Maggie Mae's Story

Maggie Mae has a similar story to many of those who arrive at our door. A family who moved... a family who no longer had the time for the dog as children join the family... While it's a familiar sad story, there is very often a unique 'back story'. We were told Maggie Mae; a 4 year old Shar Pei had 'skin issues', of course the extent of this was far greater than we had anticipated. As soon as we saw her, we knew that her medical care was going to be beyond our financial allowance and immediately reached out to Shar Pei rescues. When she came in she had very little hair left. She was also very cautious of anyone around her. Once she warmed up, she was okay, but she never became an affectionate cuddle bug with us, as most do while here at the shelter. Maggie had an incomplete medical history that lacked many diagnostic tests and included random treatments, such as: baking soda and vinegar bath. We are very sure this was not very pleasant for her! It was determined that she would need antibiotics, medicated baths, and just all around one-on-one love and attention in a home setting, not a concrete kennel. Everyone we contacted was very helpful, but it was Pei's and Strays; an all-volunteer non-profit rescue for the New England area that stepped up to help. Soon Maggie was on her way to Vermont. After some foster care she landed in a home with another Shar Pei friend and is currently doing wonderfully. Here is what her family has to say about her:

“I’m very happy to report that Maggie just passed the 3 month mark with us and it’s as if she’s never been anywhere else! She’s the sweetest, most cuddly dog! She and Morgan are getting along very well. And she loves to sit on the top of the couch next to the cat and watch the neighborhood. We’ve found that she’s a smoocher, she snores, is a lap dog, and has a talent for going through the basket of family blankets to find [her] fluffy Celts blanket which she pulls out, fluffs up and curls up on. She will find it no matter how far down in the basket it's folded up. Very funny! Every night at about 10:00, she and Morgan will stare at me and wait for me to say, “Time for bed”. They run to their toy box, grab a toy and run to the top of the stairs to wait for me to follow them in to bed.

We did go through quite the medical overhaul with Maggie. At the 1st vet visit, she found that Maggie had infections in both ears, a yeast infection of the skin, mange on all of her feet, and also a severe bacterial skin infection (which the foster mother and vet believed to be elephant skin). We treated her with various medications as well as medicated baths every other day and now once per week. She now is amazing. Full, healthy, shiny coat! No bald spots except one tiny patch that has just started growing hair back. All of the thick infected skin has healed up. She is a new dog!

Maggie Mae's Story continued on page 2
9 Lives Thrift and Harvest Hills are ALWAYS looking for volunteers! The shelter needs help socializing dogs and cats, dog walkers, morning cleaning, restocking and grounds maintenance. 9 Lives needs help sorting donations, hanging clothing and general cleaning. Stop by and fill out your volunteer form today. Both buildings are a lot of fun to spend time in!

Check out our reusable shopping bags! Purchase one for $6 and each time you shop with the bag, you get 10% off anything that fits in it until 10/31/15. Bags can be found at Harvest Hills, 9 Lives Thrift, or the Harry Barker stores in downtown Bridgton.

Harry Barkers II, formerly located next to the Gazebo Ice Cream, has moved. Still located in Bridgton, they can now be found at 32 Main Street. Harry Barkers I store remains across the street from the Magic Lantern Theater, and now Harry Barkers II is just ‘up the hill’. These two shops are antique shops that contain the very best group of vendors in the area who sell their wares in our store. Their participation in our store allows Harvest Hills to be able to sell some of the more valuable items donated to our thrift store in a beautiful setting surrounded by like merchandise.

Renovations
This year, because of the generosity of a longtime volunteer and supporter, one side of our dog kennels has been remodeled. Instead of concrete blocks and floors, they installed glass blocks between kennels, painted the entire room and the icing on the cake is an epoxy floor! We also added a new heating system on both sides of our kennels. Barbara Autio, another longtime volunteer, did much of the work which also included artistic paintings on the walls. We will be doing a fundraiser soon to raise the money to complete the other side of the kennels. Please look for info on our Facebook page!

Shelters and Rescues Working Together
Maggie Mae’s Story con’t

We adore her! She is loved and cared for more than you can imagine. She sleeps in the bed with us every single night and loves to come in the car with us no matter where we go. We are still working on manners at the vet (she is still gets scared) but she has come a long way. Can’t imagine life without her and we can’t thank you enough for thinking of us when Maggie Mae first came to you. Much happiness has been brought to our home!

