Spring 2018

Volume 53

PAWS to Consider



PAWSPrints By Lynne Robinson, Executive Director

OK – can you be really honest with me and let me know if you like this new format for our PAWS to Consider quarterly newsletter? It really is the exact same information we always included but now with prettier pictures, and it has live links. We are still sending out paper copies to those of you who like the look and feel of paper. But when polled last issue, only 2 members asked for paper copies. (And we will happily send paper copies to those who request it!) So ...we'll try this new approach and see how you like it. <u>Please let me know</u>.

In the meantime, I wish you and yours a wonderful spring. PAWS is busy - sharpening up our internal workings under the capable hand of Stephanie Barry; finding new sources of funding with Ro's experienced friendraising skills; Clarice is delving into the community to gain greater visibility and raise funds through THE SPRING FLING event; training more and more teams under the guidance of Rachel and her training crews; and placing and overseeing our newest members under the kind watch of Andréa. This terrific staff is supported by Moira and Sue, and keeping us all well-managed is Laura, our Office Manager. Others contributing to making PAWS what it is – Wendy, our webmaster, Pat and Aileen, our reliable office volunteers, and our 4 spring semester interns.

PAWS is lucky, as am I, to have such a talented and hardworking staff. Please stop and thank our PAWSettes when you are emailing or calling or stopping in.

Now please read and enjoy our first e-version of PAWS to Consider.

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SAVE THE DATE

April 15 Spring Fling

May 5 & 6 Volunteer Appreciation Celebrations



HEALING PET THERAPY SINCE 2005

PO Box 9955, Newark, DE 19714 302-351-5622 www.PAWSforPeople.org

Upcoming Events

Spring Fling Lunch & Silent Auction

In addition to a delicious lunch and a fabulous silent auction, the Spring Fling provides attendees the opportunity to be inspired by stories of the impact of pet therapy shared by both pet therapy teams and the people they have visited.

Sunday, April 15th, 1:00 – 4:00 PM - *RSVP by April 2nd* Hockessin Memorial Hall, 610 Yorklyn Road, Hockessin, DE 19707

Tickets: \$45 per person, *PAWS Members \$40 per person* **Table Sponsor:** \$350 (Table for Eight & Special Recognition)

Learn more about this event and RSVP: www.PAWSforPeople.org/spring | Clarice: (302) 351-5622

Volunteer Appreciation Celebration & 13th Anniversary Party

All members, friends, and therapy companions are invited to PAWS for People's Volunteer Appreciation Celebration & 13th Anniversary Party. We want to recognize your service to PAWS and the community. Please come and let us acknowledge you and your therapy companion.

Light Refreshments – Volunteer Recognition – Lots of Fun

Saturday, May 5, 2-4 PM St. Martha's Episcopal Church 117 Maplewood St Bethany Beach, DE 19930

Sunday, May 6, 2-4 PM St. Mark's United Methodist Church 1700 Limestone Rd Wilmington, DE 19804



Please RSVP by April 20th: www.PAWSforPeople.org/appreciation | Laura: (302) 351-5622

Barnes & Noble Gift Wrapping

A huge thank you to all of the wonderful volunteers (2 & 4 footed) who helped at the Barnes & Noble Spring Book Fair. It was a huge success! We have been invited back to host Mother's Day and Father's Day gift wrapping at the Christiana Barnes & Noble.

We will need both therapy teams and gift wrappers:

May 4, 5, 11, 12 for Mother's Day June 14-17 for Father's Day Sign up now: www.pawsforpeople.org/barnes-noble





This year marks PAWS for People's 10th Annual Wag-n-Walk& 5K Run. After 3 years at Delcastle Recreation Center, the Wag-n-Walk is returning to Glasgow Park to celebrate its 10th Annivarsary. Mark your calendar for **Saturday, October 20th**.

