



The Pet Pride Post

Winter 2019/2020 vol. 25:1

POPPY

Pet Pride's New Ambassador

Looking dapper in his tuxedo and sporting a lavender harness to match Pet Pride's logo, Poppy is ready to step out!

In his role as Pet Pride's ambassador, Poppy charmed attendees at a charity reception in July, greeted visitors during our Clear the Shelters event in August, and welcomed guests to our annual fundraising luncheon at Locust Hill in November.

This little guy faced a big challenge as a newborn when he suffered a ruptured eye. Poppy would require surgery to remove the eye, but not until he could tip the scales at four pounds. Pet Pride issued a special appeal, and donations poured in from our wonderful supporters to help defray his medical costs. With loving care from his foster mother, Poppy put on the necessary weight and underwent surgery.

He made a full recovery in foster care (and enjoyed a lot of spoiling, we suspect), and was soon ready for adoption. But by that time, he



had worked his way so deeply into his foster mother's heart that she couldn't say goodbye, so she adopted Poppy from Pet Pride.

The loss of one eye hasn't hindered Poppy in the least; he's as friendly, curious, and playful as a kitten can be. Although he's found his forever home, Poppy will maintain a connection to Pet Pride in his role as our distinguished ambassador to the public.

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Pet Pride of New York, Inc. saves the lives of homeless cats in our community by providing sanctuary, medical care, and placement into permanent adoptive homes. We are a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and a New York State Registered Shelter/Rescue, and we operate a no-kill cat sanctuary in Victor, N.Y.

Pet Pride of New York
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Mendon, NY 14506

Sanctuary address:
7731 Victor-Mendon Road
Victor, NY 14564

585-742-1630
ppny@wny.twcbc.com
<https://www.petprideny.org>

From the President

Dear Friends,

We're very pleased to announce the appointment of Heather MacNeal as our new sanctuary supervisor. Heather came on board just in time for the start of a busy kitten season, and things haven't slowed down one bit since then.

As Pet Pride's reputation grows, we receive more and more calls each day seeking our help with homeless and abandoned cats, many of them in perilous situations and in dire need of immediate aid. Gypsy was rescued from a hoarding situation just as the building was about to be boarded up; Hope was found in the middle of the road on Route 390 frozen with fear; and a litter of starving kittens was found in an apartment two weeks after the tenant had moved out. You'll read other stories of cats we've helped in this issue. Some days it seems the phone doesn't stop ringing.

Our ability to provide immediate assistance is dependent upon having available space in the sanctuary or in one of our foster homes. Too often, we have to put cats and kittens on our waiting list for admission. Because we are a no-kill sanctuary, we are also a limited intake facility; space becomes available only when current residents are adopted. The good news is that we are currently on track to double our adoptions over last year by this year's end!

But we can do more--with your help. We are developing plans for a building expansion to include living space for more cats, a kitten nursery, and visiting rooms to facilitate adoptions. In the coming months, we will be launching a capital campaign to raise funds for the construction. With your support, we can enlarge our space, extend our reach, and bring more homeless and abandoned cats and kittens into the safety of our sanctuary. Together, we can save more lives.

With heartfelt thanks,

Bob

Robert K. Boeckman, Jr.

Love at Any Age

When Melody Hawkins was in college, she volunteered at a cat shelter on campus and witnessed a phenomenon common in shelters everywhere: kittens got adopted immediately while some adult cats spent years waiting for their forever homes. “These cats were adoring, cuddly, wonderful cats,” said Melody. “It always kind of confused me.”



Melody with Jiji

Kittens are cute, playful, and endlessly entertaining, and it's these outward characteristics that appeal to many adopters. But adult cats have their charms, too, as well as their advantages. Dr. Stu Gluckman of Mendon Village Animal Hospital says he always advises clients to consider an older cat. “The greatest advantage of adult cats is you sort of know their disposition,” he says.

