

# DOG

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# DAWS

We dig into the latest and greatest places to play with, party with, and pamper your pet. Local faces you know show off their furbabies. And meet a few dogs who are famous in their own right (when was the last time one of *your* Instagram videos racked up nearly half a million views?).

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# Leader of the Pack

An ode to Indy's foremost dog-fluencer: Garth the Golden.

— SARAH BARR



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NARF A SLICE of Goodfella sausage-and-steak-stuffed pizza. Cozy up to a cow. Then allow your human to post the salivating and snuggling to Instagram, and wait for the likes to pile up.

It's a proven formula for Garth the Golden, a Broad Ripple Golden retriever who has amassed more than 137,000 followers on Instagram. A video of him meeting his nephew for the first time racked up more than half a million views. Even his toys have their own hashtags. Among this hound's accomplishments: filling an online store with Garth-faced goodies ranging from Cinco de Mayo taco socks

to a calendar, flip-flops, and frosted beer mug; a top-10 finish in the worldwide 2017 *Men's Health* Ultimate Dog Search; and raising more than \$1,000 for Wheeler Mission.

To be honest, it doesn't take much to win Garth's heart: Grab his Lamb Chop plushie (tagged #LambyBae); supply a spoon for him to lick; or cue up his favorite flick, *Homeward Bound* (seriously). Or just show up at the Broad Ripple Farmers Market, where Garth is a mainstay on Saturdays from May through November.

But you need not stroke his oh-so-fluffy fur to become a Garth groupie—he has plenty of followers who know him only through his soulful black eyes,

soft smile, and wagging tongue. “U DESTROY ME WITH ALL YOUR ADORABLENESS,” panted Dana L. Hunter in one of her frequent comments on his Facebook page. “I CAN'T TAKE IT.” “The beauty is almost painful,” @nat\_1205 swooned beneath an Instagram video of a snoozing Garth using one of his human mom's running shoes as a pillow.

Other than unbridled cuteness, Garth's “mom”-ager, Salesforce account executive Abby Coons, says he doesn't have a secret sauce for social media success (though having a champion show-dog dad certainly doesn't hurt). “We keep it real,” the Garth Brooks superfan says. “We don't glamorize the posts. We



highlight the happy, funny, frustrating moments, and I think people can relate.”

Coons had no aim of making Garth famous when she took him home from Hoosier Heartland Golden Retrievers in Frankton, Indiana, in July 2016. She signed him with pet-fluencer magnate The Dog Agency two years ago after the 200 direct messages Garth was getting each day from people and brands looking to collaborate began to get overwhelming. She spends a couple of hours per day managing the account with the help of her husband, Jeremy Coons, a financial advisor.

Her advice for wannabe dog-fluencers? “Don’t try to make your dog famous,” she says. “Just have fun with it. Use your platform to bring a smile to others.”

# SIX THINGS YOUR DOG WALKER WISHES YOU KNEW

Hear it from Amira Dutra e Mello, a master dog trainer and behaviorist who founded Fountain Square Dog Training and Walking Services.

**Y**OUR DOG COULD be craving a walk right now, even if it’s freezing. “Some breeds are better in the heat; some breeds are better in the winter. I take care of four Labradors—they freaking love the winter. Their pads are made for it. During high heat-index days, I’m not going to risk the dogs’ pads. If I put my hand down and it burns my hand, I can’t walk your dog in that. Maybe someone else would, but I’m not going to be responsible for that.”

**I don’t care what your house looks like. Really.** “I’ve had some clients go, ‘You can’t come over this week because the house is a mess.’ We’re there for the dogs. If you have everything out we need, we’re in and out. There’s no reason for me to be all over the house.”

**When I tell you I’m walking your dog, I’m walking your dog.** “I average 15,000 to 20,000 steps a day Monday through Friday. I’ve probably lost 25 pounds.”

**Call me!** “People don’t realize that our schedules are pretty rigid, and you may need to book as many as three months out. It’s actually a real job. It’s not Grandma sitting around going, ‘Ooh, I’m going to visit a dog today.’ I had 11 yesterday. And it could have been more—I had to say no to some people.”

**My training comes in handy.** “One time, a German shepherd came running up to the dog I was walking. We had been working with him a long time on not being dog-reactive. I told him to sit. He did, and I stepped in front of him. The German shepherd was coming in for an attack, hackles raised and ears back. There’s a place on their chest you can tap—like a kick, but not a full-on kick—and he stopped. It’s scary. Unfortunately, we do have a problem with loose dogs.”

