No sled? As the first snowstorm of the season hit Arlington over the weekend, children headed outside for the more traditional snowball fights, angels in the snow and the less traditional snow frisbee competition.
Sage Has Found Her Forever Home!

By Joan Brady
Arlington Connection

Have you ever heard of a situation where the family dog conveyed with a home sale? Yeah. Me either. But that’s exactly what Sage’s owners did when they sold their house in Philadelphia and left their four-legged family member behind for the surprised new homeowners to find. When they dropped Sage at a local shelter, she was terribly overweight, sad and completely freaked out. It’s impossible to know what her life was like in that house, but based on the little we know, it’s probably a fair guess that it was not awesome.

And that being the case, Sage couldn’t possibly have anticipated the joy and love that would greet her in Virginia.

Rescued by Arlington-based Lost Dog and Cat Rescue Foundation (LDCRF), she was placed in a temporary foster home and quickly settled in with the mom, two teen-agers and three four-legged foster siblings. That’s where Sage was when I first told her story in hopes of helping to identify an adoptive family for her. There was a fair amount of interest from Arlington Connection readers and the LDCRF promotion efforts, but sadly, no perfect match.

Sage was ok with that though. She loved her foster family. And the feeling was mutual. Unfortunately, when foster mom Claudia Salem needed to provide additional care for her mother, Salem knew she couldn’t continue to give Sage the time and attention the canine needed. Heartbroken, Salem was determined to transition Sage to a great new foster family.

Enter foster family number two. They had fostered several dogs before Sage and were looking forward to fostering again. They heard about the abandonment and knew that Sage was “a big lady working on getting in shape.” And that was apparently all they needed to know. They knew the foster pet parent drill; provide a safe and loving home until the perfect adoptive family was identified.

Losing the Salems was very hard on Sage. “[It was] seeing how much Sage missed her old family during her first few days here.” Sage Has Found Her Forever Home! Apart from her nightly treat of an “everything bagel”, Sage is making great progress on her diet.

Sage Has Found Her Forever Home!

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Join AFAC Empty Bowls Virtual Event

AFAC Empty Bowls fundraising event at St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church in February 2020.

Desire for Vaccines Outpaces Supply

Know why but people cancel. But you have the vaccine and once it is pulled and prepped, you’re locked in. You can’t put it back in the freezer. If people don’t show, it’s wasted.” So you hear about someone suddenly getting a vaccine in a grocery store or a call from a healthcare provider. “I recently heard about vaccinations in a snowstorm to be sure the shots weren’t wasted.”

On Jan. 28, de Ferranti issued a coronavirus update with the latest information on vaccine availability. “We expect 2,750 doses per week but have the staff to do 14,000 per week.” He added on Jan. 27 the Governor announced that Virginia would receive a 16 percent increase in Covid-19 vaccines immediately from the Federal government. This will allow planning vaccine distribution for months ahead instead of week to week.

He said Arlington County expects to receive more doses gradually. De Ferranti added that in Virginia, there are 110,000 doses per week to reach 8 million residents across the state. In Arlington 50,000 residents have preregistered for the vaccine. He has indicated because there is not enough vaccine supply, the County is starting with residents 75 and older and a few categories of essential workers including police, fire, EMTs, homeless shelter workers and pre-K-to-12 staff. Carnegie Mellon’s University Delphi Lab statistics indicate 92 percent of people in Arlington would accept a vaccine. Arlington’s numbers stand at 11,487 Covid cases (with 73 new today), 723 hospitalizations, 199 deaths (two today).

In Arlington County 11,996 doses of vaccine have been administered with 2,136 fully vaccinated. De Ferranti says, “vaccinating Arlingtonians remains County Government’s most urgent priority.”

Sage Has Found Her Forever Home!

Made us want to make sure she never went through a tough transition like that ever again,” her new pet mom said, explaining why she and her husband decided to go from fosters to pet-parents. And that decision has been a great one, “We’re so happy to have her in the family.”

“When I saw the email, ‘Adopting Sage’ flash on my cell,” says Salem, happily remembering that moment, “It was such wondering

Join AFAC Empty Bowls Virtual Event

Crab a chef’s recipe and make your own soup this year at Arlington Food Assistance Center’s (AFAC) virtual Empty Bowls Event on Sunday, Feb. 7 at 11:30 a.m.

Empty Bowls is an international project to fight hunger and supports food-related charities around the world. Each community’s events are independent and are personalized by artists and art organizations at a local level.

Traditionally each year AFAC has held their Empty Bowls event on Super Bowl Sunday where they have offered a choice of soup prepared by local restaurants and served in bowls produced by local potters. This year the event will be held virtually and will premier a special video, as well as remarks by Executive Director and CEO Charles Meng and highlights of previous events. You can also pick up some of those recipes for soups you’ve been tasting all these years.

AFAC is devoted solely to providing dignified access to nutritious, supplemental groceries, free of charge to Arlingtonians. The need continues to grow during the pandemic as more families seek assistance.

RSVP to https://afac.org/tag/empty-bowls-event/

PREVIEW

AFAC Empty Bowls fundraising event at St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church in February 2020.

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PetConnect Rescue

Homeward Trails

Animal Welfare League of Alexandria

Animal Welfare League of Arlington

Homeward Trails

Lost Dog and Cat Rescue Foundation

PetConnect Rescue

Wolf Trap Animal Rescue

ArPets is a weekly feature for highlighting the well-loved pets of Arlington as well as animals who are available for adoption. If you or your dog, cat, iguana, bunny, rat or any other pet, has an interesting pet story to tell, send email to: joan@joanbradyphotography.com.

Joan is an award-winning Connection Newspapers columnist and local photographer specializing in pets, children and families and contemporary business portraits.

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