Members

New Therapy Teams

January 2018

Anthony Alioto & Jack (Black Lab Mix) Jack and Kara Hebert & Benny (Cavalier King Chrls) Lynda Johnson & Fenway (Standard Poodle) Beth and John Mason & Casper (Lab/Pitbull Mix) Kathryn Mullins & Ringo (Golden Retriever) Carmela, Megan, and Rylee O'Donnell & Edward

(Lionhead Rabbit) Bryan and Patti Pecht & Bailey (Golden Retriever) Kimberly Schlichting & Lily (Mixed Breed) Amy, Greg, and Gretchen Wolfe & Polly (Hound Mix)

February 2018

Shaun Askin & Bodhi (Golden Retriever)
Kristin Berg & Mulligan (English Springer Spaniel)
Jennifer Bowman & Loki (Border Collie Mix)
Eileen Clark & Marigold (Labradoodle)
Allison DeMajistre and Evelyn Juvonen & Cho Cho (Labradoodle)

Cindy Flannagan & Yoda (Orange Tabby Cat) Gary and Pamela Gallamore & Daisy (Labradoodle) Rita Genduso & Sandy (Mixed Breed) Martha Kirkpatrick & Annie (Standard Poodle) Lily O'Neil & Mulligan (English Springer Spaniel) Peggy Siple & Wally (Labradoodle) Monica Tabrizi & Earl (Australian Shepherd) Jane and Laura Valadakis & Moose (Golden Retrvr) Michelle Waker & Rosie (King Charles Spaniel) Paul Webster & Franklin Joshua Chamberlain (Orange Tabby Cat)



Cho Cho DeMajistre/Juvonen

March 2018

Charlotte Arnold & Monty (Golden Retriever) Eugenia Athan & Louie (Standard Poodle) Harry Bishop & Dudley (Lab/Retriever Mix) Rebecca Brockson & Norman (Yorkie Mix) Cathie Conaway & Carson (Scottish Terrier) Veronica Gibbons & Khaleesi (Goldendoodle) Michelle and Selth Goldberg & Harper (Husky/Lab Mix) Margie Klapper & Ani (Golden Retriever) Kelly and Karly Loukides & Charlie (Cavalier King Charles) Anne Rosenberg & Hubbell, Boltzman, & Seriously (Dachshunds) Lucinda Scace & Ziggy (Shih-poo) Susan Sfida & Rex (Golden Retriever)

Braden, Grace, and Kevin Siegel & Kiki (Catahoula) Lenore Tietjens-Grillo & Lucy (Golden/Shepherd) Guy and Jose Weidner-Ahorrio & Shengli (Shih Tzu) Kaeley and John Willemsen & Decker (Newfoundland)



Bohdi Askin

Earl Tabrizi

Marigold Clark

Edward O'Donnell

Members New Therapy Companion



Jasper Edie Kurzweil

In Loving Memory

Retirees



Penelope Michelle Rafferty



Jake

Tracy Haldeman



Tilly Paula Trout



Lacie Robinson

End of 2017

Lacie was Lynne Robinson's calm and gentle domestic longhair tuxedo cat. Before the PAWS office moved to Newark, Lacie was a PAWS office cat. In 2017, this team was Master's Certified and visited with PAWS by Special Request. They also had very special visits at the New Castle County Court House bringing comfort to very stressful situations. Thank you, Lynne, for sharing your precious Lacie.



Keely Potts

End of 2017

Kathy Potts joined PAWS with Keely, a beautiful shetland sheepdog in July, 2010. They provided PAWS for Reading sessions at St. Anthony of Padua Grade School. They also were a PAWS in the Workplace team. Keely formed a special bond with a kindergarten student who, before getting to know Keely, never spoke outside of home. After a few silent reading sessions with Keely and Kathy, the girl began to whisper the stories to Keely and soon after started speaking in class. Thank you, Kathy, for sharing your gentle girl through PAWS.



Edison Ackroyd

January 2018

Eddie the rabbit and Paula Ackroyd joined PAWS in February, 2017. Paula believed in pet therapy and "noticed that animals tend to make people less anxious and more relaxed." Together, Paula and Eddie visited through PAWS in the Workplace. Thank you, Paula for sharing your Eddie.

Members In Loving Memory (continued)



Stella Frey

January 2018

Stella, a sweet black lab, joined PAWS when she was a one-year-old pup in October of 2005 with Nancy Frey. Nancy found PAWS after her sister shared with her how pleased she had been with a pet therapy visit in the hospital. Nancy knew that her Stella could also bring joy to many. Their first visit was to Somerford and Stella made an entrance with a happy bark which everyone interpreted as her way of saying hello! Thank you, Nancy, for sharing your pup with those who needed her love.



