

# Animalfriends

OF CONNECTICUT



## Remember Donations Save Lives

Please donate!

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## About Us, Adoption, Volunteering, and Fostering

### About Us

Animal Friends of Connecticut, Inc. is a nonprofit, no-kill shelter dedicated to the protection of animals. It is an all-volunteer organization that rescues stray, abandoned, abused and handicapped dogs and cats

All animals are given needed medical care, vaccinations and spayed or neutered, then cared for at our shelter until an appropriate placement can be found.

### Pledge to Adopt Your Next Pet

Although AFOC may have puppies and kittens available for adoption, we encourage all potential adopters to consider the rewards of adopting an adult animal.

### Interested in adopting?

- Check our website and discover the pets that are up for adoption.
- Please call **860-489-4901** for more information.

### Foster

With the help of an amazing group of foster volunteers, we give animals that aren't yet ready for adoption a chance to live and be loved in

foster homes.

Not only is it easy, fun and one of the most rewarding things you can do for a homeless pet and for yourself, fostering gives an animal the love and attention they desperately need, greatly increasing his or her chances of being adopted.

### Volunteer

AFOC is run entirely by dedicated volunteers. There are plenty of opportunities to help! AFOC volunteers are people like you, who love animals. If you can donate your time, your help will be gladly appreciated! For more information call us at **860-489-4901**.

## Read to Ella



### By Marji Butler

Meet Ella and her trainer Lois Huntley. You can catch them at libraries. Ella is a therapy dog offered through the Read program of Cold Nose, Warm Hearts, a local affiliate of Intermountain Therapy Animals. I met them when the children's librarian gave me a 15-minute slot in the conference room. Ella and Lois are available by appointment only. And, you must be from three years old through sixth grade to participate in the program.

Ella, so named after her mother Cinder, is a Sheltie. They both reside in Old Saybrook. Together they hold court with one child, no parents, and the child reads to Ella. Lois also listens to preschoolers tell the book's story from looking at the pictures. This is a non-profit volunteer organization dedicated to sharing well-trained, registered therapy animals and Reading Education Assistance Dogs R.E.A.D. It is a meaningful program that provides comfort and caring through the human-animal bond. Recently they have been asked to

participate in Hospice.

The children's faces are Lois's only reward.

Lois was happy to pose for a picture with Ella, a reserved dog who does not jump on people. Lois is a former teacher. She loves children and is soft-spoken as she sits on the floor with Ella on a large pink blanket. The program is so popular, some children ask to return and bring their favorite book with them. If they stumble over a word Lois will help them.

Books are also provided for the children to pick out themselves. When asked if she has ever had any awkward incidents, she said, "No, some children are just happy to sit on the blanket and pet Ella. It's a start.

**Meet the new kid on the block:**  
Marji Murtha Butler.

Yes, I am George's sister and have been a newspaper reporter for many years. I will contribute to the Animal Friends newsletter. I can't promise to write about cats, owning two older dogs, Wily and Solo.



**Audrey Hepburn** is responsible for popularizing Yorkshire terriers as a celebrity pet. Her first dog, Mr. Famous, even appeared alongside her in some of her films.

Hepburn is also famous for her pet fawn, Pippin. The fawn became so attached to her owner that she would curl up and sleep alongside her.

# AFOC Kitten Rescue

By George Murtha

It was a cold snowy morning in March when Judy received a call from a woman saying that a litter of kittens had been born in her mother's yard to a feral cat and would we rescue the kittens. Judy said yes and called me immediately to do the rescue. I called the woman back who told me she wanted us to get the kittens, but not yet. Her mother was not an early riser and didn't want to be disturbed in the morning. She asked me to call her back at noon which I did and was once again told that I could not come get the kittens yet. I was to call at 6pm and arrange to come get them.

I called at 6pm and was once again told that I could not have the kittens yet as she wanted us to take the mother cat with them. And the mother was nowhere to be found. I was told to be at her mother's house at 6am the following morning and the woman would meet me there. As this rescue had not gone well so far, I thought it best to call at 6am the following morning for an update before making the trip. I woke the woman up and was once again told that I could not come get the kittens yet. As it had snowed lightly again and as the kittens were only 2 to 3 days old, at 9am I decided to not wait any longer and drive to get the kittens with or without permission. I arrived at a run-down house with a yard full of debris, junk cars, trailers, and who knows what else. I knocked on the door and the woman opened the door a crack and directed me down the driveway to the back yard. It was immediately apparent that finding the kittens was going to be a

very difficult task and the woman was not interested in helping. I checked all of the obvious easy locations, but came up empty handed. The woman looked out of the back window occasionally but gave no indication that she was going to help me find them. An hour or so later, I finally found them in a wooden box with no cover, laying on a frozen blanket covered with a layer of snow. Three of the kittens were snuggled together and one was a few inches from his siblings. One by one, I picked them up starting with the little boy. They were only a few days old and ice cold. Each time I picked one up it was like holding an ice cube. There was no sign of life in any of them. I put them in a carrier on the back seat of the car for a few minutes then moved them to a spot right next to the car heater which was turned on full blast. I didn't expect the outcome of this rescue to be positive.