**There’s a reason it’s called “tough love.”**

“Owners project a lot of emotions onto their animals. They want a behavior to change, but they don’t want to do the work. They don’t want to be the bad guy. You’re going to have to say no to your dog, just like you can’t raise children with positives only. It’s a lack of basic training that gets a lot of dogs dumped.”

—AS TOLD TO  
LAURA KRUTY





# Where to Hang with

Indianapolis is way kinder to canines than it was just a decade ago—just look at the plethora of places you can now bring your pooch. Though local health codes keep dogs outside of restaurants, they're increasingly welcome in outdoor-seating areas (call ahead if you aren't sure). Most businesses just ask your dog be well-behaved and on a leash. Who's ready to go for a walk? —SARAH BARR AND SAM STALL

... Best Place for You to Play Your Way, Captain Snagglepuss to Play His Way

## 16-Bit Bar + Arcade

Your dog can lie at your feet as you tap away at the 50-plus old-school video games in this arcade/bar. They're allowed pretty much anywhere on the premises, indoors and out. Canines also receive "wag bags" containing a treat, doggy bags, and a ball. 110 E. New York St., 317-939-6916, 16-bitbar.com/indy

... Best Place Outside Your Living Room to Kick Back on a Couch and Have a Beer

## Centerpoint Brewing

Calm, friendly canine companions are allowed anywhere in the taproom, where dog-friendly snacks from neighboring City Dogs Grocery are handed out. 1125 E. Brookside Ave., 317-602-8386, centerpointbrewing.com

... Best Dog-Friendly Beer Garden

## Four Day Ray Brewing

During the warm months, Four Day Ray, which is situated in Fishers's Nickel Plate District, welcomes canines at its outdoor beer garden. There's even a selection of branded toys for them—well, you—to purchase. 11671 Lantern Rd., Fishers, 317-343-0200, fourdayray.com

... Best Place to Take a Break from Exploring Fountain Square

## Hotel Tango

The patio is totally down with dogs during warm months. "On a good summer day, we have from five to 10 dogs there," says founder Travis Barnes. "It can get pretty busy." Guests can avail themselves of water and dog treats. 702 Virginia Ave., 317-653-1806, hoteltangowhiskey.com

... Best Place to Bring Your Other Pet, the Pot-Bellied Pig

## Metazoa Brewing Co.

You can't bring a minor to Metazoa's tasting room, but your pets (including brave cats) are welcome.

There's even a dog park where Fido can frolic while you sip Puppy Slumber Party stout, knowing that five percent of all Metazoa profits go to animal and wildlife causes. More exotic pets can come, too, though management asks that you call ahead before bringing your python or emu. 140 S. College Ave., 317-522-0251, metazoabrewing.com

... Best Place for Country Dogs

## Moontown Brewing Company

Treat your dog to a night on the town at this craft-beer-and-barbecue depot tucked among farms and fields northwest of downtown. Housed in the former Whites-town high school gym, the brewery welcomes pooches under the patio's strands of twinkling lights during milder months (the taproom is human-only). So while you're sipping a malt-and-maize Moonlite cream ale, your furry friend can kick back around the fire pit. 345 S. Bowers St., Whitestown, 317-769-3880, moontownbeer.com

... Best Place for Snacking Together

## Provider

This Kennedy-King neighborhood coffee bar is famous for its luxurious latte art, but you might snap an even better Instagram shot on the 60-seat, often pet-filled patio, which boasts a pergola, umbrella-topped tables, free Wi-Fi, and concerts in the less-shivery seasons. Whether you're bundled up for a morning run on the Monon Trail or venturing out for a sunset stroll, Coat Check Coffee's Old Northside outpost has you covered, from a biscuit sandwich with jalapeño pepper jam to smoky drinks like the Picador, a daiquiri derivative with mezzal. Insiders know the pastry paradise also bakes buttery almond croissants that'll ensure your pooch won't be the only one panting. 1101 E. 16th St., 317-550-5685

## BARS & BREWERIES



## COFFEE HOUSES

... Best Place for a Jogging Break

## Coal Yard Coffee

This artsy little coffee shop sits next to the Irvington leg of the Pennsy Trail, guaranteeing that it sees its share of tired canines (and their owners). Coal Yard offers a comfy patio area for dogs, along with plenty of fresh water, dog treats, Pup Cup ice cream, and more. "We even do an ice cream cone with whipped cream and a dog biscuit on top," says co-owner Michelle Roberts. 5547 Bonna Ave., 317-929-1297, cyc5547project.com