Petey Cycyk

January 2018

Billy Cycyk joined PAWS with Petey, a Bulldog/Lab Mix, in December of 2007. Together, they made thousands of visits to the Helen Graham Cancer Center. Over the past 10 years they spent countless hours comforting patients and visiting with families and staff. Billy, we thank you for sharing Petey and touching the lives of so many.



Heidi Douglass

February 2018

John and his beloved German Shepherd, Heidi, joined PAWS in October of 2014. They visited at Union Hospital and Regional Hematology Oncology to "bring happiness to difficult situations." After becoming Master's Certified in October 2016, they began visiting with Nemours Hospital for Children, where Heidi's affectionate and calm demeanor was welcomed by everyone she visited with. Thank you, John, for sharing Heidi with so many.



Tully March 2018

We celebrate the life of Tully, Ed Martin's sweet golden retriever. Ed joined PAWS in June of 2011 with Chase and the team was a huge hit at A.I. duPont Hospital for Children/Nemours. When Chase passed away, Ed wondered if Tully would enjoy visiting with him. She didn't know her commands, but she LOVED people. After a little work, the team achieved Advanced STEX, and Ed was back in action at Nemours. This curious and friendly girl gave her love to all she met. She especially enjoyed events at Barnes & Noble and helped us open the Exton, PA site this past December. We will miss Tully but Ed assured us that Chase was waiting for her at the Rainbow Bridge.

Members Master's Certification

Congratulations to the following teams who have completed their Master's Certification this year.



Stephanie Smith & Hunter

Welcome!

Trudie Thompson, Board Member



Trudie Thompson, a Sussex County resident, comes to us as first a donor, then a therapy team with her sweet Sheila, and now has joined the Board of Directors. She brings with her a great fount of knowledge, experience, and a terrific sense of humor to delight us all.

Elissa Davis

& D. Wade



Luann D'Agostino & Goofy



Becky Cronin & Robbie

Interns

We are lucky enough to have four industrious UD interns working with us this semester:

- Anthony Peruzzi
- Meredith Frain
- Alex Miller
- Cooper Catlett

They will be working on their own PAWS projects as well as observing trainings and shadowing our teams' visits.

A Round of Applause

Thank you to our delightful staff that have given up much of their personal time to assist during our recent Conference, the Open House in the fall, and will be doing more of the same for the two upcoming Volunteer Appreciation Celebrations.

Thanks to those who made the Annual Conference happen this year. Ably headed by Clarice Ritchie, we had the help of committee members, PAWS assistants, and volunteers. It takes a village – and this village did very well indeed.

Thanks to those of you who write us email stories and send us photos. You make our job so much fun and you also let us know what's happening.



The Power of a Pet Visit

Bringing Comfort in Final Hours

I recall visiting a hospice patient who was only hours from death. He motioned to me that I should allow D. Wade to lay next to him in bed. As he gently rubbed D. Wade and cuddled with him, I noticed how D. Wade gently buried himself under the patient's arm and began licking his hand. It was as if D. Wade knew that these were the patients' final hours. When I looked at the patient, he had tears running from his eyes as he whispered, "Now I feel absolutely no pain in my body." After the visit, the patient's family, who were also gathered around the bed, came out into the hallway to thank me. They said this was the first time that their loved one had spoken a word in three days.



- Lisa Davis, PAWS Members

Pet Health Corner

People Foods You Can Share with Your Dog

The following people foods can be healthy treats or just fun food to share with your pet:

- **Apples** providing a good source of Vitamins A and C and fiber, apples are great for dogs. But don't let them eat the core the seeds contain cyanide not such a good treat there.
- Cheese cheese can be high in fat so go for low-fat varieties like cottage cheese or mozzarella.
- Brussels sprouts to avoid cause for room-clearing flatulence steam or boil first.
- Honey raw honey is best, but small amounts of honey satisfy a pup's sweet tooth.
- Coconut oil better for pets than people, coconut oil has tons of health benefits built in.
- Zucchini containing lots of vitamins and fiber, this low-calorie treat is truly a treat.
- Asparagus dogs like it, though best to cook it to avoid that weird urine smell reaction.
- Peas fresh or frozen, added to your pup's dinner makes a winner.
- **Cucumbers** low-cal and crunchy, a good choice for a meal filler.
- **Strawberries** a healthy sweet treat along with bananas, watermelon, blueberries, and cantaloupe.

