

Bone-A-Fide Pet Boutique: New Owner and New Look

When Kim Weeks walked into Bone-A-Fide Bakery & Pet Boutique this past January to buy treats for her three dogs, she never could have imagined that she would be the owner of the store just four months later.

In April, Kim purchased the store from the previous owner, Sandi Rector (tribute to Sandi Rector was published in July issue), who recently lost her battle with melanoma. When Kim and Sandi met they became instant friends. Sandi explained that it was important to her that the person buying the store would have the “right heart for it”, which Sandi certainly had for the almost ten years that she ran it. The store was her “baby” and she wanted to be certain it passed to the right hands. Kim was certain that those hands were hers, and Sandi agreed.

Over the next 4 months, while they finalized the details of the purchase, Kim would share her plans for the store with Sandi, which included expanding the bakery, and a complete renovation of the store, which were completed in May. Along with a new look, the store also obtained a new name, Bone-A-Fide Pet Boutique. Sandi’s partner in Bone-A-Fide Bakery is continuing the baking business and will continue to supply fresh-baked, healthy treats to the store’s expanded bakery, which also includes a selection of natural and organic treats. The store has a fresh, new look with a lot of open space to accommodate customers and their furry companions. According to Kim, response to the renovation has been “overwhelmingly positive.” The most meaningful part of the renovation, Kim says, was that Sandi was able to see the results and was very pleased with the outcome. According to Kim, “Sandi loved the store and her customers. She was such an integral part of the Black Mountain community and animal community, giving generously to organizations such as Brother Wolf and Full Moon Farm. It is important to me that I honor that legacy by continuing our support of local rescue organizations.”

The store’s focus is on carrying healthy and nutritious foods and treats, and safe toys and products for our pets. This includes bringing in more products manufactured in the United States. Kim is a strong supporter of buying local and supporting other small business owners like herself. She explains that, “When you buy from Bone-A-Fide, you are not only supporting your local community, but you are supporting Charles in Arizona that



Kim with Minnie Pearl

manufactures Mountain Dog leashes out of climbing rope, Mike in Tennessee that provides Antler Chews from the excess antler from antler chandeliers, Gayle from Greenville that makes doggie bandannas, Bev from Tennessee who makes greeting cards, and so many more, just like them. I like the fact that I am helping other small business people to stay in business. When you start thinking about where you spend your money, these things are important.”

When asked what she is most proud of, Kim will tell you that it is her staff and the fact that they are so knowledgeable and attentive and provide personal service to everyone and every pet that visits the store, from helping to pick out the right toy to fitting a collar or harness. She makes it clear that they are not a super store, but a small store that takes the time to get to know their customers and delights in each and every one that walks (and wags) through the big metal doors. Kim says the best way to describe the store is that “it’s a store with a heart,” adding that “we (Kim and staff) are all here because of our love for animals.” And when you walk into Bone-A-Fide Pet Boutique that is exactly what you feel.

Bone-A Fide Pet Boutique is located in downtown Black Mountain at 118-A Cherry St., phone 828-669-0706.