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and Lyla Skye Floyd

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with Tater Tot and Taffy

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with Goose and Maverick

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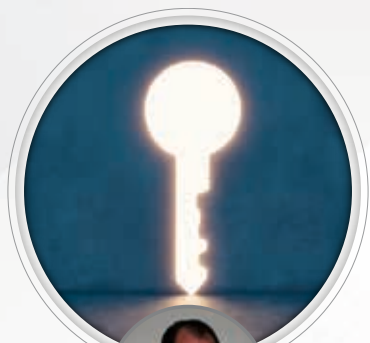
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PUBLISHER'S NOTE

MAY 2026

As we welcome the beautiful month of May, all of us at *Columbia Real Producers* want to take a moment to celebrate two things that bring so much joy and meaning into many of our lives—**Mother's Day and National Pet Month**. May is a time to honor the incredible mothers who nurture, guide, and inspire us each day, while also recognizing the loyal pets who fill our homes with unconditional love, laughter, and companionship.

In this issue, we had the pleasure of highlighting some of the beloved pets who are part of the lives of the real estate professionals in the Columbia community. These animals are more than companions—they are cherished members of the family who bring balance, happiness, and heart to the busy lives of those who serve our community every day. Thank you to the agents who opened a window into their personal lives and allowed us to feature their furry family members in this month's issue!

We are proud to spotlight the following real estate professionals and their furry besties:

- Blair Minick and her beloved Rosie
- Laura Reid with Murray and Remy
- Tami Floyd and Lyla Skye Floyd
- Christi Walsh with Tater Tot and Taffy
- Hope Derrick and Rylee Grace

- Andrea Reynolds with Goose and Maverick

Each story shared showed that behind every successful professional life is a personal life with relationships—both human and four-legged. These features offer a fun and heartfelt look at the personalities that keep these agents smiling, grounded, and motivated.

On another note, don't forget to check out this month's featured Partner Spotlight, The Palmetto Mortgage Group. Partnerships like these help *Columbia Real Producers* exist - and we are so grateful for them!

Altogether, we hope this issue brings a smile to your face. Happy Mother's Day to all the amazing moms, and cheers to the pets who make our houses feel even more like home!

Warmly,

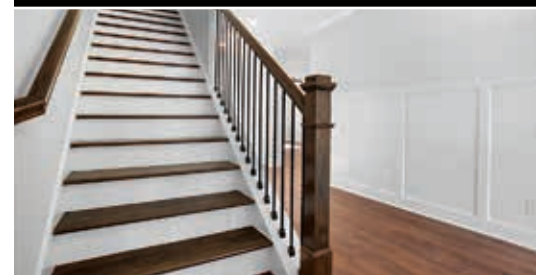


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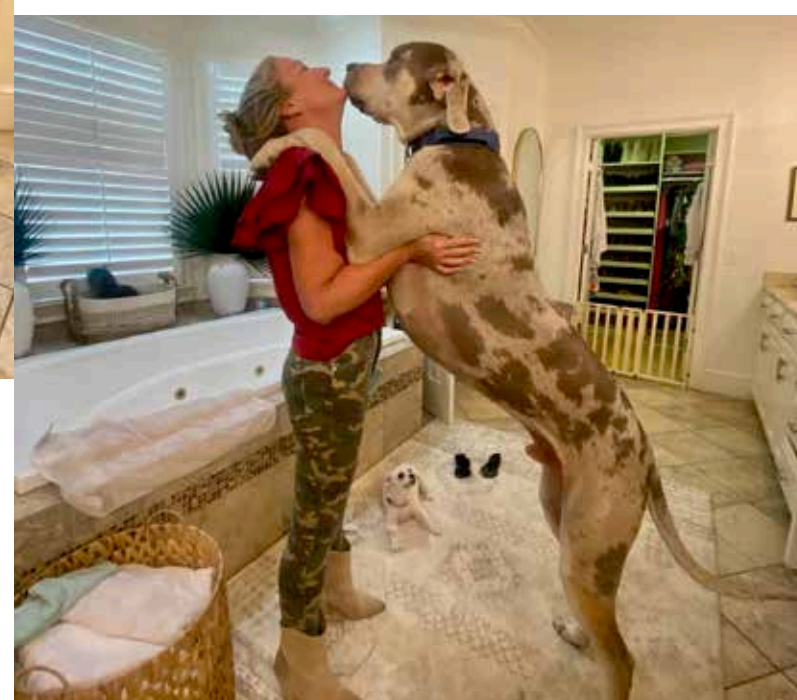
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Andrea Reynolds & Goose and Maverick