Keep in mind that treats and other additions to your dog's regular meal should comprise no more than 10 percent of their daily intake.



From the Office Stephanie Barry

Director of Operations and Programs

The PAWS staff is keeping busy and finally fully staffed with the welcome addition of Sue Balascio, office assistant. Sue is helping many different PAWS staffers keep track of data, schedules and much more! We continue to examine and tighten up internal office policies and procedures to help serve all of our wonderful volunteers better. We are also looking at expanding some of our programs throughout our four-state region. Look for upcoming site openings including the Milton Library (summer) and expanded opportunities in hospice throughout the state. We are also hoping to partner with Nanticoke Hospital in the near future!



Wesley Celona PAWS for Reading at Pets and Friends, PA

Clarice Ritchie

Director of Community Engagement

Spring is the season for DeStress and Community Events. We would love for you to join us as we go out and about to share the magic of PAWS with others as only our therapy teams can.

Participating in events is a great way to meet other therapy teams while helping college students and corporate employees DeStress. Check out the <u>Community Event Calendar</u> on our website (under community events) and watch your inbox for new and exciting opportunities.

Thank you so much for your gifts of time, talent and treasure which greatly benefit the programs of PAWS for People. I am honored to work beside you in this amazing organization.

Rosemarie "Ro" LeNoir

Director of Development

THANK YOU! Your generosity in spirit and giving ensures that PAWS pet therapy programs and teams are positively impacting lives in our communities. Your amazing 2017 support in many ways enabled PAWS to strengthen our capacity and expand to help more people.

PAWS' major fundraiser and our only mail campaign - our year-end Annual Appeal - successfully raised \$26,101! The funds raised by this campaign are critical to maintain our programs and operations.

In addition, a variety of year-round fun events and activities are offered, either by PAWS or our supporters. These are wonderful optional opportunities for PAWS socializing, making new friends, raising awareness, and sometimes raising additional funding.

Thank You. We are so very grateful for however you choose to get involved in and support PAWS and we are humbled by your generosity.



Elena Delle Donne visiting with Chance & Summer (*Rick Nelms & Kathy Caputo Nelms*) *Concord Barnes & Noble Book Fair*

From the Office Andréa Cox

Director of Volunteers

Did you know that PAWS has over 500 teams? Our teams visit over 160 different sites in DE and parts of MD, PA, and NJ. It is up to me to welcome new teams and get them visiting. I also help support veteran teams in their visiting site placement. If you ever have any questions about your visits, like how to make them more fulfilling, how to change your schedule, or how to log your hours, please let me know! We want wonderful visits - that means wonderful for you, your therapy companion, and the people you are visiting. I'm here to help.



B Dawg & Katrina Gibson, Ruthie & Robin Markum, and Mason & Darryl Messick Visiting, South Gate Nursing Home, NJ

Sue Balascio

Office Assistant

In my role as Office Support, there are many things I do to assist the others in the office, but one of the most important tasks that I do is to monitor the reSTEX schedule. You will likely hear from me when your STEX certification is about to expire! ReSTEXing is required every two years to assure that you and your therapy pet are still a top notch visiting team! And, it only takes a few moments of your time. If you have any question as to when you are due to reSTEX, please contact me!



New Member Orientation, Milton Library, DE

Rachel Snijders Director of Training

More than a paragraph is needed to thank all those hard working volunteers who make the training department successful! Without your time and expertise, we couldn't possibly certify new therapy teams and bring them into the PAWS for People fold. Congratulations to our trainers who have made it through the Train the Trainer program (TTT) and thumbs up to the many who are preparing for their trainer certification. You are all stars in my book!

We have acquired a few new training sites in Kennett Square, Havertown, and Milton, which prove to be of immense benefit to PAWS. Thank you to our partners who are so accommodating! The training department is going full steam ahead with the help of many volunteers, our scheduler and first mate, Moira Stephan, and a truckload of community supporters. THANK YOU, one and all for your selfless commitment!



Wally Siple with Laura Dugan Bogart, TTT New Member Orientation, Cokesbury, DE

From the Office

Laura Garver

Office Manager

Just like the spring flowers, PAWS is growing more and more each day! Years ago, Lynne planted the seeds of pet therapy and, my, look how they've grown! Our steady growth is partly because of wonderful volunteers like YOU who remain with us season after beautiful season.

