



Life AT THE WOODS

NOVEMBER 2019

A SOCIAL PUBLICATION EXCLUSIVELY FOR THE RESIDENTS OF THE MCCORMICK WOODS COMMUNITY

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We are always looking for residents to follow up on leads, find great stories and send us ideas. Let's celebrate the great things happening in our community! No contribution is too small. Please email tristan.manning@n2pub.com with your pictures, suggestions, or requests.

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We are always looking for residents that are willing to contribute stories, pictures, ideas, and business recommendations. No contribution is too small. Email us at **LATW@n2pub.com** with your photos, suggestions, and requests.

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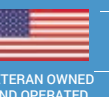
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Garrette homeowners rave about living in their new dream home at McCormick. We recently asked why they chose to live at McCormick, and what their favorite features are in their new home. Here are just a few things they had to say!

Why did you choose to live in McCormick?

- “We kept coming back during our home search because we truly loved the wooded setting.”
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- “The quiet, beauty of trees and close proximity to the city. Golf course, activities, sense of community and trails.”
- “Planned community with established CC&Rs.”
- “I loved all the trees and wanted to live on a golf course.”

What are your favorite features in your new Garrette Custom Home?

- “Well built – great layout – love the kitchen and everything about the house.”
- “One story with lovely golf course view.”
- “Open floor plan, double oven, large pantry and a gas fireplace.”
- “One story! Great yard with privacy fence.”
- “Open floor plan – most of the living quarters downstairs and no home behind us.”
- “The view, the neighbors, the builder.”

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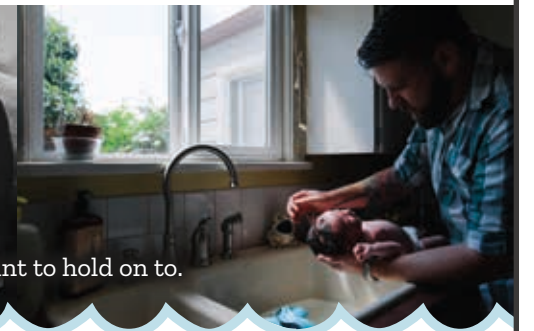
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sponsor spotlight

By Kai Curry | Photos courtesy of Kitsap Mobile Grooming



“Pets Are Paws-atively Our Passion!” is the first thing you read when you visit the website of Kitsap Mobile Grooming & Silverdale Pet Grooming. It accompanies a photo of several smiling ladies (some holding adorable dogs) who are standing in front of a mobile pet grooming van. Just beneath this warm welcome, you read this famous quote by Gandhi: “The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated.”

Karen J. Wagoner and her team of dog grooming professionals “get it.” Pets are family. And the way we take care of them reflects upon ourselves. Karen, who grew up in Tacoma and Spanaway, had not always worked with pets, but after trying out other occupations, including working with a film studio and running an adult family home, Karen knew she “wanted to work with animals as this is my passion. I love nature and wanted to have a business that was a service business.” Mission accomplished.

Karen moved back to the Pacific Northwest in 2008 and to Seabeck in 2014. Prior to her return, she had lived in many states and traveled extensively in the U.S., Europe, and Africa to many States. “I can honestly say that the Great Pacific Northwest is where I call home and is my favorite part of the country.” Karen lives on the Peninsula with her husband, Bruce Waggoner, “as well as dogs and cats and other animals (chickens, ducks, koi).” Animals are Karen’s passion. So why grooming, in particular?

She had originally looked at pet boarding, then decided instead to “go mobile.” When Karen made up her mind, she went big. This was no self-taught endeavor. Karen attended Maser’s Academy of Fine Grooming for Basic Grooming and went to New Jersey to apprentice under a Master Groomer. Her mission of opening a grooming service might be accomplished, yet Karen knows that learning is lifelong. “I have continued my education as a groomer

through many groom show seminars – understanding the science of dog skin and coats, taking Pet CPR and First Aid and many other classes to increase my knowledge of dog grooming and dog care.” Karen now has two mobile grooming vans with several groomers, and two years ago she was able to open a permanent shop in Silverdale in the Towne Center on Silverdale Way NW.