# Your Dog



## RESTAURANTS

... Best Place for Farm-to-Table Dining with a Furball

### The Mug

Mug hops carry fare directly to your car, from extra-creamy mac and cheese to baskets of batter-dipped fries buried under barbecue-sauced pulled pork, though a colossal pasture-raised breaded pork tenderloin monopolizes the menu (and your mouth). The 50-seat patio is the perfect place for your dog to slurp a pup cup (a small scoop of vanilla soft-serve), and there are usually dog bones for well-mannered tail-waggers. 118 S. Audubon Rd., 317-820-3662, [themug.com](http://themug.com)



... Best Place for Your Dog to Get Her Own Menu, Thankyouverymuch

### Rosie's Place

You can't avail yourselves of this three-location eatery's Pooch Menu right now, because it's only available on the patio. But come spring, your dog can dine on chopped bacon or chicken breast for \$3, or a combination of the two for \$6. All meals come with a bowl of water "and a head scratch," with a portion of the proceeds donated to local Humane Societies. [rosiesplace.net](http://rosiesplace.net)

... Best Place for Mutt Mingling

### Fire by the Monon

This Broad Ripple spot half a block from the Monon Trail offers canine visitors an exclusive patio where they can relax with their owners. And though there's not a "dog menu" per se, you can get an unseasoned grilled chicken breast, burger patty, or salmon filet upon request. Servers have been known to bring treats for particularly good boys. 6523 Ferguson St., 317-252-5920, [firebythemonontrail.com](http://firebythemonontrail.com)

... Best Place to Dine, Just the Two of You

### Edwards Drive-In

Neon is the name of the game at this 1950s diner nestled on the city's near-southeast side. A crew of carhops satisfies your cravings for sundaes, onion rings, and creamy homemade root beer floats—and the curbside service means you don't have to ditch your dog before diving in. 2126 S. Sherman Dr., 317-786-1638, [edwardsdrivein.com](http://edwardsdrivein.com)

... Best Place for Choosy Pups

### Petite Chou

This Martha Hoover joint offers year-round dog service on its enclosed front porch. There's no set menu, but you're free to order custom dishes for your canine companion, including eggs or a hamburger with no bun or toppings. "It's really whatever you want," says one staffer. "Or whatever the dog wants." 823 Westfield Blvd., 317-259-0765, [petitechoubistro.com](http://petitechoubistro.com)

## STAYCATIONS

... Best Home Base for Doing Downtown Together

### The Alexander

This art-infused hotel is great for human-and-hound exploring: It's nestled amid the young-adult playscape City-Way. Upon check-in, your furry friend gets a goodie bag with a treat from Nutty Mutt Bakery—often an apple-pie bone—and a vibrant Alexander-branded bandanna (it's luck of the draw on color, but the orange ones are especially snazzy). While the hotel charges an additional \$25 for a pet-friendly room, for up to two dogs weighing up to 50 pounds, it's a one-time fee—all the more reason to stretch your one-night getaway into a three-day vacay. 333 S. Delaware St., 317-624-8200, [thealexander.com](http://thealexander.com)



... Best Place for Bringing a St. Elmo Doggy Bag Back to Your Room

### Le Méridien

Fair warning: If you treat your humble hound to a weekend here, you might leave with a doggy diva. From no upcharge for pet-friendly digs to on-the-house dog beds and food-and-water bowls, the boutique hotel next door to St. Elmo Steak House checks all the boxes. If, after all that pampering, your canine gets cabin fever, there's a grassy square only a block away. 123 S. Illinois St., 317-737-1600

... Best Place for Holing Up by The Fashion Mall

### Ironworks Hotel

The only work your pooch will be putting in at this Prohibition-chic pad will be figuring out how to lure you back down to the lobby to score another of the complimentary Milk-Bone treats sitting out for the snarfing. And owners have every incentive to capture their dogs' most Instagrammable capering, carousing, and chowing: The two-and-a-half-year-old northside nest regularly hosts contests with prizes for the cutest canine photos (a National Dog Day giveaway last August garnered winners a free night and pet package that included an Ironworks bandanna and gourmet treat). If the hotel knows a dog will be checking in, she'll be greeted by a personal pamper pack, which includes a water bowl and Ironworks-branded treat from Carmel's A Dog Bakery. 2721 E. 86th St., 463-221-2200, [ironworkshotelindy.com](http://ironworkshotelindy.com)



## How to dog-proof a yard

**Step one:** Get a secure, escape-proof fence. If your dog is a jumper, that means something substantially taller than the standard chain-link model. If he's a digger, you'll need something that's flush to the ground. "And you still want to watch to make sure your dog doesn't jump or dig out," says Megan Bousley, a spokeswoman for the Humane Society for Hamilton County.