Melody had made a couple of visits to Pet Pride when Heather, the sanctuary supervisor, asked her to consider Louie. Louie had always been reserved around visitors, but he promptly rolled on his back for a belly rub from Melody,

something he'd never done during his two-year stay at Pet Pride. With that love connection made, Melody explained to Heather that she works long hours as an aerospace engineer and wondered if Louie might get lonely after having lived with other cats for so long. As if on cue, two-year-old Jiji started rubbing against Melody's legs. Louie (now named Thrymr after one of the moons of Saturn) and Jiji had found their forever home.

Courtney and Matt Carroway wanted an adult cat because their work schedules wouldn't allow them to provide the time and close supervision a kitten requires. In fact, they wondered if they should get two cats who could keep each other company.

Then Heather introduced them to Peter. A former stray, Peter is an independent cat. Right away, the Carroways liked what Courtney refers to as his “tough guy” nature. “He seemed a little streetwise,” she said.

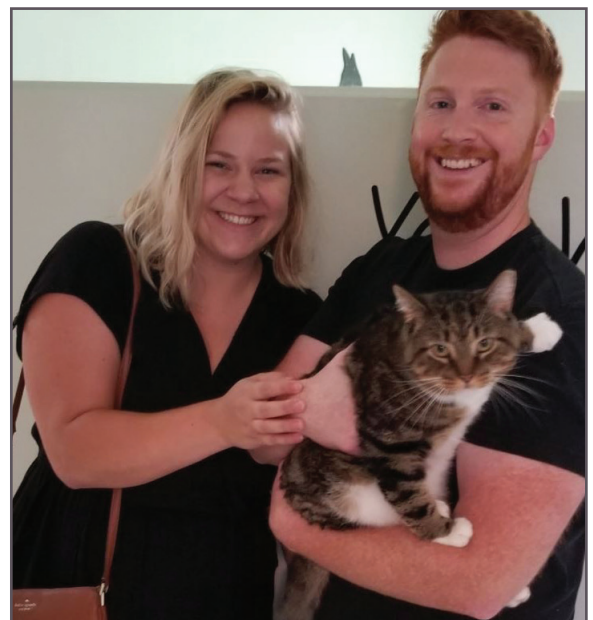
It turns out, though, that this five-year-old tough guy is actually a cream puff when it comes to his people. Said Courtney, “He follows us from room to room, jumps on

our laps to be petted, and sleeps right on our faces.”

Cats are generally considered to be seniors at seven years of age, according to the American Veterinary Medical Association. But with good care and nutrition, they can continue to live happy and active lives for many more years. They may even discover a new career, as Toby did.

At ten years old, it looked as if Toby might be a lifer at Pet Pride. Stressed by the other cats at the sanctuary, he didn't show well to prospective adopters. Then Alicia Slate and her daughters spotted his profile on Petfinder.com and were instantly smitten.

(continued on page 4)



The Carroways and Peter

(Love at Any Age, continued from page 3)

The Slates needed a mouser for their large rural property, and Toby proved himself by killing his first mouse within a half-hour of arriving home. And because he's more active now that he's hunting, this senior cat has dropped some excess weight.

Although he also enjoys napping in the garden and sitting by the pond, Toby spends most of his time looking for a lap to sit on. "It doesn't matter whose lap it is," said Alicia. "He just loves, absolutely adores, people." It seems there's no age limit when it comes to love.



Toby in the garden.

Featured Cats: Apricot & Clementine

It could have been just another turn of the wheel in a sad but common cycle: two young sisters barely out of kittenhood themselves take shelter in a barn. While there, they become pregnant and give birth to their first of many litters. Any females in their litters who beat the odds and survive go on to get pregnant and have babies of their own. The number of homeless cats increases exponentially as the cycle grinds on.

In this case, however, the barn owner stopped the cycle by contacting Pet Pride. We placed the sisters in one of our foster homes where they were able to raise their kittens together in a safe, warm environment. Then we had the young mothers spayed so they will neither endure the risks of pregnancy again nor further contribute to the pet overpopulation problem.

Apricot and Clementine need just one more thing to give their story a happy ending: a new forever home! Because they are so closely bonded, Apricot (top) and Clementine (bottom) must be adopted together.