Pets give us unconditional love, and taking them in for grooming is one way we can give love back. It’s not just about looks, though that is part of it. Karen explains, “While we always strive for beauty [we are also] about making sure each animal has the healthiest possible fur and skin not.” Keep in mind that grooming is not just bathing and brushing, but includes tasks like nail clipping, something many pet owners would just as soon leave to someone else! Not everyone considers taking a pet in for professional grooming, yet this type of service can be helpful for the animal in ways we might not realize. According to Karen, “grooming often uncovers health issues unseen until you are working on every inch of the animal as groomers do.”

Karen and her fellow groomers can be part of your team working together to ensure your pet leads the best possible life. Karen recommends taking your pet in as soon after that pet comes into your care as possible. “...Grooming is essential for your pets,” she says. “Whether you do it yourself or choose a professional, make sure your dog or cat is indoctrinated at an early age use grooming to bond with them. Nails have to be trimmed, ears cleaned and coats washed. If you train them early they don’t look at grooming as so scary!”

Karen admits, “There are plenty of dogs and cats to go around and I know of many excellent groomers in our area.” So what makes Karen’s business special? Residents have indicated that it is, as in 2017, Karen and her staff won the Best of North Kit-

sap Readers’ Choice award. Karen’s education and passion are great assets to her work. It’s also very convenient, as with their specially outfitted mobile vans, Karen’s team can come to you. Something else to consider is what types of products the groomer uses. “We also use very high-quality shampoo – making sure the ingredients are natural and good for the dogs,” Karen assures.

Karen believes that “all groomers should work together for what is best for the dogs.” One of the things that sets her apart, in addition to what we have already mentioned, could be her team’s willingness “to take on the tougher dogs, the dogs that might fear bite, or have been traumatized or elderly. This is challenging and isn’t always the easiest, but we try to service the entirety of the Kitsap Peninsula and give every dog that special TLC it deserves.” Again, this is not something they attempt without experience and education. “Having done a lot of volunteer work at Kitsap Humane Society and other dog rescue groups, our groomers are skilled in dealing with dogs who have anxiety or are in stressful situations,” Karen explains.

The reviews on their website say it all. “Karen and Kaitlin took awesome care of our 20+-year-old cat Allie. Spotless facilities and wonderful, caring staff who demonstrate a love for the pets they care for as if they were their own. I won’t go anywhere else,” says Julie Franich. “Karen is such a professional with such a big heart! She takes the best care of my little Yorkie-Poo, Moose! He tends to be a bit nervous with grooming and both Karen and

Ruth do excellent work taking such detailed care of him and his haircut! I can’t wait to have both my pups back to see them again – best groomers in Kitsap!” raves Alyssum Richards. Client Ray McKay makes it simple, “Great people, definitely pet lovers. Clean, new equipment, safe place to bring your pet!”



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**yards &
garden**

By **Kathy Hawkins**

Composting isn't just for cooks. It's for anyone that throws leftovers away. The reasons why we should compost food waste are simple. Composting organic material reduces methane emissions from landfills, it lowers our carbon footprint and reduces greenhouse gases. The organic material placed in our neighborhood garbage cans does not break down in landfills. According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 20 percent of what goes into municipal landfills is food. Food waste tipped the scale at 35 million tons in 2012, the most recent year for which estimates are available. Once garbage containing food waste is placed in landfills, it is sealed off from any supply of air which breaks it down. Because it cannot break down, it creates a harmful greenhouse gas, methane, which damages the Earth's atmosphere. Compostable items do not biodegrade in landfills because organics need oxygen, water, the perfect nitrogen to carbon ratio, and some mixing from time to time to be successful.

If you have a yard waste container, you can compost. No need to worry about rodents because the yard waste container will protect your food scraps better than any plastic bag. Food scraps (including meat and dairy), paper towels, and paper napkins

can go into your cart and will be composted at North Mason Fiber in Belfair, WA. You'll need a countertop compost container and compostable bags (the purchased box must be labeled compostable as in the photo). Line your compost container with one of the bags and once filled, place it in your yard waste container. There are a variety of compost containers sold on the internet and locally at Bed, Bath, and Linens. Compost containers come with charcoal filters that prevent your food waste from smelling and also from attracting fruit flies. The new charcoal filters are compostable.

Once your yard waste container is picked up and delivered to a site, it's turned into a nutrient-rich food product for your garden. Compost helps improve soil structure, maintain moisture levels, and keep your soil's pH balance in check while helping to suppress plant disease. It will have everything your plants need including nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium and will help buffer soils that are very acidic or alkaline. Compost is available for purchase at sites where a variety of soils and mulches are sold. The plants and flowers in your garden will love it and you'll be helping the environment.



family feature

By **Robert & Luisa Blackwell** | Photos by **Little Fish Photo**

MEET THE Blackwell Family THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE!