Another barrier should surround your garden—according to the ASPCA, tons of common flowers are dangerous to dogs if ingested. Fertilizers and herbicides are no good. Then there are the coyotes that live in every Indiana county; likewise, red-tailed hawks and bald eagles (which we totally have around here) can pluck pugs, Poms, and other fun-size breeds right out of yards. Which leads to the paramount rule for backyard safety: Pretty much every problem, from horking down mulch to burrowing to freedom to being carried off by our national symbol, can be avoided simply by not leaving your dog outdoors alone for long periods. "Supervision," says Bousley, "is absolutely key." —SAM STALL



# The Mascots

Two of our hometown universities are cheering along with new live mascots this year. We got to know both of them a little better, and found that while Grady and Blue live on different sides of town, they both like to bark up a few of the same trees. —SUSAN SALAZ

### GRADY THE GREYHOUND

The University of Indianapolis introduced Grady the Greyhound, its first live mascot in nearly 40 years, last fall.

**FULL NAME:** C. Greyson Veritas, a nod to the school colors of crimson and grey, and the Latin word for "truth."

**NICKNAME:** Grady

**FORMER NAME:** Boss Ring Toss

**AGE:** 2

**BACKGROUND:** Retired racing greyhound from Daytona, Florida. UIndy adopted him from Greyhound Pets of America—Indianapolis.

**HANDLER:** Coran Sigman, a 2014 UIndy alum.

**FAVORITE SNACK:** Peanut butter or Three Dog Bakery creations, especially Peanut Butter Oat treats.

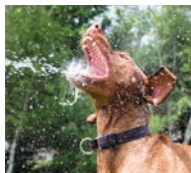
**FAVORITE TOY:** Frank the Dragon

**BELLY RUBS OR HEAD SCRATCHES:** Head scratches

**SPECIAL TRICKS:** He's a sighthound, so he can see farther than most dogs, and hunts by sight, not scent. Campus squirrels, beware.

## A DOG OWNER'S GUIDE TO THE MONON TRAIL

CARMEL



If your dogs are barking in the figurative sense, grab a seat at the southwest corner of Main Street and the Monon, where you can relax while your pup chomps at H2O shooting up from the interactive water feature.



Find seasonal water fountains with built-in dog bowls at Midtown Plaza, 1st Street SW, and the trailheads at 96th Street and Rohrer Road, which also have permanent restrooms. **Poop bags running low?** Scoop up reinforcements at 1st Street NW, 136th Street, and Greyhound Pass.



People- and dog-watching don't get much better than at Midtown Plaza, Carmel's hottest gathering spot, with ping-pong tables, cornhole, billiards, and a big-screen TV outside of Sun King Spirits and Fork + Ale House. Both restaurants' al fresco seating areas accommodate canines. Get your pal a Taylor's Bakery treat before taking your can of Pachanga outside.



For a change of scenery, detour off the Monon to explore the pathways that wind throughout Carmel's Central Park.



# MASS AVE

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PENDING A DAY on **Mass Ave** doesn't require leaving your dog at home—quite the opposite, actually. Impatient pups might let you browse for only a few minutes at **Indy Reads Books** before pulling you across the street to **City Dogs Grocery**, which stocks Delectable Dane fro yo in flavors such as berry and peanut-butter bacon. That

should keep them busy while you sample Napa-made reds and whites at **Peace Water Winery**, where pets are welcome, inside and out. You'll need your dog's strong sense of smell at **Penn & Beech**, a pour-your-own-candle spot with more than 100 scents (if only Puppy Breath and Frito Paws were among the options). Sniff out other home accessories and gift items at **Homespun: Modern Handmade**, **Boomerang Boutique**, and **Silver in the City**, where, if you ask nicely (heck, beg), they might snap a pic for their Dogs of Silver in the City Instagram page. At **Pumkinfish**, the tinkling bell on the door summons one half of the shop's namesake, 15-year-old Pomeranian Pumkin, who can show you to the dog-friendly chicken broth-based beer and organic wine made from beet juice. If you're ready for treats and drinks of your own, the patios at **Mimi Blue**, **Hedge Row American Bistro**, **Fat Dan's Deli**, **World of Beer**, **Tavern at the Point**, and **Ralston's Drafthouse** all accommodate four-legged companions. And if, after all that, your fellow explorer was a good boy or girl, surely they deserve a Puppuccino from the walk-up window at **Starbucks** or a carob-dipped "dino bone" treat from the case at **Three Dog Bakery**. —LAURA KRUTY



The "Butler Bulldog" mascot was born in 1919, when one fraternity's English bulldog, Shimmy, roamed into the school newspaper offices. But it wasn't until 2000 that the live mascot program became official. Here's Blue IV, photographed just a few days after he was crowned the newest university rep.

