



NORTHEAST ANIMAL SHELTER'S

animaltales

You'll Dig Kitty's Story

The Big Dig has been going on in Boston for years and years. It is a massive construction project which has created new tunnels and re-routed highways. The scope of this project is mind-boggling. Imagine how frightening it must be for a little cat to be injured and unable to move in the middle of all of that activity. Imagine the noise and the huge trucks. And imagine it being a freezing cold winter day...

...so cold that it hurts to inhale the frigid air. That's the kind of day it was for Kitty. And she couldn't move.

When two burly construction workers came along and noticed Kitty, they wondered why she wasn't running away as the many other abandoned cats at the construction site would do. As they got closer they were horrified to see that her right rear foot was frozen to the ice on the ground. One man ran into the nearest construction trailer and warmed some water on the stove. As he came back outside and approached Kitty, she sat quietly as if she knew that these two men were her heroes.



The men talked softly and patted Kitty as they slowly poured warm water around her foot. One held her torso in his massive hands while the other gently pulled Kitty's foot from the ice. Once free, they raced her into the construction trailer where they wrapped her raw, oozing foot in gauze and tucked her into a warm towel. One man bought some cat food and they watched as Kitty inhaled one delicious bowl after another. When they got her all settled in the trailer they decided to keep her there overnight so she could stay warm.

When they arrived back at the trailer the next day, Kitty was all snuggled in and quite happy to be pampered. But the men knew that she needed medical treatment and a home. They had heard of the Northeast Animal Shelter and knew that we do not euthanize animals in our care.

So they packed Kitty up and made the trip to the Shelter. We were happy to help and assured Kitty's heroes that she would be fine. As a result of her frostbite, Kitty lost two toes. And her life on the streets left her severely dehydrated and very thin. But with some medical care and TLC in one of our wonderful foster homes, Kitty thrived and was soon ready for adoption.

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The Funny Bone



The Dog: Man's Best Friend

You'll Dig Kitty's Story

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At about the same time, Samantha had decided that it was time to adopt a cat. She had always wanted an orange tabby but when she arrived at the Shelter she saw grey-and-white Kitty sitting quietly and looking at her, she fell in love with her instantly.

When Kitty first arrived in her new home she was skittish and hid under the bed. Samantha decided to just take it slow and easy and let her new friend make the first move. Now Kitty can be crazy and fun. She runs around, is really, really happy, and can be very active. Although she doesn't like to be held (maybe from her trauma on the streets?), Kitty is a very affectionate cat, and loves to be petted and cuddled. Samantha has just



accepted that Kitty just doesn't like to be picked up. She said repeatedly, "Kitty is such a great cat. She's the best cat that I could ever have!"

Note: When we interviewed the men for this story, they were not willing to be quoted and/or have us use their names. They wanted total anonymity and we suspect it might be because they probably weren't supposed to use the trailer for housing stray cats. And that big, burly men aren't supposed to have huge hearts. Whatever their reason, Kitty thanks them.

Harley Finds a Home

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they have to leave. It's almost as if he is saying, "Where are all my friends going?"

He is always within 5 feet of Steve and Emily, inside and out. He sleeps with them at night and absolutely HAS to sit in the passenger seat of the car, even if someone is already there! He has adapted well to his family and they love him as much as he loves them.

Since there was no background on him at all, Steve wonders if maybe the previous owner had a motorcycle. Between the name on his tag and how Harley jumps, barks and wags his tail when their neighbor starts his motorcycle, they think it might be a familiar sound to him.

Steve and Emily readily admit that Harley has his quirks, like anyone does. But Steve says he sees Harley's quirks as part of his character and if you look past the flaws you love Harley anyway. They call him a "fantastic dog" and say that they are really in love with him. When they are not with Harley and are talking to others about him, Steve says Emily sometimes cries because she fills up so much with emotion over how much she loves Harley. Wouldn't we all love to have someone love us that much?!

NEAS "IN HONOR OF/MEMORIAL" GIFT FORM

OUR TRIBUTE PROGRAM

Your gift can be even more meaningful as it helps us continue our work in caring for unwanted cats and dogs and finding them loving homes.

Please complete this form and return to us at:
Northeast Animal Shelter
204 Highland Avenue
P.O. Box 4506
Salem MA 01970-0901

We will send a card informing the recipient of your gift.

Your Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____ e-mail address _____
() In memory of: _____, OR
() In Honor of _____
Occasion (information not required) _____
PLEASE NOTIFY:
Recipient's Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

R52MH

Protecting You and Your Pet



Living with animals can be a joy. But sometimes animals and humans can share diseases back and forth. The medical term for this is "zoonosis." While this information isn't meant to scare you, it is worth having some knowledge about how you can protect yourself and your pets.