Robert C. Blackwell (Dad), Luisa V. Blackwell (Mom),
Jessica Blackwell and Julia Blackwell

Street: Troon Ave. SW,
Port Orchard, WA

Profession: *Dad* – US Navy/Logistics Specialist First Class on USS Carl Vinson (Bremerton); *Mom* – Spanish immersion third-grade teacher at Naval Avenue Elementary in BSD

Activities/hobbies:

Mom – hiking, kickboxing and traveling overseas

Dad – hiking, camping and traveling

Jessica – She is part of the Kitsap Youth Lacrosse Association. She attended the University of Washington Lacrosse Camp this year. She also has been playing the violin for four years and she is part of the Cedar Heights Orchestra. She enjoys participating in our music and drama children’s group at our church.

Julia – She is currently a member of South Kitsap United 08 Select Team. She attended the University of Washington Soccer Camp this year. She also has been playing piano for three years. She participates actively in music and drama at our church.

Hangout spots: Any restaurant with a nice waterfront

Restaurants: The Clubhouse/Spiro’s/Breweries in the Puget Sound

Family dinner: Peruvian food/husband’s grilling!

Vacation destination: Anywhere overseas – flying to Florence, Italy during spring break!

Sports teams: Dallas Cowboys

TV show/movie: Downtown Abbey, Will Ferrell’s comedies

Music: Country, ‘80s rock,
Spanish ballads

Where are you originally from?

Dad – Crockett Texas

Mom – Lima, Peru

Jessica and Julia – Born in Biloxi, MS

If not from here originally, what brought you to the area? US Navy. Robert and I started out in Gulfport, MS, then transferred to Mayport, FL for three years, then we transferred to the John C. Stennis in Bremerton, WA. In the USS. Stennis, he was able to deploy to the Persian Gulf, 7th Fleet (South Korea, Philippines and Singapore). Then he got transferred to Norfork, VA while I stayed here with the kids and continued teaching at Naval Ave. Elementary. During his three years in Norfolk, Robert did an 11-month IA tour in Bahrain (Middle East). He recently got orders to the USS Carl Vinson and he is happily back to WA.

Tell us how you two met each other? We both were in the US Navy stationed in Gulfport, Mississippi. Mom served in the military for five years. Dad is still serving (15 years).

Where is your favorite spot to spend time together in WA? We enjoyed spending time hiking in the numerous beautiful locations surrounded by woods and Forest.

Do you have any family traditions? Every Christmas we travel out of the state to meet our family members from both sides. This year, we are traveling to Florida!

What college/university did you attend?

Dad – Sam Houston State University (bachelor’s in accounting) and Troy University (master’s in management)

Mom – University of North Florida (bachelor’s in Spanish) and University of Puget Sound, Tacoma (master’s in elementary education)

How long have you lived in this neighborhood? We have been here for three years.

What do you like to do to relax? We love walking around the neighborhood and enjoy the scenery.

Are you involved with any local charities or community endeavors? We belong to Adventure of Faith Church. Our children actively participate in the youth program that involves drama and music camps and community outreach.

What is your favorite part about living in our neighborhood?

The kindness and support provided by our neighbors especially when my husband was deployed. We also love the hiking trails and parks here in McCormick Woods. Our children have made numerous friends here in the community.



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iron skillet APPLE PIE

This 3-Layer Apple Pie
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resident recipe

By Debbie M.

INGREDIENTS NEEDED

- 1/2 cup butter
- 1 cup brown sugar
- 5 Granny Smith apples – peeled, cored, quartered and thinly sliced
- 3 (9-inch) refrigerated prerolled pie crusts
- 1 cup white sugar, divided
- 2 teaspoons ground cinnamon, divided
- 1/4 cup white sugar
- 1 tablespoon butter, cut into small chunks

Directions

Preheat oven to 350° F (175° C).

Place 1/2 cup butter into a heavy cast-iron skillet and melt butter in the oven. Remove skillet and sprinkle with brown sugar; return to oven to heat while you prepare the apples.

Remove skillet, and place 1 refrigerated pie crust on top of the brown sugar. Top the pie crust with half the sliced apples. Sprinkle apples with 1/2 cup of sugar and 1 teaspoon of cinnamon; place a second pie crust over the apples; top the second crust with the remaining apples, and sprinkle with 1/2 cup sugar and 1 teaspoon cinnamon. Top with the third crust; sprinkle the top crust with 1/4 cup sugar, and dot with 1 tablespoon of butter. Cut 4 slits into the top crust for steam.

