



People for Pets

"Saving lives, 4 paws at a time"



2312 Highway Blvd. • Spencer, IA 51301 • 712-580-2738 • July, 2014

Cutter's story

I have worked in rescue for a few years and find it to be extremely gratifying work. One afternoon, I had been looking through PetFinder for papillions because our group, PapHaven, often checks through to see if there are any papillions or papillion-mix dogs that need attention. As I perused the lists, I noticed this little guy. He looked so scared. His ears were back, he face looked sad, he just kind of stuck in my mind. A few day later, I contacted People for Pets (PFP) to inquire about Cutter and Donna Erickson told he his story.

"Cutter was bred to be a show dog. When he was taken to a show, it was noticed that his left front paw turned in ever so slightly. So the owners left the show, dropped Cutter with all of his papers, his full name is Sarasota's Cut to the Chase, and dropped him at the shelter, they never looked back."



Photo by Animal Photography.com

For a few days more, that tiny little face sort of haunted me. My other paps always had such happy expressions, and Cutter looked so sad. So, I called Donna back. We discussed adoption fees and

my time frame. Cutter was in Spencer, Iowa and I was in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (not exactly a quick trip!) So Donna

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Sparky celebrates a year with his new family in WI

To all the wonderful staff at People for pets. It has been one year since we lost a very dear part of our life. We just could not stand our lonely house and immediately perused to adopt another partner to fill our home with the missing kinship. We came across this fluffy picture of a guy named Sparky in Spencer, Iowa and my wife immediately said that he is the one. Well it has been a year and this little guy has been our best buddy from day one. I made a video after we had him about a week and now I have a video of his first year.

The beginning is the first video and the rest is his journey this past year. I apologize that the length is about 12 minutes but, once again, thank you to everyone out there that spends their time saving pets for adoption. How they touch peoples' hearts is more precious than words can ever express.

Link to Sparky's video <http://youtu.be/NNj0Dtgm6NQ>

Thanks Pam, Wayne, and Sparky!

Estate planning Please keep P4P in mind

People continue to come forward to inquire about ways to help People for Pets in the future.

Making a planned gift to People for Pets is a meaningful way to carry forward your compassion and love for unwanted, abused and neglected animals. In addition, bequests and legacy gift giving may assist you in achieving financial goals like reducing your tax liability.

- Bequests. One of the simplest ways to leave a charitable legacy to People for Pets is through a provision in your will.
- Specific Bequest- directs a specific dollar gift or property to be passed to People for pets. "I leave the sum of _____(dollars) to People for Pets in Spencer, Iowa, tax ID 42-1475298."
- Percentage Bequest- designates a percentage of the total value of the estate as a gift to People for Pets. "

Your generous and kind decision to include People for Pets in your estate planning shows a true commitment to the animals and a tremendous desire for your legacy of love to continue for years to come. To include People for Pets in your estate planning, you must include the following:

Legal Name:
People for Pets
2312 Highway Boulevard
Spencer, IA 51301
Federal Tax ID: 42-147529

Here kitty kitty ...



Thinking about adding a cat to your home? Well, you have come to right place. Our shelter is overflowing with our friendly feline friends. Cats reproduce at an amazing rate and two unaltered cats can produce 80 million off spring in a ten year time span. Sounds impossible? If two cats breed at will-and their off spring are all allowed to breed as well, which is usually two litters per year with only three offspring surviving per litter, they will produce 80 million cats in that 10 years. This is why spaying and neutering is such an important part of our mission at People for Pets.

When you adopt a cat from us, they will enter your home completely vaccinated, veterinarian checked and spayed or neutered; now you just have to worry about the adjustment phase as your new family member enters his home.

Cats are like people, no two are the same! Some come running to you, friendly and snuggly; others stand away and watch you before cautiously approaching you. Others hide and peer out from above.

I have two young girls who love to go "hang out" at the shelter. They love going into the front cat room and sitting in the middle of the floor. As the girls sit there, several cats will approach and rub up against them . . . pretty soon a few more, and more and more. They scream and giggle with excitement. One of them said the other day as we left that she thinks that is what heaven will be like when she gets there. That she will be greeted at the gates by the hundreds of dogs and cats People for Pets has cared for over the years. I encourage you to come spend time with the cats. Get to know them and then chose the one you feel will best fit your family life.

