

# THE STORY OF HOPE

Adopted from a high-kill shelter located in New York in 2019, Hope, a 1-year-old, high-energy Shepherd mix was placed in a small apartment with a cat and a new



owner. Trusting the rescue had matched Hope's energy with her new family resulted in major anxiety and almost an eviction. In January 2020, after countless calls to the

adopting rescue with no resolution, PMHS—CV agreed to “take” Hope. Was this situation any better? Not at first. Hope's anxiety and reactivity was apparent and continued to increase. With playtime, long walks, countless ball throws, and enrichment activities, Hope was able to settle some, but she was still extremely anxious. In April, out of the blue came a foster willing to take on the challenge of helping Hope relax and learn how to be a “dog”. Throughout the COVID-19 shutdown Hope thrived in foster. Was this going to end? Was Hope going to have to come back to the shelter? FOSTER FAIL! Two of the sweetest words ever. Hope was adopted on August 25, 2020.

## WAYS YOU CAN SUPPORT PMHS-CV

### How To Include Pope Memorial Humane Society In Your Will

You do a wonderful service when you include PMHS—CV in your will. Your gift will assure that compassionate care will continue to be provided for the homeless animals of Strafford County and southern Maine into the future. You can give an unrestricted amount or restrict the amount, give a specific amount, percentage of your estate or a residual amount of your estate. For more information please contact Debbie Shelton, Development Director at 603-749-5322 ext. 106 or email her at [dshelton@popememorialcvhs.org](mailto:dshelton@popememorialcvhs.org).

### Monthly Giving

Our donors who give monthly are very special to us. By providing this reliable source of income we have the resources to give every animal shelter, food, medical care and the chance to find a loving home. Giving monthly is easy. Go to our website, [popememorialcvhs.org](http://popememorialcvhs.org) and hit the “Donate” button. The gift form asks if you want this to be a monthly gift; check the box, complete the form and submit. Thank you for your commitment to the animals!

### Giving Tuesday

Mark your calendars because on December 1, Giving Tuesday will be celebrated. This is a virtual event focusing on giving to nonprofit organizations worldwide. We have a goal of raising \$15,000 for this event. More information will be forthcoming in the next few weeks.

### Capital Campaign

Do you have a special person, animal lover or pet that you want to honor or memorialize? Remember them with a memorial brick placed in the brick patio. Small bricks are \$500 and large bricks are \$1,000. For more information email [dshelton@popememorialcvhs.org](mailto:dshelton@popememorialcvhs.org) or call 603-749-5322 ext. 106.

### Facebook Birthday Fundraisers

An easy way you can support the animals is to have a birthday fundraiser on Facebook. This year so far, 28 people have done so raising \$3,913 for the animals! Thank you to all for using your special day to help animals in need!

**amazonsmile** We have received \$6,517.47 from shoppers choosing to support our organization when they shop using amazonsmile! It is really easy to do. Go to - [amazonsmile](https://www.amazon.com/popememorialcvhs) and type in “Pope Memorial Humane Society”, Dover, NH. Every time you shop we will receive a donation from amazonsmile. A great way to do your shopping and support the animals!

### Yard Sale

Looking to clean out your basement, the garage or attic? Have a yard sale and donate the funds to us! Long-time volunteer, Marlene Myers did so on August 15. She raised \$550 for us and donated lots of gardening equipment for our volunteers to use while they spruce up the outside landscaping.

### 2020 Sponsors

Thank you to our 2020 sponsors who had chosen to support our big events for the year. They were Comedy Night, Tails to Trails Dog Walk and our Wine/Beer Tasting with Auction. All had to be cancelled due to COVID-19. These sponsors agreed to have their donations go to general operating to care for the animals. We thank these generous businesses for their support at this unprecedented time! They are: D.F. Richard Energy, Seacoast Dream Dentistry, Kennebunk Savings, Broadview Veterinary Group, Central Park Veterinary Clinic, Somersworth Storage, Martel Plumbing & Heating, Inc., Murphy, Powers & Wilson Certified Public Accountants P.C., K9 Kaos, Invisible Fence of Southern Maine and Northeast Delta Dental.



# How COVID-19 is reshaping our future at PMHS

## Sarah Proctor, DVM

COVID-19 has changed everyone's life mostly for the worse, yet we have found some benefits to operating during the pandemic that we hope to carry forward into the eventual mask-less future. Here are some lessons we've learned:



## DRIVE-THRU RABIES CLINICS

These clinics provide funds for the shelter and a low-cost option for people to make sure their pet's rabies vaccine is up-to-date.

*Here's the old experience of a rabies clinic:* You arrive early and get into a long line of people with dogs on leashes, in people's arms, and cats in carriers. The day might be sweltering hot or cold and rainy, but either way there's no shade. You might stand in line for over an hour. By the time you reach the front of the line, you are tired, and your pet is cranky or stressed. We finish the paperwork then take your pet and wrestle with it to give the injection. There might be urine and feces involved and possibly growling, too. You wait for the paperwork and eventually walk back to your car and leave. You're finally done!