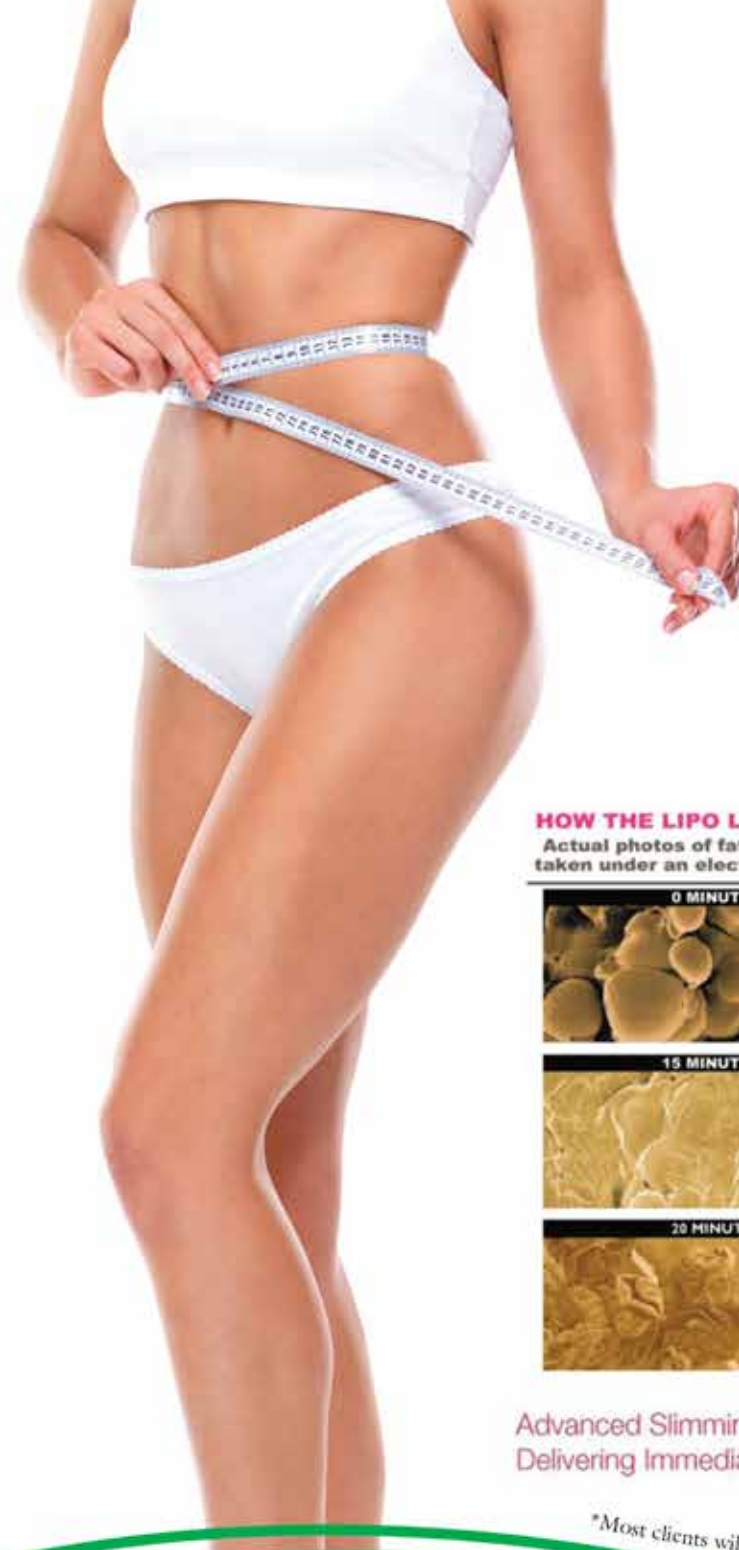
Bake in the preheated oven until the apples are tender and the crust is golden brown, about 45 minutes. Serve warm.