**FULL NAME:** Butler Blue IV

**NICKNAME:** Blue

**AGE:** 3 months

**BACKGROUND:** Bred by Cameron and Jodi Madaj of Greenwood, Indiana.

**HANDLERS:** Evan Krauss, class of 2016, and his wife, Kennedy.

**FAVORITE SNACK:** He's really only had milk so far, but if he follows in the paw-steps of Blue III, Trip, he'll be gobbling up Hinkle Fieldhouse popcorn in no time.

**FAVORITE TOY:** Basketballs.

**FAVORITE PASTIME:** Cheering on the Butler Bulldogs.

**BELLY RUBS OR HEAD SCRATCHES:** Neither. Butt scratches.

**SPECIAL TRICKS:** Melting your face with cuteness.

**SNUGGLES OR SOLO:** Couch snuggles all day, every day.

**SOCIALIZING OR QUIET:** Socializing.

**FAVORITE TIME OF DAY:** Mealttime.

**BUTLER BLUE IV**



Yes, spring is coming, which means long walks on the Monon Trail. Here, the dog-friendly places you should know for breaks, bites, and beer. —LAURA KRUTY



A pint of Kristofferson pale ale sipped on Big Lug Canteen's **dog-friendly trailside patio** should help you power through the expanse between Carmel and Broad Ripple.



Paws need a break from pounding the pavement? Follow the offshoot path to the shaded, packed-earth trails of **Marott Park** just south of 75th Street.



You and your pet can refuel on **Cornell Avenue**, where the outdoor spaces of Just Pop In!, Plump's Last Shot, Books & Brews, and Broad Ripple Brewpub all welcome four-legged trail users and offer water for thirsty critters.



Reward your pooch for not pulling you toward that Goldendoodle with a stop at BRICS, which dishes out pet-friendly portions of **whipped cream topped with peanut butter sauce** from its walk-up window.



**BROAD RIPPLE**

Hang on tight to the leash: The stretch between Broad Ripple Avenue and 54th Street is flanked by trees—and that means lots of **squirrel activity**.





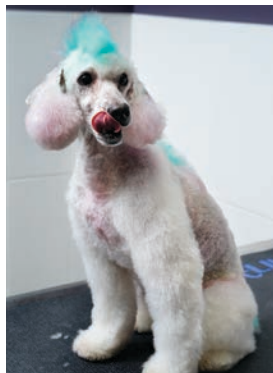
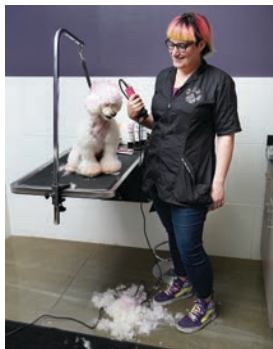
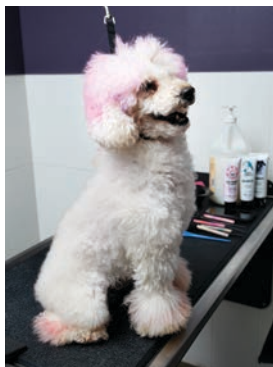
## How to commission a great pet portrait

A handful of local shutterbugs specialize in the uniquely maddening art of getting animals to sit still for pictures. **Furtography Studio** (2116 E. 54th St, 217-497-4553, [indypetphotography.com](http://indypetphotography.com)) offers sessions complete with costumes and props (if your pet tolerates that sort of thing) and presents its finished shots in fine-art canvases or social media-ready digital files. Prices start at \$299. If you'd like something even more rarefied, Indy artist Karen Seltzer, proprietor of **Best in Show Pet Portraits** ([bestinshowpetportraits.com](http://bestinshowpetportraits.com)), will do a custom oil painting of your pet. Each one takes a few weeks to complete, and they cost from \$138 to just south of a grand. All the work is done from photos, so you don't have to worry about getting your pet to hold still for a sitting.

For a cheap but cute option—say, your dog's head Photoshopped onto the body of an 18th-century noble—find a vendor on Facebook Marketplace or the odd-job service [fiverr.com](http://fiverr.com). You might pay as little as you would for a couple cans of Alpo, with a turnaround as short as a few hours. —SAM STALL

## A MOHAWK MAKEOVER

JJ, an 11-year-old miniature poodle, goes from scruffball to stylesetter thanks to her owner, Katie Deveau of Furr Pet Spa and Wellness Clinic.



# Dogs' Best Friend

Meet the Greta Thunberg of local animal advocacy, 17-year-old Sophia Pruitt.