WRITTEN BY: AMY PORTER

When it comes to big personalities, Andrea Reynolds' household has them in abundance. Meet Goose and Maverick, her two larger-than-life Great Danes who may look like horses but are convinced they're lap dogs.

Goose, a 3½-year-old tan point merle, tips the scales at an impressive 197 pounds and has perfected the art of relaxation. He's the laid-back king of the house, happy to lounge, observe, and accept all the affection that comes his way. Maverick, the one-year-old baby brother at 160 pounds, is his opposite in many ways—playful, curious, and always ready to stir up a little mischief. Together, they are, as Andrea says, “large and in charge.”

Life with two giant pups certainly comes with its adventures. They eat a lot, take up most of the couch,

and occasionally leave a trail of havoc behind them. But any inconvenience is quickly overshadowed by the laughter and love they bring. Despite their size, both boys are certain they are tiny, regularly attempting to curl up in a lap or squeeze into spaces made for much smaller dogs.

What makes Goose and Maverick truly special isn't just their stature—it's their sweet nature. Great Danes are known for being gentle giants, and Andrea says that couldn't be more true. Their kindness, loyalty, and constant companionship have filled her family's home with immeasurable joy.

During National Pet Month, it's clear that Goose and Maverick aren't just pets—they're family, comedians, protectors, and professional snugglers wrapped into two very big, very lovable packages.

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LAURA REID

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PHOTOS BY: KACIE WOODS
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WRITTEN BY: AMY PORTER

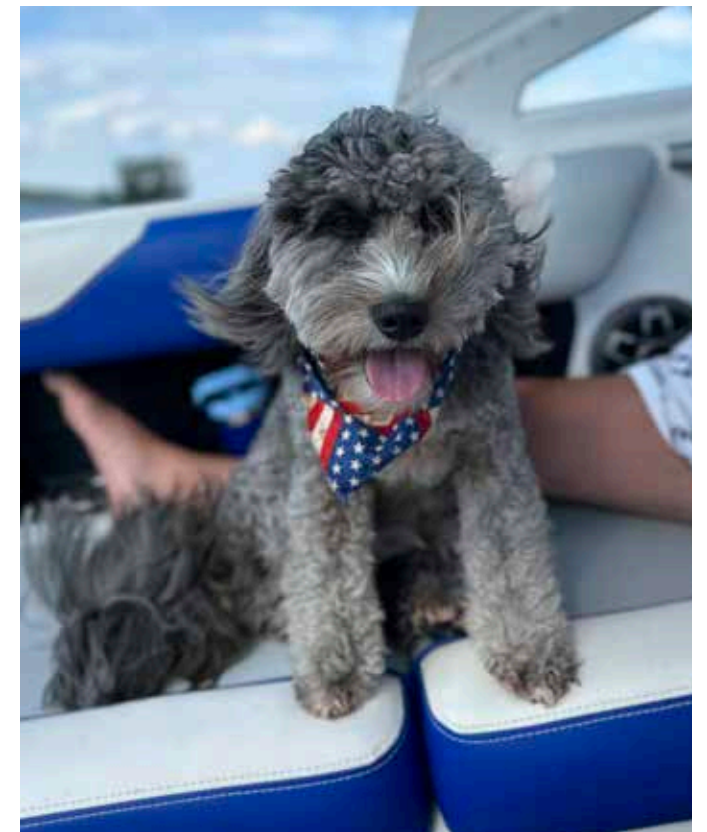


For Laura Reid, home isn't just where the heart is — it's where the paws are. And at her Gilbert address near beautiful Lake Murray, life is made better every day by two very special sidekicks: Murray and Remy.

