During a heat wave in the midst of our busiest summer season, St. Hubert’s was asked to assist with the rescue, sheltering and rehoming of what was initially thought to be up to 100 cats on a rural property in Sussex County. One of the original caretakers of the cats had passed away and the other elderly resident became overburdened and unable to provide care for them. The home and property had fallen into disrepair and we were advised that over the years some cats had been removed from the site, but the situation was never fully resolved and so the number of cats continued to grow.

We quickly realized that there were 193 cats living on the property. Our staff sprang into action, working quickly given the intense heat and lack of running water on the property. In order to provide the best care possible for these cats, we devoted our Noah’s Ark Campus to ensure a calm, comforting environment for them. The cats were undernourished, a number of them suffering from injuries and illness including skin conditions, parasite infections and a genetic eye condition requiring surgery to prevent eye irritation and potential blindness. All of these felines have been vaccinated, dewormed, treated for fleas and spayed/neutered.

This special group of cats is up for adoption, with many having already been placed into either suitable barn homes or indoor homes, depending on their personality and living preference. We are grateful for the outpouring of support which allows us to take on these large-scale rescues and save lives.
Letter from the President

Dear Friends,

As you read this issue of Humane News, autumn will be in the air and holiday items adorning the shelves of your favorite store. For everyone here at St. Hubert’s, fall is a time to give thanks for the lives of homeless pets we’ve been able to touch and the pet families we’ve been able to reach because of our generous supporters.

Our Sister Shelter WayStation Program is making a deep, lasting impact as we round out our second year of lifesaving transports. More than 8,000 animals have been moved from areas of great need to areas of opportunity. St. Hubert’s leads a group of 75 shelters up and down the east coast and is now sharing this model lifesaving program with shelters across the country.

Our Community Outreach team has been on the ground in Paterson every week, establishing a hands-on relationship with residents and offering ongoing veterinary services and supplies for their beloved dogs and cats. Of all the animals we’ve reached in Paterson, 57% have never seen a veterinarian before. During this year’s Trenton Vaccine Clinics, 88% of the pets in attendance were unaltered. We are proud to offer spay/neuter services for these pet families in need. Our Pet Food Bank program remains vital in the community as we visit area food pantries with pet food, litter, treats and other items to families who need a hand up to provide for their four-legged family members.

If you’ve been considering opening your home to a dog, cat or small animal, I urge you to visit any of our shelter locations. We are open 7 days a week and our adoption counselors will be ready and waiting to find your match.

On behalf of St. Hubert’s animals, staff and volunteers, I wish you a happy holiday season full of traditions with your beloved fur family.

Warmly,

Heather J. Cammisa, CAWA

P.S. We hope to see you at our upcoming annual events, Santa Paws and Tree of Love. Thank you!
In two short years, 8,300 animals (and counting) have been served through our Sister Shelter WayStation Program! With the support of PetSmart Charities, St. Hubert’s coordinates the relocation of animals from overburdened, underserved areas of the country to shelters in the Northeast with space and potential adopters. Our Give Back component of the program continues to grow as well, having sent back more than $280,000 in funds for spay/neuter to end the shelter overpopulation crisis at the root in source communities.

Pet Behavior Corner

ST. HUBERT’S DIRECTOR OF TRAINING AND BEHAVIOR, MEG BYRNE, ANSWERS COMMON QUESTIONS ABOUT PET BEHAVIORS.

“Help! My dog has accidents in the house!”

“He KNOWS he’s supposed to go outside.” “She went on the carpet out of spite.” “Why did she go as soon as we came inside, we were JUST out there!” If these comments sound familiar, you’ve got the house training blues! We know that problems with house training can be extremely frustrating for dog guardians. When addressing house training problems, we recommend that you go back to the basics.

First and foremost, set your dog up for success and do not allow free access to the house - that means use crates, baby gates, and leashes to manage your dog so you always have your eyes on him. If your dog has too much freedom inside the house, he may decide that he can eat and sleep in one room, and eliminate in another. Second, remember to reward your dog with a special treat when they eliminate outside – give the treat immediately after elimination and tell your dog how wonderful he is for doing the right thing. Don’t wait to treat him until he is back inside the house! It’s also important not to punish your dog for going inside the house, even if you’re frustrated. That often leads to the dog “hiding” his messes because he’s scared to get into trouble. Lastly, if your dog has suddenly started eliminating in the house (and he wasn’t before), a vet check may be in order to rule out a urinary tract infection or another medical issue.

Remember, consistency in routine, management to prevent accidents, and rewards for the right behavior are a recipe for success!

For more information on St. Hubert’s Training and Behavior classes, visit sthuberts.org or call 973.377.0116.

St. Hubert’s Animal Welfare Center has earned Charity Navigator’s 4 star rating, the highest possible rating, for the fifth consecutive year.

Did you know?

St. Hubert’s has small and furry pets available for adoption all year round. Guinea pigs, hamsters, bunnies, mice, birds and a variety of other small critters are ready to find a loving home. Call 973.377.2295 to learn more about adding a tiny addition to your home!
November is Adopt-A-Senior-Pet Month

St. Hubert’s has an exclusive club, The Red Collar Society, specifically for senior shelter pets. November is their favorite month as we celebrate our older residents and highlight all of their best features. Distinguished, sophisticated and loyal are all words we use to describe our shelter cats 10 years+ and dogs 8 years+. Some perks of being a member of the Red Collar Society include special medical care, orthopedic beds, reduced adoption fees and St. Hubert’s special brand of TLC. Toasty, 12 years old, came to St. Hubert’s when her mother passed away. She had made arrangements through our Pet Guardian Program for Toasty to come to us upon her passing, also leaving a monetary gift to us in her estate planning. We are happy to report that this sweet girl was adopted only weeks after arriving at St. Hubert’s, and is now being loved and spoiled by her new family. Interested in adopting a senior pet or want to learn more about leaving a gift to St. Hubert’s in your will? Call 973.377.7094 for more information.

Robins Meets Her Match

One-Year Anniversary of Unprecedented Hurricane Response Efforts

Robins, one of 1,212 animals transported to St. Hubert’s in response to the 2017 hurricane season, has found her match! Justin met and fell in love with this happy, loving girl, welcoming her into his home just shy of Robins’ one-year anniversary of arriving in NJ from Tampa Bay ahead of Hurricane Irma. St. Hubert’s mobilized its Sister Shelter WayStation Program starting in August of 2017 in response to Hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria, to move shelter animals out of affected areas to make room for displaced pets. We continue to provide assistance to both shelters and individuals in Puerto Rico as they rebuild by regularly welcoming transports of shelter animals and coordinating the reunions of pets with their families on the mainland. As we reach the one-year anniversary of this effort, we are grateful for our community of supporters who make this lifesaving work possible.

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