How does PAWS measure its growth? One way is to look at numbers. PAWS has over 500 members now – wow! We visit over 160 sites in a 4-state region – wow again! And, on a monthly basis, we receive Visits & Hours Logs from approximately half our members – wait, what?! Sadly, it's true.

Can you help us ensure that our reported numbers are accurate? Please consider logging your monthly Visits & Hours as a crucial part of your volunteer service for PAWS. It helps us to ensure we are providing the services to the community that we've promised we would. You are helping to keep our garden growing in many beautiful ways! Thank you for all you do, and Happy Spring!

Moira Stephan

Scheduling Coordinator

As many of you are already aware, I have been assisting Stephanie with the library schedules and substitute requests. The flu has definitely been a factor in February; thank you for your understanding on the many sub request emails. And a huge THANK YOU goes out to those teams that have been available to substitute! I will be working in April to confirm schedules for the summer programs. Library reading teams, keep an eye out for my email to confirm your availability.

I have also been assisting Clarice on scheduling community events, mainly DeStress events. We have already attended over 18 DeStress events this year, to help students and employees add some smiles to their day! With another 10 on the calendar for April, keep an eye out for more opportunities to help folks take their mind off the daily grind.



Wendy Lewis Webmaster



Denise at a Discover DeStress session visits with Tory Robinson and Jasmine McGuiness

One of my missions is to make sure that ALL PAWS teams are recognized for the AMAZING things they do in the biweekly e-newsletter, Facebook, or here, in the quarterly newsletter. BUT, I can't celebrate you and your therapy companion if I don't know what you are up to. Please share with me so I can share with the WORLD! "But we just visit," you might say. Yes, you VISIT - that is AMAZING! Consider sending in photos of your therapy companion napping after giving lovies earlier in the day, a video of their reaction to seeing the PAWS leash come out, or a shot of them in front of the facility you visit. If taking pictures is not your thing, send a story instead. Thank you! <u>e-mail: registration@PAWSforPeople.org</u>

Continuous Improvement

Advanced Training

Our most recent Advanced Training was held on January 26 in the PAWS Training Center. One of our biggest classes, 26 PAWS members and several of their pups joined us for a couple of hours of PAWS' refresher information, roundtable discussions, and tips on how to promote PAWS in easy, everyday ways.

Thanks to our Advanced Training trainers and assistants - Lynne Robinson, Rachel Snijders, Laurie Napolin, Wendy Lewis, Luann D'Agostino, and Lexi Rivielle.

Advanced training is required for all teams who have completed at least 6 months of visiting. You'll learn a lot and relearn a lot more. Save the date for the next Advanced Training Sessions:

July 18 - Newark, DE (New Castle County)

November 10 - Millsboro, DE (Sussex County)







PAWS University

Please note the addition of several PAWS University classes which are now being offered in Kent/Sussex Counties. Location and times will be updated on our website.

April 4 (Wednesday), 5:30 PM – Grand PAWS (Kennett Square, PA) TBD – PAWS for Reading (Sussex County, DE)

May 11 (Friday), 10:00 AM – PATHS (PAWS office)
16 (Wednesday), 6:30 PM – PAWS for Reading (PAWS office)
19 (Saturday), 9:45 AM – Trauma Support (PAWS office)
24 (Thursday) – PATHS & Dog Body Language (Kent/Sussex County, DE)

- June 7 (Thursday), 5:30 PM PAWS for Reading (Kennett Square, PA)
 21 (Thursday), 5:30 PM Thinking Outside the Box (Kennett Square, PA)
 28 (Thursday), 10:00 AM Yes, You Can and Your Dog Can, Too! & Thinking Outside the Box (Milton, DE)
- July No courses scheduled in July

Learn about the courses offered and register online: <u>www.pawsforpeople.org/additional-</u> <u>training-for-paws-teams</u>

We are currently looking for people interested in learning to teach many different PAWS University courses; please contact <u>Lynne</u> or <u>Stephanie</u> for more information.



Continuous Improvement

Dog Training

Karen Powell, our PAWS' dog trainer, is building a nice dog training program for PAWS by preparing so many people and dogs that want to (and do) go on to become PAWS therapy teams.

