

# The Companion Connection

Spring 2025



A publication of **Central Vermont Humane Society**

## Who Rescued Who?

**O**ur **Companion Connection** is aptly named, since we highlight the very special connection between people and their pets. We love helping people find their best match, creating new families. We love it when people send in their happy “tails” and update us on their adoptions. We hope you enjoy reading just a few of their stories, and if you have a happy “tail” of your own please email [info@centralvermonthumane.org](mailto:info@centralvermonthumane.org).

*Read the story of Valkyrie, now Sadie, inside!*



## Winooski



**S**quirrel (now named Winooski) has been an incredible addition to our home! She was a stray, and needed some extra love and support. **She came out of her shell within 24 hours, and continues to get up to hijinks around our apartment.** We often find her in our cabinets, bookshelves etc., any small space she finds. She loves chasing pompoms (her favorite!) or a ball. We live in a very long apartment, so I can throw it from one end to the other, she'll chase it down to the other side and bring it back. She loves to be involved! My partner and I carved pumpkins for Halloween and she could not get enough. Any time I clean she is all over the place sniffing and inspecting. She loves dinner time, licking my face while I watch TV, climbing on precarious shelves, and meowing us good morning at 6:30AM. I wouldn't change her for the world. **Thank you to the folks at CVHS for caring so deeply about their animals, making the adoption process incredibly quick and easy, and providing me with a forever friend.** — Audrey

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## Sadie

**O**ur pathway to Valkyrie (now Sadie) was not a straight line, and we are thrilled that CVHS helped us make the connection. We saw a hound puppy on the CVHS website, and we made an appointment to meet him. We had SO much hope that he would be our match. Since the always transparent CVHS bio explained that young children may not be a match for this pup, I had concerns. Our meeting was shaky, but our daughter was so in love that we nearly made too many concessions to adopt him. **Then we met Valkyrie, who I remembered from her bio that she loved kids. We all made an immediate connection to her.** We knew the adorable puppy would have his day, and we needed sweet Valkyrie to come home with us! Now Sadie, she has been doing great after some settle-in time. We went to CVHS's Good Manners 1 class, which was great human training and we all learned a lot that will help her succeed. Sadie's favorite toy is a stuffy that her Nanas got her, a pink pig that she likes to show off. While most dogs would probably tear up and de-stuff, Sadie is "just right" playful (good news for Pink Pig)!



CVHS has had a special hold on my heart for a while. As an artist, I have had the honor to donate a personalized pet portrait to CVHS's

fundraising efforts. Getting Sadie has felt like experiencing the full circle of this great organization. We are proud to support CVHS both as donors and now as first-time adopters. **Gratitude to CVHS staff for being patient with us, and being completely transparent about the needs of the fur babies we all want to see find loving homes.** — Karen

**We offer a range of Dog Training programs, check out our website for current classes.**

## Smokey

**P**addy O' Paws (now known as Smokey) is doing wonderful, we absolutely love him and cannot picture any other kitty completing our family the way he does. **Even with his visual disabilities, he has learned to jump on to the couch, bed and even a cat tower we got for him!** He is curious about EVERYTHING and follows us around like a shadow. Sometimes I joke that he is my little duckling and I am his Mama duck. He snuggles with us regularly, comes when called, and is just the best boy. I would recommend CVHS to anyone looking for a furry friend to complete their family. **I am very pleased with CVHS's adoption process as I think the adoption counselor really found the perfect pet for me. Smokey fits into our family like he has always been a part of it.** — Liz



**At CVHS we work hard to find the right pet for every family. Our staff are talented match-makers!**

## Gilly and Hayes

I had heard Gilly and Hayes were affectionate and very chill, including around dogs, so I took a chance. **They'd been at CVHS for months because they were seniors with mild kidney problems requiring special food. I knew I could offer them a great home.** Right away, they both seemed at ease with me and my wonderful rescue dog Sadie. It took a few weeks for them to adjust, then the day came that Hayes climbed over the cat gate! I had to laugh that he was now healthy and strong enough to escape. After a few weeks I started leaving them free in the house when Sadie and I were gone. Bit by bit, eventually the cats had the run of the house.

Sadie isn't thrilled that the cats are part of our family. I adopted her from CVHS seven years ago. She has become a great farm dog; a wonderful trail dog, keeping an eye on me; and a therapy dog, visiting the local care home every week. Though my constant companion, she is not an overly snuggly dog so I don't expect her to snuggle the cats. I do expect her to share her home in a respectful way. I know her very well and watch how she interacts with the cats. **The advent of winter and the draw of the wood stove helped them all settle in closer together.** The cats now join in our after-dinner treat routine: Sadie gets a Greenie for her teeth and the cats get little cat Greenies even though Gilly doesn't have any teeth! Who knows how else our lives will intertwine? — Susan



## Sprout

Sprout is fitting right in! He can get pretty rambunctious when he is going for a walk, a ride, or a meal. At first Maize (adopted from CVHS) would rumble at him, now she just steps back and waits for me to calm him down. Then she comes in for her turn! **I try to have alone time with each dog every day. Maize likes to play ball, while big tough Sprout likes to lay in my lap and get his belly scratched.** I hope people give older pets like Sprout a chance. Older dogs don't chew, they are usually house trained, they can ride in a car without getting sick, and they love their quiet nap times. When you adopt an older pet, they get to check out a new home, new people, new yard and new car. Once they figure out this new place is pretty cool, they settle in and are so loving. I know because I adopted Maize when she was 9 years old, and Sprout at 7. They love their life and act like 3 year olds! **I encourage everyone to give older pets a chance.** — Homer



## Sir Percival

Sir Percival (Percy) — formerly known as Literature — has been the perfect addition to our family. He settled in so quickly and was immediately happy snuggling up on our laps, purring away. He easily swaps from a snuggly lap warmer to a crazy stuffed animal wrestler, and always keeps us entertained! **We are SO happy to have Percy in our lives!**

— Aimee



**Older pets do tend to wait longer to be adopted. Please consider an older pet next time you are ready to adopt!**



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## The Real Story by Maxx the Lucky Dog

**L**ife at the Shelter wasn't too bad, CVHS staff took such good care of me. They told me that some people were coming who wanted an older dog. That was a surprise because we older dogs do not get much attention, even though I am a superior dog. I have a good education, a sparkling personality, and I am really good looking.

So, I met the people, and I was willing to go home on a trial basis to see if they would work out. We got to their place and first thing I evaluated the couch in the living room. Soft and cozy, just like I deserve. Then I checked the bed. Perfect, big enough for me, and they could squeeze in. I decided I would stay. My people learned how I like things to be, and did their best to live up to my standards. They

seem to know that I am a Very Special Dog and tell me so often. I have to admit they are very loving and pet me almost enough. I know they love me and they will always take care of me. I will stay here. I found a family again. I am glad that I adopted them.

I hope all my friends at CVHS find a good home like I have. **I have to thank CVHS and the people there for helping me find a perfect family and taking care of me until I came HOME. I am a very lucky dog.** — *Love and Licks, Maxx*

**Maxx's people report:** "He is the happiest dog, He really fit in immediately and made himself at home. If any dog is perfect, it is our Maxx. He is Family."

