

# Happy Hours At Herndon Dog Park

PET CONNECTION, PAGE 4

**Krista Rigling of Herndon (Sommerfield) is pictured with her dogs Tonks, right, a Border collie/Labrador mix, and Seamus, a Lab mix. They are part of the family. The dogs come to the Herndon dog park every day, escorted by either Rigling or her husband. The Riglings obtained both dogs from the Humane Society of Fairfax.**

**Good, Clean  
Fun For Pets**

PET CONNECTION, PAGE 3

**Cats, Dogs Find  
'Place To Belong'**

PET CONNECTION, PAGE 9

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**PET CONNECTION**

**Political Pets**



Supervisor John Foust (D-Dranesville) poses with his wife's white Maltese Bennie

PHOTOS  
CONTRIBUTED



Fairfax County Chairwoman Sharon Bulova (D- At-large) got her cat Winston from the Fairfax County Animal Shelter. She calls him 'the love of her life.'

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# PET CONNECTION



Melquin Hidalgo clips the nails of Scraps, during a visit to Dog A Do salon.



Robyn Friedin, left, and Patricia DiMaria wash Casper, a Chihuahua, at Bark N Bubbles to raise money for their Race for the Cure team.

PHOTOS BY ALEX MCVEIGH/THE CONNECTION

## Good, Clean Fun For Pets

Salons offer different options for keeping pets groomed and clean.

BY ALEX MCVEIGH  
THE CONNECTION

Residents of the Reston/Herndon area have several choices when it comes to cleaning and grooming your pet. If a pet wants to be pampered in a low stress environment, there's Dog A Do pet salon.

Owned by groomer Kat Brooks, Dog A Do prides itself on the absence of dogs barking, despite the presence of up to a dozen at one time.

"This is the kind of environment pets like, where they're not stressed out," Brooks said.

Dog A Do only has two rooms, one area that doubles as a reception area and the grooming section, and a back part where the bathtubs are. By keeping the pets all together throughout the grooming process, it helps to take away any apprehension that might come up when the pet associated it with a kennel-like atmosphere.

SEE PET BUSINESSES, PAGE 13  
WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



Becca Miller puts the finishing touches on Tucker, a soft-coated Wheaten terrier.



Lyndsay Nelson, left, holds her dog Kaya, a German shepherd mix, while Dani Weng, co-owner of Bark N Bubbles, clips Kaya's nails.



PHOTOS BY KARIS SHANG/THE CONNECTION

Arya Eshraghi of Herndon with his pet bird Pofack on his shoulder.

## Friends You Can Count On

Pet birds can have just as much spunk and character as dog or cat



Pofack sits on his owner's finger, staring at the camera.

BY KARIS SHANG  
THE CONNECTION

We've all heard of cat and canine lovers, but Arya Eshraghi from Herndon has a love of birds. Currently, he has one pet cockatiel named Pofack, which is a play on words in Farsi meaning "cheese puff" or can otherwise be translated as "small puff."

Eshraghi has had his pet cockatiel since it was a little puffball bought from an aviary in Fairfax. Nearly 3-years old, Pofack has a close relationship with Eshraghi.

"Cockatiels are social animals and bond easily to people in a household," said Eshraghi. "He's really affectionate and loves attention. He lets you pet him, which most cockatiels don't allow. He even chews my computer wires when I don't pay enough attention to him. He also likes to fly to my shoulder and clean my ears."

Besides having free reign of the house, Pofack also has free reign in his diet. "Pofack likes to eat a lot of what we eat," said

Eshraghi. "He's crazy about pasta and even drinks tea. He also eats chicken on occasion, which freaked me out because I think it's a bit cannibalistic."

Although Eshraghi has only Pofack now, at one point he had a virtual aviary in his house. "I used to have upwards of 10 birds at once. It was sort of an accident. It all started with one male and one female bird, and well," said Eshraghi, laughing. "We ended up giving most of them away, but it was crazy there for a while."

Eshraghi characterized Pofack as somewhere between a dog and a cat. Pofack can be independent and indifferent like a cat, but really affectionate and attention-seeking like a dog. But be it dog, cat or bird, pets have a special place in people's hearts.

"Pets are important because there's an emotional bond with someone who's always there for you and won't abandon you," Eshraghi said. "They are a friend you can always count on, and, besides, people can be obnoxious."



PHOTOS BY DEB COBB/THE CONNECTION

**Dave Kurtz of Herndon gets ready to toss a toy for his dog Skunkers, a 10-month-old Border collie/collie mix. With his partner Anna Cima he brings Skunkers to the Herndon Dog Park four to five times a week. Kurtz dreams of one day having a ranch with stock for Skunkers to herd. ‘We couldn’t live without him,’ they say of Skunkers.**



**Rocio Cato gets ready to throw a stick for her 1-year-old golden retriever Vega. Living near the Herndon Dog Park, they are regulars. Recently married, Vega was a gift from Cato’s in-laws. They breed golden retrievers. ‘His dad was a champion, his mom was just pretty. Vega is my baby.’**

## Happy Hours at Herndon Dog Park

### Herndon Off-Leash Dog Area (Chandon Park).

**J**ust around the corner from the intersection of Elden Street and Herndon Parkway, at Chandon Park, is a place dedicated to dogs. It is the Herndon Off-Leash Dog Area, more commonly referred to as the Herndon Dog Park. It’s an enclosed park dedicated to letting vaccinated, licensed dogs get together off their leashes and play. The Herndon dog park has grassy areas, dirt areas, benches, lots of shade and water. Guests who visit the park are asked to clean up after their dogs and supervise their dogs to make sure that all that visit have a good experience.

Thankful that they have such a nice place to bring their dogs, a wish list of improvements would include some help with the poison ivy that is established in one corner of the park, more benches, evening lights and a sign better advertising park.

Dan Sutherland, grounds management branch manager of the Fairfax County Park Operations Division, indicated that for a dog park to exist a “dog opportunity group” must be available to manage the park, in this case Herndon Dogs. The group is responsible for ensuring that dog park visitors follow the rules and clean up after their dogs. Any maintenance concerns or improvement requests should be made to the maintenance contact person for the group



**Sonali Ambre of Herndon is pictured with her golden retriever Coco. She always wanted a big dog, but her husband was very afraid of dogs, so much so that he would cross the street if he saw one. So, they decided to get a puppy. ‘We thought he could grow into dog ownership as the puppy grew.’ Ambre says that Coco has transformed her husband. He now understands the dog psyche and has no fear of dogs. ‘Life with Coco is crazy, we invest a lot of time with him, but in return we get unconditional affection. Having a dog gives a structure to your life. You can’t be too tired to go to the dog park.’**

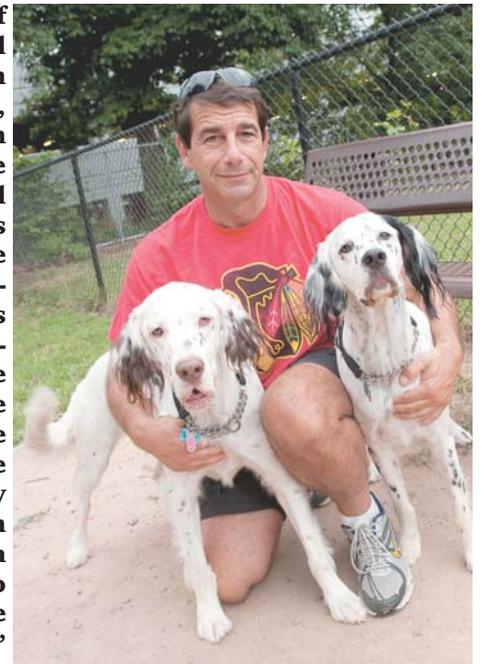
or Sutherland’s office.