She's considering adding a daytime class so if you know of someone who has a dog that needs a little extra training (or a lot) and is available during the day, please have them contact the PAWS office (<u>info@PAWSforPeople.org</u> or 302-351-5622) to add their names to our potential trainee list.

Upcoming Dog Training Classes

TUESDAYS (5 week classes) April 3 – 6:30 PM: Puppy 2 – 7:30 PM: Target Training

May 15 – 6:30 PM: Puppy 1 – 7:30 PM: Target Training THURSDAYS (5 week classes) April 5 – 6:30 PM: Attention & Focus – 7:30 PM: Therapy Dog Prep

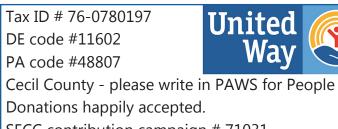
May 17 – 6:30 PM: Attention & Focus – 7:30 PM: Therapy Dog Prep



SUNDAYS (single sessions)

April 8 – 11:30 AM: Tricks of the Trade May 6 – 11:30 AM: Tricks of the Trade June 3 – 11:30 AM: Tricks of the Trade

Learn more and register for our upcoming Dog Training courses online: www.pawsforpeople.org/dogtraining



SECC contribution campaign # 71031



Cat Training?

People have asked why we haven't included cat tricks in PAWS to Consider. Answer: I didn't know you could train a cat to do anything.

BUT I have been proven wrong. There are videos on YouTube that show a variety of people and their felines doing tricks like sit (really), down (all the way), spin, roll over, and high five.

If you have a cat and you can do any or all of these tricks, please contact me (<u>LRobinson@PAWSfor-</u>

People.org) to teach me how you're getting your furry ones to comply. I know a good treat is worth a thousand tricks – just need to know how to get started.



The Power of a Pet Visit

Last night as "Sarah" was getting ready for bed she said, "Dog Duke." I asked "Will you see Duke tomorrow?" She said "Yes." This is the FIRST time Sarah has EVER said what she will do the following day!!!

This morning, we asked her, "What will you do at school today?" She said "Dog Duke."

Sarah clearly loves her time with Duke. More than that, he is helping with her speech and cognition. I also heard that Duke put himself between Sarah's head and her hand as she was hitting her head. This made her stop.

Thanks so much for this wonderful service for Sarah. It makes a huge difference to her day. Duke's owner, Dawn Paramore is just a gem - probably just as in tune with students' needs as Duke is. Please pass on this story and our heartfelt thanks to her especially.



Duke Ellington ready to visit

- Thankful Parent

Pet Health Corner Why Does My Pet Lick Me after I Apply Lotion? And Is It OK?

Many dogs and cats appear to like the taste of lotions (especially if the lotions are infused with enticing scents) as well as other topical products, such as over-thecounter and prescription medications. Over-the-Counter Medications are often viewed as innocuous because they can be purchased without a prescription at your local pharmacy. In most cases a lick or two is not likely to cause an issue, but the behavior should be discouraged.

Veterinarians frequently also recommend some of the more innocuous products in this group - steroid creams, triple-antibiotic ointments and salves - to treat pets. When used under the direction of your veterinarian, these products are safe, but carefully follow your vet's instructions regarding application and discourage licking behavior.

Here are some examples and their unintended consequences:

- Steroid-based creams
- Antifungal creams for human issues
- Diaper rash ointments are more serious if ingested by dogs. Zinc oxide is commonly found in these products and can cause vomiting and diarrhea.
- Calamine lotion for treating poison ivy also contains zinc oxide and can cause the same types of digestive problems as mentioned above.
- Triple-antibiotic ointments are commonly applied to cuts and scrapes.
- Many muscle rubs contain aspirin-like compounds (salicylates).
- · Sunscreens and antihistamine creams
- Ingestion of large amounts of moisturizing lotions
- Minoxidil (Rogaine) Never let your pet lick your head after an application.







PO Box 9955, Newark, DE 19714 Return Service Requested



Pet-Assisted Visitation Volunteer Services, Inc.

PO Box 9955, Newark, DE 19714 703 Dawson Drive, Newark, DE 19713 302-351-5622 www.PAWSforPeople.org - info@PAWSforPeople.org Lynne Robinson, Executive Director

A nonprofit, volunteer organization serving DE, MD, PA, and NJ, our mission is to lovingly provide elders, children, and folks with disabilities individualized, therapeutic visits with a gentle, affectionate pet.

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