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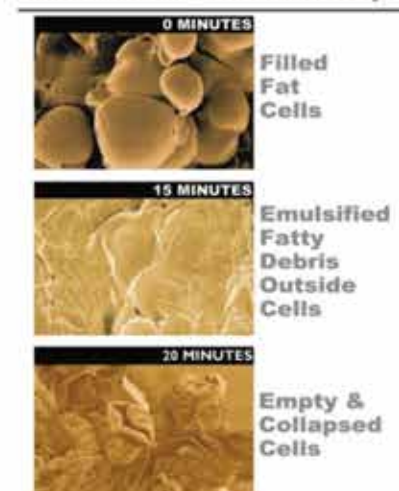
Winner of the 2019 Best of Kitsap Award!
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Dr. Rachel Robertson,
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A personal 'Thank You' to our military Veterans that have served, and to our current enlisted service members. Thank you for your service.

Best, *Doug Miller*

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sponsor spotlight

By Matt Haver

Photos Courtesy of **Stafford Suites Port Orchard**

Stafford suites in Port Orchard

For the last three-quarters of a century, Stafford Health Services has provided living solutions and compassionate health care to seniors, allowing them to maintain their independence and dignity. C. B. Horton founded the company as World War II drew to a close, converting old schools and churches into homes for the elderly. His daughter Marlene Ostrom carried on his vision and the company is currently owned and operated by the third generation of the Ostrom family.

Since 1945, Stafford has grown to include six locations in the Puget Sound: three skilled nursing facilities and three assisted living communities. Stafford Suites in Port Orchard opened its doors in 1999 and, in January of this year, Amber Olomon joined Stafford as executive director.

“This work is a passion and a calling for me,” Amber shared. “When they asked me what I wanted to be when I grew up, I didn’t say an executive director, but looking back I was preparing my whole life, both personally and professionally.”

Amber started in the industry at 25 years old and, having been raised by her grandparents, always found she had a heart for seniors. Stafford’s collective heart for seniors and focus on compassionate, loving care is what drew her to the company.

“Seniors hold our history – every day we get to hear about amazing things they’ve done in their lives, careers and with their families,” Amber said. “They get to relive their memories through us, and we help enrich their lives as well.”

Stafford Suites is one of two care facilities in Port Orchard. Just South on Sidney Road is a skilled nursing facility, Stafford Healthcare at Ridgmont. There they specialize in short-term, post-acute, rehab care with 24-hour nursing staff and physician oversight, while Stafford Suites provides long-term assisted living.

“We provide assistance with the activities of daily living,” Amber explained. “Things like medication management, reminders and help getting to meals, daily activities and recreational options, and on-site events and outings.”

Stafford Suites provides three restaurant-style meals a day, snacks, housekeeping and laundry service, scheduled transportation to appointments, cable TV and utilities. The community boasts 60 living spaces including studios, deluxe studios, and one and two-bedroom apartments. They offer residents a multitude of activities: Bingo, Yahtzee and Blackjack for gaming fans, Sittercize classes to keep residents limber, Bible studies and Sunday church services and, for the readers, a fully stocked library, traveling Kitsap County librarian visits, and audiobooks for those with vision challenges.

“It’s kind of like a cruise ship that never sails!” Amber said with a smile.

Stafford serves adults 55 and older and the average age of residents is in the mid-eighties, with a handful approaching the century mark. Most hail from the local area or have family who live close by. And while Stafford Suites focusses on assistance for independent seniors, emergency medical care and monitoring are close at hand.

“We have over 40 watchful employees, 24-hour resident aids – typically CNAs and nursing assistants – and a nurse who is full-time during the day and on-call 24 hours,” Amber shared.

Amber has served in many diverse roles throughout her years caring for seniors and is a masters’ graduate from the University of Southern California with a degree in aging services manage-

ment. She knows the industry and the importance of hiring the right people.

“I am very selective about the staff I hire; I hire for the heart and train the hands,” Amber said. “I think it’s important to have someone who has a heart for serving others and seniors in particular, and that spreads love to our residents.”

It was her love for seniors and for the local community that brought Amber back to the Kitsap area from Grey’s Harbor where she held her last executive director position. She and her husband Justin, a fire captain at Joint Base Lewis/McCord, were married in 2016 and now make their home with 2-year-old son, Miles, on the Key Peninsula, where Amber grew up. She encourages those of her own generation along with anyone approaching retirement to consider where they’d like to spend their golden years and to do what they can to prepare financially.

“I recommend long-term care insurance for anyone at any age because I don’t think people realize the financial implications, especially if you have a chronic illness,” Amber said. “Don’t wait until it’s an emergency. Do your research early, visit several communities and have a plan in place.”