On a summer evening, visitors can find groups of dogs running around chasing each other, balls, discs, sticks and even cicadas while their owners chat about everything from politics to restaurants to, of course, their dogs. The “regulars”

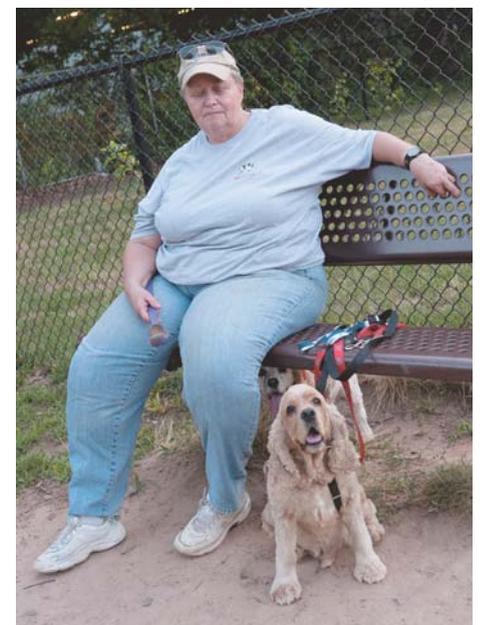
are proud of their park and take an active role in its maintenance, and keeping it stocked with toys for the dogs. For many, a trip to the dog park with their companions has become their happy hour tradition.

— DEB COBB

**Tom Marchegiano of Herndon is pictured with his two English setters, Randy, left, and Ralphie. From the same litter, the brothers are named after the famous brothers from the 1983 movie ‘A Christmas Story.’ ‘The dogs are good companions. They keep the house lively and are always happy to see you. These two are inside dogs and they hit the lottery [with us]. They have a good life. We try to bring them to the dog park every day.’**



**Marsha Carr, a Herndon resident, is pictured with two cocker spaniels, Murphy and Tucker, peeking out from under the bench. She is a volunteer with Herndon Dogs who played a critical role in raising the funds for the construction of the dog park and selecting the site. When asked why she has dogs, she said, ‘When you come home, they are thrilled to see you. You can never do anything wrong as far as they’re concerned.’ Both dogs are rescued. Carr mentions that the dog park is always in need of plastic bags for patrons to scoop their dogs’ ‘business.’ ‘There’s a plastic tote inside the gate, just put your plastic grocery bags inside, and we’ll use them.’ Carr comes to the dog park daily.**





Melissa Jonas, fourth from left, is takes the oath of office as a newly appointed member of the Planning Commission July 20

## Fresh Voice on Planning Commission

BY ALEX McVEIGH  
THE CONNECTION

The Herndon Town Council has appointed Melissa Jonas to a four-year term as a member of the Planning Commission. Jonas, who has lived in Herndon since 2002, will serve in a crucial point in Herndon's history, as planning for the new Metrostation and the downtown section of Herndon are at the forefront of the town's to-do list.

"There couldn't be a more exciting time to be on the Planning Commission," Jonas said. "The planning for downtown and the metro are big challenges for Herndon."

Jonas has always had an interest in planning and served on the Dranesville Area Planning Commission. She lived in Chantilly in the 1980s, so she has seen firsthand the changes this area has undergone.

She said she is looking forward to refining the Herndon brand to attract new citizens and busi-

nesses.

"We'll be looking at everything, from the big picture to the nitty gritty details of the actual implementation," Jonas said. "Hopefully, we'll get there soon."

She took the massive participation at the July 19 workshop for the Metrostation as a sign that a community wants to have a say in its future.

"I'm excited about the number of citizens who came out, it was the largest planning-related event I'd ever seen," she said. "People are going to have differences of opinions, but I want to hear them, to get a broad perspective. I'd rather hear from the people than feel like I'm trying to make decisions in a vacuum."

Jonas was appointed to the seven-member Planning Commission and sworn in July 20. Councilmember Sheila Olem called her "a great asset" to the Planning Commission.

"She works and communicates with people well and has shown the ability to digest complex infor-

mation," Olem said.

Vice Mayor Lisa Merkel remembers Jonas from her previous planning work as "a consensus builder who knows how to answer tough questions."

Jonas applied through the Town of Herndon talent bank, which is always open. Town staff keeps applications on file whenever committee positions open.

When the spot on the Planning Commission opened, Jonas' background made her the choice.

"She has a combination of skills, she's very articulate, she has experience doing research, she reviews a lot of builders' development plans," said Councilmember Jasbinder Singh.

Councilmember Grace Han Wolf said she was "excited to have someone who had previous planning experience."

Jonas enjoys exercising and cooking. She is a girl scout leader and is active with her children's schools and swim team.

The Herndon talent bank can be found at [www.herndon-va.gov](http://www.herndon-va.gov).

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

## THIS IS "MACKY"



Brittany/Lab Mix, neutered male, 30 lbs., D.O.B. May 24, 2009. Macky and his brother, Jake, came from a home with too many dogs for the owner to take care of. He spent his life mostly on a chain but this did not change his sweet personality. He is good with children, is only 12 months old and very cute. He has beautiful black medium fur and eyes that melt your heart. Come and meet Macky and find your best friend forever. Attributes: Best Friend You'll Ever Have!



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## Welcome to the Pet Connection

It would be easy, based on some measures, to say that some areas love their dogs more than others, although we are quite confident that most families love their dogs and other pets in a way that defies quantification.

Nevertheless, we will point out that the City of Alexandria, with a population of more than 150,000 and more than 70,000 households, is also home to 17 different dog parks, including both fenced and unfenced areas for dogs to run free of their leashes and play with other dogs. (Nationally, 39 percent of households average 1.7 dogs, so even assuming a normal level of dog ownership in Alexandria (we suspect it exceeds national numbers), there are likely more than 46,000 dogs. That's one dog park for every 2,700.

In Fairfax County, with a population of about 1,038,000 people and more than 393,000 households, statistics would predict at least 260,000 dogs, but only eight dog parks. That's one dog park for every 32,000 dogs or so ...

In Arlington, 217,000 people live in about 103,000 households, and a statistically likely 68,000 dogs also has eight dog parks, or one dog park for about every 8,500 dogs.

In Montgomery County, Md., about 970,000 people live in about 364,000 households, and so probably about 240,000 dogs, and just five dog parks, so more than 48,000 dogs per dog park.

Fortunately, we found no evidence of overcrowded dog parks in any of our areas, just happy dogs and owners enjoying one of the amenities of this area. And lots of dog parks mean less likelihood of dog owners running their dogs off their leashes in other less appropriate parks. In fact, the growing numbers of dog parks are just one more indicator of how important pets and animals are to us.

A third of local households are likely homes to cats, with the average household with cats having 2.4 cats, but there are not cat parks ... Most "cat people" agree that cats are safer indoors, although we all know exceptions.

Of all these animals, 19 percent of dogs and 22 percent of cats are adopted from animal shelters. Most pets (75 percent of dogs, 87 percent of cats) are spayed or neutered. There are so many pets that need homes, it's a local and national crisis. If you are considering adding a pet to your family, please consider the humane society, the shelter or a rescue organization.

In the pages of our Pet Connection this week, you'll find stories of many families and their pets, plus information on how and where to adopt dogs, cats, birds, small animals and even horses that desperately need homes.

For much more information, look online at [www.ConnectionNewspapers.com](http://www.ConnectionNewspapers.com), and click on Pet Connection.

If you'd like to share information about other pet resources, or about your pet, we still look forward to hearing from you.

Statistics from U.S. Census and the American Pet Products Manufacturers Association 2009-2010 National Pet Owners Survey.

### EDITORIAL

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Decisions First, 'Dialogue' Later

To the Editor:

Re: Kathy Smith's letter [School Board Welcomes Dialogue, Connection, July 21-27, 2010].