—SUSAN SALAZ

**T**HIS PAST Thanksgiving, Sophia Pruitt, 17, woke up to a call from her boss. Many teenagers might have ignored it and rolled back over, but Sophia answered the call and eagerly took up the offer on the other end, joining Dr. Mary Grabow, a veterinarian at Noah's Animal Hospitals, for an emergency C-section. Sophia witnessed a litter of fuzzy French bulldog puppies born before the day's festivities began.

Sophia is passionate about animals, and has been as long as she can remember. "When I was 2, I was organizing my little animal figurines by habitat," she says. A few years later, she dressed as a Dalmatian and sold homemade dog treats on Lemonade Day. She took the \$70 she earned to the Humane Society of Indianapolis and was offered a tour that jump-started her dedication to animal advocacy. She was 7 then, and has now been volunteering and fundraising for IndyHumane for a decade. She has fostered more than 60 animals, despite her dad's cat allergy, and raised almost \$38,000 to date.

Every achievement she notches just eggs her on to do more. "I think that I stay passionate because of the positive responses that I get from the community," says Sophia. "My family and school are so supportive."

A junior at Brebeuf, Sophia organizes several moneymaking



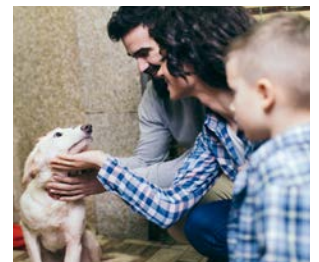
## How to find a dog through a rescue group

Getting a dog is easy—just visit your local animal shelter. But it's a different story if you want a specific breed. Forget about purchasing one at a pet store, which the Humane Society strongly urges against because they're almost always the sickly products of puppy mills. And buying a pedigreed puppy from a reputable breeder can take months and set you back three or four digits.

There is, however, another way. Breed-specific rescue groups specialize in rehoming everything from Pomeranians to Tibetan mastiffs that have been rejected by their previous owners. They're sprinkled across the state and the nation. Ask your veterinarian, or check the comprehensive list on The American Kennel Club's website.

But first, take time to research the variety you covet. "Not everybody can handle every breed," says Cathy Nolan, president of Giant Paw Prints Rescue, a Valparaiso group that specializes in very large dogs. "You have to be prepared for their personality traits. For instance, German shepherds were originally herding dogs, and will nip at you to make you move."

Breed rescue groups may require everything from a lengthy interview to an in-home visit. They aren't in a hurry, because they want to make sure their charges, most of whom have already lost one home, don't lose another. —SAM STALL



ventures for IndyHumane, including her birthday-party fundraiser, which she started at age 8: She invited her entire class to the celebration, asking them not to bring gifts, but items to donate to the IndyHumane shelter. Kids brought dog and cat toys, pet beds, treats, and more. The party was such a success, it's become an annual tradition. Sophia also runs Hoops for Hounds, a partnership with the Indiana Fever and Pacers, which she conceived in 2013 while at a Fever game with her family. Her latest project, a Mutt Strut team, is off to an early success: Last year, Sophia and Brebeuf's dog, Chief, earned Mutt Strut's Top Dog award for fundraising, beating out some heavy contenders and raising nearly \$15,000 for the event. This year, the pair will be honored as Grand Marshals for the event, which takes place in April at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway. Sophia knows all her hours are making a difference at the shelter, saying, "the fact that I am able to see the results of my efforts makes it exciting."

The amount of money Sophia has pulled in is next-level, especially for a teenager, says David Horth, CEO of IndyHumane. "We are very grateful for the money she raises, but we are just grateful to have her," he says. "She's a dynamic and positive and inspirational influence on IndyHumane."

Sophia's service has been recognized over the years, most recently when The Orchard School named her Graduate of the Last Decade for her dedication to animal service. "She was so surprised," says her mother, Elliott Pruitt. "She has a lot of awards and accolades, but she would rather just save another pup or kitten."



# Meet My Dog

Behind every successful person is a dog (or two).  
—KELLY KENDALL AND CHRISTY MOORE



**MARTHA  
HOOVER**

**OCCUPATION:** Restaurateur and nonprofit founder

**DOG:** Babe, 2, French bulldog

**HOW'D YOU MEET?** My oldest daughter lives in New York and was seven months pregnant with her first child. She decided that her French bulldog needed a companion. She got this dog from Hawaii, hired a puppy nanny to bring the dog to Indianapolis, and came to visit the dog—and realized she had no room in her life for another dog. So my husband and I have had the dog ever since.

**WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL ABOUT FRENCH BULLDOGS?** They're very good city dogs. They like to sleep a lot and don't need a ton of exercise. Babe looks outside and sees it's raining, and she's like, *I think I'll just stay in.*

**HOW DO YOU HAVE A DOG WITH YOUR CRAZY SCHEDULE?** When I travel or if I'm opening up a restaurant or something and can't really spend time with her, she'll stay with her amazing trainer, Brad Phifer. We joke that we co-parent her.

