

US POSTAGE ORGANIZATION NONPROFIT **PAID** GUILFORD, CT PERMIT NO. 259

Address Service Requested

We are looking for volunteers to offer ideas, plan, organize and lead new fundraising events. If you have the time, experience and organizational skills, please call the volunteer line at 860-669-1347.



## Attention All Essex Savings Bank Customers: Forgotten Felines Needs Your Vote!

Each year Essex Savings Bank donates 10% of its after tax net income to nonprofit organizations and community development projects in its seven town market area.

ESSEX SAVINGS BANK

Forgotten Felines will be listed on the 2024 ballot competing for a share of the money available through customer voting. Voting will run from February 1 through February 29, 2024 so please stop by an Essex Savings Bank location and cast your vote for Forgotten Felines. Winners will be announced during the month of April, 2024.

## Find Your Match At Forgotten Felines

Forgotten Felines holds open adoption events every Saturday from 11:00 am– 3:00 pm at 153 Horse Hill Road, Westbrook.

Adoption applications will be accepted at that time. For more information, please call the adoption line at 860-669-1347, visit our website at www.forgottenfelinesct.org or email adoptions@forgottenfelinesct.org.





www.forgottenfelinesct.org Follow Forgotten Felines on Facebook and Instagram 860-669-1347

Winter 2023

Team Tucker

By Wendy Shaffer, Forgotten Felines Volunteer

In September, Forgotten Felines was asked to take in a friendly pregnant cat so she wouldn't have to give birth in a cage in a crowded, noisy shelter. I offered to foster the sweet momma, who I named Rooney, and she was with me for three weeks before giving birth to three adorable kittens. Tucker, the tuxedo, was the first born and the largest, Emmett, the gray tiger, came next, and Millie, the tabby, was the third and the tiniest, weighing only 62 grams. I was so worried about Millie. Little did I know it was Tucker who would need the most help.

When the kittens were about three weeks old, I noticed Tucker's hind legs were splayed out, and he was dragging his lower body. At first, I thought it was because he is such a chonky boy, and his legs couldn't support his weight. But when he was still moving that way a few days later, while Emmett and Millie had their hind legs underneath them and their lower bodies up off the floor, I looked it up online. Turns out Tucker has Swimmer Syndrome.



Swimmer Syndrome is an uncommon condition that causes the limbs to splay out to the sides because the ligaments and tendons are not tightening properly. If the kitten doesn't receive treatment, Swimmer Syndrome can cause an inability to walk and stand correctly, and the increased time spent lying on his chest can cause flattening of the chest bones and underdevelopment of the lungs. Luckily, only Tucker's hind legs are affected, his ribs are not flattened, and we caught it early enough for treatment to be effective. Team Tucker was formed. We're going to fix him up together.

After confirming the diagnosis with our veterinarian the next day, Tucker and I learned that we need to tape his hind legs into a more anatomically correct position so his limbs can form properly during this fast growth period. Tucker and I watched many YouTube videos and asked advice of foster friends to find the best method of taping. We perform physical therapy a few times each day that includes stretching, range of motion exercises, and massaging. I put grippy mats in the kittens' playpen for easier walking and added a scratcher ramp that Tucker likes to walk up and down.

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Photos by Wendy Shaffer



## **HOLIDAY WREATH SALE**

Forgotten Felines will be holding a Holiday Wreath Sale fundraiser at 153 Horse Hill Road, Westbrook on Saturday, November 25; Saturday, December 2 and Saturday, December 9 from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm. There will be a selection of wreaths, swags, greens and more. Please stop by and check it out. For more information, call 860-669-1347. We appreciate your continued support that allows us to help so many cats in need.



#### Team Tucker continued from page 1

Momma Rooney is on Team Tucker, keeping him nice and clean without trying to chew off the tape. His siblings are on the team, wrestling and playing with him to strengthen his legs and keep them moving. My partner and many Facebook friends are on the team, sending notes of encouragement and prayers. Tucker himself has been so strong and brave, letting me fumble with the tape (there's definitely a learning curve) and bicycle his little legs. When I remove the tape to let Tucker stretch, I can see he has already made progress. Keep up the great work, Tucker!