As your cat enters its new home, please be patient with him. This is not his first home. There may have been several before his arrival to his forever home and it will take time for him to adjust. When I brought my cat home, he had been so outgoing at the shelter, but spent the first month under the bed in my guest room. He slowly came out and on his own time he fell in love with us. While under the bed, I put a litter box nearby. I knew he would not travel far from where he felt safe. I also put his food and water under the bed with him. I wanted him to know that he would always have food and water. As I would reach under he would hiss and snarl, but eventually he would just hiss. Then the hissing stopped and he would just watch. And then he started to touch my hand as I would reach under to refill the food. Slowly he came to me.

Cats come in all shapes, sizes, and personalities. They can do strange things and act in strange ways when their environment changes. But if you give them time and a chance to get to know them, they will steal your heart. If you are thinking of adding a cat to your family, please adopt from a shelter.

Kris Johnson

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told me to fill out my adoption application and we'd see where we went from there, which I immediately emailed back to her. In the mean time, I checked into flights to Minneapolis and made arrangements to visit friends there after I drove to Spencer to pick Cutter up.

When Donna called and said I had been approved, I was elated! I had recently lost the dog closest to my heart, my Daisy, a pap, to a congenital heart defect and my girls, Noel and Crystal, seemed to acknowledge my heartache. Don't get me wrong, my girls are the two most important things in my life but there seemed to be a vacant spot that I needed to fill . . . and BOY did I get that spot filled!

A few weeks later, I flew to Minneapolis and the next morning, I rented a car and drove to Spencer. When I arrived there was "my shadow", the most gorgeous little bit of fluff I'd ever seen!

We left People for Pets and drove to Oak Grove, MN making several potty stops and trying to bond with my new friend. When we arrived at my friend's home, she commented that "his eyes seem to follow you everywhere." The next morning proved the truth in that statement. From the time my feet hit the floor that morning, Cutter was at my heel every step of the day and our "love-affair" had begun.

This tiny little ball of fuzz is my constant companion (except for my office). I must thank Donna Erickson and PFP for their wonderful care of this tiny little life and for allowing me to be his Momma. Cutter and I appreciate all that you have done.

*Nora Lenahan
Fairless Hills, PA*

Toaster is living the good life now



I just wanted to send a little update on Toaster. He is doing really good, and putting on a little weight-healthy weight of course. He definitely gets plenty of exercise playing with the boys. We just love this little guy so much. We tease over who gets to sleep with him and Momma usually wins LOL!

He is the best dog EVER! He loves getting to play with the other dogs in town, and cuddling with momma the rest of the time. The next time Toaster goes on a ride to town with me I'll stop by and visit if you'd like. Thanks again for blessing our family with this little guy. Have a blessed day!

The Maclean Family

In memory of Chumley



Chumley had been our resident dog for over a year and quickly became our shadow. She followed Steph McKewon and me around the shelter and only rested when she knew one of us was close by.

Chumley was diagnosed with a bladder tumor that was inoperable. As a result, she took expensive meds that she didn't like. However, Steph didn't give up and diligently went to the shelter every morning to make sure that Chumley got her medicine by disguising it in wet food and cutting a pill into four pieces!

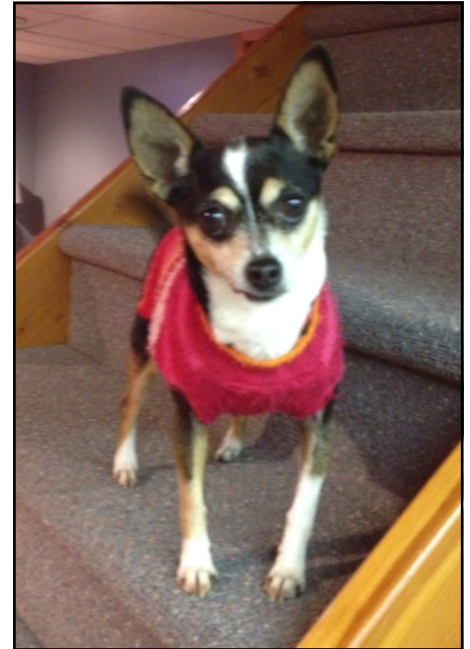
It broke our hearts to lose her on May 12, 2014 but that is what we do. We provide a safe haven for these poor creatures that have nowhere to go. *Run free at the Rainbow Bridge Chumley and know that you were loved.*

Bad dogs need good homes too



My Magui that started out all sweet and scared turned into that evil gremlin that took over the town in the movie.

