and it was like someone had



Jingles' warmth and wonder live on forever

called ahead to tell him I was coming at that exact moment. The door opened, and Jingles walked from his bed to me. I sat down, and he crawled into my lap. He changed my life. He came into my life when I was grieving; he stayed with me long enough to help me grieve my father's passing; and then his job was done, and he left to wait for me 'over there.'

"He will always be the cat to by which all others are judged, my heart and soul kitty. Over the years, he was followed by Valencia (my special love who has since passed), Virginia, Cece, Betty, and Nick.

"Why do I adopt from Tabby's Place? Because I know that there are kitties who would not feel the softness of a loving hand if it were not for this incredible sanctuary. I think of the seniors, the sick and injured kitties, the shy kitties, the



Eminent Tabby's Place alumna Virginia, who 'allows me to worship her'

kitties who lose their parents.

"When they come to Tabby's Place, their sad past is behind them, and suddenly they are living in all their glory. I love to think that, for each kiddo I've adopted, a space is created for another down-on-her-luck kitty.

"In all my travels throughout the world, Tabby's Place is the most loving place I have ever been. And it's not only about the kitties, because the staff, volunteers, and supporters are the most amazing people.

"I really believe you can't be a Tabby's Place person unless you have the largest heart in the world, and you give it every day to those innocent and sweet kitties."

We couldn't agree more. People like Tia are the heartbeat of Tabby's Place, and we love each one of you beyond expression!



Tia's newest Tabby's Place adoptee, 'Naughty' Nick, who is 'like springtime after a long winter – youthful and full of light'



Beloved Betty is living the dream with Tia



Tia with shy, 'floofy' Cece

No. 19.4 | Winter 2021  
© 2021 Tabby's Place  
For a free subscription,  
go to: [www.tabbysplace.org](http://www.tabbysplace.org)

Published by  
Tabby's Place: A Cat Sanctuary  
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# Cats in Their Stockings

First, the bad news: Boobalah will not wait peacefully under the tree until December 25th.

Exuberant Elliot has no intention of sitting patiently in a stocking.

Luna would not look kindly on attempts to put a big red bow on her head. (Red doesn't match tortoiseshell, anyway.)



Give a gift sponsorship, and let little Elliot fill their hearts with wonder

And much as you'd love to smuggle a cat home for the holidays, your loved ones might not have any room at the inn.

But there's good news: you can still "give" one of these wonderful cats this holiday season.

When you give a Special Needs Sponsorship, you'll provide



Carbon delights in your kindness



Luna would love to be the best holiday surprise of 2021

food, life-saving medical care, and boundless affection for a cat who needs you. In return, you and a loved one will both receive monthly email updates and photos of your new feline family member.

[Click here](#) to meet all the merry little friends who would love to be your holiday helper...and thank you for loving them all year 'round.

# Six Hundred Sugar Plums

**Quick quiz: why should you consider donating \$600 to Tabby's Place this winter?**

- (A) You'll provide a full year of life-saving insulin injections for three diabetic cats.
- (B) You'll provide essential ultrasounds for two cats.
- (C) You'll feed an entire suite of cats the prescription food they need to thrive for a whole month.
- (D) You'll get a special, limited-opportunity tax deduction.

**Answer: all of the above!**

If you're in a position to make a generous donation of \$600 (for

a married couple, or \$300 for an individual filer), you will be able to claim this gift on your 2021 federal income tax return.

Under normal circumstances, people who take the standard deduction (and that's most of us) cannot claim any deduction for our charitable gifts. But, as part of the limited-time federal coronavirus relief act, you can claim a limited deduction for cash contributions to qualifying charitable organizations like Tabby's Place. But, this special provision will only apply through the end of 2021, so the time to give generously is now.

Think big this winter – for the



Whatever your best donation may be, Anka thanks you with all his heart

cats and yourself. It's a win-win (and the Tabby's Place cats are always in your corner!)



**Happy Holidays from Everyone at Tabby's Place!**  
We hope your holiday season is filled with warm cuddles & content purrs.