A few of the ways disease or illness can be carried are through bacteria, fungi, viruses and worms. You can get worms from your dog or cat. To prevent this, it is important to wash your hands after handling feces from any infected animal.

Rabies is a virus that is carried by the saliva of an infected animal. Massachusetts state law requires that all dogs and cats over 6 months of age be inoculated for rabies and boosted every year (or every three years if boosters are kept up-to-date). It is important to mention that your own pet, if properly inoculated and boosted, will be immune to rabies if bitten by a rabid animal.

A bacterial disease called "cat scratch fever" is caused by a bite or scratch from an infected cat. Usually human

symptoms are mild, but if not treated it may result in glandular swelling which can spread to different parts of the body. While this is not common, it is worth making people aware of the possible complications.

Many of you have probably heard about the "pregnant woman" disease. This is something that comes from women of childbearing age handling cats' feces. This is caused by a small parasite called toxoplasma and can have very serious consequences for the fetus.

Ringworm, a fungal infestation, can be present in cats and dogs. Humans who handle infected animals might find a few red dots on their skin, which can be easily treated with anti-fungal medication. Treating the animals is more labor-intensive but it is a curable condition.

It is important to note that people who are most susceptible to zoonoses are:

- ◆ Pregnant women (immune system more compromised)
- ◆ Small children and infants (who tend to put their hands in their mouths)
- ◆ Elderly (can also have compromised immune systems)
- ◆ Immunocompromised patients (having chemotherapy, infected with AIDS/HIV)
- ◆ Animal care workers (veterinarians, zoo/animal shelter personnel)

If you want to know more about this topic, your state, county, or city health departments, as well as your veterinarian and physician, are good resources for information. And you might check the internet, too. Just be sure to take precautions so that you can enjoy your pet and keep everyone safe.

Things We Need

- ◆ Canned dog/cat food
- ◆ Dry food for adult cats or dogs – Nutro® brand (from pet supply stores)
- ◆ Safe, chewable dog and puppy toys (hard rubber or Nylabones™, fleece, vinyl, or latex)
- ◆ Safe cat/kitten toys, especially those with catnip
- ◆ Liquid laundry detergent
- ◆ Liquid or powdered bleach
- ◆ Paper towels
- ◆ Jars of all-meat baby food for orphaned puppies and kittens
- ◆ Trash bags (13 and 55 gallon sizes)
- ◆ Polaroid film (for OneStep camera)
- ◆ First class postage stamps – 37- & 23-cent



From "I'm a Stray" to "Sure, I'll Stay!!"



though he was wearing a collar with a name tag saying "Harley," no one ever came to take him back home.

The Northeast Animal Shelter has a good working relationship with our local animal control officer. We often take dogs into our Shelter once their holding period is over. When Harley was ready to come to us, he was a little nervous but we thought bringing him to the Shelter and getting him some exposure to other animals and the public would help him find a new home.

Steve and Emily came to the Shelter, and they were hoping to adopt a dog. Emily was a missionary in Peru and worked with homeless street children. When they first saw Harley in his cage, he appeared to be nervous and not very friendly while all the other dogs were

jumping and barking and looking for human attention. While Emily was looking at a puppy, Steve was focused on Harley and said, "Hey, look at this guy!". He was homeless and on the streets. Isn't that perfect for us?" They took him outside into the Shelter's fenced play yard where Harley was very engaging and more than willing to retrieve a ball. He was just what they needed. And suddenly Harley wasn't homeless anymore.

In his new home with his new family, Harley loves to be around people. Whenever Steve and Emily have company at their house, Harley thinks everyone is there to see him. He wags and schmoozes and becomes so sad when

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Poor Harley lived on the streets of Salem for one month. He was very nervous and kept eluding the animal control officer's attempts to catch him. Finally, tired and hungry, Harley gave in and he was held at Salem's animal control facility for the legal 10-day holding period, which gives owners a chance to claim their animal. But even

MAIL BOX

Dear NEAS:

We adopted Frankie and Giggly... We are so glad to have them as part of our household and our family.

We wanted to say thanks and hope two more kitties can find new homes in which to grow up happy and healthy, as well.

Arlington, MA

NEAS staff:

Gabby has made herself right at home. She is a love to all who meet her...

Thank you for all the work you do.

Saugus, MA

I would like to thank you from the bottom of my heart for finding me a good home and providing excellent health care to go with it. Enclosed is a picture of me at 13 weeks.

"Timmy"
Burlington, MA