My Magui is named Martha. She is around 8 years old and I don't have any idea what her childhood was like. I know she was found roaming the Wal-Mart parking lot prior to coming to the Shelter. Martha is what we would call a "bad dog". But she is OUR bad dog. Martha has chosen me as her human she must fiercely defend. Martha is sassy and aggressive and has no manners, but she loves me.



Remember the 1980's movie Gremlins? Remember how the father brings home this *Magui* that he knows nothing about but it's cute . . . so it couldn't be too bad, right? THEN after midnight it turns mean and ugly and nobody knows what to do with it.

Last November I brought home my *Magui*. People for Pets had this adorable chihuahua. She was cute, meek, timid and so scared. My heart broke for her. I knew very little about chihuahuas, other than what I had seen in Beverly Hills Chihuahua and the Taco Bell commercials.

I didn't know that chihuahuas can be easily provoked to attack or that the breed tends to be fiercely loyal to one particular guardian and in some cases may become over protective. I didn't know that they generally are not a breed suited for homes with children.

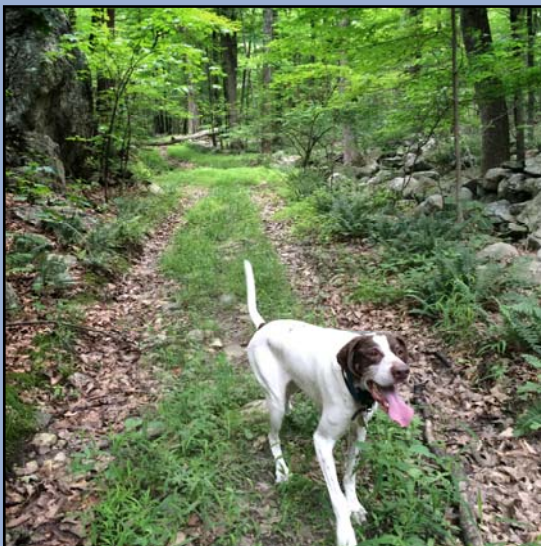
With not knowing her history, I tend to believe she protects me because she trusts me and does not want anything to take her away from me. We are working on her "behaviors". I am taking her places with people and socializing her. In the beginning my kids stressed her out and she would become aggressive towards them. She now sees them as little people who will feed her food at supper time and walk her! She knows when one of them has the leash that she gets to go and she has begun to trust them.

The moral to my story is that every dog that comes into our shelter or leaves our shelter has a story. While they are with

us they are scared. Forced to adjust to new surroundings and noises. Their personalities can be so different inside the shelter versus in a home. It takes months (not days), after they enter their forever home, for them to acclimate to their new lives. You can't judge their personality or mistakes for months after they arrive. You also have to be willing to be patient and put in the time and the effort to earn their trust.

Each and every dog that has come through our doors is amazing in its own way...but it also takes an amazing person to adopt one of ours. The people who adopt from us are willing to fill out paperwork, comply with veterinarian checks, and wait patiently for their application to be approved. After that entire process is complete, then they must spend the next several months guiding their dog and building their trust.

You also have to be willing to accept that some of our dogs won't be perfect. Martha is not perfect. Martha is a bad dog. But Martha is OUR bad dog & bad dogs need good homes too!



Enjoying the outdoors in NY

We've had Pete for almost 5 years now. He is doing great! We love him so much! He is probably the best dog that I have ever had ... always listens, happy all the time, energy outside, mellow indoors. He loves sleeping in bed. He is great with kids and people. He gets along with everyone at the dog parks. He really is a super great dog!

Wayne Kronenfeld

Kris Johnson