The process the School Board has used to reach every important decision has been flawed, because in each case the outcome was predetermined by how the board framed the questions and restricted the discussion. Hosting "community dialogs" in which the scope of the discussion is limited only to the answers the School Board wants to hear is a sham. That was the case with redistricting, and it was the case with the bell schedule discussion. The only options provided were "bad" and "worse," with the board nudging people toward retaining the current bad schedule. They said at the time that other alternatives, made possible through more efficient bus scheduling were not possible. Then, only months later when the budget crunch hit, they miraculously found new bus schedule efficiencies that permitted them to save money by making adjustments to some school's bell schedules.

The fact is that this School Board routinely predetermines its decisions and then structures false debates to create the appearance of engagement and support for those predetermined decisions. Surely Ms. Smith doesn't suggest that a majority of families at Graham Road Elementary School supported the closing of their neighborhood school and the costly bus-

ing of those students to another facility outside their neighborhood? How did that decision reflect the board's response to community feedback?

**Dan Carney**  
Herndon

## Keeping Our Eye on the Prize

To the Editor:

A number of community groups, newspapers, and local politicians have criticized, often in strident tones, some recent decisions of the Fairfax County School Board. The decision to close Clifton Elementary School is one such example. According to the critics, members of the Board supposedly ignored the "wishes of the community," and relied too heavily on the Superintendent and his professional staff. One editorial accused the Board of depriving the citizens of information, and adopting a "we know what's best" attitude. By ignoring the unprecedented amount of information the School Board makes available and the open nature of the Board's processes, the critics miss the mark.

The voters of Fairfax County elected the School Board – not single issue or self-appointed "community watchdog" groups – to exercise responsible stewardship over the education of our children. This means it is our job to work harder, study more, and exercise sound judgment about what works best for all of Fairfax County and the children we serve. It means that the loudest, most persistent voices do not always carry the day, the supposed opinion of a

"majority" of community members is not always right, and what may be the best decision for some community advocates is not always the best decision for all the children.

When former School Board Chair Bob Frye used to say we must always "listen to the silence," he was reminding us to take account of the voices of those in our County who do not organize e-mail and petition drives, who do not hold mass rallies, and who have never written a letter to the editor or a check to a candidate for School Board. As a result, we sometimes make decisions that, as one Clifton resident wrote to a Board member, "offend the rich and powerful." That comes with the territory. What should not come with the territory, however, are disrespectful personal attacks on individual Board members and their integrity, whether from community members or other elected officials. And yet angry Clifton residents have sent hate mail to the homes of School Board members and called some Board members names that cannot be printed in the newspaper. One so-called community group has questioned not only the integrity of the Board, but also the competence of the Superintendent and everyone who works for him. That group – which has yet to offer any support for the Board, its budget, or any of its decisions – apparently believes that recent gains in student achievement all happened by magic. A member of the Virginia House of Delegates accused one School Board member of "throwing Clifton children under the bus." Still another official threat-

ened political retaliation against a member of the School Board. We would never tolerate this behavior from our own children. We should not tolerate it from adults.

Even though we have to make decisions about many things, the Board must always focus on one thing: student achievement. By all measures, we are succeeding. More children are achieving greater success than ever before. Achievement gaps are steadily shrinking. In some schools they have disappeared altogether. We have achieved our successes by working together with parents, teachers, administrators, and support staff. That is how we should be working.

At the end of the day, we must make decisions that focus on supporting our mission to "inspire, enable, and empower students to meet high academic standards, lead ethical lives, and demonstrate responsible citizenship." When we start trying to please or pander to vocal, well-organized groups of single-issue advocates, or elected officials trying to make political hay, we will have lost sight of our goal. And when some Board members and the public treat the professional staff as adversaries, not as partners, student achievement will suffer. No one can afford that.

**Stuart D. Gibson**  
Member, Fairfax  
County School Board  
Hunter Mill District

**Tessie Wilson**  
Member, Fairfax  
County School Board  
Braddock District

# A Beautiful Friendship

BY SUE A. STRAITS

**A**lmost 20 years ago, a red-headed boy and his tow-headed younger brother, along with their spirited collie dog, knocked on our front door to welcome us to the neighborhood. Few words were exchanged, but the boys had brought bubbles and a giant bubble wand.

“New kids just moved into the neighborhood,” their mom said, nudging them out the front door. “Go make friends with them.” Soon there were cries of glee, barking and the laughter of parents looking on. It was the start of a beautiful friendship.

Over blazing summer heat, our children (then 3, 4, 5 and 6) played “Slip n’ Slide” in the backyard and built forts from tree stumps in shady backyards to keep their dogs cool. During one memorable winter storm, the children drove make-shift sleds across snowy neighborhood slopes, pulled by their faithful collie and German shepherd dog team. Best of all, perhaps from a parent’s perspective, were friendships that developed over daily walks to the school bus stop, parkland, trails and nearby pool where our herder dogs led the straight way and would have waited all day for their master children to return from school or play. Would we have so much patience.

Some years later, our teenagers favored bicycles, roller blades, skateboards and scooters as pastimes, weaving through neighborhood driveways, streets and sidewalks as their guardian dogs watched nervously from the yard or front stoop, ready to caringly lick accidental cuts or scrapes.

Years have passed and our children went off to college, came back home for holidays and summer vacations, and then moved away. We parents, empty nesters and still neighbors, touch base with each other almost daily through phone calls or drop-in visits, including 7 a.m. runs prompted by “I’m out of coffee filters. Do you have any?” “Sure thing, help yourself. The door’s open.”

It’s a short walk to my neighbor’s house where the family dog enthusiastically greets me with a cheerful bark and wet kisses.

Four years ago, their circle of dogs grew when they became foster parents for one of the area’s dog rescue leagues. In that time, they have fostered more than 45



**Neighbor Kevin Walsh at age 3 with his first dog KC. This photo was taken 17 years ago. Walsh is now a marine biology major at San Diego State.**



**A drawing of Kevin and his first dog KC done by Sue A. Straits’ daughter Sarah Vanell in June 2010 during a visit. She drew it from the photo as a birthday present to Kevin.**



**Sarah and JP’s twin daughters, Olivia and Madison, during their June 2010 visit, meet neighbor’s newly adopted rescue dog named ‘King.’**

collies, all of which have touched my heart with their great beauty, loyalty and affection.

My daughter, her husband and their 1-year-old twin daughters visit us often. A highlight of their stay is visiting our neighbors’ dogs. The babies laugh and pet them,

delighting in the shower of collie kisses. Our circle of friends, including faithful dogs, continues to grow into a new generation. I can hardly wait until next summer when our granddaughters are big enough to blow bubbles that dogs can pop.



**Chessie warming up with James by the wood burning stove after playing outside in the blizzard of 2010.**

PEOPLE AND PETS

## Adopting Chessie

**C**hessie (short for Chesapeake) is a 1-year-old beagle/border collie mix who has added so much joy to the Little family of Fox Mill Estates since they adopted her as a 10-week-old, 6 pound pup from Commonwealth Cat Rescue, a no-kill shelter. The first seven or eight months were a real challenge. Cute as she was, she wreaked havoc on the house, chewing incessantly on everything including the family members. They said they are glad they stuck it out, as she has learned her place in the family and settled down into a delightful pet: smart, feisty and playful, yet very affectionate and no longer destructive.



**Chessie at 10 weeks on Ben’s lap.**

## ‘Purr-sey Shore’ Comes to Fairfax

**T**he cats of the “Purr-sey Shore” will be in residence at the Fairfax County Animal Shelter from Tuesday, July 26 through Saturday, July 31. The Kit-uation, Kitty-D, J-Meow and the notorious Snoo-Kitty will make special appearances and be available for adoption during the week.

