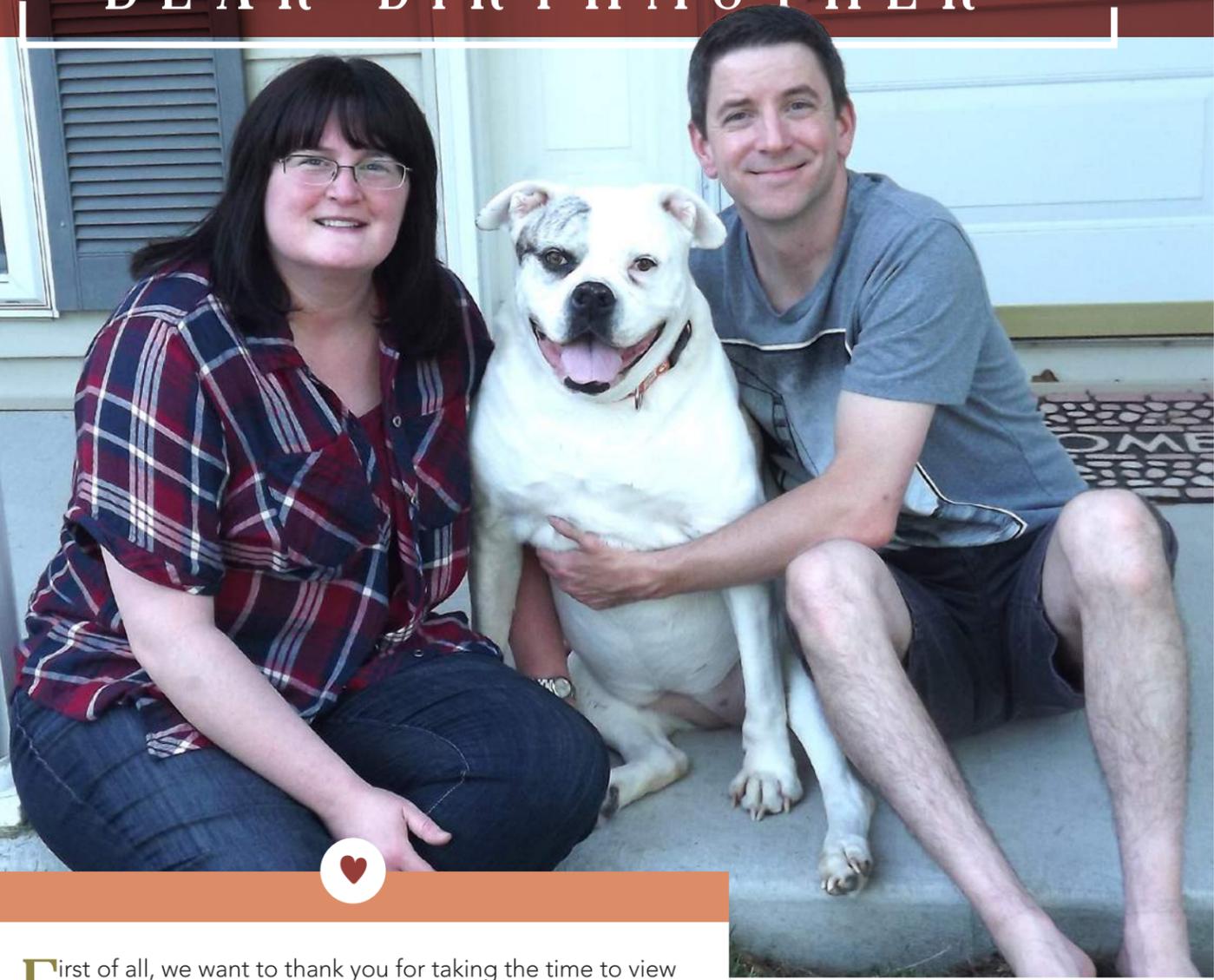


JENNIFER & JOHN



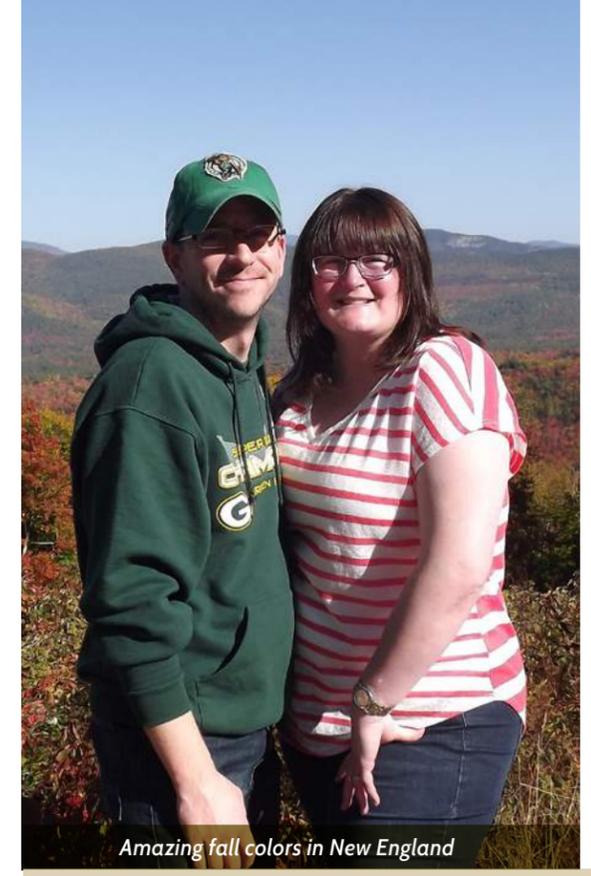
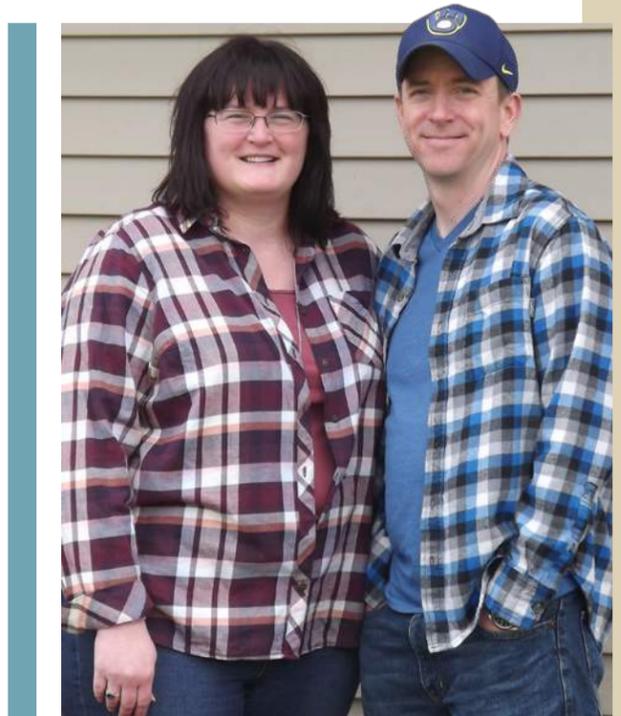
DEAR BIRTHMOTHER



First of all, we want to thank you for taking the time to view our profile and learn about us. We cannot imagine all of the emotions you are going through, but we know you are going through this journey because you love your child and want what is best for them. We admire you for your bravery and courage, and we are very grateful to you for considering making us a part of you and your child's journey.

We spent many years working through our infertility issues and we are excited to be turning our hopes toward adoption. **WE ARE SO EXCITED TO BECOME PARENTS!** If we are fortunate enough that you decide to choose us as part of your adoption plan, we will be forever grateful to you, and will cherish your child forever.

We hope our future includes you and your child becoming members of our family! We are very excited to meet you and learn about your hopes and dreams for your child.



Amazing fall colors in New England

THINGS WE LOVE TO DO

- **TRAVEL** – We like to explore new places.
- **SPORTS** - We like attending football, basketball and baseball games.
- **THEATER** - We enjoy attending local musicals and plays. We even went to our first musical on Broadway last year!
- **SPEND TIME WITH FAMILY/ COUSINS/FRIENDS** – We love doing things with them like sitting at home playing games and taking trips.
- **ROAD TRIPS** – We like to hop in our car on any day to find new and exciting things to do we have not tried before.
- **READING** – John's favorite authors are Stephen King & John Grisham. Jennifer's favorite authors are Janet Evanovich & James Patterson.
- **FOOD** – We love to try new restaurants.

Hanging with the Liberty Bell



GETTING TO KNOW US

Our story began when we were 4 years old when John's grandmother babysat both of us for a couple of years. However, we did not see each other for the next 17 years until we met again out of the blue. We started talking, dating and as they say, the rest is history!

We have been married for over 10 years. We live at a lake community in Illinois with our dog Paige. We're a short drive from both our families and enjoy seeing them often.

We love to travel and take a big vacation each year. We have taken road trips out west to Mt. Rushmore and Yellowstone National Park and as far east as Boston and New York City. However, our favorite trip was San Francisco!

We enjoy spending time with family & friends playing cards or board games, going to concerts and attending sporting events. We both are passionate fans of the Boston Celtics and Milwaukee Brewers, but we are bitter rivals with John supporting the Green Bay Packers and Jennifer the Chicago Bears.