Part of what contributes to the warm, welcoming environment of Stafford Suites is the visitors and volunteers who bring their skills and offer their time to residents.

“If someone has a special talent they’d like to share, we’re always looking for volunteers!” Amber shared. “Along with the security and safety, it’s really the social interaction that makes living at Stafford Suites like living with family.”

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meet Kaydee

By Laurie Green

Where are you from?

I was born in Eatonville, WA on May 4, 2005. I lived in Olympia, WA and Tualatin, OR before moving to Port Orchard, WA. I currently reside on Hawkstone AVE SW in McCormick Woods.

Nickname

“Queen Kaydee,” followed by the phrase “long may she reign.”
“Kaydee Lou”
“Little Sister”
“Dogbert” if others deem my behavior to be “inappropriate.”

I’m just so sweet and beloved by my royal subjects. I’ve found them to be highly trainable, for the most part, in attending to my every desire. Occasionally, I may have to speak to them if they do not rearrange the food in my bowl upon my initial request. They should know by now that I will only eat it if it is properly presented. I am the Queen, after all. My ancestors sat upon royal thrones

on the laps of humans. (We do not speak of the distant relative or two that performed tricks in the traveling circus. I shudder to think of such a life.)

When you have those funny dreams where you kick and bark in your sleep, what are you dreaming of? Flying first class to Paris; staying at the George V; being fed morsels of “real” cheese. Taking a few side trips to Giverny to wander Monet’s garden and Versailles to visit my vacation home and sit upon my throne.

What do you do that your people seem to like the most? They seem to enjoy watching me exercise once or twice a day. I do the “Bichon Blitz” which requires a lot of running and is a fantastic cardiovascular workout. My subjects try to join in but just can’t keep up. Sometimes, I mix it up with a less vigorous routine and do leg lifts in my sleep. For some reason, they also seem entertained with my eating style. I take one piece of kibble at a time out of my bowl and eat it over on the carpet. They don’t seem to realize – I must get in 10,000 steps for the day to maintain my girlish figure.

How are you so excited to eat the same food day after day? Why would anyone be excited to eat the same

dry kibble day after day? My meals are supplemented with a variety of foods such as – eggs, broccoli, steak, chicken, bacon and cheese (even though it’s not as good here as in France). I would not even expect my subjects to “eat cake” for every meal. I am a benevolent ruler after all.

If you had a job, what would it be? Queens don’t work. Next question.

What is the naughtiest thing your pet has ever done? I’m rarely naughty, but I will sneak off if given half a chance and shirk my royal duties. It is hilarious to watch the panic that ensues. I would love to explore more on my own, but Mother won’t give me free reign (haha!). She’s afraid I will get lost. Truth be told, it’s really her that would be lost without me.

What is the funniest memory? My family laughs when they remember my younger days with my brothers, Jake and Josh. Josh, rather unceremoniously, would sling me over his shoulder and pack me everywhere as though I were a rag doll. When we were first introduced, Josh was 4 years old and Mother was worried he might drop me. She held me the entire time on the car ride home from Eatonville to Olympia. Josh remembers to this day how furious he was with her for not letting him carry me at first. Finally, she was persuaded. It’s amazing I wasn’t dropped on my head!

Jake was 7 when we first met. He didn’t really know what to make of me. Another family member’s dog had bitten him when he was younger, and he was wary of me. He would walk around and hold me away from his body. You would have thought he was presenting me to people as though I were “Simba” on the *Lion King* – held out for all to see. Eventually, Jake and I became quite close. I helped him conquer any lingering fear he had of dogs.

My family often tells me I was the perfect addition to their “pack.” I love them very much and always want to

be with them wherever they go. If they attempt to leave me on my own for too long, well, let’s just say they don’t always appreciate the “surprise” they may find upon their return.

It’s Friday night! What are your plans? I have no intention of getting off my throne unless you’ve come to fluff my pillow. Bring in the jester, no wait, it might be Cousin Louis. Sing to me, my royal subjects, sing to me.

Who is your favorite celebrity? Hmm ... Perhaps Queen Elizabeth II. She would have the proper upbringing to acknowledge one should respect their elders. We could discuss the trials and tribulations of ruling our subjects. I believe her lap would be comfortable as well.

If you were a dessert, what would you be? Crème Brûlée – I really am the sweetest creature you’ll ever meet.

