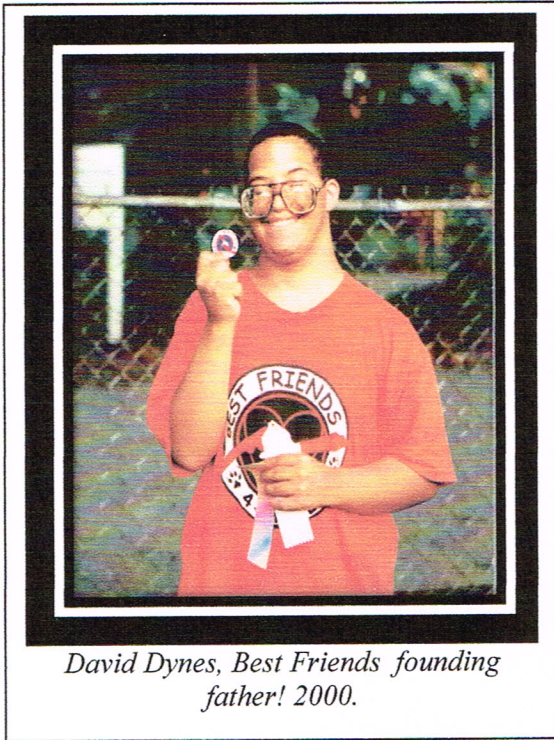


Best Friends 4-H Club

Historical Time Line of Accomplishments

By L. M. Shannon-Chaillet
Updated 7/26/2014

1988



David Dynes, Best Friends founding father! 2000.

✚ Best Friends was started in 1988 by Patti Dynes of Galien, Michigan. Her son, Davey, has Down's Syndrome and loved dogs. However, at the time, there wasn't a canine training program that Davey could participate because no one could accommodate a child with disability. Using their resources, and Patti's belief that *"Everyone should have an opportunity to be around animals,"* Patti and her 4-H friends came up with ideas on forming a 4-H dog club in her backyard. The 4-H members choose the name of Best Friends for themselves.

1987 - 1997

✚ Best Friends Leaders continue to teach canine training lessons with 4-H'ers by pairing the 4-H'er and his or her canine with an adult entitled Team Instructor.

✚ During this time frame, Best Friends 4-H Club moves its training place to the Berrien County Youth Fair grounds in the Youth Memorial Building Parking lot.

1998

- ✚ Best Friends Leaders continue to teach canine training lessons with 4-H'ers by pairing the 4-H'er and his or her canine with an adult entitled Team Instructor.
- ✚ Best Friends walks in the first St. Joseph Reindog Parade held on the first Saturday in December.

1999

- ✚ Diane Dings and Cheryl Coble step down as Coordinators of Best Friends.
- ✚ Linda Shannon-Chaillet and Jane Evans step up as Coordinators.
- ✚ Best Friends walks in the second annual St. Joseph Reindog Parade held on the first Saturday in December.

2000 -2001

- ✚ Best Friends officially changes its name to "Best Friends 4-H Club" so as not to be confused with the non-profit animal organizations using the same name of "Best Friends."
- ✚ Best Friends 4-H Club leaders set down its mission goals for the club members.
- ✚ Best Friends 4-H Club leaders begin to develop and experiment with adaptive canine training techniques for the purpose of canine therapy and dog competition.
- ✚ Best Friends 4-H Club leaders begin to write and develop a canine therapy program using the American Kennel Club's Canine Good Citizen Program, the American Kennel Club's Obedience Program, the American Kennel Club's Agility Program, the Newfoundland Club of America's Draft Test, the Newfoundland Club of America's Water Test programs as a module.

Best Friends 4-H Club Historical Time Line of Accomplishments

*By L. M. Shannon-Chaillet
Updated 7/26/2014*

- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club leaders begin to write and develop a canine therapy judging program for the Berrien County Youth Fair Dog Department for canine exhibitors with disability, again using the American Kennel Club's Canine Good Citizen Program, the American Kennel Club's Obedience Judging Program, the American Kennel Club's Agility Judging Program, the Newfoundland Club of America's Draft Test, the Newfoundland Club of America's Water Test programs as a module.
- ✦ The members still practice his or her canine training at the Berrien County Youth Fair grounds in front of the Youth Memorial Building.



Two Best Friends... Rosie Meister (Team Instructor) and Jennie Benson (4-H'er) 2001

2002



Team Instructor Karen Clewell and her Service Dog Girlie graduating from Best Friends Team Instructor Class, 2002.

- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club locates a new training facility with Whitcomb Retirement Hotel patio and the St. Joseph Bluff Park, St. Joseph, Michigan. The new training facility fulfills a 4-H community service requirement by being able to entertaining and educating the senior citizens and public regarding our canines, our disabilities and our social skills.

✦ Best Friends 4-H Club members, leaders and parents petition the State of Michigan's House of Representative to agree and promote the American Kennel Club Canine Good Citizen Test and Dog Ownership Responsibilities.

✦ The Herald Palladium prints the article **BEST FRIENDS HELPS KIDS LEARN SPECIAL SKILLS** written by Juanita Green.

✦ Best Friends 4-H Club receives the

STATE OF MICHIGAN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 487; A RESOLUTION ENDORSING THE "CANINE GOOD CITIZEN" PROGRAM AND SUPPORTING ITS EFFORTS TO PROMOTE RESPONSIBLE DOG OWNERSHIP IN THE STATE OF MICHIGAN on June 13, 2002.

2003

- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club enjoys their Training facility on the Whitcomb Retirement Hotel patio and the St. Joseph Bluff Park, St. Joseph, Michigan.
- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club members are still fulfilling their 4-H Community Service requirements and public by entertaining and educating the senior citizens and public regarding our canines, our disabilities and our social skills.
- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club leaders continue to develop and experiment with Team Instructor's education on the topic of dog training techniques for 4-H'ers with disability.

Best Friends 4-H Club Historical Time Line of Accomplishments

*By L. M. Shannon-Chaillet
Updated 7/26/2014*

- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club leaders continue to develop and experiment with a dog obedience and agility judging program for the Berrien County Youth Fair Dog Department for Canine Exhibitor with Disability.
- ✦ The Herald Palladium prints the article **BEST FRIENDS** written by Juanita Green.

2004

- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club enjoys their Training facility on the Whitcomb Retirement Hotel patio and the St. Joseph Bluff Park, St. Joseph, Michigan.
- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club members are still fulfilling their 4-H Community Service requirements and public by entertaining and educating the senior citizens and public regarding our canines, our disabilities and our social skills.
- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club leaders continue to develop and experiment with Team Instructor's education on the topic of dog training techniques for 4-H'ers with disability.
- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club leaders continue to develop and experiment with a dog obedience and agility judging program for the Berrien County Youth Fair Dog Department for Canine Exhibitor with Disability.



*4-H'er Tyler Cook, Team Canine Lea
and Team Instructor Sandy Waldron –
BCYF 2003*



*4-H'er Bradley Hamilton, Team Canine
Tugalug Foxmore, Team Instructor Rosanne
Burden – BCYF 2004*

2005

✦ Best Friends 4-H Club enjoys their Training facility on the Whitcomb Retirement Hotel patio and the St. Joseph Bluff Park, St. Joseph,



*4-H'er Jamie Sinnet and Team Canine
Sully, Team Instructor (unknown) -
2005*

Michigan.

- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club members are still fulfilling their 4-H Community Service requirements and public by entertaining and educating the senior citizens and public regarding our canines, our disabilities and our social skills.
- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club leaders continue to develop and experiment with Team Instructor's education on the topic of dog training techniques for 4-H'ers with disability.

Best Friends 4-H Club Historical Time Line of Accomplishments

*By L. M. Shannon-Chaillet
Updated 7/26/2014*

- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club leaders continue to develop and experiment with a dog obedience and agility judging program for the Berrien County Youth Fair Dog Department for Canine Exhibitor with Disability.
- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club develop a 4-H Spring Achievement Canine Evaluation Program for 4-H'ers and host the first 4-H Spring Achievement Canine Evaluation in Dog Obedience, Agility and Presentation using the American Kennel Club's Canine Good Citizen Test as an evaluation.
- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club members, J&J Dog Supplies Company and the Iams Company join forces to acquire free specialized dog agility equipment for the club by collecting Iams and Eukanuba UPC Proof of Purchase from Iams and Eukanuba dog food products.
- ✦ The Herald Palladium prints the article **A CLUB FOR BEST FRIENDS**, written by Dana Slagle.



Coordinator Jane Evans with Team Instructor Julie McKisson – 2006 saying good-bye to the St. Joseph Bluff as a training center.

