



THE SCOOP

POPE MEMORIAL FRONTIER ANIMAL SHELTER NEWSLETTER

Adopt A Friend Today!



Addie came to us as a local stray and is a sweet and loving kitty. She is good with other kitties and could make a great addition to most households. Addie loves to play!

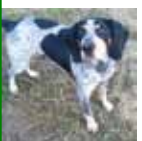
Dapper is about 2 years old and is a sweet and gentle soul looking for his new forever home. He has lived with other cats and enjoys their company.



As you can see from the photo, **Bela Fleck** has a great sense of humor and a huge smile. He loves to play and cuddle and just wants to be with people. He has a great personality.



Ellie Mae is about 4 years old with velvety ears that she loves to have rubbed. She came in with her brother, Quincy and they are a bonded pair, but it is not required that they go together. Ellie Mae does have resource guarding, so no young children. She is also too interested in cats, so no kitties please. Ellie Mae's favorite pass times include playing with her brother, going for walks to use her hound nose and being with people. Come in to the shelter and meet this soul full girl, Ellie Mae enjoys being in a crate and seems to be mostly house-trained.



Quincy enjoys playing ball, quite unusual for a hound and playing with his sister Ellie Mae. They are a bonded pair, but it is not required that they go together. Quincy is too interested in cats, so no kitties please. He likes being in a crate and he seems to be mostly house-trained. Quincy loves going for walks, being with people and getting body rubs. Come in to the shelter and meet this unique boy.



Baxter is one cool beagle. He is great with cats, walks great on the leash and is good with other dogs. He is quiet and gentle, and looking for his new forever home. He is about 6 years old. Come in and meet Baxter, he will show you just how cool of a beagle boy he is. Addie came to us as a local stray and is a sweet and loving kitty. She is good with other kitties and could make a great addition to most households. Addie loves to play!

Pope Memorial Frontier Animal Shelter 2013 - Celebrating a Special Year of Growth and Change!

The only thing constant in life is change. These words, written by a French author centuries ago, remain true today. Pope Memorial Frontier Animal Shelter is clear evidence of that!

This year, PMFAS is proudly celebrating 20 years of service to local communities, providing care and shelter to the homeless dogs and cats of Orleans and northern Essex Counties. We are also celebrating 10 years at our wonderful shelter in Orleans. Clearly, the organization has experienced change over the years!

Originally founded as The Frontier Animal Society of Vermont, Inc., the organization was started by a handful of Northeast Kingdom residents in March of 1993, most of whom had been associated with the Elizabeth Brown Humane Society. Finding that there was an even greater need to find homes for an ever growing population of homeless dogs and cats in the area, these local people formed a non-profit organization in order to benefit both the animals and the local communities.

A first priority – and a challenge - was to develop a solution to the problematic cat overpopulation and to do so humanely and ethically. From this need, a cat spay/neuter clinic was initiated. The clinic has grown and its services continue to be available to the public once or twice monthly at the shelter facility. It is estimated that over the past 20 years, approximately 14,000 cats have been spayed or neutered at these clinics, while also receiving necessary vaccines to prevent the spread of disease.

“During the shelter’s early years, all of our adoptable animals were housed and cared for through the kindness and generosity of local caring residents who volunteered to foster these animals in their own homes,” explains Betsy Hampton, one of the organization’s founders. “We have been fortunate in that the local veterinarians have also always been very generous and supportive of our efforts and we, in turn, have always strived to be financially responsible for their services.”

In 2001, a generous supporter was instrumental in financing a temporary shelter at the home of a volunteer who fostered dogs. During this time, the organization owned property in Newport which unfortunately did not meet the required Act 250 standards. Consequently, temporary kennels, and later a cattery, were located in Hardwick. While having a more permanent structure was advantageous, the location was disadvantageous as it was somewhat remote and not easily accessible for Orleans and Essex County residents.

After selling the Newport property, the organization’s Board of Directors decided to buy a piece of property in the Orleans Industrial Park. This property already met most of Act 250 requirements, and after getting all permits in place, Board members and supporters forged ahead to plan a building. “We were very fortunate to have a local architect named Arthur Postman work with us on the floor plans and kennel set up” recalls Betsy Hampton. “Many area businesses gave our organization free or reduced-cost services to help get our great shelter built. Our grand opening was in May of 2003.” Two years ago, Mr. Lyman Pope, a longtime supporter of several New England shelters, presented the Board with a

financial endowment to be used specifically for future capital expenses. In return, to commemorate this notable generosity, the shelter's name was changed to Pope Memorial Frontier Animal Shelter, Inc.