All of the struggles and heartache of the infertility process has led us to this place where we know we were meant to adopt our child. While the ups and downs were difficult, we are grateful the process strengthened our relationship and prepared us for adoption.

It has been our dream for a long time to raise a family. We are excited to share our lives and our interests with our child.

Dressed up for a fundraiser

WHAT JENNIFER
 ABOUT JOHN

- 1. KIND AND COMPASSIONATE
- 2. HARD WORKING
- 3. INTELLIGENT
- 4. THE MOST HONEST PERSON I KNOW



Posing on vacation in Vermont

MY WORK

I WORK AS AN ATTORNEY. My work has led me to help in my community by serving not-for-profit groups. Jennifer and I enjoy supporting them by giving donations and attending fundraisers. One board I serve on is a group dedicated to protecting and helping children who have been victims of physical or sexual abuse.



ABOUT JOHN

I have a passion for music that started when I formed a rock band with my brother, cousin and a close friend in high school. I love to attend concerts, play the drums at my church and listen to music while doing almost anything. My favorite band is the Beatles!

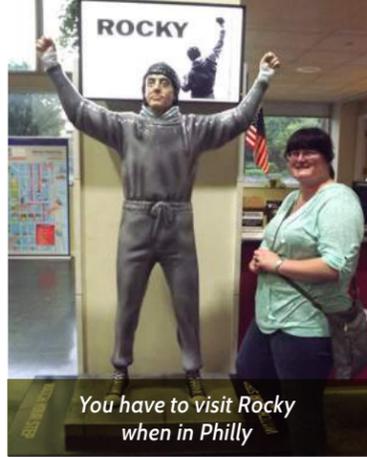
My father passed his love of history onto me. We have taken many family vacations to visit President's homes, battlefields and other historical sites. One of my dreams is to take my family to Europe to visit where our ancestors came from.

I spent part of my childhood growing up on a farm and working outside. I enjoy being outside doing yard work, reading on our porch and raising pigs with my family. We have raised pigs for over 100 years on our family farm and take them to state fairs every year. Seeing new baby pigs makes me happy-they are so cute!!

I AM HAPPIEST WHEN... I spend time with Jennifer, my family and friends. I really enjoy getting together to do such things as sitting around a campfire, sharing a meal or just talking about what is going on in our lives.