Visit the cast of “cat-acters” from Tuesday – Friday, 12 p.m.

to 6:30 p.m. and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. As part of the shelter’s special ExtravaCATza! adoption event, cats and kittens adopted from the shelter will receive a free spay or neuter.

The Fairfax County Animal Shelter is located at 4500 West Ox Road, Fairfax, VA 22030. For more information about the kitties from the “Purr-sey Shore” or ExtravaCATza!, call the shelter at 703-830-1100.

# PET CONNECTION

## Dog Parks

# Talk of the Town



Photo by Deb Cobb/The Connection

**Roxy, a Greater Swiss Mountain Dog, gives a high-5 for a treat from companion Agnes Vanek, while Vanek keeps the other pups who would also like a treat at bay at the Reston Dog Park.**

**A BARON CAMERON**  
11300 Baron Cameron Avenue, Reston  
Established: September 2001  
Capacity: 40 dogs  
Special Features: Water supply and separate area for small dogs (under 25 lbs.)  
Sponsor: RestonDogs, Inc.

**B BLAKE LANE**  
10033 Blake Lane, Oakton  
Established: June 2000  
Capacity: 25 dogs  
Sponsor: OaktonDogs, Inc.

**C CHANDON**  
900 Palmer Drive, Herndon  
Established: January 4, 2003  
Capacity: 42 dogs  
Sponsor: Herndon Dogs, Inc.



Photo by Chloe Mulliner/The Connection

**Olivia Wagner and her dogs Zena and Zoey spend time at the South Run dog park.**



**Dogs are free to run around and play at the fenced-in South Run dog park.**



**Ari Alvarez of Alexandria brought her 5-months-old Presley the Pug, right, to the Herndon Dog Park on a puppy date.**

Photos by Deb Cobb/The Connection



**Kathy Hale, a Herndon resident, is pictured at the Herndon Dog Park with two of her dogs — and the pug Presley hoping for a treat — her 9-year-old black border collie mix Rosie, far right, and her 5-year-old beagle/pug mix, Carly.**

**D GRIST MILL**  
4710 Mt. Vernon Memorial Hwy, Alexandria  
Established: April 2006  
Capacity: 64 dogs  
Special Features: Interior space is one acre of bluestone dust surface. Clean and dry.  
Sponsor: Mt. Vernon Dog Opportunity Group

**E QUINN FARM**  
15150 Old Lee Rd., Chantilly  
Established: March 2006  
Capacity: 90 dogs (80 large/10 small)  
Special Features: Separate area for small dogs (under 25 lbs.)  
Sponsor: CentrevilleDogs

**F MASON DISTRICT**  
Intersection of Alpine Drive and Pinecrest Parkway, Annandale  
Established: June 2002  
Capacity: 62 dogs  
Sponsor: Mason District Dog Opportunity Group

**G SOUTH RUN**  
7550 Reservation Drive, Springfield  
Established: December 2001  
Capacity: 85 dogs  
Sponsor: Lorton Dogs, Inc.

**H TOWN OF VIENNA VIENNA DOG PARK**  
700 Courthouse Road  
[www.viennadogs.org](http://www.viennadogs.org)

This new off-leash dog park is situated in Moorefield Park. The fenced 90 x 150 area is shaded with on-site water. Owners and dogs must follow posted rules and regulations. Dogs must be licensed by the Town of Vienna or Fairfax County. The park is open from dawn to dusk. Please respect others by following the posted rules and picking up after your dog. To find out more about the Vienna Dog Park. Open: Daylight to Dusk.



Fairfax County Park Authority has always welcomed leashed dogs in all of its parks. Now, well-mannered canines can enjoy a good run or a friendly romp in one of 8 dog parks - fenced areas where unleashed dogs can have free play. Additional off-leash dog areas are in the planning stage. See <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/wp-offleash.htm> for more.

All of the dog parks are public/private partnerships, developed in cooperation with sponsoring organizations of pet owners. The sponsors are the agency's liaison between users and local residents, Animal Control and the Police Department. They monitor and clean up the facilities, publicize dog park rules and regulations, and report maintenance needs to the Park Authority.

The hours of operation of all off-leash dog areas are dawn to dusk, unless posted otherwise.

All dogs four months of age or older must be licensed. Licenses are good for one year and must be purchased by January 31st.

1. The off-leash dog area is for dogs, their handlers and those accompanying them. No other use is allowed.
2. All dogs must be legally licensed and vaccinated, and shall wear a visible dog license.
3. Dogs under 4 months of age and female dogs in heat are prohibited.
4. Dogs must be on leash when entering and exiting the off-leash dog area.
5. Dogs must be under the control of their handler and in view of their handler at all times.
6. Spiked collars are prohibited.
7. Children 8 years and under are not allowed in the off-leash dog area; children ages 9 - 15 years must be accompanied by an adult.
8. Handlers must be 16 years of age or older.
9. Handlers must have possession of the dog leash at all times.
10. Handler is limited to a maximum of two dogs.
11. Handlers must "scoop the poop" and fill any holes dug by dogs under their control.
12. Food and drinks in glass containers are prohibited; training treats are allowed.
13. Dogs must be removed from the off-leash dog area at the first sign of aggression.
14. No animals other than dogs shall be permitted in the area.
15. Handlers are responsible for any injuries caused by the dog(s) under their control.
16. Users of the facility do so at their own risk. Neither Fairfax County nor the Fairfax County Park Authority shall be liable for any injury or damage caused by any dog in the off-leash area.

# PET CONNECTION



**Christine Cozza of Herndon with two of the thousands of cats she's fostered in the past 13 years.**

## Cats, Dogs Find 'Place To Belong'

**Pet fostering: A risk worth taking.**

BY JAYNE O'DONNELL

Paul Cozza was happy with the two cats his family started with after their dogs and a rabbit died. But his wife Christine "couldn't stop," once she started fostering cats, he laughs.

About 14 years and "thousands" of foster kittens and cats later, Herndon resident Christine Cozza is a foster superstar. She's had nearly 80 cats in cages at her house at one time after cats were rescued from foreclosed homes or farms and were awaiting other foster homes. She's adopted four of them over the years.

Welcome to the world of pet fostering, where it's easy to get at-

tached, but a risk rescue groups and foster families say is worth taking. Groups such as 4Paws, where Cozza volunteers, say every new foster home is a chance for them to rescue another pet from shelters ready to euthanize them or from other risky situations. It also gives the groups a chance to learn more about the animals' health and behavior so they can best describe and match them with prospective adopters.

Cozza's own two cats are former fosters, a common scenario. 4Paws President Barbara Lipson said adopting one of their foster pets often makes it easier for foster families to give up kittens and cats when they find permanent homes.

"They always have that furry reminder of why they are volunteering for 4paws and of all the good they are doing by fostering," said Lipson.

Lost Dog and Cat Rescue Foundation, which has a ranch in

Sumerduck, Va., hosts five adoptions fairs a weekend at Petsmart locations in Northern Virginia and finds homes for dozens of pets a week. Christina Perez-Bass, the group's foster coordinator, said its 94 foster homes are critical to its success.

"It helps us socialize the dogs and find their real personalities," said Perez-Bass. "And it's fantastic for the dogs to have another place to belong."

The five fosters at Cozza's house include Buff Baby, an outgoing plus-size tan cat with Feline immunodeficiency virus (FIV); Goodness, a gray and white cat Cozza rescued after she was nearly split in half by a Pit Bull; and, Princess Tilly, a long-haired gray cat that gets a shave each summer that leaves her looking like a lion. Princess Tilly is so friendly Cozza brings her to local schools when she gives talks about animal rescue.

### BULLETIN BOARD

To have community events listed in the Connection, send to [reston@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:reston@connectionnewspapers.com). Deadline is Friday.