Indeed, while PMFAS has experienced some notable changes over the years, we continue to provide the same caring services to homeless cats and dogs in the Northeast Kingdom with the same mission of the past 20 years: To improve the welfare of the animals of Orleans and Essex Counties by sheltering and caring for lost and unwanted animals, spaying and neutering, placing animals in humane environments, and implementing programs to provide services for the promotion of responsible pet ownership.

In noting how special 2013 is with the 10 and 20 year anniversary, Board President Sherry Girard notes that the organization has been extremely fortunate in receiving so much support over the years from community members, businesses and energetic volunteers. "While we have recently received some endowment funds, we cannot emphasize enough that they are strictly to be utilized for very specific purposes such as spay/neuter services and any unforeseen major renovations that might be needed. We absolutely cannot use these funds for the day to day operations and services of the shelter. For these daily operations, just as we have for the past 20 years, we continue to rely on our fund raising efforts and on the generosity of the local communities we serve."

With change comes growth! Betsy Hampton further explains that "At any given time, there are over 65 animals in our care. Each year, for the past several years, the shelter has found forever homes for over 450 dogs and cats. That's more than one animal each day that finds a home after receiving food, care and health services at the shelter for an unlimited amount of time. Some are in our care for well over a year, even up to three years! It is our earnest hope that with the continued help from volunteers, ongoing commitment from local communities, and generous support from community members, the Pope Memorial Frontier Animal Shelter will be able to continue its mission for many years to come!"

The shelter, located at 4473 Barton Orleans Road (US Route 5) in Orleans, is celebrating its Anniversary by holding an open house and silent auction on Saturday, June 29 from 1 to 3 PM. The public is cordially invited to attend. Come and meet some of the wonderful animals that have their temporary home with us!

At a Shelter, the Animals Change and Sometimes People Do Too!

In this issue of Scoop we've been talking about change and growth at Pope Memorial Frontier Animal Shelter, both of which are always a part of any vibrant, busy organization. With this in mind, we want to introduce you to our new shelter manager and staff.

We welcomed Amelia (Amy) Mariotti to her new role of Shelter Manager in November 2012. Amy had been the Assistant Manager at PMFAS for three years prior to this. While Amy is originally from southern New England, she has been residing in VT for about 10 years. With a long time interest in working with animals, she gained experience in animal care and behavior by working for several years as a veterinarian assistant and a kennel/ grooming assistant. In addition to college courses completed in Connecticut, Amy successfully completed course requirements of Animal Behavior College, Inc., and holds a certification in dog training. Amy feels that her work at PMFAS is right for her as she enjoys working with both animals and people. It's interesting and fascinating to help match up the right animal with the right human. She sums it up this way, "Working at the shelter brings both animal and people relations together!" Welcome, Amy, to your new role at PMFAS!



(L to R) Amy Mariotti, Amber Koenig and Nicole Ludwig work as a team to care for as many as 75 animals daily at PMFAS. All their furry friends surely appreciate their efforts!

We also want to introduce you to our shelter staff – Nicole Ludwig and Amber Koenig. Nicole is a Northeast Kingdom native who graduated from the University of VT with a Bachelor of Science degree in animal science. She has a range of experiences in animal care from her work at a zoo, dog daycare center, and an aquarium. Nicole is certified in first aid and CPR for dogs and cats and started her work at PMFAS as a volunteer. In the fall of 2012 we welcomed her to the staff!

Amber Koenig is also an Orleans County native and studied art at Castleton State College. After working as a correctional officer for ten years, Amber decided she was ready for a change and found that working with animals was sparking her interest. Initially also starting as a volunteer, Amber joined the staff this past winter. A big welcome to Amber and a big thank you to all the staff and volunteers at PMFAS! We certainly appreciate all you do!

Volunteer Spotlight



In recognition of the efforts and generosity of all our volunteers, we like to put the spotlight on someone in each issue of The Scoop. We fully realize how valuable our volunteers are in helping us fulfill our mission and we know that without them, we could not care for all our furry friends at the shelter. This summer we're spotlighting Ashley Lackie! Ashley started volunteering at the shelter in October 2012 in order to obtain credits for her community service class through Lake Region Union High School. She decided that she enjoyed working with the animals so much that she continued to volunteer well after the credits were obtained. "Ashley is a dedicated volunteer that enjoys her time at the shelter" reports Sharon Ryan, a fellow volunteer and also a member of the shelter's Board of Directors. Sharon further explains that "She knows the name of every cat in the shelter! Yes - at any given time there are at least 50 to 60 cats at the shelter and Ashley can call each of them by name!" In yet another change - for both Ashley and the shelter - she graduated from high school and is headed off to college in the fall. "We will miss her smile and gentle laugh," states Amy Mariotti, Shelter Manager, "and we all wish her well in her studies." Thank you for all you do, Ashley, and good luck in your educational endeavors! Don't forget to stop in and visit all your friends at the shelter when you are home during semester breaks. We sincerely appreciate your time and dedication!