2006

- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club moves its training facility to The Dog House in Stevensville, Michigan.
 - ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club members, J&J Dog Supplies Company and the Iams Company are still joined forces to acquire free specialized dog agility equipment for the club by collecting Iams and Eukanuba UPC Proof of Purchase from Iams and Eukanuba dog food products.
 - ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club hosts the second 4-H Spring Achievement Canine Evaluations in the American Kennel Club Canine Good Citizen Test for obedience, Agility and Presentation.
 - ✦ Berrien County Youth Fair Dog Department Superintendent, Margaret Russell, **accepts the finished version** of the Canine Exhibitor with Disability Canine Obedience and Agility Procedures and Judging Guidelines.
- ✦ The American Kennel Club September issue of Canine Good Citizen Evaluator's News prints the article **A VERY SPECIAL CGC PROGRAM**, by Mary Burch; Director, Canine Good Citizen and Linda M. Shannon-Chaillet; Coordinator of Best Friends 4-H Club.

2007

- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club again enjoys dog training at The Dog House in Stevensville, Michigan.
- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club receives the last of their free specialized dog agility equipment from J&J Dog Supplies and the Iams Company.
- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club hosts the third 4-H Spring Achievement Canine Evaluations in the American Kennel Club Canine Good Citizen Test for obedience, Agility and Presentation.
- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club leaders and members, upon receiving an invitation, begin to enter local schools and



Team Instructor Sue Corliss, 4-H'er Caitlin Irwin, Team Canine Spanner – BCYF 2007

Best Friends 4-H Club Historical Time Line of Accomplishments

*By L. M. Shannon-Chaillet
Updated 7/26/2014*

libraries with his or her canine to educate the children on dog safety and dog ownership responsibility.



Showing off the trophies with Dr. Holly Schaffer, D.V.M., Coordinator Victoria Williams holding Team Canine Sprocket, 4-H'er Sarah Williams and (person unknown) – BCYF 2008

2008

- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club again enjoys dog training at The Dog House in Stevensville, Michigan.
- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club hosts the fourth 4-H Spring Achievement Canine Evaluations in the American Kennel Club Canine Good Citizen Test for obedience, Agility and Presentation.
- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club leaders and members, upon receiving an invitation, begin to enter local schools and libraries with his or her canine to educate the children on dog safety and dog ownership responsibility.
- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club continue to make improvements on the Berrien County Youth Fair Canine Exhibitor with Disability Obedience and Agility Judging Procedures and Guidelines per disability census.
- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club again pairs with the Iams

Company and commits to a 4-H Community Service Project of collecting Iams and Eukanuba UPC Proof of Purchase from Iams and Eukanuba dog food products for **FREE DOG FOOD** for the Berrien County Animal Control.

2009

- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club moves into its new and permanent club house at Mutterly Love, St. Joseph, Michigan! **Thank you Co-Coordinator and Mutterly Love owner, Vicki Williams!!!!**
- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club sees the demise of **Co-Coordinator Jane Evans** who had given fifteen years to advancing canine therapy and dog completion for the 4-H'er with disability.
- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club hosts the fifth 4-H Spring Achievement Canine Evaluations in the American Kennel Club Canine Good Citizen Test for obedience, Agility and Presentation.
- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club leaders and members, upon receiving an invitation, begin to enter local schools and libraries with his or her canine to educate the children on dog safety and dog ownership responsibility.
- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club continue to make improvements on the Berrien County Youth Fair Canine Exhibitor with Disability Obedience and Agility Judging Procedures and Guidelines per disability census.
- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club again pairs with the Iams Company and commits to a 4-H Community Service Project of collecting Iams and Eukanuba UPC Proof of Purchase from Iams and Eukanuba dog food products for **FREE DOG FOOD** for the Berrien County Animal Control.



Best Friends 4-H Club 4-H'ers and Team Canines in our New Club House... Mutterly Love!!!!!!

Best Friends 4-H Club *Historical Time Line of Accomplishments*

By L. M. Shannon-Chaillet

Updated 7/26/2014

- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club leaders and his or her CGC tested canine, develop a twice a month canine therapy program at Blossomland Learning Center in Berrien Springs, Michigan with Team Instructor Kathy Zuraw and her canine, Polly, leading the way into her classroom.
- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club receives a grant from the Heart of Cook for baby gates.
- ✦ Best Friends 4-H club receives a huge donation from the Knights of Columbus, St. Joseph, Michigan Chapter.
- ✦ Nancy Agnetta, Assistant Professor of Teacher Education at Andrews University, Berrien Springs, Michigan, invites Best Friends 4-H Club leaders, 4-H'ers and his or her canine into her classroom to teach canine therapy and its benefits for school children with disabilities as an alternative education.
- ✦ Andrews University students begin his or her observation hours and hands on experiences with Best Friends 4-H Club's dog training classes.
- ✦ 4-H Today; Volume 20; Number 1; Fall 2009 prints **DOGS REALLY CAN BE MAN'S BEST FRIENDS** by Mallory Fournier.
- ✦ Noble Newf; December 2009 prints the article **CANINE THERAPY MISSION GOAL** by L.M. Shannon-Chaillet.