#### MEET MINI MISS MIKA!

Mika is sweet, energetic and loving. This little stripy tabby girl with the white bib and cute stripe on her nose is affectionate, playful and sassy. Mika would be a confident kitty in a home of her own where she could get lots of love, attention, cuddles and more love! To adopt Mika or any other cat or kitten, please call the Forgotten Felines adoption line at 860-669-1347 or apply online at www. forgottenfelinesct.org.

### **HUG HANDSOME HOWIE!**

Howie is a gray, black and white tiger boy who is handsome, playful and very personable. He has a stately air about him, like a cat who has experienced many things in his life. In fact, Howie was recently adopted and returned, due to no fault of his own. He is sad about that, but is ready to find his furever family, and will offer his love and admiration! To adopt Howie or any other cat or kitten, please call the Forgotten Felines adoption line at 860-669-1347 or apply online at www.forgottenfelinesct.org.



Special thanks

Special thanks once again to Larabee Lawn Service for donating lawn care services and seasonal cleanups, keeping the shelter property neat and maintained; a special note of thanks to the Sherwin-Williams Paint Store in Old Saybrook for donating





much-needed paint for our improvement projects this year; and a huge thank you to Casa Castillo Home Improvement for the generous donation of gutter

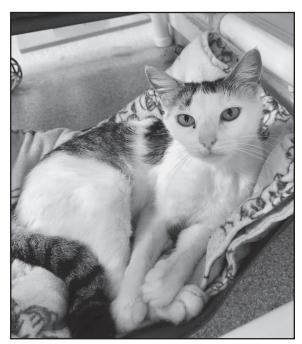
and a huge thank you to Casa Castillo Home improvement for the generous donation of gutte guard materials, service and labor.

We are so grateful to partner with local businesses and thank them for their donated services and supplies.

#### GABBY, GABBY, HEY!

Gabby is a unique and pretty girl who is white with patches of tiger stripes and lovely golden eyes. She is gentle with humans, loves her treats and enjoys playing. Sweet, petite Gabby looks forward to a home with patches of sunshine and soft beds to sleep on. She will even live up to her name and have some loving things to say to her new family! To adopt Gabby or any other cat or kitten, please call the Forgotten Felines adoption line at 860-669-1347 or apply online at www.forgottenfelinesct.org.









Forever in Our Hearts By Virginia Van Norden Forgotten Felines Director To the dear friends we have lost this year, please know that you will never be forgotten. Whether you were with us for nearly two decades or a few short moments, your lives touched us more than you can imagine, and we find comfort in knowing that we will meet again at the Rainbow Bridge. Bella, Bentley, Cleo, Felicity, Frankie, Jade, Johanna, Julius, Marley, Oliver, Ruby, Shiloh, Silke and Violet, we love you, we miss you, and you will forever have a special place in our hearts.



# **Our Mission**

FORGOTTEN FELINES, Inc. is a charitable, non-profit organization run entirely by volunteers and supported solely by contributions. Our mission is to stop the proliferation of homeless cats in our community. At our humane, no-kill shelter, we provide rescued cats with nutritious food, warm beds, and expert care, with the goal of finding them permanent, loving homes.

All the cats we rescue are spayed or neutered, given thorough examinations, vaccinated, and tested for fatal feline diseases.

Thanks to all our generous supporters and volunteers, including newsletter editor Carol Andrecs; graphic designer Lucia Borzillo; the contributing writers; and photographer, Tracye Mueller.

Thanks also to Dr. Robert Fair, Dr. John Mead and staff at Killingworth Animal Hospital for taking such good care of our residents and new rescues, and to Shore Publishing for featuring our cat adoption stories, articles and notices.

Special thanks to all our wonderful volunteers!

### Donate Your Used Car!

If you have a vehicle you no longer need, please donate it to our shelter. 100% of the proceeds go directly toward the care of our cats and kittens, and you can save on your taxes too!

Just call the fundraising line at 860-669-1347, and we'll take your old car away.



#### WISH LIST 糞 Frontline Friskies classic paté canned food Advantage Multi Hills Science Diet Adult Scoopable or clumping litter Optimal Care dry food Postage stamps Beech Nut Stage 1 baby food jars: beef, turkey or Bleach chicken 🌋 🛛 White vinegar Friskies Party Mix treats View our Wish List on amazon.com and chewy.com to see more

View our Wish List on amazon.com and chewy.com to see more items. Search for "Forgotten Felines of Connecticut."

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