About half way to the vet's office, I heard a weak squeak from one of the kittens. There was hope. I arrived at Canton Emergency and rushed them inside. The vets weren't encouraging saying their body temperatures were so low, they were unable to get any readings on them. But it was to turn into a good day as one by one, they started to move and squeak. They received 24 hour care at the vet's for a few days and their recovery had started.

One more problem surfaced immediately however. They tested positive for FIV. This doesn't mean that they have the virus, only that they had the antibodies from their mother who did have the virus. Most kittens that test positive do shed the antibodies around six months of age so I wasn't overly

concerned. But it was a potential problem.

I put the two boys in one foster home and the two girls in another. I had families that wanted to adopt them immediately as pairs so all we had to do was to wait until they were older and out of danger. The adoptions 8 weeks later went faultlessly and the 4 kittens are now living in their new homes and are very spoiled.



But the rescue wasn't over. One of the AFOC volunteers, who lived near the rescue site, went daily to find the mother with no success. There was a large feral cat population living there and one by one she was successful in trapping many of them and got them spayed but never found the mother. However, she did find 2 more litters of kittens and all tested positive for FIV also. We rescued them also but these kittens were older and needed much socialization to make them adoptable. We're still in the process of doing that. We do hope to place them very soon.

## Interested in adopting?

- Please call **860-693-0303** for more information.

# AFOC Rescue Story

## Temperance the 2<sup>nd</sup> Time Around

Some years ago, before I was doing adoptions, Animal Friends rescued a black, very friendly young cat. She was born under the dumpster behind a Route 44 restaurant and was rescued along with her brother shortly thereafter. Her brother was adopted quickly by a shelter caretaker and Temperance became a resident at the shelter. She was very sweet, but very shy and spent most of her day curled up in the sink. A woman and her teenage daughter adopted Temperance with everyone thinking it was a perfect adoption.

Temperance was returned to us a few weeks ago. The teenage daughter, now a grown woman was unable to care for her any longer as she had been living with her boyfriend and was soon to become homeless and living in her car. The mother called to see if we would board Temperance until the daughter moved to Florida and established herself, at which point Temperance would also move to Florida to be with her.

As we do not do boarding, we made arrangements for someone to be at the shelter to meet the mother and take Temperance back. The girl's mother was supposed

to be dropping the cat off around noon, but the woman and Temperance never showed. As this is not unusual, we were not concerned for the cat's welfare at this time. We did call the woman several times and left messages but did not receive a return call. One of our shelter caretakers then retrieved a different phone number for the woman off the caller ID which we tried and the call was answered.

It appears that there were several people living in the house with Temperance and with her owner no longer in residence, they let the cat outside and no one has seen her in a few days. Jean, the shelter manager and I drove to the house to assess the situation. The house was not rural but it was situated quite a ways from other homes and near the edge of woods which was going to make finding Temperance very difficult, if not impossible. It would make to no sense to enlist the help of neighbors to find Temperance as they lived too far away. Jean and I would return to the house several times over the next few days hoping to spot her, but with no success. We placed several ads in local

papers offering a sizable reward for the return of Temperance. Two people called and tried to convince me they had Temperance but it was obvious they were only interested in the reward money. At that point we already had Temperance back. The woman called to say her boyfriend had put her food bowls and litter box on the porch and when Temperance returned to eat, she was caught. The woman agreed to surrender Temperance to AFOC and the cat was immediately taken to the vet. After receiving a clean bill of health with one minor problem, Temperance was placed in a foster home for a brief while so we could assess Temperance's health and personality.

Temperance is now back at the shelter ready to find her perfect home. Animal Friends never gives up and want to be sure that each and every one of the animals in our charge is adopted to the most perfect home possible.

Please call Jean c/o AFOC at 860-489-4901 if you are interested in adopting Temperance.



# In Loving Memory

Singer-songwriter **Ed Sheeran** is no stranger to shelter cats.

His most popular kitten was adopted from a rescue. "So basically this one month old kitten was gonna get put down so I adopted him and called him Graham," he explained on Twitter.

Graham has amassed 63 thousand followers on social media!