Raising champion pigs

Visiting a friend's orchard



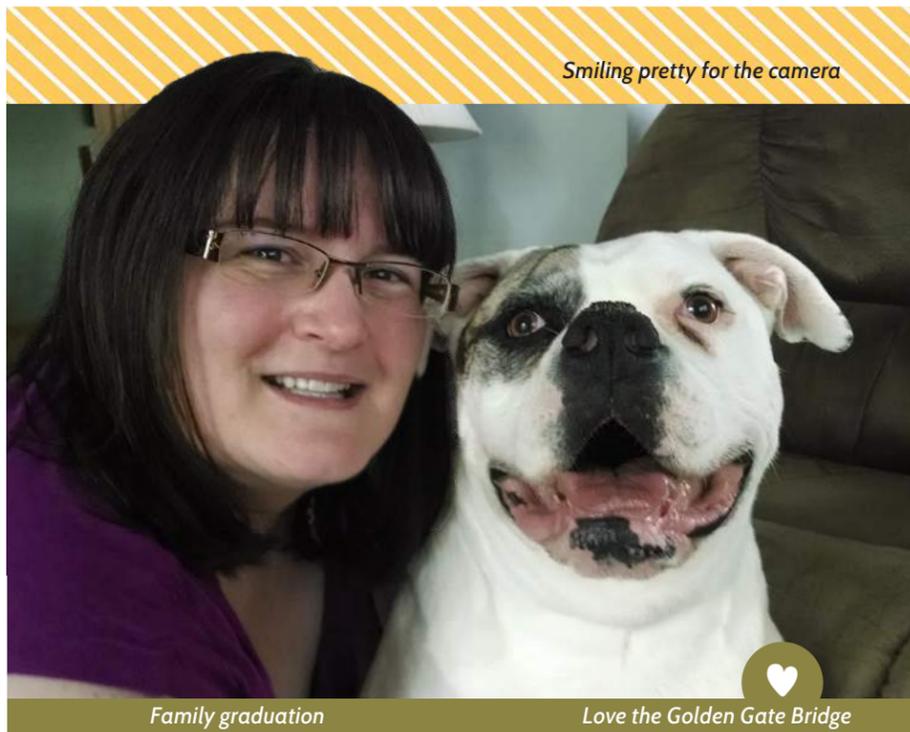
You have to visit Rocky when in Philly



Fun times on the farm

WHAT JOHN
 ABOUT JENNIFER

- 1. SENSE OF HUMOR
- 2. LOYALTY
- 3. SUPPORTIVE & ENCOURAGING
- 4. GOOD LISTENER



Smiling pretty for the camera

Family graduation

Love the Golden Gate Bridge



ABOUT JENNIFER

Even though I grew up as an only child, I was always around my large extended family. Family is very important to me. I have over a dozen aunts and uncles as well as countless cousins. I am especially close with a group of cousins near my age who are pretty much like my siblings! This group gets together many times a year for "cousins weekend" doing such things as staying at a cabin, playing board games or meeting to watch each season of Fuller House together! And sometimes we include our husbands and children!

I have always enjoyed sports, which started when I played volleyball, basketball and softball during my youth. Being a part of a team helped me learn valuable life lessons, such as hard work, working together towards a common goal and trust. I enjoy watching all different types of sports, live and on TV. Our love for sports is just one of the many things John and I have in common.

I AM HAPPIEST WHEN... John and I jump in a car to search for new and exciting things to do in our area, take vacations around the country or catch up with family and friends.



Vacation with godson and his sister



Spending time with John's parents on the family farm



Home sweet home

OUR HOME

Our home is a one-story ranch style home with a finished basement. It has 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms and a large backyard for our child to play outside! We love to have family and friends come to our home. Our basement has a second kitchen for hosting large get togethers and a currently unused room we plan to remodel into a play room for our child.

We live in a rural lake community where half of the homes are full-time and half are weekend homes. This community is very safe with many families raising children and security officers always patrolling. Our child will have access to activities at the lake, a heated pool, basketball and tennis courts, a fitness center and trails for hiking and riding UTV's.

We especially love the access to nature and wildlife we have. Many days we will watch rabbits, squirrels, turkeys, foxes, and deer walk through our yard while sitting in our living room.



Puzzling on a lazy Sunday

MEET OUR FAMILY

Family is extremely important to us! We are very close with our parents. John's parents, Kevin and Yvonne, live on the family farm and Jennifer's parents, Fred and Annette, live in a small town near them. Both of our parents set a great example of what a marriage should be as they each have been married for 38 years!

Our parents have become close with each other to the point that we even celebrate some holidays together as a large family. Our parents are loving, supportive and always willing to help us with anything we need. We are fortunate to live close to them and to be able to spend a lot of time with them.

Our parents were ecstatic when we told them we were going to adopt a child. They are

very excited and looking forward to welcoming their grandchild into the family. John also has an older brother who has told John multiple times he cannot wait to spoil his niece or nephew!

We have a close group of cousins and friends with children of all ages. We try to get together as much as possible whether it be for weekend getaways, holidays or even simple things like meeting for supper.

We both have a large extended family with many aunts, uncles and cousins living in the area. **WE SPEND A LOT OF TIME AT FAMILY EVENTS/ HOLIDAYS** and we cannot wait to introduce our child to our family who we know will love them as much as they love us!

Meeting my best friend's newborn



Enjoying the Riverwalk with Jennifer's parents



John with his Godson



Playing in the rain with our cousin



They made me dress up!

PAIGE IS OUR 10-YEAR-OLD ADORABLE PUP! We rescued her 8 1/2 years ago and she instantly became a member of our family. She loves belly rubs, running around the family farm, going for rides in the car with her head out the window and cheese! She thinks she is a lap dog and loves to cuddle even though she weighs 100 lbs! She may be a tad bit spoiled, but we just cannot help it when she looks at us with those big sad eyes.



OUR FAVORITE HOBBIES

JENNIFER
reading
puzzles
sports

JOHN
reading, music
sports
raising pigs



"We love exploring nature too!"



ONE LAST THANK YOU

From the bottom of our hearts, we thank you for taking the time to consider our family! Our hearts are full of love and we have been waiting to fulfill our dream of welcoming a child into our lives for a long time.

We would be honored if you chose us to be the parents of your child and we will strive to make the life of your child the best one possible.

Jennifer and John



TO LEARN MORE ABOUT US...

- astepaheadadoption.com
- 877-532-0236

OUR PROMISES TO YOU

OUR HOME IS A PLACE FILLED WITH LOVE, SUPPORT, FAMILY AND LAUGHTER. We will unconditionally support our child in whatever endeavors they decide to pursue in life. We will teach our child to have the strength and courage to stand up for what is right, to never let anyone tell them what they can or cannot accomplish and to help others in need or who are being treated unfairly. We will raise them to live every day to the fullest and to have a passion for serving others.