

The Journey: Meet Julie

As many foster families know, sometimes, the most rewarding experience of all is opening your home to a pet in need.

When Julie was brought to St. Hubert's, she was incredibly shy — but that didn't last long! So that she'd have the time she needed to destress, Julie was matched with one of our foster families, and she soon came out of her shell.

A curious explorer, Julie got the lay of the land, peering through windows and hunting for the warmest, fluffiest blanket she could find. Before long, Julie introduced us to her favorite way of showing affection: hugging! This meant that if Julie liked you, she'd come up to you, jump on your lap, and put her paws around your shoulders — while purring, *loudly*.

Thanks to the loving environment she was provided in her foster home, Julie was given the chance to thrive. Now, once-shy Julie has been placed in a safe and warm home that will allow her playful and affectionate personality to shine through — and to know the comfort and peace she deserves.

For all you do to make stories like Julie's possible, thank you!



FROM CRISIS TO CARE: Oliver's Miracle Mile

When we met Desmond, now Oliver, it was clear the road he'd traveled had not been an easy one. Oliver could barely walk when St. Hubert's Animal Control Officers (ACO) found him. A stray, he was injured and limping, but his problems didn't end there. When he was brought to our Madison shelter for intake and examination, our medical team discovered he had an abscessed tooth. Because infected teeth in cats are often emergencies, we worked quickly to extract the tooth while performing his neuter surgery.

Once Oliver became more comfortable in our care, we needed to address his limp. It was clear that an older injury to his front right leg was causing him chronic pain, and he needed X-rays as soon as possible. Never a lightly made decision, our team decided it was necessary to amputate his injured limb.

Oliver has endured more than any cat should. Yet, despite being frightened and in pain — and having to undergo multiple courses of medical treatment — Oliver remained friendly and allowed our staff to provide him with the care he needed to heal and flourish. A few days after his incision healed, he was adopted into a loving home.

“He's so loving, kind, and adoring. He follows me around *everywhere*! He talks to me all the time,” says his adopter. “We love him so much. He even had his first checkup with our home vet and was unbelievably perfect.” Now, Oliver is sure to spend the rest of his days in a caring home whose warmth matches his affectionate nature.

On behalf of everyone at St. Hubert's, thank you for helping us give sweet animals like Oliver a chance to know the healthy, loving homes they deserve. We couldn't do our work without you!

A Message from Lisa LaFontaine

Dear Friends,

Over the years, my family has welcomed nearly 250 foster animals into our home. While we have adopted a small handful, the rest have found loving families who often stay in touch with us through photos, stories, and visits.

Last summer, we took in a pregnant dog named Denali. The very next day, she gave birth to nine beautiful puppies. This little family turned our home upside down in all the best ways. They played, wrestled, had accidents, frolicked outside, slept in our laps, and overcame minor illnesses. Together, we had long, eventful days and a few sleepless nights, and as we placed each puppy with a loving family, I felt deep gratitude for the entire experience. Denali and her puppies became part of our family, and their adoptive families have become dear friends.

St. Hubert's foster program is a source of joy to the people and animals of our communities. In 2021, St. Hubert's foster families provided care for more than 1,200 animals! This is just one of the many programs that make such a strong lifesaving impact. I'm thrilled to be able to bring you a few memorable stories about fostering, as well as our other programs, in this fall's newsletter.

We will introduce you to **Oliver**, an affectionate cat with a bad limp who made a remarkable recovery — and is now in a home that's as warm and loving as he is. You'll also meet **Julie**, a once-shy foster kitten who soon revealed her favorite way to show affection to those around her: hugging!

We'll also share advice on how to manage your pet's behavior around unfamiliar people, and you'll read about our celebration of **our 20,000th WayStation transport, Sweetie Johnson.**

Finally, you'll meet Andrew Hyer, who personally touches so many vulnerable lives. Andrew has been instrumental in saving thousands of animals through our WayStation program, and he gives each one a big hug when they come out of their crates!

I've always believed that the best shelter for animals is a humane community. Like our foster parents and staff members, kind-hearted supporters like you play a pivotal role in our lifesaving work. Together, I know we can continue providing animals and their families with the specialized care they need to live happy lives filled with love and joy.



All the best,

Lisa LaFontaine
President and Chief Executive Officer

Ways to Give Back:

October is Planned Giving Month!

As a supporter, you are instrumental to our work here at St. Hubert's Animal Welfare Center. We know the lifesaving work we carry out each day would be impossible without the support of people like you. To ensure we can plan for the future — and continue to serve as many animals and people as possible — St. Hubert's counts on planned gifts.

