

Suffield Veterinary Hospital May 2025 Patient of the Month

Meet Waylon, a 4-year-old Collie mix owned by the Brown family of Enfield. Owner Katie shares his story:

We adopted Waylon from Tennessee in October 2020 from a hoarding situation with his mom, 7 puppy siblings, and 5 or so other dogs from the rescue organization Pawsitive Paradise, LLC. My niece and I adopted brothers who see each other all the time. Waylon loves walks, car rides, destroying toys, chasing squirrels, howling with fire trucks, bothering his dog sister Georgie, and nighttime cuddles... but he loves butt rubs most of all!



In February, Waylon and I were on a walk when a dog crossed the street and attacked us. The dog bit Waylon and would not let go. Luckily, multiple cars stopped in both directions with people getting out to help. I just remember yelling as 2 men were trying to pry the dog's jaws off of my boy. Eventually, the men got the dog off. I called the police and took Waylon to Veterinary Emergency & Specialty Hospital in West Springfield about an hour later. They were wonderful and he left with stitches and tubes. Unfortunately he developed a fever, and they re-admitted him for fluids and monitoring. Our follow-up visits were at Suffield Veterinary Hospital with Dr. Rothbart, who was amazing. Poor Waylon did not like the visits but Dr. Rothbart, staff, and technicians all made him feel special. Over the next few months of treatment and frequent visits to SVH, the stinker did manage to pull off bandages, pulled out a drain tube, and got a wound on his neck from the cone. Happily, Waylon is finally cone- and stitch-free and is back to playing like he is a puppy again!



Waylon's terrible wound about half-way through healing.

Waylon came to see Dr. Rothbart for a follow-up after his initial emergency treatment. Unfortunately, his wounds became infected and instead of healing, were actually spreading. A culture of the wound was taken so that Dr. Rothbart could identify the bacteria causing the infection and select an appropriate antibiotic. Due to the extensive nature of Waylon's wound, he required surgery to remove the infected tissue, and he needed several sedated follow-up procedures to help continue along the path to healing. Dr. Rothbart, the technicians and the entire hospital staff were always excited to see Waylon walk through the front door and watch the progress he made as his wounds healed. Waylon may always have a scar as result of this horrible injury, but we are thrilled to report that he has made a complete recovery.

Although Waylon's experience was awfully scary and painful, we are grateful to him for providing us with this opportunity to focus on how amazing the body is (along with a little veterinary help) in healing wounds, and we are proud to name him our May 2025 Patient of the Month.

Suffield Veterinary Hospital

Dr. Ann Huntington ❖ Dr. Anita Sabellico ❖ Dr. Dawn Burke

Dr. Daniel Rothbart ❖ Dr. Emilie Laston

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