#### THURSDAY/JULY 29

**Job and Career Fair.** 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at Harper Park Middle School on Potomac Station Drive, Leesburg. More than 40 federal agencies and private companies will participate. Hosted by Rep. Frank Wolf (R-10). Participating employers to date include BB&T Bank, Cox Communications, Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles, M.C. Dean, Inc, Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority, Middleburg Bank, Prince William County Police, Telos Corporation, Volkswagen Group of America, and Windward IT Solutions. A complete list of expected participants is at [wolf.house.gov/jobfair](http://wolf.house.gov/jobfair). Free and

open to the public. 703-709-5800.

**Beginning, Intermediate and Advanced English Classes.** 7 p.m. at the Washington Plaza Baptist Church, 1615 Washington Plaza North, Reston. For speakers of other languages. Free. [www.WashingtonPlazaChurch.com](http://www.WashingtonPlazaChurch.com) or 703-471-5225.

**Herndon Farmer's Market.** Every Thursday, 3:30-6:30 p.m. at the Herndon Center, 460 Elden St., Herndon. Producer-only locally grown fruits and vegetables, locally raised meats and poultry, and local foods from bread and cheese to salsa and sausage. [smartmarkets.org](http://smartmarkets.org).

#### SATURDAY/JULY 31

**DRCC Asian Festival Luncheon.** 10 a.m. at Lake Newport, 11452 Baron Cameron, Reston. [info@dullesregionalchamber.org](mailto:info@dullesregionalchamber.org).  
**Lake Anne Farmer's Market.** 8 a.m.-12 p.m. at Lake Anne Plaza, Reston.

Local produce, honey, meats and more. Live music. [www.restonfarmersmarket.com](http://www.restonfarmersmarket.com).

#### TUESDAY/AUG. 3

**Sugarland Run and Horsepen Creek Watershed Management Draft Plan.** 7 p.m. at Jo Ann Rose Gallery, 1609-A Washington Plaza, Reston. The county is seeking public input in the development of the Sugarland Run and Horsepen Creek watershed management plan areas, located in the northwestern part of Fairfax County, across into Loudoun County. Sugarland Run drains to the Potomac River and Horsepen Creek drains into South Fork Broad Run, which then drains into the Potomac River. 703-324-5500 TTY 711 or [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/watersheds](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/watersheds).

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# Pet Businesses Give Back

FROM PAGE 3

"I'm picky, I don't want people to come in here and say it smells like dog," Brooks said, and despite the close proximity of the grooming area to the reception area, there isn't much of any smell in the shop.

No matter if it's a Chihuahua or a German shepherd, the Dog A Do staff know their way around a furry creature. Grooming, besides helping pets look and smell clean, also needs to be done for health reasons.

The staff keeps several thick, matted pieces of shorn hair at the front to show customers just how bad a dog's hair can get.

It can take five years to train a qualified groomer, Brooks said, which makes her want to hold on to the ones she can find.

"I was grooming for several years before I got here, but I've learned a lot of helpful techniques here," said Ryan Gregoire. "Working in some of those pet resort-type places, they look like a vet's office, and dogs will react like it's a vet office, which is what we try to avoid."

**PETS** sometimes come and go in trends, and Brooks and her staff have seen them all, from the breed that most recently took home the prize at the Westminster Kennel Club, or the surge in Portuguese water dogs that followed President Barack Obama's selection upon his move to the White House.

"I'll tell you, we didn't see much of a surge after that 'Beverly Hills Chihuahua' movie though," said Gregoire with a laugh.

Brooks tries to keep the laughs coming around her staff, as they believe that pets are especially sensitive to the mood around them, and it's all about making it less stressful.

"We have fun here, and I think everyone enjoys coming to work," Brooks said. "That rubs off on both the pets and clients, putting them at ease."

For pet owners that really want to get their hands dirty, there's Bark N Bubbles in downtown Herndon. Billed as a self-serve dog wash, they offer the tubs, hoses, soap and brushes to clean any dog, and they'll also gladly clean the dog as well.

The upstairs of the shop has five specially made tubs, and a hose, shelves with brushes and bottles of shampoo. Pet owners simply bring their pets in, put them in the tub, and wash away. The tubs are waist high, and can fit the bigger breeds, and staff also offer risers to make it easier to wash smaller dogs.

Co-owner Dani Weng opened the business with her business partner Pamela Aheart, a native of Reston, to bring a West Coast trend east.

"We'll give them an overview of the process, and any tips on how to wash the certain breed, and they'll just wash the dogs themselves," Weng said. "It's a bonding experience between pet and owner, but it's easier than just using the hose at home. People love their pets, they think of them as family members, and they take very good care of them."

Weng says that about 70 percent of their clients come prepared to do the washing themselves.

"It's quite an experience, you get very wet and very furry, and you can't exactly head straight out to



PHOTO BY ALEX McVEIGH/THE CONNECTION

**Amanda Barkan, 14, washes her dog Kelev, a Welsh terrier, with the help of Joey Friedin, 12.**

dinner," said Lisa Taylor, who has been taking her dogs Denali (a German shepherd mix) and Dakota (a golden retriever) to Bark N Bubbles for a few years. "But it's a nice experience, and I think they like us to wash them."

Her daughter Elle added, "others sometimes aren't as caring and loving as we are to our own pets."

Weng has always dreamed of owning her own business, and always been a pet lover, so this was a chance to combine the two.

"I owned my first dog when I was 10, and it's such a good industry," she said. "I think we've found a great niche here, and the Herndon/Reston community has been so supportive."

Bark N Bubbles is also support-

ive of the community, conducting monthly charity drives where volunteers do the washing, and half the proceeds go to the charity.

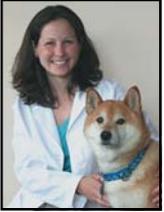
**THEY DONATE** to rescue group, as well as other: the July 24 charity wash featured a group that was trying to raise money for October's Susan G. Komen Walk for the Cure.

Dog A Do also participates in charities, they are currently collecting the dog hair cut off during the grooming process to send down to the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico. "Dog hair is much more porous than human hair, they put it in a big nylon bag and float it out there, and it helps to absorb the spilled oil," Brooks said.



**Our Mission is to serve pets and their people in a spirit of caring, kindness and respect, and to honor those who cannot speak for themselves but with whom we are privileged to share our lives.**

**NOW ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS**



**Dr. Amanda Higdon** is a graduate of The Virginia Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine and completed an internship at Veterinary Referral Associates in Gaithersburg, MD where she received advanced training in Internal Medicine, Surgery, Oncology, Ophthalmology, Radiology, Neurology, and Critical Care.



**Dr. Erica Morgan** received her veterinary degree from Cornell University and recently relocated to Northern Virginia after practicing small animal medicine in Philadelphia. Her special interests include dentistry, ultrasonography, internal medicine and care of senior pets.

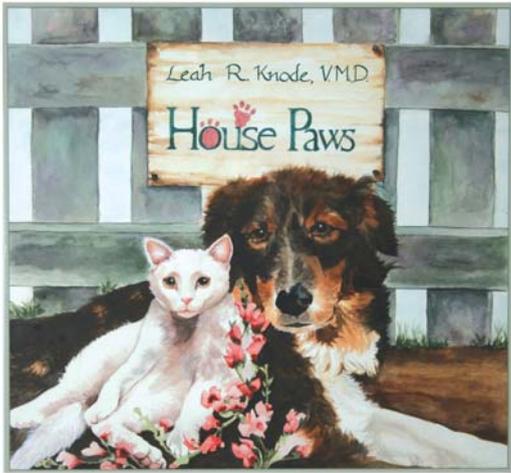
**Dr. Janna Giaimuccio** joins Herndon Animal Medical Center in August of 2010. She graduated from Michigan State University College of Veterinary Medicine in 2004. She has practiced small animal medicine in Chicago, Baltimore, and Northern Virginia. Her special interests include internal medicine, pain management, ophthalmology, and surgery.

