

# Tails of the heart

Summer 2016

The Newsletter of Animal Rescue Rhode Island

## Hal is Home

Last April, a woman named Jena contacted the staff at ARRI expressing interest in adopting Hal. Hal wasn't just any old cat; he had been at our shelter for almost a year and turned away by numerous adopters because he was FIV+.

FIV stands for feline immunodeficiency virus. This virus weakens a cat's immune system and makes it hard for the cat to fight off infection. Cats can live for years with it, but they need to be kept indoors, fed a healthy diet, and given prompt veterinary care for any health issues that arise. The virus is passed to other cats through bite wounds and is not contagious to humans or dogs.

At the time, Jena had just lost her beloved, older kitty. She knew that with just a dog at home she had the ability to take care of a special needs cat. When she contacted us, she was not only interested in Hal, but she was ready to take on any medical responsibilities that came along with

adopting him. Jena was pleasantly surprised when we told her that Hal was not on any medication, was in excellent health, and could live a long, healthy life with lots of love and care.



The only obstacle we had was her dog, Dexter, a Chihuahua mix. Not knowing if Hal could adjust to life with a dog, Jena had a plan to keep them separate if they were not instantaneous friends. After speaking to her veterinarian, she has since introduced another cat named Lammer to the family. Now all three animals hang out together when Jena is home, and Hal, who is now known as

Prince Hal, enjoys giving his feline sister kisses when she lets him, and has been nothing but a gentleman to her. Prince Hal loves his cat tree, which overlooks the deck, as well as birds, squirrels, mice, and some outdoor cats in the neighbor's yard. According to Jena "He is perfect."



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## Paws to Read Creates a Forever Family

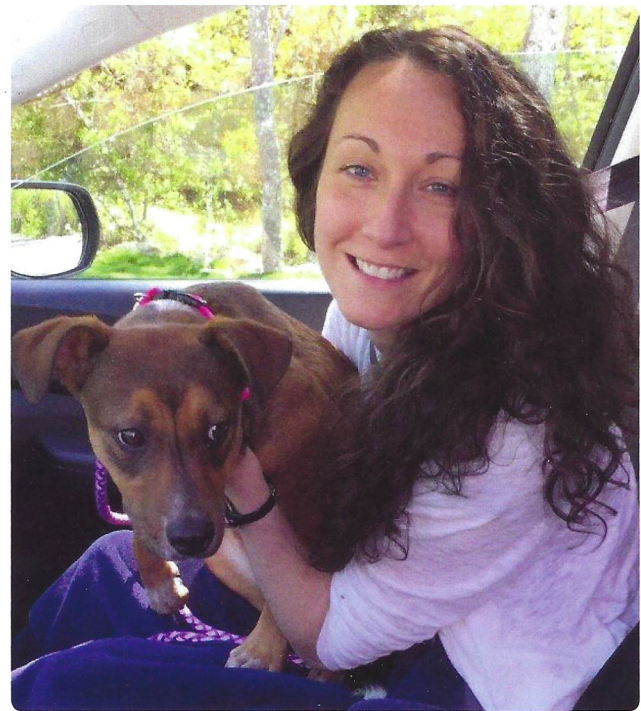


*Ben and Layla*

When Heidi Fisher heard about ARRI's Paws to Read program, she knew it would be a good fit for her son, Ben, who was conquering his fear of dogs. Paws to Read started this past February and is a wonderful program where children learn to read in the company of a furry friend. Carefully selected, gentle animals are chosen to sit with children as they read to them. Research has shown that these activities help young students learn to read more confidently, more creatively, and with greater retention.

After coming to the shelter a few Sundays to read to our dogs, Ben took a particular liking to a shy puppy named Layla. Ben really liked her. Heidi's husband, Chris, and daughter, Allison, fell in love at first sight. In fact, both Layla and Allison cried when they had to part the first day. How could this family do anything but adopt this sweet girl?

Since the adoption, Layla has brought so much love and laughter into their home and has helped the family slow down and relax a bit more. According to Heidi, Ben has become so much more confident with dogs thanks to the Paws to Read program. Layla is teaching him responsibility and Ben has gained a lot of self-confidence since the adoption.