Murray, a 13-year-old Australian Shepherd rescue, he has spent his entire life enjoying the perks of lake living. If there's water nearby, you can bet Murray is in it. A daily swim isn't just a hobby; it's a ritual. Whether he's cooling off in the Carolina sunshine or happily patrolling the shoreline, Murray embodies the relaxed, joyful spirit that comes with growing up on the lake. His loyal, steady presence has been a constant companion through the years, and

he's mastered the art of balancing adventure with the quiet comfort of simply being near his person.

Then there's Remy, the two-year-old mini Bernedoodle with a personality as big as his heart. Known as a true Velcro dog and emotional support superstar, Remy loves his people — all of them. His enthusiasm for meeting new humans is contagious, and he has a way of making everyone feel like the most important person in the room.

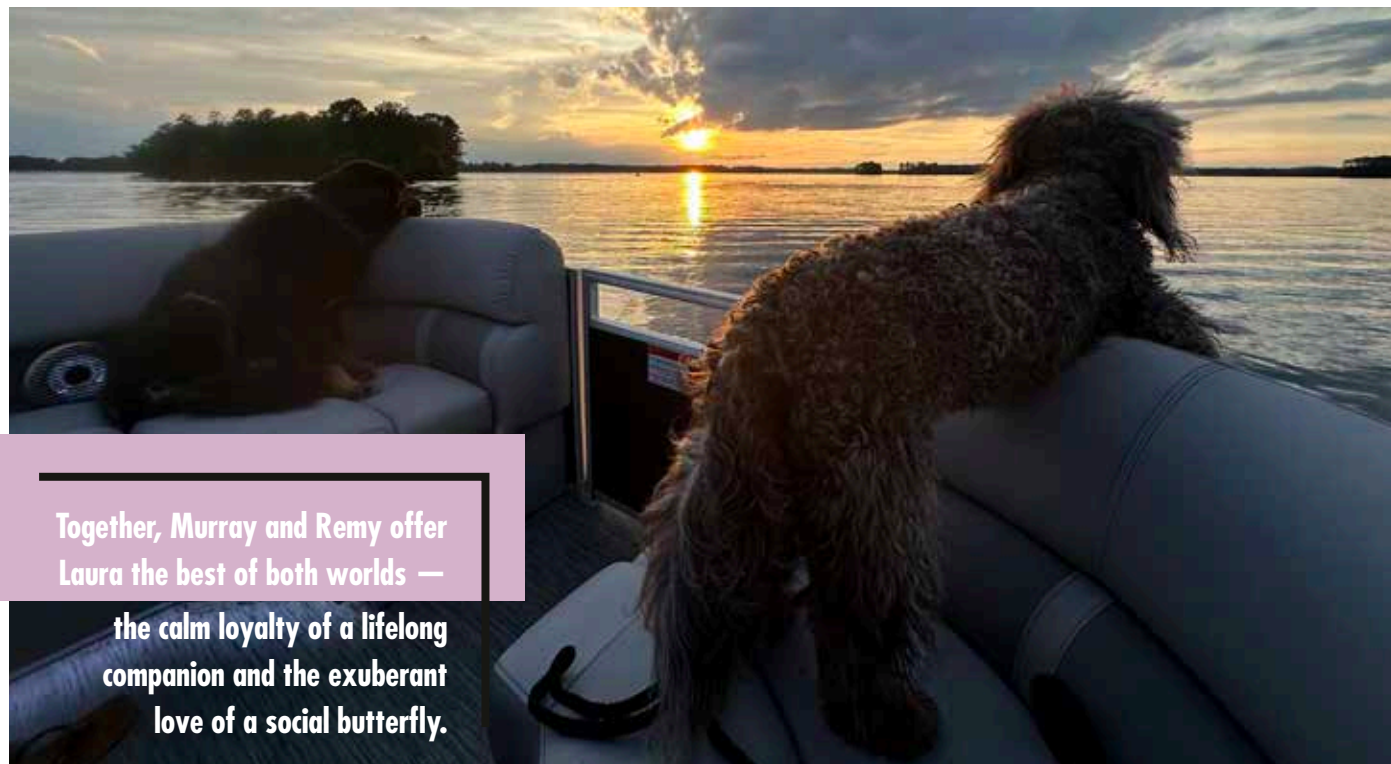




Remy is also a proud working pup. He's a familiar face at RE/MAX office events, parades, meetings, and day-to-day office life, where he's earned the unofficial title of team ambassador. With his signature white tuft of hair that calls to mind Albert Einstein, Remy brings smiles wherever he goes. Constantly happy, endlessly sweet, and always ready for a cuddle or greeting, he has become a beloved part of the professional family.