Meet Heather



Position: *Pet Pride Sanctuary Supervisor*

Family: *I have one daughter who is almost four years old and a lot of siblings. I also have three rescue cats named Gizmo, Binx, and Max, and an eighteen-year-old Jack Russell Terrier named Rocky.*

Why I got into rescue work: *I have always loved animals and I was searching for a way to make a bigger impact.*

What I like most about my job: *I like making a difference in the lives of the cats at Pet Pride and in those of their new families.*

Three words that describe me: *persistent, optimistic, and goal-oriented*

On days off you'll find me: *going on walks with my dog or at the playground with my daughter.*

One thing about me that people might find surprising: *I have fostered over sixty animals in the past two years, including over forty cats and kittens for Pet Pride, as well as birds, mice, and injured wildlife.*

This Is What Kitten Rescue Looks Like



When a kind individual contacted Pet Pride to say she'd found these two newborns in a tree, we had to respond quickly in order to save their little lives. We reached out to one of our dedicated foster care providers to partner with us in the rescue effort. Kittens this young require close monitoring, round-the-clock bottle feeding, and regular weigh-ins.



Plenty of gentle handling and frequent play sessions helped socialize the kittens. Aspen always responded to after-dinner belly rubs. Despite some setbacks and scary moments, Aspen and Magnolia were ultimately adopted together into a loving home.

Join the Rescue Effort!

Our foster providers play an essential role in the kitten rescue process, and our ability to respond to emergencies like these depends on the availability of foster homes. Pet Pride provides training, ongoing support, and full coverage of all veterinary expenses. For more information and an application, please visit our website at https://www.petprideny.org/volunteer/foster_volunteer/.



We Our Volunteers

Pet Pride saluted its foster and sanctuary volunteers in September with a reception at the home of one of our board members. Board President Bob Boeckman, Sanctuary Supervisor Heather MacNeal, and Volunteer Coordinator Gail Booth all spoke about the vital role volunteers play in our organization. The gathering provided an opportunity for volunteers to share stories and for board members to personally express their gratitude while everyone enjoyed delicious food and drink.

Giving Opportunities

Planned Giving



Named for beloved local veterinarian Dr. Stu Gluckman, Pet Pride's cofounder and vice-president, **The Stuart Gluckman Annual Giving Circle** recognizes his more than four decades of service to the organization and the community. When you become a sustaining member of *The Stuart Gluckman Annual Giving Circle*, your ongoing support provides critical annual funds to help Pet Pride maintain and grow its programs.

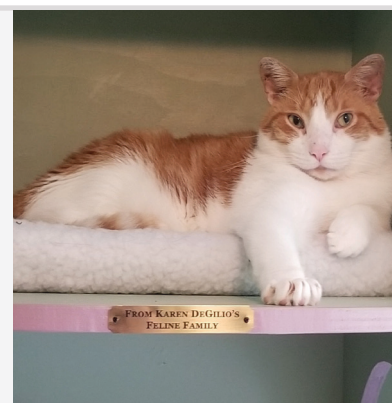


Named for Pet Pride's cofounder and past president, **The Jacqueline Russel Society** illuminates the remarkable legacy Jackie left and celebrates those individuals who have included Pet Pride in their estate plans. By joining *The Jacqueline Russel Society*, you demonstrate your long-term commitment to Pet Pride and its lifesaving mission.

For more information on the planned giving opportunities above, please visit our website or contact Marlies Sullivan at marlies.pppy@gmail.com or at (585) 402-9878.

She Chose a Cubby Instead of a Cake

In lieu of a company party to mark her 35th anniversary with Paychex, Karen Digilio opted to have the company purchase a Pet Pride cubby in her name. Paychex was able to honor Karen in a lasting way while supporting a cause she believes in. If you or your group or organization would like to purchase a cubby, visit our website at https://www.petprideny.org/give/naming_opportunities/ or contact Marlies at (585) 402-9878 or marlies.pppy@gmail.com. An inscribed brass nameplate measuring 4" x 1" will be permanently installed on your cubby.