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# CALENDAR

Send announcements to [herndon@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:herndon@connectionnewspapers.com). Deadline is Thursday for the following week's paper. Photos/artwork encouraged. For additional listings, visit [www.connectionnewspapers.com](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com).

## THURSDAY/JULY 29

- Aretha Franklin.** 8 p.m. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. \$45 in-house, \$25 lawn. [www.wolftrap.org](http://www.wolftrap.org).
- Wolftrap Children's Theatre in the Woods.** Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. 10 a.m. Maryland Youth Ballet: Caroline Goes to the Zoo, 11:15 a.m. Bob Brown Puppets: Dragon Feathers. Free workshops follow the 10 a.m. performance; reservations required at 703-255-1824. \$8-\$10. [www.wolftrap.org](http://www.wolftrap.org).
- Alexandria Klezmer.** 7:30 p.m. Frying Pan Farm Park, 2709 West Ox Road, Herndon. Traditional and innovative Jewish music. Free. 703-324-7469 or [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances).
- Sin Miedo.** 7 p.m. at Lake Anne Plaza, Reston. Afro-Cuban salsa and rumba. [www.mseproductions.com](http://www.mseproductions.com).
- ESL Beginners.** 10 a.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Practice English in a group with a volunteer facilitator. Adults. 703-689-2700.
- Brain Benders.** 10:30 a.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. See everyday objects through scientific eyes. Presented by Maryland Science Center. Age 6-12. 703-689-2700.
- America's Got Talent finalist Drew Stevyns.** 9 p.m. Paolo's, Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St., Reston. 703-318-8920 or [www.paolosristorante.com](http://www.paolosristorante.com).

## FRIDAY/JULY 30

- NSO@Wolf Trap: Distant Worlds, Music From Final Fantasy.** 8:30 p.m. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. Arnie Roth, Conductor. \$20-\$52 [www.wolftrap.org](http://www.wolftrap.org).

## SATURDAY/JULY 31

- Wolftrap Children's Theatre in the Woods.** Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. 10 a.m. Maryland Youth Ballet: Caroline Goes to the Zoo, 11:15 a.m. Bob Brown Puppets: Dragon Feathers. Free workshops follow the 10 a.m. performance; reservations required at 703-255-1824. \$8-\$10. [www.wolftrap.org](http://www.wolftrap.org).
- Latin Fusion with Incendio.** 7:30 p.m. at the Reston Town Center, 1760 Reston Parkway, Reston. Spanish guitar and Afro-Cuban. [www.restontowncenter.com](http://www.restontowncenter.com).
- The GoodLife Theater.** 10 a.m. Lake Fairfax Park Amphitheater, 1400 Lake Fairfax Drive, Reston. Puppets. Free. 703-324-7469 or [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances).
- Neighborhood Plant Clinic.** 10 a.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. The Fairfax County Master Gardeners Association gives tips and strategies. 703-242-4020.
- Author Kathleen Kinsoving.** 1 p.m. Barnes & Noble, 1851 Fountain Drive, Reston. Book signing for 'Gadfly: The Life and Times of Les Kinsoving, White House Watchdog,' about her father's career with the White House press. 703-437-9490.
- Bobbe Shore Jazz Combo.** 8:30 p.m. at the Hyatt Reston Town Center, 1800 Presidents St., Reston. Every Saturday through Oct. 703-925-8250.
- Be Prepared for Your Children.** 10 a.m. at Floris United Methodist Church, 13600 Frying Pan Road, Herndon. Learn legal aspects of child support, custody and visitation.



Asian Festival in Reston offers traditional Asian performances on three separate stages.

## Asian Festival Highlights the Philippines

This year, thousands will again flock to the Asian Festival, a two-day cultural event to promote greater understanding of Asian countries and cultures among the general public, and among Asian Americans as well. There is no admission charge, and the festival is open to the public.

Venue is the Lake Newport Tennis Facility in Reston and the dates are: Saturday, July 31, from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., and Sunday, Aug. 1, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

This is the largest Asian Festival in the Mid-Atlantic area with at least 35 Asian American food vendors offering Vietnamese, Indian, Japanese, Korean, Thai, Laotian and Philippine cuisine, among others; traditional Asian performances on three separate stages, and over 150 multi-cultural retail stores.

Each year, organizers choose one Asian country as the "showcased country" and this year, it is the Philippines. Last year's

festival, with India as the showcased country, drew several thousand festival goers.

Each participating Asian country offers the best of its music, cultural performances, food, fashion, handicrafts and other products. Asian festival has blended together trade opportunities, product marketing, cultural displays, tennis and other sporting events.

The best way to enjoy the largest Asian Festival is to Park & Ride at the off-site parking, located only 2 miles away. Free shuttle bus service will run frequently from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. The off-site parking is located at the Reston Association, 1930 Isaac Newton Square in Reston.

For more information on sponsoring this event, to register for a booth, or to reserve a performance at the Asian Food and Tennis Festival, contact (703) 589-4144, [info@asianfestivaldc.com](mailto:info@asianfestivaldc.com). Or visit [www.asianfestivaldc.com](http://www.asianfestivaldc.com).

- [zpashaei@thewomenscenter.org](mailto:zpashaei@thewomenscenter.org).
- Come & Blow Your Horn!** 11-11:45 a.m. Reston Town Square Park, 11900 Market St., Reston. Top brass musicians on unique and historical instruments. Hear how trumpets evolved from conch shells and animal horns through shofars and Egyptian horns, up to the modern herald trumpets, piccolo trumpets and more. [www.restontowncenter.com](http://www.restontowncenter.com).
- NSO@Wolf Trap: The Planets in HD.** 8:30 p.m. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. Emil de Cou, conductor. \$20-\$52. [www.wolftrap.org](http://www.wolftrap.org).

## SUNDAY/AUG. 1

- Reggae: For the Love of It with Beres Hammond, Inner Circle, Kenyatta Hill of Culture, Lenya Wilks and DJ Inferno.** 3 p.m. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. \$42 in-house, \$25 lawn. [www.wolftrap.org](http://www.wolftrap.org).
- Artist's Reception.** 12-2:30 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Reston, 1625 Wiehle Ave., Reston. "Showcasing the Light" is a solo

exhibition of photographer Elizabeth Linares. Exhibit to run through Sept. 5. [www.elizabethlinares.com](http://www.elizabethlinares.com).

## MONDAY/AUG. 2

- Alejandro Sanz.** 8 p.m. at Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. \$54-\$471. 703-938-2404 or [www.wolftrap.org](http://www.wolftrap.org).
- Mr. Knick Knack Children's Performance.** 10:30 a.m. Reston Town Center Pavilion, 11900 Market St., Reston. Music for kids. Free. [www.restontowncenter.com](http://www.restontowncenter.com).

## TUESDAY/AUG. 3

- Willie Nelson.** 8 p.m. at Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. \$54-\$471. 703-938-2404 or [www.wolftrap.org](http://www.wolftrap.org).
- Wolftrap Children's Theatre in the Woods.** Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. 10 a.m. PROJECT Trio: From Hip-Hop to Bach, 11:15 a.m. Wolf Trap Opera Studio: Instant Opera! Free workshops follow the 10 a.m. performance; reservations required at 703-255-1824. \$8-\$10. [www.wolftrap.org](http://www.wolftrap.org).