**TREATS?** She will kill you for a slice of watermelon.



**TOM  
GRISWOLD**

**OCCUPATION:** Radio personality and host of *The Bob & Tom Show*

**DOGS:** Dunder, 8, Golden retriever, and Winnie, 1, English Cream Golden retriever

**HOW DID YOU FIND THESE GUYS?** I got Dunder from a breeder in Missouri. More recently, some friends of mine had a dog from another breeder, and I'd never seen a dog that affectionate and chill. By chance, I ran into another dog from the same breeder, Majestic Manor Goldens in Sheridan, a few days later. I went up there, they brought Winnie out, and it was love at first sight.

**WHAT'S A BIG TREAT FOR THEM?** They both think that carrots are meat.

**BIGGEST DOGGY DISASTER?** Another of our dogs, Mac, swallowed a chew toy whole. To do surgery, they had to literally eviscerate him. He's fine now, and the dogs eat Nutri Chomps, which are a safe alternative.



**AARON  
HOLIDAY**

**OCCUPATION:** Point guard, Indiana Pacers

**DOG:** Ash, 1, pit bull mix

**WHERE DID YOU FIND ASH?** The Humane Society. I wanted to save a dog.

**WHY PICK HIM?** He just showed the most love, I guess. When we walked by, he got up and started barking. When we walked away, he started barking. When we pet him, he started barking.

**WHY DO YOU TWO GET ALONG?** He's nice and quiet. He's always been calm—even when he was younger, he didn't really bark or cry. He loves being pet and loves people.



**T.J. MCCONNELL**



**OCCUPATION:** Point guard, Indiana Pacers

**DOG:** Zona, 3, boxer-beagle mix

**"ZONA"?** I went to the University of Arizona, so I just shortened that.

**HOW DID YOU GET HER?** My wife, Valerie, and I rescued her as an 8-week-old puppy. Valerie did a lot of the research, and I just saw a picture of her and fell in love with her and we called and inquired about her. We drove out to Shamokin, Pennsylvania—it's near Penn State—to get her.

**WHAT MADE HER WORTH THE DRIVE?** It was the photo that did it. And it was weird—her brother and sisters were in this pen when we walked in, and she was the first one that jumped up when we came over, so it was kind of a match made in heaven.

**WHERE DOES SHE SLEEP?** In the bed. Between both of us.



**ANDREA MOREHEAD**

**OCCUPATION:** Anchor, WTHR-13

**DOG:** Rico, 3, Shih Tzu

**WHERE DID YOU GET HIM?** We had been looking specifically for a Shih Tzu, and after visiting a number of shelters and not finding one, I happened to be on social media and ran across a private breeder's page showing our little guy. We fell in love with Rico's sweet face, and we knew that he was "the one." We drove to Chicago to pick him up.

**HIS FAVORITE THINGS?** Rico loves cuddling and snuggling, tummy rubs, and when we blow gentle puffs of air in his face. He absolutely loves bacon. When he smells us cooking it, he runs to the kitchen and waits for his slice.

**WHERE ARE HIS HANGOUTS?** He enjoys sitting on the front porch to watch me garden. He likes walking our neighborhood, and the downtown Canal.

**DOES HE WATCH YOU ON TV?** I'm told he does!

**CHARLIE KIMBALL**



**OCCUPATION:** IndyCar driver

**DOGS:** Taj, 16, Siberian husky, and Lilah, 7, Labrador retriever

**WE HEAR THESE DOGS HAVE SUPERPOWERS.** Taj is our daughter's self-appointed protector; he follows about a foot behind her as she toddles around the house, and blocks her from anything dangerous, like the staircase. Lilah is my protector. She was trained by Medical Mutts here in Indy, and she's a certified service dog. I was diagnosed as diabetic just over 12 years ago, and she is my extra level of security should my blood sugar drop.

**FAVORITE THINGS TO DO IN INDY?**

They like visiting Eagle Creek so Taj can bounce around and Lilah can wade in the lake. We walk the Monon and take them to Mass Ave, where they drink water from bowls at dog-friendly restaurants. The Monday morning after the Indianapolis 500, our tradition is to take them to the patio at Cafe Patachou.

**ERIC HOLCOMB**



**OCCUPATION:** Governor of Indiana

**DOG:** Henry, 9, miniature Schnauzer

**IS HE NAMED AFTER ANYONE?** Henry the Explorer, because he's always following his snout.

**DOES THE FIRST DOG HAVE ANY STATE DUTIES?**

There was a fundraiser where a lunch with me was up for bid, and I got an urgent call from my friend who asked, "Can you guarantee Henry will be at the lunch?" I said, well, yes, I can still speak for my dog, I guess! He'll be there! Bidding shot way up at the last minute, and Henry went along to the lunch.