Garfield relaxes in Karen's cubby.



Be a Part of the Path

Honor a special cat or other loved one with the purchase of a memorial brick. Your brick will be engraved with the name you designate and placed in the Pet Pride Garden Path. Visit our website at https://www.petprideny.org/give/memory_garden/ to reserve your brick and pay online, or send a check in the amount of \$150.00 along with your contact information and the desired inscription to PPNY at P.O. Box 338, Mendon, NY 14506, Attention: Maureen.

Other ways to give

Complete the form on the back of this newsletter and mail it with your tax-deductible contribution to the address provided, or make a secure online donation by visiting our website at <https://www.petprideny.org>.

Adoption Days Are a Cause for Celebration!

Pet Pride of New York brings cats and people together, and we believe that every adoption should be celebrated! That's why we post adoption day photos on our Facebook and Instagram pages and invite everyone to wish our cats and kittens and their new families a very happy adoption day! Follow us on Facebook and Instagram to see more adoption day photos.



Don't miss a thing!

Keep up with Pet Pride in between issues of *The Pet Pride Post* by following us on social media! Meet our resident cats, take a sneak peek at our foster kittens, read about rescues, celebrate adoptions, vote for Pet Pride's Cat of the Month, get the scoop on upcoming events, and more!



[facebook.com/
PetPrideOfNewYork/](https://facebook.com/PetPrideOfNewYork/)



instagram.com/pet_pride_of_new_york/



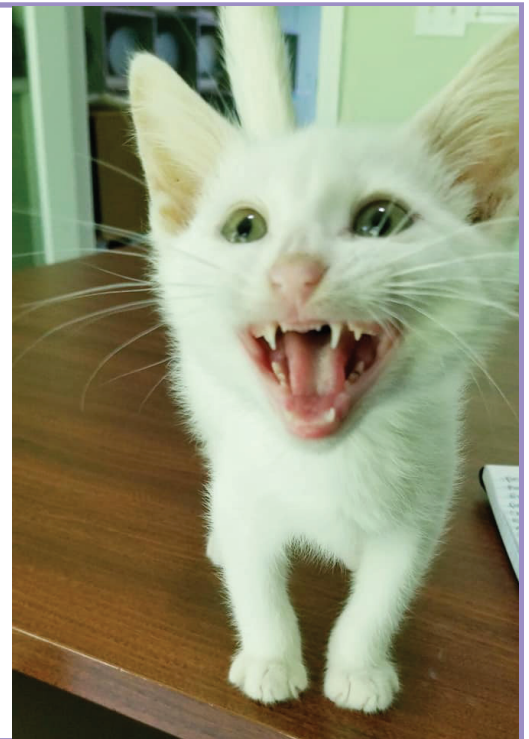
twitter.com/pet_pride_of_ny

Enter Our Cat Caption Contest!

Inspired by the Cartoon Caption Contest regularly published in *The New Yorker*, we are launching our own version of the challenge in this issue of *The Pet Pride Post*. The process is simple:

1. Come up with a brief and humorous caption for this photo. -->
2. Include your caption, your name, and your city and state of residence in an email with the subject line "cat caption" and send it to ewh@rochester.rr.com by March 1, 2020.

There is no limit to the number of entries you may submit, but please send us only your best work. The prize? Fame and bragging rights. The three winning entries will be published in the next edition of our newsletter, at which time we will also publish a new picture for the next Cat Caption Contest.



NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

The Public Meeting of Pet Pride of New York, Inc. will be held on Sunday, January 26, 2020 at 1:30 p.m. at the Pet Pride Sanctuary and Adoption Center, 7731 Victor-Mendon Road, Victor, New York.

PET PRIDE OF NEW YORK, INC.
7731 Victor-Mendon Road
Victor, NY 14564

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Please make your check payable to **Pet Pride of New York, Inc.** and mail it to
Pet Pride of New York P.O. Box 338 Mendon, NY 14506