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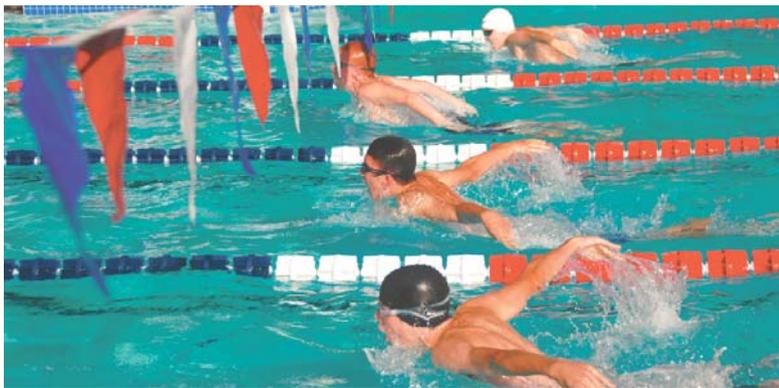
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 EXP. 8/4/10

Going all out in the boys' 13-14, 50-meter butterfly are (bottom to top): Michael McHugh (Lake Audubon), Zac Carey (Newbridge), Matt Crump (Lake Audubon) and James Baldwin (Newbridge).



PHOTOS COURTESY OF RSTA

## With Heat Advisory on, RSTA Swimmers Sizzle

**'Kids swam like there was no tomorrow.'**

With temperatures in our area on Saturday approaching 100 degrees and beyond, there was as much concern over the safety and well being of the adults as there was for the swimmers. Parents, relatives and friends are the constants at every RSTA event, volunteering for all of the jobs that are necessary for successful completion of a meet. Timers, stroke and turn judges, card runners, scorers and many other functions are all performed by volunteers. And many of these functions are performed in the blazing sun.

"It felt like we were frying out there," said Kirsten Landeryou, mother of Glade swimmers Emily and Sophia, and Stroke and Turn judge at their meet with Ridge Heights. "The heat was that bad. But the kids swam like there was no tomorrow."

With pool temperatures approaching bath water levels, the last thing anyone expected was swim team records of the past to fall. But fall they did.

In the boys 13-14, 50-meter freestyle, Alex Li of Hunters Woods swam a personal best of 27.41, breaking the Hunters Woods pool record of 27.46 set by Jason Adler in July 2000.

In the girls 9-10 age category, Joanne Fu of Lake Anne broke a pool record that she set just a few weeks ago. Swimming in the 50-breaststroke she lowered her time from 46.04 to 45.19. In the 50-backstroke Joanne broke a pool record that had been set back in 1999. Her time of 38.62 bested the time of Krista Berndt (39.41) set back over a decade ago.

In the boys 15-18, 200-relay, the Newbridge Dolphins team of Christian Matthews, John Baldwin, Stephen Baldwin and Patrick Gibbons lowered their pool record time from 2:04.20 to 2:03.34.

Scores and meet summaries follow:

Autumnwood Piranhas 543, Lake Newport Lightning 463 - For Autumnwood, double event winners were Curtis Bushee, Brendan Carrick, William Cochrane, Bailey Copeland, Molly Ellor, Abby Freeman, Cameron Hellstern, Anne Kennedy, Joseph Le Sage, Jacob Schofield, Benjamin Thompson, Ryan Tucker and Ryan Wait. Triple event winners were Robin Brazier, Jake P. Elliott, Stephen Grubbs, Diya Murthy, Ellen Wait and Max B. Wilson.

For Lake Newport, double event winners were Nicole Horner, Juliana Plescia and Emi Redican. Triple event winners were Connor McLaughlin, Ryan McLaughlin, Katie Storch and Ryan Williams.

Hunters Woods Blue Marlins 607, Lake Anne Stingrays 510 - For Hunters Woods, double event winners were Alla Cartwright, Nina Dawson, Vinny DiGilio, Anne DiMaio, Jack Henry Ham, Caitlyn



David Odlen of Lake Audubon swims in the boys' 15-18, 50-meter breaststroke.

Herron, Lauren Herron, Michael Lee, Philip Pan, Michael Qu and Ashley Thai. Triple event winners were Matthew Beach, Hunter Carrico, Alex Li, Dylann Nasr, Carolyn Qu, Sean Shada and Rachel Tang.

For Lake Anne, double event winners were Nolan Davis, Diego Gebhardt, Tope Oladimeji, Erin Rook, Lucas Sandler and Charlie Sigle. Triple event winners were Joanne Fu, Sophie Hartmann and Hannah Lane.

Lake Audubon Barracudas 644, Newbridge Dolphins 478 - For Lake Audubon, double event winners were Natalie Abbey, Bannon Brazell, Sydney Cook, Alainia Cordts, Madeleine Daum, Matthew Hughes, Conor McBride, Brooke O'Donnell, Garrison O'Donnell and Sarah Timreck. Triple event winners were Alissa Avilov, Jacob Cole, Spencer Harris, John Hughes, Vela McBride, Michael McDermott and Griffen Scanlan.

For Newbridge, double event winners were Elise Baldwin, Theo Burton, Annie Carro, Emma Grossback, Laela Huddleston, Sam Joyner, Brittney E. Kossler, Ian Meikle, Arya Moin-Amin and Emma Schaller. Triple event winners were John Baldwin and Celia Compton.

Ridge Heights Sharks 605, Glade Gators 443 - For Ridge Heights, double event winners were Nicholas Diewald, John Hodge, Harrison Hughes, Andrew McClellan, Margo Moyer, Carter Schultz, Victoria Slaski, Bennie Tignor, Ryan Vanderhoof, Diego White and Casey Worrall-Dawson. Triple event winners were Haley Borko, Evan Cox, Kati Imel and Mac Sogandares.

For Glade, double event winners were Andrew DeLillio, Andrew Draganov, Sean McKinley and Jack Walker. Triple event winners were Tyler Ellis, Dean Hartke, Emily Landeryou and Sophia Landeryou.

Note: The following were double event winners for Ridge Heights in their July 17 meet versus Hunters Woods: Haley Borko, Ryan Ferzoco, John Hodge, Harrison Hughes, Kati Imel, Maeve Keck, Joel Ladwig, Anna Liang, Shannon Murry, Grace Qian and Margo Somer.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE STORM

The U-11 Storm made a girls' soccer splash in Ocean City.

### SPORTS ROUNDUPS

Northern Virginia's SYA Storm U11 girls soccer team, made up of players from all around Northern Virginia, hit Ocean City under an alias nickname — "Category 5" — and finished as champion at the 2010 Beach 5 Sand Soccer Tournament, on June 26 in Ocean City, Md. The team's Ocean City trip was sponsored by Keller Williams Fairfax Gateway Realtor Group. The Storm, competing at the tournament for the third straight year, went unbeaten at 4-0-0, scoring 21 goals and allowing just five. It was a follow up to their impressive play at The Virginian Tournament, which they won over the Memorial Day weekend.

The Storm — or Category 5 — was victorious against its three opponents in the preliminary round. The victories came over teams from the Eastern Shore of Maryland, Pennsylvania, and Columbia, Md. Category 5, which outscored its preliminary round opponents, 18-4, then advanced to the championship game where it defeated a team from Massachusetts, 3-1. It marked the third straight year in which Category 5 has won the tournament.

"These girls are special and they just 'wow' you on and off the field," said Gordon.

**The Reston Travel boys' 12-under basketball team** was 8-1 through its first nine games in the Fairfax Stars Travel Summer League. Following a season-opening loss to cross-town rival Herndon, Reston won its next eight

games.

The team's eighth win came over Burke, 86-38. Leading the way for Reston in that triumph was Marvin Grunshie, who scored an amazing 53 points. Grunshie, in the team's prior four games, had scored 30 points or more.

Most of Reston's wins this season have been lopsided affairs with only one of their victories coming by less than 10 points. Making the Reston team's outstanding season even more impressive is the fact that the squad is made up of only six players on its roster. Reston, under the guidance of head coach Chris Lee, was set to compete in the playoffs this week.