Together, Murray and Remy offer Laura the best of both worlds — the calm loyalty of a lifelong companion and the exuberant love of a social butterfly. They remind her daily why coming home is the best part of any schedule.

During National Pet Month, it's clear that these two aren't just pets. They're family, coworkers, lake buddies, and the heart behind the hustle. 🐾



Together, Murray and Remy offer Laura the best of both worlds — the calm loyalty of a lifelong companion and the exuberant love of a social butterfly.

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Blair Minick & Rosie



WRITTEN BY: AMY PORTER



For Blair Minick, real estate isn't the only partnership that shapes her days. At home, there's another steady presence by her side—Rosie, a striking Snowshoe cat whose loyalty, intuition, and unmistakable personality have left pawprints on Blair's heart and on the lives of many around her.

Rosie is intelligent, playful, adventurous, and undeniably beautiful. She spends her summers outdoors chasing butterflies, then happily returns inside for her other favorite hobbies: hunting, sleeping, and eating. She gets along easily with other animals, including dogs, but what she loves most is being near Blair. Whether Blair is working or painting, Rosie is there. And when Blair isn't feeling well, Rosie seems to know, staying close in quiet companionship.

Their story began unexpectedly. Rosie was a rescue, found wandering the streets. Just seven months after Blair brought her home, Rosie surprised her by becoming a mother to four kittens. Blair had never owned a cat like Rosie before and never imagined how deeply one animal could change her life.

Rosie's love of the camera sparked something more. Her natural ability to pose and her unique markings inspired Blair to pursue pet photography and portraits, transforming admiration into artistic passion. To this day, Rosie remains Blair's muse, influencing both her artwork and her everyday outlook.

But what truly makes Rosie unforgettable is her heart.

Many people who meet her say she carries herself more like a devoted dog than a cat. Blair learned just how true that was when a neighbor, who had recently lost her mother, shared a remarkable story. During that season of grief, Rosie began visiting her porch daily, sitting quietly beside her without being called. Blair had no idea it was happening until months later, when her neighbor explained that Rosie's gentle presence had felt like an angel arriving right when she was needed most.

There's another layer of meaning in how Rosie entered Blair's life. Not long before

finding her, Blair had lost a beloved cat named Blue, who looked incredibly similar. The night Blair spotted Rosie outside her rental property, she stopped in her tracks, convinced for a moment she was seeing a ghost of the past. In that instant, she felt certain their meeting wasn't random. They were meant to find each other.

Rosie continues to live up to that destiny every day. She claims moving boxes as her favorite toys, inserting herself into Blair's deliveries as if everything that arrives must surely be for her. And she has a flair for the spotlight—during



Blair's previous Real Producers photo shoot, Rosie famously popped into the corner of an image, determined not to be left out. The photographer couldn't believe the timing.

Through life's challenges and triumphs, Rosie has been a constant, unexpected gift. Her loyalty, empathy, and rare spirit have brought comfort not only to Blair but to others lucky enough to cross her path.

For Blair, there's no doubt: Rosie didn't just come home. She arrived with purpose.





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Tami Floyd & Lyla Skye Floyd

WRITTEN BY: AMY PORTER



In celebration of National Pet Month, we're shining a spotlight on the furry family members who keep our real estate professionals smiling long after the deals are done. For Tami Floyd, that special companion is Lyla Skye Floyd, her lovable two-year-old Bernadoodle who brings equal parts chaos and cuddles to everyday life.

Adopted just a year ago, Lyla quickly claimed her role as the household entertainer. With the energy of a toddler who just discovered caffeine, she's famous for her perfectly timed bursts of "zoomies." One moment she's fast asleep, and the next she's racing laps around the living room as if she's in training for the Dog Olympics — occasionally making surprise appearances during important Zoom calls or right before bedtime.

