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Suns Out Tongues Out June Newsletter

Welcome to the June edition of our Creature Comfort Newsletter! As the summer season begins, we are excited to share the latest updates and heartwarming stories and pictures from our therapy teams. From bringing smiles to those in need, to spreading joy and comfort in our community, our dedicated volunteers and their furry companions, continue to make a positive impact every day. Join us as we celebrate the power of the human-animal bond and the incredible work being done by our teams. Thank you for being part of our mission to bring healing and happiness through the power of pets!

Mary Beth Cooney

Mary Beth Cooney Executive Director

Welcome to Creature Comfort









Schools Out!

Our teams made this school year extra special to over 100 schools this year! We know our visits will be missed, and we can't wait to see them again next year!



June Events



Facility of the Month



Autumn Lake at Berkley Heights offers advanced care programs for complex medical conditions, overseen by a team of in-house, board-certified specialists. Their warm caring staff is there to help each and every patient recover their health as fully and as comfortably as possible. They offer short-term rehab and long-term living.

Creature Comfort started providing visits for Autumn Lake Healthcare at Berkeley Heights in April of 2021. We visit two times per month!













Volunteers of the Month

We love our teams! Their dedication, passion, and support make the Creature Comfort community wonderful to be part of!

Stephan Kovalsky & George



Why I decided to get into pet therapy:

George's mom has been involved in Pet Therapy with over 300+ visits. My wife and I recognized from an early age that he had a similar personality/temperament to his mom. We took him to therapy training to learn more about the opportunity and see how he would react to becoming a pet therapy dog. George did great right from the start of the training classes and doing the pet therapy visits has strengthened our bond.

Favorite place to visit:

Our favorite place or type of visit it would involve children as George really enjoys these visits and the children appreciate interacting with a large dog.

Why I love pet therapy:

The best part of pet therapy and the part I love the most is in the interaction between George and the people and the smiles that he puts on their faces.













Most memorable visit:

My most memorable visit was on George's and my third therapy trip. This was a visit to Pillar Elementary School in Livingston which has 75 disabled children. The write-up provided by Creature Comfort indicated that this could be a tough visit for some dogs. On this visit it was only George and I. We were in the gym and there was a lot going on in terms of noise, people and students. However, George was great and although he got tired he gave every one of the students a chance to meet and pet him. One particular student who had multiple disabilities and couldn't speak, leaned over to me at the end of his visit and gave me a hug. This still brings a tear to my eye.

Isabella Blumberg & Plato

Why I decided to get into pet therapy:

Initially, I simply wanted Plato to become a therapy dog as part of his obedience training. I also wanted to ensure that my dog is safe around small children, especially my baby granddaughter. Later, I realized that therapy visits also help Plato overcome his natural fear of 'slippery' floors, provide him an opportunity to use elevators, navigate medical equipment, and, most importantly, receive so much love from so many people. There is no doubt: Plato loves being a therapy dog, and I love being his companion.



Favorite place to visit:

My favorite places to visit are elementary schools with very young children, such as Glenwood Elementary School in Short Hills. We also enjoy visiting Jardine Academy in Cranford. Jardine Academy is by far the most challenging place for a dog because of all the equipment and unpredictability associated with disabled children.

Most Memorable Visit:

One of my most memorable visits was to the Elizabeth Coalition for the Homeless children. I am glad I have an extra-large dog that can accommodate 10 little hands petting him at the same time.



Why I love pet therapy:

I love receiving warm
reactions from people of all
ages in any circumstances.
You can feel how a simple
interaction with a dog can
immediately change people's
mood. To my question 'do you
feel cured?' I always receive
a confirming answer,
'absolutely yes!'

In Memory of Chris Peterson



In loving memory of Chris Peterson, a cherished member of our Creature Comfort community. His compassion, kindness, and dedication to bringing comfort and joy to others through the power of pet therapy will forever be remembered. He was described as a pillar of his community alongside Peanut. Thank you for your unwavering commitment and the paw prints you left on our hearts.



Milestones





The Living Legacy Gala



Become a Volunteer



Join Today







Our Contact Information

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