



What's NEW?

Great Friends Found at UPAWS

Special Announcement



Lareina Van Strien, who has been with the Upper Peninsula Animal Shelter for the past nine years and served as shelter manager for the past four, has tendered her resignation to pursue another career path. UPAWS would like to thank Lareina for her years of hard work and commitment to UPAWS homeless pets and pets in our community as well as our No-Kill Mission. We wish Lareina the very best in her new career.

Photo: Lareina with her dogs Jeffy and Tucker.



Hello! My name is Kim Randolph and I am pleased to introduce myself as the new manager at UPAWS. I am a graduate of Northern Michigan University with a degree in Wildlife Management and Criminal Justice. As a passionate pet owner and adopter myself, I look forward to working with our community and continuing to enrich the lives of the animals who call UPAWS their temporary home. I've been a member of the UPAWS family for a year and a half and every day I continue to be amazed and inspired by the dedication and passion of the staff, volunteers, and supporters. I am honored to be a member of such a great team.

In my spare time, I enjoy visiting the local hiking trails with my faithful german shepherd, Zoey, and my very curious "adventure" cat, Ruger. Along with exploring, I also enjoy animal/nature/landscape photography,

drawing, and painting.

Photo: Kim with UPAWS alumni Blaze.

I'd like to start off by thanking the UPAWS family and the community for the opportunity to continue to contribute to the betterment of animal welfare in the U.P. From a young age, I realized that I loved animals and had a passion towards bettering the lives of all animals I encountered. Once I recognized that I couldn't take home or rescue every stray animal I found, I decided to start volunteering for my local animal shelter. Once I was old enough to be an animal caretaker, I jumped at the opportunity and have been involved with U.P. animal shelters ever since, which is now going on 10+ years of involvement. I moved to Marquette in 2010 to attend Northern Michigan University and graduated with a Bachelors of Science in Zoology in 2015. Throughout most of my time living in the Marquette area, I have been employed at UPAWS and I proud to say that I am celebrating my 4th year as a team member at this wonderful organization. I am excited to accept the Shelter Manager Assistant position and continue to strive towards contributing to the betterment of care within animal shelters and the communities in which I serve, while following the no kill-philosophy of creating a world where we no longer have unwanted, abused, or homeless animals.



Photo: Jacie with her pets, Jazzy, Breena and Paco.

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