Squeaky or bouncy — what do you look for in a toy? Toys are for circus performers. On occasion, I may or may not be found using a stuffed one as a pillow if Mother’s leg is unavailable.

What’s your favorite day of the year? Christmas Day – celebrating the greatest KING of all! Also, I receive gifts. I like gifts.

What’s your favorite season? I’m partial to summers in the Pacific NW. Summertime usually means more beach outings.

Favorite kind of music? I enjoy most musical styles, except “rap.” I would love to listen to classical music more often, perhaps Haydn’s *Symphony No. 85* in B-flat major. If only my subjects would broaden their playlists.

What would constitute a perfect day for you? I would be woken to some gentle scratching on my pink belly (usually I must

wake up my subjects by huffing, stamping my feet/dancing, and/or whining). My personal chef would prepare eggs over easy with bacon or sausage. I might snuggle Mother and watch some HGTV for design inspiration to improve the Palace. My current residence may not be Versailles, but it’s not some back-street hovel either and I enjoy looking for ways to better my surroundings. After a little TV time, I would take an outing to the beach. Upon my return home, I might decide to take a long nap. Dinner would include raw broccoli and steak. Really, it doesn’t matter too much what I do, if family is by my side, I will have a perfect day.

What’s your favorite color? While I do like purple as many royals do, I prefer pink accouterments.

Beach or mountains? I most definitely prefer the beach. Nice is lovely this time of year, “N’est pas?”

Favorite movie genre? New and old classics – Gigi and What a Girl Wants. It is quite comical to watch common girls trying to learn to act more lady-like.

Car ride or long walk? I enjoy long walks unless my subjects forget their position and try to control my outing. The Queen should always “lead the way,” as they say. Long car rides can be enjoyable too if I’m able to lay on a pillow placed upon the lap of one of my subjects.

How did you choose your pet(s) names? Mother came up with the name. I have since seen my name on vintage linens.



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How long have you lived in the neighborhood?

3 years

Who is in your family?

My mom and dad, Courtney and Rusty. My brother (11), Quincy. My sister (13), Reese. My grandpa and grandma also live with me, Ron and Diane.

What school do you attend?

South Kitsap High School

What are your plans after high school?

To attend a four-year college. I'm not sure what I want to major in but I know that my main interests revolve around history and the arts.

What sports and extracurricular activities do you participate in?

I am the SK DECA VP of leadership, the ASB vice president, I am involved with theater, and I enjoying running with my parents.

How did you get started with your sport/activity?

I got involved with DECA because my advisor asked me if I was interested in competing, and I immediately fell in love with DECA. I traveled to several conferences and competitions last year and plan to do the same this year and the next.

What do you enjoy about your sport/activity?

I love that I get to travel, meet new people from all across the country, learn about business and what working in different fields is like.

Tell us something you achieved or some highlights of your experience so far in your sport/activity?

I have gotten the opportunity to raise money for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation and have had great success with that. The community has been an amazing support as I've taken on a big task in putting on a 5k race with no real idea of all the work that was involved in it. I've gotten the opportunity to go and speak to many different organizations about supporting us and helping with this event, and it has really elevated my public speaking skills and created a passion for this charity.

Is there something that makes you unique in this activity (a specific strength or quality you bring)?

My passion for community service, community involvement and DECA as a whole. I also am a good public speaker and enjoy it too.

How do you keep a balance between sports, school, and other activities in your life?

I try to keep school the main focus so that I don't get behind. As long as I'm not behind in my school work, I will have time for everything else as well. My teachers and advisors are very supportive. Whenever I have to leave one thing early to go to work or my next activity, they always are understanding and trust me to stay on top of my work. My amazing parents are always there for me when I need help or feel overwhelmed. I wouldn't be able to juggle all the different activities if it wasn't for the adults in my life.

Name someone you admire. What makes them special and how have they motivated you?

My history teacher Mrs. Stearns-Droker. She really inspired me to work harder in school and push myself to take harder classes. Along with that, she always checks in and wants to know how I am doing with all the different things that I participate in. When I went to DECA competition, she made sure I wasn't taking too much work with me so that I could focus on competition. She is also one of the most intelligent and kind people that I have come across. Her knowledge and passion for history just spark mine even more.

My mother is another person because she is so dedicated to her job – she is a teacher. She loves to make students feel cared about and she is passionate about what she does. She also has run 60+ marathons and she is super dedicated to running- just like me. She is an amazing mom and one of my best friends.



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