FREEZING FOR A REASON
Save the Date: Saturday February 14th 2015

Go to our website to view available animals
www.harvesthills.org
Edward the cat (known as Butler during his shelter days) has been with us for nearly a year now. We picked him up in December 2013 after visiting him a few times at Harvest Hills. It seemed destined to be when he allowed Julia to pick him up and hold him, to the surprise of the staff. He was a little slow to warm to us, and was understandably nervous about his new situation. For the first few weeks he did his best to avoid us, while slowly learning his way around. No small trick for a blind cat relocated from the shelter to a large house with a couple of strangers in it. At some point during the third week he finally let us pet him, with us thinking all the while that he would never be a “lap cat”. We were ever so wrong on that account. Edward has become lap cat of the century. Not only will he climb on our laps at any given chance, he has at times climbed up our backs to sit on our shoulders, parrot-style. Once, while I sat at the dinner table, he climbed from my lap to my shoulders, then draped himself on top of my head and actually started to nap. He is a great character and a sweet friend to us. We like to say that Edward is “the best cat ever”. Though he cannot see, he is still exceptionally playful and curious and if a visitor to the house was not told of his blindness, they would not suspect it. Thanks to Harvest Hills staff for caring for him so well before we found him! We love the little guy.

Isaac was adopted January 2014. He's doing awesome. We have worked with him and come a long way in regards to his temper when he's on his bed and now it's pretty much safe to walk right up to him and pat him. One of the pictures is him on top of Mt. Washington with my wife and I. And the other is him overlooking a bay in Cape Cod. He loves going on rides - and loves exploring new hiking trails. We live with some free-range chickens and sheep, and he could care less about all of that. You guys rock, keep up the good work, and we'll be sure to swing on by whenever we're back down in the area.

Red used to be our office cat, but when her mom came in looking for another cat she fell in love with her: It's been almost 3 years since I met Red. I couldn't ask for a better cat, friend, lovebug. Red truly just wants to be held & loved all the time, and she makes me so happy every day. I am very lucky to have found her!

This year, one of our devoted volunteers, Deb Cloutier, is doing a fundraiser by spending the night in one of the dog kennels: “On Christmas Eve this year, instead of spending it with my family, I will be sleeping at the shelter...in one of the dog kennels...with one of the shelter dogs, to raise money for the shelter's high heating and vetting costs (another long, cold winter is predicted and vet bills for the shelter are in the thousands of dollars EVERY month). I will also be hanging Christmas stockings on each of the dog kennels and filling them with toys and treats so that when I awake with them Christmas morning, they will all have their own Christmas surprises. It's not quite like being in their own loving homes at Christmas, but I hope to provide a little Christmas love for each of them while they wait for their forever homes. I am hoping that people will be generous enough to sponsor me, and in turn, help the shelter continue to provide a warm, comfortable, safe place for the dogs and cats to wait for the perfect person or family to take them home. I will make videos throughout the night and post them to the Harvest Hills Facebook page if my cellphone connection is a good one, or later in the day on Christmas Day. Your sponsor dollars of any amount will be greatly appreciated. I thank you in advance, and the animals of Harvest Hills Animal Shelter would thank you too if they could. Thank you again...and please consider adopting your next pet.”

Donations can be made by going to http://www.gofundme.com/g3o90k It's never too late to donate!

Lena the office dog

People at our front counter often ask: ‘is there a dog under the there?’ Snores and rustling can often be heard coming from under the desk, and that’s where Lena spends her days. Lena came to us in January of 2012 as a stray, and we estimate to be close to 12 years old now. She was found loose on the road and had been hit by a car twice. She has had 2 torn ACL’s, has been returned from adoption twice and is currently battling cancer. We had one lump removed but have noticed at least one more growing back in an inoperable area. We have decided that she will spend the rest of her life here with us as her joy at being returned from adoption has been crystal clear. She has severe separation anxiety to the point that she has jumped out of windows and even chewed up steering wheels. She comes out every morning and sleeps under the desk all day while we are here and spends the night in her double sized kennel. She seems to be happiest with this routine, so we decided she can live her life out with us. We know dogs, and Lena is truly happy here.

PLEASE spay and neuter your animals and always remember to ‘Adopt don't shop’. There are many wonderful animals at your local shelter that need YOU to make a difference.
Pet ID Tags

We now have the ability to make pet ID Tags at the shelter. No more waiting 4-6 weeks. On the tag you can put your pet’s name, your address and phone number. Let’s not forget your pet should also be wearing a rabies tag and license (for dogs). These tags are a great way to help ensure your pet makes it home safely if it becomes lost. Price per tag - $8.00.

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**PET TAG ORDER FORM**

Name: ___________________________ Phone Number: ___________________________
Address:  _____________________________________________________________

Information for tag (We’ll put as much info on as possible)
Side One: _______________________________________________________________
Side One: _______________________________________________________________
Side Two: _______________________________________________________________
Side Two: _______________________________________________________________

TOTAL

Make checks payable to HHAS, 1389 Bridgton Road, Fryeburg, ME 04037. Please include a self-addressed stamped envelope with your order.