2010

- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club enjoys its new club house at Mutterly Love, St. Joseph, Michigan.
- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club hosts the sixth 4-H Spring Achievement Canine Evaluations in the American Kennel Club Canine Good Citizen Test for obedience, Agility and Presentation.
- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club leaders and members, upon receiving an invitation, still enter local schools and libraries with his or her canine to educate the children on dog safety and dog ownership



Sisters Dawn and Sarah Williams sharing a quiet moment before beginning obedience class.

responsibility.

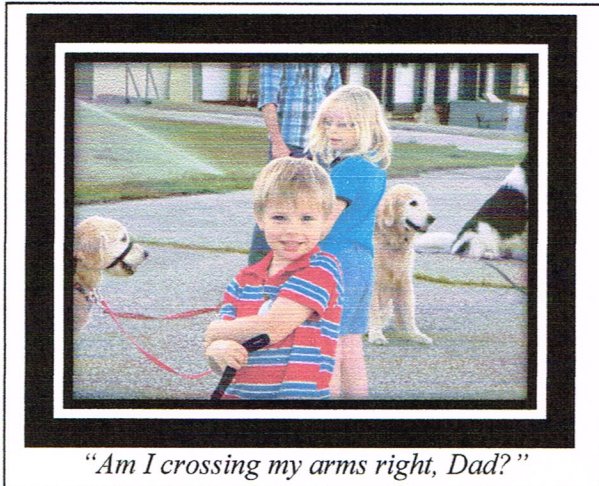
- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club continue to make improvements on the Berrien County Youth Fair Canine Exhibitor with Disability Obedience and Agility Judging Procedures and Guidelines per disability census.
- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club again pairs with the Iams Company and is still committed to their 4-H Community Service Project of collecting Iams and Eukanuba UPC Proof of Purchase from Iams and Eukanuba dog food products for **FREE DOG FOOD** for the Berrien County Animal Control.
- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club leaders and his or her CGC tested canine, is still committed to twice a month canine therapy program at Blossomland Learning Center in Berrien Springs, Michigan with Team Instructor Kathy Zuraw and her canine, Polly, still leading the way into her classroom.
- ✦ Nancy Agnetta, Assistant Professor of Teacher Education at Andrews University, Berrien Springs, Michigan, again invites Best Friends 4-H Club leaders, 4-H'ers and his or her canine into her classroom to teach canine therapy and its benefits for school children with disabilities as an alternative education.
- ✦ Andrews University students again has his or her observation hours and hands on experiences with Best Friends 4-H Club's dog training classes.

Best Friends 4-H Club *Historical Time Line of Accomplishments*

By L. M. Shannon-Chaillet
Updated 7/26/2014

- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club receives a huge donation from the Jane Evans Fund.
- ✦ Best Friends 4-H club receives a huge donation from the Knights of Columbus, St. Joseph, Michigan Chapter.
- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club receives a grant from the First Congregational Church, St. Joseph, Michigan for the Berrien County Youth Fair trophies in Canine Exhibitor with Disability.
- ✦ Newfoundland Club of America's Newf Tide magazine; First Quarter 2010 prints the article **CANINE THERAPY PROGRAM DEFINED BY COMPANION NEWF**©, written by Barbara Frey and L.M. Shannon-Chaillet.
- ✦ Berrien RESA's Newsletter Our Neighborhood, November 2010; Volume 6; Issue 3, prints the article **BLC (Blossomland Learning Center) AND THEIR CANINE FRIENDS.**
- ✦ The Herald Palladium (Wednesday, August 16, 2010 issue) prints the article **GAINING CONFIDENCE WITH CANINES**, written by Ralph Heibutzki.