YES! I would like to support the PMFAS in caring for the unwanted, abandoned, stray, neglected, and abused animals. Here is my tax deductible gift of: (circle one)

Individual Membership: \$25. Family Membership: \$40. Benefactor: \$50. Guardian Angel: \$100. Other: \$ _____

IN MEMORIAM & IN HONOR OF
YES! I would like to give a donation to the PMFAS

In memory of my deceased cat dog other _____ Pet's name: _____

In honor of my living cat dog other _____ Pet's name: _____

Your name: _____

Mailing address: _____

Phone Number & E-mail Address _____

No letter of acknowledgement of this gift is necessary. **TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$** _____

Clip and mail to: Pope Memorial Frontier Animal Shelter, Inc., 502 Strawberry Acres Road, Newport, VT 05855.

- KEEP THIS PORTION FOR YOUR RECORDS -

POPE MEMORIAL FRONTIER ANIMAL SHELTER, INC., 502 STRAWBERRY ACRES RD., NEWPORT, VT 05855

DATE: _____ CHECK # _____ AMOUNT \$ _____



Big Changes for Fancy

Hi there! My name is Fancy and I can tell you that I've surely been through some changes! Whew! Nobody knows the trouble I've seen – but I can tell you things are a lot better now! I can't even tell you how much time I spent trying to survive by finding food in various trash bins. I guess, where I was hanging out, all the humans that saw me thought that I lived somewhere nearby with a human too, but that wasn't the case! I was all by myself just trying to get by. Then one year, when it was starting to get cold out, some very nice person helped me to find the Pope Memorial Frontier Animal Shelter. That was way back in October 2009. Well, I can tell you that was an absolutely awesome change for me! Naturally, I was quite scared to begin with, and I guess I wasn't too friendly because of that. But wow! I got food on a regular basis, and

it's nice and warm and cozy in the shelter. I was able to find all kinds of cozy corners to sleep in. There are a lot of other homeless animals there too, so I didn't feel so bad and I certainly wasn't alone! I also got to see a doctor – the kind that takes care of animals – and come to find out, I have something called asthma. It causes me to have some breathing problems, so now I take medicine, and it really helps. The kind people at the shelter didn't want me to get all nervous and stressed out because that would make my breathing worse, so they let me just roam around the shelter as I wanted to, without having to stay in any particular room. They call that being a "free roamer" and that can be lots of fun!

Time just went by at the shelter. I was always comfy and cozy, but there were always changes – I would make new friends, and they would find new homes and leave. The people who work and volunteer there would come and go too, so I had to get used to all that. Overall though, I was doing so much better than I ever had! Sometimes some people would consider bringing me home with them, but then they would change their mind. After all, I was already at least five years old when I got to the shelter, and I needed medicine. Not everyone wants a furry friend like that. It takes a very special human to want my kind of cat. So, time went on and I helped out at the shelter in whatever way I could – like greeting volunteers when they came in to work, or helping to eat the great treats that they gave us. I knew I had to do my part as one of the more experienced cats!

But change is ongoing so the humans say, and this spring, on May 18 in fact, a wonderful family decided to take me to their home. They know about older creatures like me because they had previously adopted four older cats and even an older dog. How awesome is that! I can tell you that the PMFAS is a terrific place to be, and I was very comfortable and safe there for over three and a half years. Can you imagine that? However, my new home is absolutely wonderful! I really believe my new family loves me very much – the humans as well as all my new furry friends. Yup! I'm one lucky cat and I sure know it! In my case, all these changes have worked out for the very best. I am so thankful to all the folks at PMFAS for taking such good care of me for such a long time...and then finding me this great forever home! I surely hope things don't change now!

Visit us online at www.frontieranimalsociety.com

- In Memory Donations**
- Donations received January 1 - June 15, 2013
 - Leo Paul Pare
 - Gordon LaClair
 - Harry A. Porter
 - Robert Crouch, Sr.
 - Alice Hayes
 - William & Fratia Marsh
 - Dorothy Whipple
 - Madeline Davis
 - William Wolcott
 - Violet J. Rice
 - Ruth Wright
 - Barbara Kellaway Hudson
 - Mahlon Gonyaw
 - Thomas Huntington Jones
 - Jacques LeBlanc
 - Gordon Rivers
 - Clair J. Stouffer
 - Lawrence Mayhew
 - Frances M. McGreevey
 - Freda Judd
 - Corinna Lancaster

Pope Memorial Frontier Animal Shelter
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