Lyla is happiest wherever her people are. She loves curling up at their feet, catching

the breeze in her curls during boat days on Lake Murray, or riding shotgun on golf cart adventures. Toss in snacks, car rides, and playtime with her dog cousins, and she's convinced life doesn't get any better.

When her busy social calendar winds down, Lyla takes her naps very seriously. Often found sprawled out with her legs in the air, she looks like she's dreaming of her next treat or replaying the day's fun.

Sweet, silly, and completely devoted, Lyla Skye is pure joy wrapped in fur. She keeps Tami laughing, keeps the family active, and most of all, keeps their hearts full.

Fun fact: Lyla is already a bit of a celebrity, having appeared on the front cover of *Columbia Real Producers* in September 2025.

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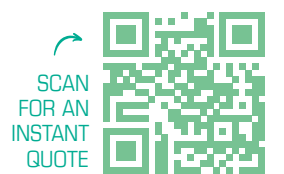
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BRIAN PRAHL



Palmetto Mortgage Group

DELIVERING EXCELLENCE IN EVERY TRANSACTION

In an industry where trust and timing can make or break a deal, Brian Prahl has built his reputation on closing on time, every time. As Regional President of Palmetto Mortgage Group, Brian has spent 11 years helping top-producing real estate professionals and their clients navigate the mortgage process with confidence. From his Lexington, South Carolina office, he leads a team known for delivering exceptional service, innovative solutions, and results that strengthen professional relationships across the region.

After college in 2003, Brian followed his friends into the mortgage industry in Peachtree City, Georgia, he decided to follow his friends into the industry, a choice that eventually turned into a lifelong calling. The satisfaction of helping someone purchase a home proved indescribable, and Brian discovered equal fulfillment in helping real estate agents grow their businesses. His athletic background instilled a competitive nature that serves him well in an industry where performance matters. Yet Brian credits much of his success to surrounding himself with the right people. He has consistently sought mentors who embody high character and achievement.

Palmetto Mortgage Group stands apart through its comprehensive approach to client service. The company offers more loan products than competitors, but it is not product selection alone that defines its edge. Brian and his team possess the knowledge and experience with unique programs to ensure smooth closings and exceptional experiences for both agents and their clients. Their track record speaks volumes: a reputation built on always closing on time, having a solution to every problem, and providing outstanding service throughout the process.

“We operate with the understanding that our clients’ homes and our

partners’ paychecks are our primary responsibility every day,” Brian explains. This philosophy drives every decision within the organization. The team believes that consistency and discipline trump motivation every time, a principle that keeps them focused when market conditions shift and challenges arise. Brian finds fulfillment in helping people accumulate wealth through leveraged real estate. His conversations with clients extend far beyond mortgage terms; he teaches budgeting, saving, investing, and wealth accumulation strategies that many people never learn in school. Passing on this knowledge to families building their financial futures is one of the most rewarding parts of his work.

Brian and his wife, Lauren, have been married for 20 years and are raising two daughters, Whitley and Elise. Family keeps him grounded and reminds him why balance matters. On free weekends, they head to their mountain house in Lake Lure, North Carolina, or to the beach, stepping away from the demands of a busy career. When not working, Brian enjoys golf, time in the mountains, and gathering with family and friends. Those priorities shape his professional values: building a business that provides financial freedom while allowing him to remain closely involved with his family is central to his definition of success.

“We operate with the understanding that our clients’ homes and our partners’ paychecks are our primary responsibility every day.”

Brian's definition of success is building a reputable business that provides freedom, enables family involvement, creates trusted relationships, and leaves a legacy worth remembering.

Over the course of his career, Brian has experienced both challenging and booming markets, from the crash to COVID-19 and the changes that followed. These extremes taught him that while strategies and advice may vary with conditions, the core principle remains the same: focus on helping people, and success will follow. His team looks for tools and trends that truly benefit their clients, without getting distracted by every "shiny new object." That mindset keeps them grounded and centered on what matters most while continuing to serve their clients well in any market.