## Until one has loved an animal, a part of one's soul remains unawaken.

**Cinnamon:** A donation was made in memory of my sweet Ragdoll girl Cinnamon.

- o Lorrie St. Pierre

**Taylor:** A donation was made in honor of my cat Taylor.

- o Karen Celio

**Cinnamon:** A donation was made in memory of Cinnamon, the beautiful and loving cat of Wendy Begansky.

- o Carol & Tom Rosenbeck

**Kayla:** A donation was made in honor of Kayla.

- o Ingrid Persson

**Harold Banks:** Donations were made in memory of Harold Banks.

- o Mabel Mastromarino
- o Karen Lapierre

**Ursula Korzenik**

- o In memory of Klaus Guttman

**Maude:** A donation was made in memory of Maude, a loving dog.

- o Grace & Tom Lyons

**Nancy McIntyre:** A donation was made in memory of Nancy McIntyre.

- o Pam Hastings

**Riley:** A donation was made in memory of Riley.

- o Eileen Breta & Ronald Keating

**Rusty:** A donation was made in memory of Rusty.

- o Ruth Wilson

**Aurora Cat:** A donation was made in memory of Aurora.

- o Sandra Anasoluis

**Jonah:** A donation was made in memory of Jonah

- o Marcia & Dick Reiley

## Senior "Kitizens" Come with experience!

Senior cats quickly find their place in your forever home and in your heart. Open your HEART and HOME to one of these SENIOR CATS today.

Call Animal Friends of CT: **860-693-0303**

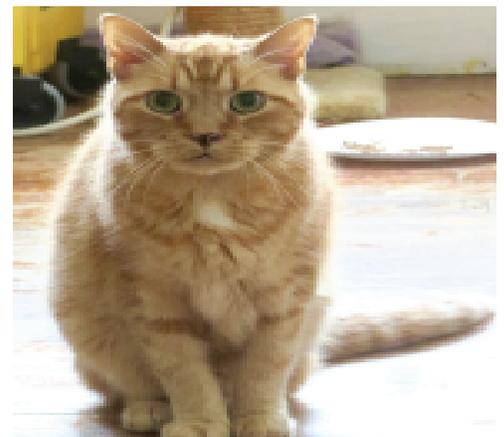


**For Dora, treats are an easy bribe so keep plenty handy. Also her meows have the volume turned up, so easy to hear above tv or while listening to iPod.**

**Omar, likes to eat above the floor, so maybe consider adding an Omar 'table' to your decor. And don't you just love his freckled nose ?**



**Victor, loves to snuggle underneath a blanket. So, if there's a lump under the sheets, it's probably Victor.**



# From Shelter Cat to Artist's Model

## By Pam Hastings

I am a dog and cat lover, artist, and volunteer at the Animal Friends of Connecticut (AFOC).

When I decided to get another cat 12 years ago, I contacted AFOC and asked if they had a long-haired male kitten, which was my preference. The only kitten available at the time was a white Angora male. I went to see him and immediately fell in love. I named him Frosty.

As the years went by, I did more and more creative photo art, and realized I had the perfect model in Frosty. I started to use him in some of my artistic creations.

This photo shows Frosty at eight-weeks-old, when I adopted him from Barbara at the shelter. You can see how irresistible he was.



The next three photos were all done using Photo-shop: in them, you see how his beauty enhances the artwork.



Frosty now walks with a slight limp due to a compromised hip. His vet feels that he would be in better shape and

will stop limping if he loses some of his 22 pounds. So, after a long chat, Frosty has agreed to work on a diet!



My lovely AFOC cat has a wonderful, sweet personality and a part-time job as a model for my cat-themed art. He has been very successful at it: the pictures have won blue ribbons, and he is getting to be quite full of him- self.

His favorite pastimes are eating and bird-watching. In other words, Frosty is now living the good life.

Some of the most famous dogs in the world are **Queen Elizabeth's** corgis.

She has owned more than 30 of the dogs since becoming queen, the most well-known being the five she owned as of 2007.

The dogs have been immortalized through various items, from statues to a crown coin.

# Upcoming Events

## AFOC's Annual Bake Sale and Shelter Clean-up

### Annual Bake Sale – Saturday October 20, 2018

**When:**

Saturday, October 20<sup>th</sup>  
9:30 to 1:30

**Where:**

Simsbury Stop & Shop on  
Bushy Hill Road.

**About:**

The bake sale gives us the opportunity to raise funds and to publicize the work of Animal Friends. It can lead to the adoption of animals and generates interest in the organization. With your help, we can have another successful sale.

**Contact:**

Ruth Woodford  
860-676-0544  
[ruthw144@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ruthw144@sbcglobal.net).