**The Fifth Annual SERVPRO Invitational** High School Golf Tournament will take place Aug. 10-11 at Twin Lakes Golf Club, 6201 Union Mill Road, Clifton. Spectators will have a chance to see the best up-and-coming golf stars that Northern Virginia has to offer. Last year's annual tournament included 28 teams from Northern Virginia and 140 high school students.

SERVPRO is proud to be the title sponsor of this event. Funds acquired through sponsorship and donations will generate full scholarships, both academic and athletic, allowing students to pursue their educational dreams.

Those interested in attending or with further questions can contact Rati Bogdan at brati@fwm1.com or 703-595-6712.

# McLean Twin Sisters Befriend Twin Dogs

**Twins Carolyn and Lauren Shaw have two Labradoodle dogs, also twin sisters.**

BY ROSE LEE  
THE CONNECTION



**Twin sisters Lauren and Carolyn Shaw pose with their twin dogs, Riley and Bailey.**

**M**cLean residents Carolyn and Lauren Shaw are not only sisters but also twins. Their Labradoodle — half poodle, half Labrador retriever — dogs, Bailey and Riley, are also twin sisters.

As fraternal twins, Carolyn and Lauren look alike but are not identical. In similar fashion, Riley is gray, while Bailey is blonde. According to the Shaw family, Riley is about 23 pounds heavier than Bailey.

“She normally eats Bailey’s food after she finishes her own,” said Carolyn Shaw, adding that the dogs once ate half of their older sister Taylor’s birthday cake off the counter.

**BAILEY AND RILEY** are now 6-years old, while Carolyn and Lauren are 19. The family made the dogs Shaws when they were young puppies. At first, they were extremely rambunctious.

“When they were puppies, they chewed up shoes, newspapers, anything they could find,” said Lauren Shaw, with a laugh. “They’ve gotten better over the years, but they still occasionally try to sneak food when we’re not looking.”

Although they have settled down in terms of behavior, they are still active in the sense that both Riley and Bailey love the outdoors.

“Our parents walk them in the local park every day,” said Carolyn. “We also love to play things like tug of war with them outside in our backyard.”

Carolyn and Lauren Shaw are part of a very active family. The twins, their older siblings Taylor and Bobby and their parents all enjoy exercising. The dogs effortlessly fit in with the family in that aspect.

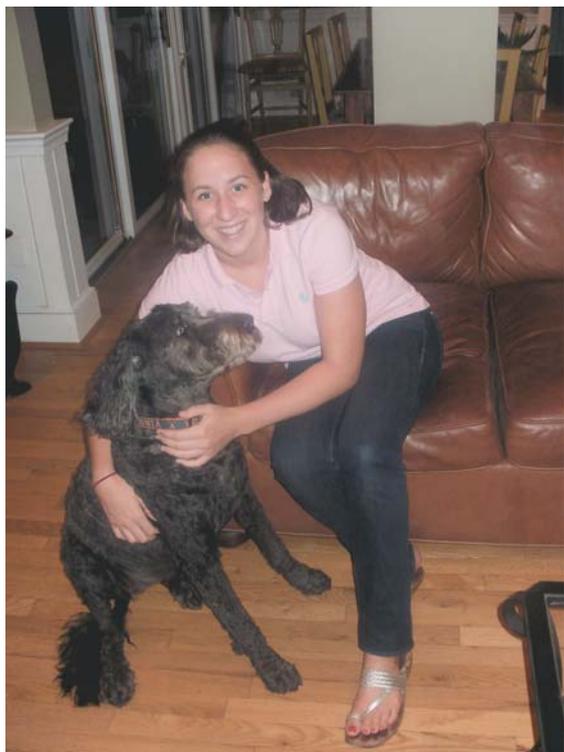
**THE TWIN DOGS** and the twin college students draw many parallels. Naturally, twins are not the same in every dimension, yet many of them struggle with separation.

Lauren Shaw prefers the bustle of city life and thus attends Boston College, while Carolyn Shaw enjoys the quaint feel of the University of Virginia where she is a rising second-year. Although they chose to attend different universities, they are quick to admit that they miss each other often.

“Bailey and Riley are like us in that they are different, from fur color and size to personality, but they can’t stand to be separated,” said Carolyn Shaw.

“Bailey’s more like a poodle and sleeps on our couch and rides in the car with her feet on the console, while Riley is more like a lab and carries tennis balls around the house,” said Lauren Shaw. “We love them, and the fact that we’re twins with twin dogs just makes it better.”

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED



**Twin sister Lauren Shaw sits with twin dog Bailey.**



**Twin sister Carolyn Shaw sits with twin dog Riley.**

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## Welcoming Eddie

In August 2009, we welcomed Eddie, our 2-year-old Maine coon cat, into our family. In our continuing support of the Fairfax Humane Society, we adopted Eddie, our second rescue cat, from Fairfax Animal Shelter. Eddie's continuously spunky and playful demeanor makes us wonder if he truly has a dog's mind in a cat's body. Sometimes we even question whether we should take him for walks on a leash. Remaining ever lovable and playful, the only traits of his that equal his endless affection are his seemingly endless energy and his insatiable hunger for kitty treats! Some of his favorite activities he enjoys around the Davis house include running, bird watching, squirrel watching, napping, occasionally chasing our other cat, Nutmeg, and being held and talked to by his family. In this picture, Eddie shows his enormous affection with our two sons, Paul and Alan, as we celebrated the coming of the 2010 New Year.

— SANDEE DAVIS



Paul and Alan Davis of Herndon with Eddie on New Year's eve.

## SCHOOL NOTES

**The Fall Sports Physical Collection Night** will be 5:30 p.m. Tuesday Aug. 3 in the Herndon High School Gym Lobby. All students who plan to tryout for a fall sport can hand in the necessary paperwork at that time. Information for specific teams is at [www.herndonathletics.org](http://www.herndonathletics.org).

**Miranda Smith** of Herndon has been named to the spring 2010 dean's list at Roger Williams University of Bristol, R.I.

**Genevieve Freeman** of Oak Hill has been named to the spring 2010 dean's list at Loyola University in Baltimore, Md.

**Megan Maher** of Herndon has been named to the spring 2010 dean's list at Loyola University in Baltimore, Md.

**Ashley M. Jensen** of Herndon has been named to the spring 2010 dean's list at Marist College of Poughkeepsie, N.Y. Jensen is majoring in Fashion Design.

**Omar F. Saleem** of Herndon has won a National Merit Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University Scholarship.

The Herndon High School graduate is planning a career in engineering.

**Ashley Trissell** of Herndon was selected to attend the Governor's School French Immersion Academy

at VCU. The rising senior at Herndon High School is the daughter of Kevin and Tessy Trissell.

**Kathleen Dannemann** of Herndon has received a bachelor's degree in business administration from Frostburg State University, Frostburg, Md.

Herndon residents **James King** and **Robert Snow** have been named to the spring 2010 dean's list at Frostburg State University, Frostburg, Md.

**Kevin Wright** of Oak Hill has been named to the spring 2010 dean's list at Frostburg State University, Frostburg, Md.

Oak Hill residents **Ryan Ovrevik** (master of information technology) and **Anthony Reichel** (master of business administration) have graduated from Virginia Tech in Blacksburg.

Herndon residents **Michael Ginieczki** (doctor of philosophy in public administration and public affairs), **Joseph Dominic** (master of business administration), **Emily Duda** (graduate certificate), **Ajay Pandit** (master of business administration), **David Stefantz** (master of business administration), **Sean Whitis** (master of information technology) and **Salah Jaro** (master of science in civil engineering and a graduate certificate) have graduated from Virginia Tech in Blacksburg.

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