Looking ahead, Brian is committed to continued growth for Palmetto Mortgage Group that strengthens partnerships with top-producing agents throughout the region. Beyond increasing transaction volume, his goal is to keep growing a respected, referral-driven business that creates lasting relationships and leaves a meaningful professional legacy.

For real estate agents seeking a mortgage partner, Brian offers straightforward advice: understand how important every referral is, and work only with partners who take that responsibility

seriously. His team has earned trust through consistent performance, especially when careers and client relationships are on the line. With a wide range of loan products and the expertise to navigate unique scenarios, Palmetto Mortgage Group gives real estate agents confidence that their clients are in capable hands.

Brian's definition of success is building a reputable business that provides freedom, enables family involvement, creates trusted relationships, and leaves a legacy worth remembering. Above all, he wants to be remembered for caring about people: his family, his team, his partners, and his clients. That commitment to genuine care, combined with proven expertise and reliability, makes Palmetto Mortgage Group a trusted partner for real estate agents who expect excellence in every transaction. To learn more, visit the company website or call Brian directly. 🌴

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- Ann J.





Hope Derrick & HER FOUR-LEGGED TEAMMATE, Rylee Grace

WRITTEN BY:
AMY PORTER

In real estate, relationships matter—and for Hope Derrick, one of her most important relationship builders has four paws and a heart of gold.

Meet Rylee Grace Derrick, Hope's lovable Cavapoo and the

unofficial (but very committed) Chief Greeter of The Derrick Team. If you stop by the office, there's a good chance Rylee will be the first to welcome you. Her signature move? Immediately flopping over for a tummy rub to determine if you pass her very

important test. Spoiler alert: almost everyone does.

Rylee is a lover of all things—people, toys, and especially snacks. Cheese is at the top of her favorites list. She's rarely seen without a ball in her mouth,

ready for someone to toss it, and when the workday is done, she's perfectly happy claiming more than her fair share of the bed or lobbying hard for a golf cart ride.

At home, her best buddy is Hope's two-year-old grandson, Clayton. The pair are the same age and already inseparable, keeping everyone entertained with their sweet friendship and constant playtime. Whether they're chasing toys or cuddling up, it's clear these two are growing up side by side.

But beyond the fun and games, Rylee has a gift. With a personality larger than life, she seems to know exactly when someone needs a little extra love.

She'll happily climb into your lap, offer a snuggle, and lift your spirits without hesitation.

Rylee's place in the Derrick family is even more meaningful because she arrived after the heartbreaking loss of Hope's 14-year-old Yorkie. At a time when Hope wasn't sure she could open her heart again, Rylee found her way in and made herself right at home—bringing joy, laughter, and a renewed sense of companionship.

From office meetings to family time, Rylee Grace is more than a pet. She's family, a teammate, and a daily reminder of the happiness a dog can bring.



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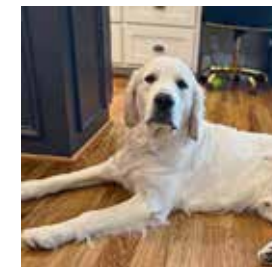
Christi Walsh & Tater Tot, and Taffy



Farms & Estates Realty

WRITTEN BY: AMY PORTER

For Christi Walsh, home is wherever Tater Tot and Taffy are. The nearly two-year-old English Cream Golden Retrievers — a devoted husband-and-wife duo — fill Christi's Camden home with constant companionship, entertainment, and plenty of love.



When they aren't stationed at the windows keeping a watchful eye on the ever-tempting squirrels in the backyard, the pair can be found doing what they do best: staying as close to their people as physically possible. Personal space? Optional. Golden Retriever devotion? Guaranteed.

Tater Tot and Taffy are known for their stunning light coats, but it's their gentle spirits that truly set them apart. Christi says their sweet nature and affectionate personalities have a magical quality — they have the ability to make absolutely anyone smile. Whether it's a long day in real estate

or a quiet evening at home, these two make every moment brighter.

During National Pet Month, it's easy to see why Christi considers them such an important part of her family. With Tater Tot and Taffy around, love always lives here.

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