*Heidi and Layla*



*A happy family:  
Ben, Allison, and Layla.*

# Whiskers and Wine Fundraiser Success

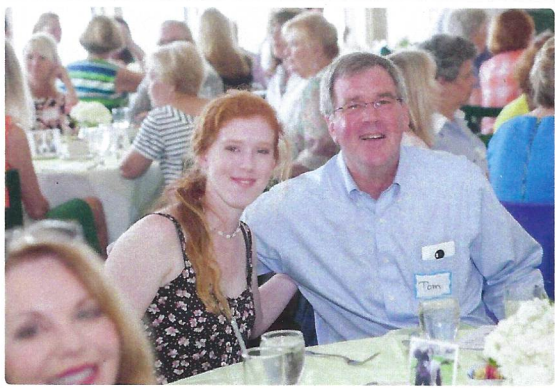


ARRI Trustee Kurt Jamiel, Nina Polando-Vozikis, and Mary Healey Jamiel

Kayla, the guest of honor at Whiskers and Wine, and recently adopted by long-time ARRI volunteers.



Erica Thalmann and her dad, Tom Thalmann, enjoying an afternoon outing.



Laura Harris, Karin Aukerman, and ARRI president Doug Rubinstein.



Author Cat Warren signing a book for Ann Seemann.

*On June 1, a sunny Wednesday afternoon, more than 100 attendees gathered at The Dunes Club for a day to remember as ARRI hosted its first Whiskers and Wine Luncheon Fundraiser. At this beautiful, historic, seaside venue, individuals and businesses came together to raise funds for animals in need. Guests enjoyed marketplace shopping, a seated lunch, raffles, and an engaging presentation by guest speaker Cat Warren, author of What the Dog Knows: Scent, Science and the Amazing Ways Dogs Perceive the World.*

On behalf of the staff, Board of Trustees, and animals at ARRI, we extend heartfelt thanks to the community partners who helped make this fundraiser a success. We know you have many organizations seeking your help and we truly appreciate your willingness to give so kindly in every way. Honestly, without you, we couldn't accomplish all we do. Your contributions are invaluable!

Thanks to our wonderful South County community, ARRI raised over \$10,000. These funds will go directly to saving and placing hundreds of animals in loving, permanent homes.

To our event sponsors - Belmont Market, Toray Plastics, Homestar Mortgage, Brenda and Chip Bolster, Blum Shapiro, Purina, KCI Paving, The 1900 House Bed & Breakfast, SRI Newspapers, The Independent, and Caliri, Mancini and Barbieri, PC, we thank you.

Sincere thanks also to our Marketplace Shopping vendors - Sequin of Newport, Bellevue Kids, Sara Campbell Ltd, Young Living Essential Oils, Benny and Jack, Canvasworks+, Pam's Pashminas, Touchstone Crystal by Swarovski, Animal Reflections Photography, and Bona-fido.

To our dedicated volunteers - Debbie Elliott, Terrie O'Toole, Grace Bradley, Claire Hoey, Carolyn Griswold, Jean Bate, Thom Bate, and Vic Ventura, we are forever grateful for your enthusiasm, passion, and unending willingness to help.

A sincere thanks to Jozy Mainelli and The Dunes Club for providing such a stunning venue for this event, to Cat Warren for entertaining the crowd and donating proceeds from that day's book sales to ARRI, and to the more than 100 attendees who helped make the event a success.

# ARRI Offers New Class for Adopters

Through its K-9 Academy, ARRI is pleased to announce a class for new adopters, "How to Bring a Rescue Dog Home." Our behaviorist, Bob Midwood, will offer the class, for humans only, one or two Sundays a month, depending on demand. **The two-hour class is free**, but if participants want their own copy of the text book, there will be a nominal charge.

The class will be held in the Community Room at the shelter and is tentatively planned for the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month. Please check ARRI's website or call the shelter to confirm. Interested adopters may contact Jennifer Gebar, our shelter manager, 401-783-7606, ext. 104, for more information.