*The drive-through experience goes more like this:* You enter our driveway and enter the line of cars. A volunteer gets your paperwork started. You slowly move to the front of the line in your car. Windows

open or AC on – it's your choice! Your dog smiles at us with his head out the window and we take pictures. Your paperwork is done by the time you get to the front of the line. Once there, a vet tech takes your pet from the car; brings him into the building; I vaccinate him; and we return him to you. The time might not have been much shorter, but the experience is much improved. Very few dogs had accidents and everyone was much happier and less stressed – dogs and humans alike. Once we can get rid of the gowns, gloves, and masks we'll even be able to work faster. I can't wait!



# REDUCED FOOT TRAFFIC LEADS TO REDUCED ANIMAL STRESS

## Sarah Proctor, DVM

We know that even the best-run shelter is a stressful place for an animal to live. They are in a small space with strange sights and sounds at all times of day. We didn't realize how much stress that we humans were causing the animals until we closed to the public back in March. We had just a few animals in the building at that time and very limited staff. The shelter was generally much quieter, partly from the lower animal numbers but also because the dogs weren't barking (or didn't bark) as often or as long. In the past, the entire kennel of dogs would start barking with every new person that walked through.

Our animal numbers are back up to almost normal now and we have slowly brought back staff and volunteers. We are adopting animals by appointment only so the foot traffic in the building remains lower than pre-COVID. We continue to see less stress behaviors in our animals; less barking, less aggression and more space and time to let animals out to play and socialize since they don't have to remain in their kennels to be seen by adopters. We also continue to see almost no feline upper respiratory infection, a disease that is often brought on by stress.

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# MEET OUR SPOTLIGHT PET: ACE

This handsome guy is Ace! He is a 5-year-old, mixed breed weighing 54 pounds. He is looking for a home with children 12 and older, and he must be the only animal. He really enjoys spending time with his humans and staying active. He is best suited for a high energy home where frequent walks, hikes and being on the move is the norm. But don't let that fool you – he enjoys cuddling as well! He likes curling up with his person and being wrapped up in a warm blanket next to them. Ace's future home should be accepting and willing to improve his leash reactivity. He is insecure of his surroundings at times and will become very vocal and lose all leash manners if he sees other animals while out and about. He has been



working on improving this daily and has shown a lot of promise! He has also exhibited possible separation anxiety. He has started medication to help his overall well-being and his new home should consider this possibility to help him be his best self! If you want to learn more about Ace, please visit our website or email us at [adoption@popememorialcvhs.org](mailto:adoption@popememorialcvhs.org)



Due to a bad weather forecast the Howl was moved from October 17 to the 18th. That was a great move because the day turned out to be a perfect Fall day! Over 500 dogs and children strolled through the Haunt and picked up their candy-filled bags or dog bone-filled bags. A total of \$2,837 was raised for the animals! Thank you to all who participated



and to our wonderful volunteers who filled the bags and dressed in costume to provide support for the event.



**Pope Memorial Humane Society**  
Cocheco Valley

# FALL 2020 NEWSLETTER

## WHAT'S INSIDE:



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## 50/50 Virtual Raffle

Thank you to everyone who participated in the 50/50 Virtual Raffle! We exceeded our goal of \$10,000! Shawn Perreault was the winner and took home \$3,788.28 after expenses and taxes.



## Road Toll Event

On August 15 we held our first Road Toll event at the intersection of Central Avenue and Oak Street. The event was a huge success raising over \$3,000. Thank you to our volunteers who took shifts and stood at the intersection from 10:00 am until 2:00 pm.



## Paint Night Event -\$705 was raised

Our second Paint Night Event, on August 29<sup>th</sup>, was a fun evening out for 47 people at Cochecho Country Club. Many had not ventured out to any public event since the pandemic hit. Masks were worn and social distancing was followed.

## Northeast Credit Union Community Grant

We are thrilled to announce that thanks to so many of our supporters voting for us we finished 5<sup>th</sup> in the voting for the NECU Community Grant virtual event. We were granted a donation of \$1,000! Thank you to everyone that voted for us!

## Humane Ed Program

The shelter was excited to have local author, Layne Case, join us for our Humane Education Thursday morning Virtual Story Time throughout September! Every week, Layne shared one of the books in her Charlie book series. During the pandemic, our Humane Ed program has had to move online, and Layne has generously allowed us to share her books and readings with our community on video via Facebook! Each of our story time events also feature one of our shelter animals. The videos will soon be available on our website, but in the meantime, they can be viewed via our Facebook page or on our YouTube channel – Pope Memorial Humane Society - CV. Our “Humane Ed Corner” posts new story time readings every Thursday, and on Tuesdays, you can try your hand at trivia challenges or view educational presentations, like our series on Reading Dog Body Language.



THANK YOU TO OUR GARDEN CLUB VOLUNTEERS!

Photos (clockwise, beginning top left): Cheryl Ash, Judy Dennehy, Maria DiCesare, Cindy & John Cafasso, Carolyn Ricker, and Lauren Jacoby

her time and expertise to advise the group, and to Cat and Carolyn for co-coordinating this ambitious project, and to everyone who donated plants and materials for the landscaping. Thank you for helping to make the shelter a more welcoming place for everyone by bringing beauty to our new home!

## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT GARDEN CLUB

If you have been outside the shelter during the last few months, you've no doubt seen some exciting changes taking place! Last fall, the seeds of an idea were planted to do something nice with the green spaces around the shelter, and this idea grew into the Garden Club.

The co-coordinators of the club, Carolyn and Cat, have been working tirelessly behind the scenes to plan and coordinate all of the landscaping projects and organize individual tasks. They and their team of volunteer gardeners have been planting, weeding, fertilizing and tending to the newly donated plants. They've also been picking through rock and clay, moving stones and gravel to create a walkway, and hauling dirt and cinderblocks to create doggy comfort stations. And the work goes on!

PMHS wants to recognize our Volunteer Gardeners for their hard work and dedication. Special thanks to Jenny Stuart of The Secret Gardener for donating

## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT Mentoring Team

Earlier this year at PMHS-CV, we asked some of our most experienced and committed volunteers to take on an additional role at the shelter by becoming a Volunteer Mentor. This year, our mentoring team has helped train our new volunteers and orient them to our building. They help our dog walkers gain more experience and help the staff match them with dogs. Our cat care mentors not only show new volunteers the ropes when it comes to cleaning cages and feeding routines, they pass on their experience with providing enrichment and working safely and compassionately with some of our more fearful cats, helping them build confidence and trust.

Our small animal care mentor, Jane, has helped develop our new Small Animal Care Handbook, and provided training for working with our small animals for new and current volunteers, increasing much needed volunteer support in this area of animal care at the shelter.

Our mentoring team has been comprised of seven volunteers: Pam Thompson, Jane Kennedy, Rosanne Kilty, Phyllis Lapointe, Marcie Price, Kreen Reckart, and Marvin Reckart. And we're pleased to announce that Marlene Myers will be joining the team this fall! We want to recognize the mentoring team and thank them not only for their dedicated volunteering work with our animals, but for sharing their time and experience to help our other volunteers enrich the lives of the animals here at PMHS-CV while they are in our care. THANK YOU!

Because of COVID-19, we couldn't gather for a team photo, so we thought it would be nice to see some of our mentors at home with their own furry family members!



## Tri-City Subaru Loves Pets Event

Tri-City Subaru is donating \$100 per dog or cat adopted in the month of October up to \$3,100 or one a day! They also are collecting items from our wish list and stuffing a Forester. In addition, they are donating \$500 that they had pledged to be a sponsor for 2020. As of the writing of this newsletter 20 animals had been adopted into their new forever homes!

## Hannaford Community Bag Program

### November

Pope Memorial Humane Society has been selected by local Hannaford store leadership as the benefiting non-profit in the Community Bag Program! For the month of November, Pope Memorial Humane Society will receive a \$1 donation from each purchase of the \$2.50 reusable Community Bag at the Hannaford store located at 833 Central Avenue, Dover NH.

## WISH LIST



Paper Towels  
Canned Dog Food  
Canned Cat Food  
Dry Purina One Cat/Dog Food  
Dog toys for tough chewers  
Max and neo triple handle leashes  
Stainless water pails  
Poop bags  
Non-clumping Litter  
Hand Sanitizer

Timothy Hay  
Rabbit Food  
Contractor Trash Bags  
Cleaning Products  
Cat toys  
HA treats  
Bleach  
Xpens  
Mops  
Glass Cleaner

THANK YOU!



## THANK YOU HAUNTED OVERLOAD!

It has been another incredible season! We can't wait for the celebration party in November to see exactly how successful the haunts were! You might ask what is Haunted Overload? For the tenth year in a row, Haunted Overload has teamed up with Pope Memorial Humane Society Cochecho Valley (PMHS-CV) to present “Haunted Overload.” The Haunted Overload team is generously donating a portion of the proceeds from their ground-breaking attraction to support our animals in need. Haunted Overload began as a small haunt in Eric Lowther's driveway in Exeter, NH. As word spread of his amazing and creative creatures and designs, the crowds grew rapidly and Lowther, now a pro, had to move the haunt to a larger venue. It is now located at beautiful DeMeritt Hill Farm in Lee, NH, and is known for its scary handmade props, organic design, unique characters, and spectacular visuals. It has gained a reputation as a topnotch event and even won ABC's “Great Halloween Fright Fight” in 2014. The show brings dedicated terror enthusiasts from as far away as Ohio, Alaska, and even Europe! One of the most unique and artistic Halloween attractions in the state, its actors take a great deal of pride in scaring the daylights out of thousands of visitors during October every year. PMHS-CV is honored to be partnered with Haunted Overload. In 2019, Eric and the Haunted Overload team presented the shelter with another large check, bringing their grand total of donations to PMHS-CV to \$297,182.83 including a \$50,000 donation to the capital campaign! This money went to creating a beautiful cat playroom in our new building and to support the care of our animals for the past 9 years. This level of dedication is inspiring. We look forward to many years of a ‘howling’ good partnership.