Planned gifts offer significant advantages, both for you and St. Hubert's. Therefore, to assist our partners through this process, St. Hubert's is providing exclusive — and free — lifetime access to the online estate planning tools provided by our trusted partner, Giving Docs (easily accessible via www.givingdocs.org/sthuberts). This digital estate planning platform allows you to create your will, add a codicil to your existing will, make healthcare directives, create power of attorney documents, and more — making planning for your own future even easier.

Making a legacy gift to St. Hubert's through your will is easy, revocable, and may also reduce estate tax. But beyond all these practical reasons, your planned gift to St. Hubert's will ensure you leave a personal legacy of love for animals in our region and beyond.

To make a planned gift to St. Hubert's today, learn more about including St. Hubert's in your estate plan, or learn about our estate planning partner, Giving Docs, contact Acting Chief Development Officer Kimberly Bailey at kbailey@sthuberts.org or 202-510-4143. In the meantime, thank you for your compassion for animals and for your unwavering support of our vital mission here at St. Hubert's.



Andrew Hyer, St. Hubert's Transport Coordinator



What inspired you to join the staff at St. Hubert's?

I did Uber for a couple of years to spend more time with my son, like coaching baseball, helping him with football — things of that nature. Then he hit that age where it wasn't cool anymore to hang with his dad. So, at that point, I decided to do something for myself, and I always loved animals, so I applied to St. Hubert's and started as a kennel attendant.

How long have you been working with animals? What types of animals do you usually work with and why?

St. Hubert's is my first job working with animals, and I have been here for four years now. I am currently working for the WayStation — transporting dogs mostly. On occasion, I will transport cats.

What is your most memorable moment as a St. Hubert's team member?

I have many, but one that stands out is when the WayStation transported its 15,000th animal. It was such a special moment for the WayStation program, St. Hubert's, and our partners. To know the impact that this program has is amazing.

Do you have any advice to share with someone considering a career in animal welfare?

One piece of advice is, if you get into [animal welfare], it's not all about playing with puppies or kitties — it's a lot of hard work taking care of the animals. There are lots of great moments but also some heartbreaking ones. But don't let those bring you down. Try to always remember the great work you are doing for the animals. Keep the focus on the lives you are saving and making them feel loved.

ASK ADRIENNE



Pet behavior around unfamiliar people

Dear Adrienne: My pet is very anxious around people outside of our household. What are some steps I can take to make them feel comfortable with visitors? —Dog Gone Anxious

Dear Dog Gone Anxious: Being fearful is not your pet's fault, and their fear-motivated behavior — including barking or growling — shouldn't be punished. Pets can fear unfamiliar people for many reasons, including past traumatic experiences, genetics, or even inadequate socialization during early development.

Regardless of *why* your dog is uncomfortable with outsiders, it's important to advocate for your pet. Help people understand that your animal needs space — for example, by discouraging eye contact or attempts to reach for or touch your pet. Give your pet the

freedom to keep away from people that make them uncomfortable.

If your pet has a favorite toy, encourage them to play with it around unfamiliar people. Helping them associate these sorts of interactions with fun can enable them to feel safe and relaxed around new people.

For brief interactions with other people, a few treats for your pet while you chat can help send them the message that everything's okay. For longer interactions, your pet may prefer to relax on a mat or in a crate with a food puzzle toy.

Meet Our 20,000th WayStation Arrival

It was an exciting morning at Morristown Municipal Airport on August 16, 2022. On board: **Sweetie Johnson**, who was the **20,000th dog** to arrive since the WayStation program's inception in August 2016!

On behalf of Sweetie and everyone else at St. Hubert's, thank you for all you do to make our important work possible!

Every pup deserves to feel as loved as Sweetie is! Celebrate this fall season by sharing this special treat with your pet.



SPECIAL VEGAN TREAT

Peanut Butter & Pumpkin Dog Treats

INGREDIENTS

- 3/4 cup pumpkin puree
- 1/4 cup peanut butter
- 2 tbsp ground flax meal
- 1 1/3 cups oat flour
- 1/2 tsp cinnamon

DIRECTIONS

Preheat: Pre-heat oven to 350 F (175 degrees C).

Combine: Add the pumpkin puree, peanut butter, flax meal and cinnamon (if using) into a food processor and blend until combined.

Process: Add in the oat flour and process until a dough forms.

Cut: Lightly flour a cutting board and roll out the dough (around 1/4 inch thick). Use cookie cutters to cut as many pieces as you can and place them onto a parchment lined baking tray. Gather the remaining dough and repeat until you run out of dough.

Bake: Bake for 30-35 minutes.

Let them cool on a cooling rack and then store in the fridge for 1 week or freezer for 2 months.



OUR MISSION

St. Hubert's Animal Welfare Center is dedicated to the humane treatment of animals. We believe in and provide services that support the human-animal bond and seek to foster an environment in which people respect all living creatures.

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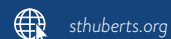
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