*Wanda Loedts and Bob Midwood of Golden Dog Training share tips on transitioning a rescue dog into a furever home.*



Jordan and Harley



Elizabeth, Logan and Luna



Mandy, Lydia, Lennie and Pickles



Judy, Tex and Star



Maryalice and Luke



*Your support saves homeless pets and brings families together EVERY DAY, enriching lives and making a difference.*

Some of our recently adopted friends from Animal Rescue Rhode Island!



Mark



Oscar



Missy



Freya



Domino

Photography courtesy of Clara Smart

## Upcoming Events



NOW - OCT 1

### ARRI's Annual Cash Raffle

Win up to \$500 cash!!!  
2nd prize: \$200 cash!!  
3rd prize: \$100 cash!

Proceeds benefit Animal Rescue Rhode Island - one of New England's few no-kill animal shelters.

Drawing to be held October 1, 2016!  
Call 401-783-7606, or visit shelter, 506B Curtis Corner Road, to purchase your tickets! \$1 each; 6/\$5!



OCT - NOV

### Holiday Wreath Sale

Holiday traditions begin with a fragrant, long-lasting balsam wreath from Maine! ARRI will once again be selling the beautiful, 24", double-sided, decorated balsam fir wreaths, handcrafted from Down on the Farm Maine Wreaths.

Details coming soon at [www.AnimalRescueRI.org](http://www.AnimalRescueRI.org)



NEW DATE OCT 15

### Bark on the Beach Charity Dog Walk

Noon to 2pm.

Watch for details on ways to register as a walker, a fundraiser, become a sponsor, and more!

Questions? [mhoey@animalrescueri.org](mailto:mhoey@animalrescueri.org), 401-783-7606, Ext. 103.



APR 7, 2017

### Diamond in the Ruff

The Towers in Narragansett

ARRI's Fifth Annual Diamond in the Ruff Cocktail Party/Auction will once again honor Rhode Island's Animal Welfare Heroes, while raising funds for animals in need and celebrating the unconditional love of the animals in our lives. This grand culinary event features entertainment, a silent and a live auction, raffles, and food and beverage tastings from some of South County's finest restaurants, caterers, and specialty drink providers.

Details coming soon at [www.AnimalRescueRI.org](http://www.AnimalRescueRI.org)

# Happy Endings



"Harley, now Bender, is doing great. I'm not sure I could've found a more perfect dog. He loves my niece and nephew. Still working on the cats; no problems on his end, but they're not too happy about him yet. I haven't had any issues with dogs yet either. I've taken him to work a couple of times and he's done great. He loves all the attention. I'm very surprised at how well he is adjusting. I can't thank you guys enough for helping me meet him. I hope he agrees!"

"After just a couple weeks post-graduation, Charlie, now Ccino, is adjusting great to his new home here in PA. He was perfect on the car ride and had no issues whatsoever. Not even one meow out of him the whole time traveling. He seemed to be very relaxed and slept most of the ride. Once we got back to my home in PA, he took only a few short days to get used to the new environment and sniff everyone out. It took some time for our other female cat to get used to him being in the house, but they are sharing food and comfortable in the same room now. My mom also recently adopted a 5-year-old male Pit Bull from the SPCA (who had been in that shelter for two years). He loved our other cat already and is now great with Ccino. They both sit for treats together and play in the yard.

I am so relieved that he is doing so well and remaining a happy cat moving to his new home. He seems to be enjoying himself greatly. Thank you again!" -Maddison



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Instagram: [animalrescueri](https://www.instagram.com/animalrescueri)

LinkedIn: Search 'Animal Rescue Rhode Island'

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/AnimalRescueRI](https://www.facebook.com/AnimalRescueRI)

*- Bringing families and best friends together since 1938 -*

## ARRI Board of Trustees

President: Doug Rubinstein

Vice President: Michele Vidmar

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Community Programs Manager: Maria Hoey

Shelter Manager: Jennifer Gebar

Assistant Shelter Manager: Nicole Mathers

Shelter Staff: Tina Stanciu, Lexi Bouchard, Rachel Wells and Kelsey Maynard