**Not sure what to make?**

Cookies and brownies wrapped in small quantities are popular. Quick breads and small coffee cakes also sell well. Candy or fudge which doesn't require refrigeration is another item we can easily include in the sales table. Donated baked goods should be wrapped in a manner that makes them easy to transport and

display. Please label the items you donate. You may know you've made ginger cookies but unless you label them, we may not know it.

**Food Allergens:**

Due to allergy concerns, please indicate if the item contains nuts or nut butter.

Items suitable for diabetics or a gluten free diet would be a great addition, but please be sure to label.

**Drop Off:**

Sale items can be dropped off at Stop & Shop up **until 10AM** on the **morning of the sale**. We are usually situated at the north entrance. If you are unable to deliver your donation on the morning of the sale, pick up can be arranged a day or two ahead.

**Don't Bake?**

If you don't bake but would like to help for a couple hours at the sales table, contact Ruth. Set up is at 9 o'clock and we usually wrap things up by 1 or 2.

**Don't Live in the Area?**

Also, if you live outside the Simsbury area and would be willing to coordinate and host a sale elsewhere, please contact Ruth to coordinate.

**We look forward to hearing from you at [ruthw144@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ruthw144@sbcglobal.net) or 860-676-0544.**

### Shelter Clean-up

**Planning to Clean Up Your House for the Holiday?**

So are we. Our cats may not have a turkey to smell or a tree or festival of lights to enjoy so a clean house for the holidays just might make them smile. Come help us spruce up the shelter as our small group of volunteers could really use your help. Pizza lunch and beverages will be served.

Bring your family; friends and cleaning supplies (ex. buckets, sponges, mops and small vacuums). We'll supply the water, cleaners and cat fur of any color, length and texture.

Pick out one (or more) of the following times and send an email with your selection and contact information to [afoc@afocinc.org](mailto:afoc@afocinc.org), subject line Shelter Clean Up. Pizza and beverages from noon to 1p.m. each day.

**When:**

- **Saturday September 29**, rain or shine
- 10-noon and/or 1-3
- **Saturday October 13**, rain or shine
- 10-noon and/or 1-3

**Interested?**

Call Jean at **860 489-4901**.

# Remember Donations Save Lives

Animal Friends counts on donations to survive. Please remember us so we can continue to provide for the many animals in our care. Please donate!

## Animal Friends of Connecticut, Inc.

P.O. Box 370306  
West Hartford,  
Connecticut  
06137-0306

Phone  
**(860) 827-0381**

E-Mail:  
[afoc@afocinc.org](mailto:afoc@afocinc.org)

Newsletter  
E-mail  
[newsletter@afocinc.org](mailto:newsletter@afocinc.org)

We're on the Web!  
See us at:  
<http://afocinc.org>



## Ways to Give

### Direct Contribution:

Complete a donation form and mail your tax-deductible check today. Make your checks payable to:

Animal Friends of Connecticut  
POB 370306  
West Hartford, CT.  
06137-0306

### PayPal:

You can now use your credit card and make a donation on-line through PayPal.

### United Way:

Please specify that your donation is intended for AFOC.

Please use the following letters and numbers on the form: AG 0640.

### I-GIVE Matching Contributions:

Register with I-Give on line. Shop on line with major retailers and help AFOC at the same time! All transactions will contain a percentage donated to AFOC.

### Sponsorship Program:

We have many cats that are hard to place or not adoptable. We are looking for sponsors willing to sponsor a rescue cat by helping to cover the cost of food, litter, and basic medicine. Our goal is to sponsor every cat.

### Vehicle Donation:

You can donate a car, truck, RV or boat to help us save animals and get a tax deduction at **the** same time!

Visit our website for further details: [www.afocinc.org](http://www.afocinc.org)

Please reach into your heart and give what you can afford to help these animals get a second chance in life.

Your gift is tax-deductible.

*We would be happy to talk with you about endowments, grants, gifts-in-kind, corporate sponsorship or other long-term support. Please call us at (860) 693-0303*

Animal Friends of Connecticut, Inc.  
P.O. Box 370306  
West Hartford, Connecticut 06137-0306

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Street/P.O.Box \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

- \$5.00 Giving  
 \$10.00 Helping  
 \$25.00 Contributing  
 \$50.00 Supporting  
 \$100.00 Sustaining  
 \$250.00 Sponsor  
 \$500.00 Patron  
 \$ Other

- Please send information on automatic transfer donation  
 Name/address changes: (please print clearly)

- I'd like to help. Volunteers please call 860-827-0371  
 I am interested in becoming a member. Please add me to your mailing list to receive the newsletter (new members only)

**Animalfriends**  
OF CONNECTICUT