**YOU HAVE A "PET" PROJECT.** ICAN, the Indiana Canine Assistant Network, connects dogs with prisoners, who teach them how to be therapy dogs. Sometimes it's the first time someone who's incarcerated has ever experienced unconditional love in their life. It's been around for years, but we're continuing to elevate it.





Jay McClellan Studio stoneware **dessert plate**, \$14. Anthropologie, The Fashion Mall, anthropologie.com

Dachshund **cookie cutter**, \$2. Sur la Table, Clay Terrace, Carmel, surlatable.com



# FOR POSH POOGHES

... And the humans who love them.

— KELLY KENDALL



Urn **necklace** made in New Castle. \$50. etsy.com/shop/exquisitestampdesign

Montes Doggett ceramic **food/water bowl**. \$88. Charles Mayer & Co., 5629 N. Illinois St., shop.charlesmayer.com



Dapper in the City **bandanna**. \$14. City Dogs Grocery, 884 Massachusetts Ave., citydogsgrocery.com



**Leash pouch** made from upcycled wool in Chesterton. \$18. etsy.com/shop/purrfectplay

Chilly Dog sock-monkey **sweater with cap**. \$36. Three Dog Bakery, several locations, threedogindy.com



Cuddly-Coat **Cleansing Spritz dry shampoo**. \$14. Kiehl's, The Fashion Mall, kiehls.com



Collar Doos gingham **bow tie**. \$9. City Dogs Grocery



Cerberus **toy** hand-crocheted on Indy's east side. \$50. etsy.com/shop/mimiandmandyjunes



## How to play in the cold

The thing to consider right now is that a dog's ability to cope with the elements depends on its lineage and build. For instance, huskies and other Northern breeds boast thick "double coats" that protect them better than a North Face parka. But short-haired varieties such as pit bulls are wearing what amounts to a light wind-breaker.

Assuming your dog won't put up with booties, examine his paws—if the pads are naturally fuzzy, trim them so the hair doesn't cause painful "snowballs" to clump between his toes during walks. If it's snowy out, rinse your pet's feet with warm water upon returning home. The streets are covered with road salt and other chemicals that can irritate a canine's sensitive pads, and you don't want them licking at that stuff.

And if the occasional hurried walk at freezing temperatures isn't doing it for your dog, consider daycare. She'll wear herself out socializing with other pooches, playing for hours under the watch of pros—a surefire cure for canine cabin fever. —SAM STALL



## And now a few words about cats ...

IF YOU'RE reading this, you don't have a cat. How do we know? Because your cat would be sitting on the magazine cover with its butt right on that begging fool's face. You cannot troll a cat with a dog photo. You can startle one, trick one with a red laser beam, and laugh at one's fails online, but the joke is always on you, because you can be a cat person, but there is no such thing as a person cat. We're garbage and they know it and they know we know it. We started snickering at them online, and how did they respond? By getting their own cafes, places where we pay to experience their emotional withholding and leave covered in shedded hair. Who's laughing now, two-legs? While we teach dogs to obey simple commands, cats teach us to do the hardest thing of all: believe in ourselves at all times, under all circumstances, even when we're caught licking our backsides. —MEGAN FERNANDEZ

## How to say goodbye to a pet

A wise person once said the only bad thing about dogs is that they don't live long enough—a bitter truth well-understood by anyone who's ever said goodbye to a beloved pet. But it may be comforting to know that when the fateful day finally arrives, several local companies offer the option of home euthanasia. A vet comes to your house, so that your pet can pass on in familiar surroundings, rather than spend his

or her last moments in a sterile exam room.

Typically these firms charge a set fee for the home visit and services, which may be pegged to how far they have to drive to reach the pet in question. Most also offer the additional service (for a price) of immediate removal of the dog's body, along with cremation services. A euthanasia visit from **Twilight Services** (317-773-8387, [wellpetsclinics.com/twilight-services](http://wellpetsclinics.com/twilight-services))

usually costs around \$185. **Pet Loss At Home** (877-219-4811, [petlossathome.com](http://petlossathome.com)), a national network of veterinarians who provide in-home euthanasia, offers its basic services (no body removal) for \$300 to \$450. And **Lap of Love** (317-975-1950, [lapoflove.com](http://lapoflove.com)) charges \$275. Lap of Love also offers such niceties as the collection of a plaster paw print and locks of hair from your pet. —SAM STALL