2011



- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club enjoys its new club house at Mutterly Love, St. Joseph, Michigan.
- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club receives a grant from the First Congregational Church, St. Joseph, Michigan in support of its canine therapy program for children with disability.
- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club hosts the seventh 4-H Spring Achievement Canine Evaluations in the American Kennel Club Canine Good Citizen Test for obedience, Agility and Presentation.
- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club leaders and members, upon receiving an invitation, still enter local schools and libraries with his or her canine to educate the children on dog safety and dog ownership responsibility.
- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club continue to make improvements on the Berrien County Youth Fair Canine Exhibitor with Disability Obedience and Agility Judging Procedures and Guidelines per disability census.
- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club again pairs with the Iams Company and is still committed to their 4-H Community Service Project of collecting Iams and Eukanuba UPC Proof of Purchase from Iams and Eukanuba dog food products for **FREE DOG FOOD** for the Berrien County Animal Control.
- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club leaders and his or her CGC tested canine, is still committed to twice a month canine therapy program at Blossomland Learning Center in Berrien Springs, Michigan with Team Instructor Kathy Zuraw and her canine, Polly, still leading the way into her classroom.
- ✦ Nancy Agnetta, Assistant Professor of Teacher Education at Andrews University, Berrien Springs, Michigan, again invites Best Friends 4-H Club leaders, 4-H'ers and his or her canine into her classroom to teach canine therapy and its benefits for school children with disabilities as an alternative education.
- ✦ Andrews University students again has his or her observation hours and hands on experiences with Best Friends 4-H Club's dog training classes, as well as, assist with the Berrien County Youth Fair Canine Exhibitor with Disability.

Best Friends 4-H Club *Historical Time Line of Accomplishments*

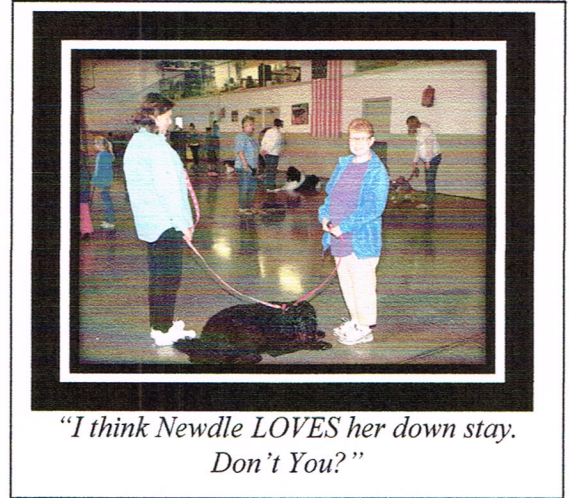
By L. M. Shannon-Chaillet

Updated 7/26/2014

- ✦ The Herald Palladium (Wednesday, August 17, 2011 issue) prints a picture of Best Friends 4-H'er and her canine accomplishing the dog walk in agility class. The caption reads **BERRIEN COUNTY YOUTH FAIR 2011.**
- ✦ **THE AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB RECOGNIZES BEST FRIENDS 4-H CLUB AS A CANINE THERAPY DOG COMPETITION CLUB! THIS MAKES BEST FRIENDS 4-H CLUB'S CANINE ELIGIBLE FOR THE AKC'S THERAPY DOG TITLE!**

2012

- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club enjoys its club house at Mutterly Love, St. Joseph, Michigan.
- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club receives a grant from the First Congregational Church, St. Joseph, Michigan in support of its canine therapy program for children with disability.
- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club hosts the eighth 4-H Spring Achievement Canine Evaluations in the American Kennel Club Canine Good Citizen Test for obedience, Agility and Presentation.
- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club leaders and members, upon receiving an invitation, still enter local schools and libraries with his or her canine to educate the children on dog safety and dog ownership responsibility.
- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club continue to make improvements on the Berrien County Youth Fair Canine Exhibitor with Disability Obedience and Agility Judging Procedures and Guidelines per disability census.
- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club again pairs with the Iams Company and is still committed to their 4-H Community Service Project of collecting Iams and Eukanuba UPC Proof of Purchase from Iams and Eukanuba dog food products for **FREE DOG FOOD** for the Berrien County Animal Control.
- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club leaders and his or her CGC tested canine, is still committed to twice a month canine therapy program at Blossomland Learning Center in Berrien Springs, Michigan with Team Instructor Kathy Zuraw and her canine, Polly, still leading the way into her classroom.
- ✦ Nancy Agnetta, Assistant Professor of Teacher Education at Andrews University, Berrien Springs, Michigan, again invites Best Friends 4-H Club leaders, 4-H'ers and his or her canine into her classroom to teach canine therapy and its benefits for school children with disabilities as an alternative education.
- ✦ Andrews University students again has his or her observation hours and hands on experiences with Best Friends 4-H Club's dog training classes.
- ✦ Best Friends receives the **Berrien RESA PARTNER IN EDUCATION AWARD** on October 23, 2012!



Best Friends 4-H Club Historical Time Line of Accomplishments

*By L. M. Shannon-Chaillet
Updated 7/26/2014*

2013

- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club enjoys its club house at Mutterly Love, St. Joseph, Michigan.
- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club receives a grant from the First Congregational Church, St. Joseph, Michigan in



*“WOW! We sure do a lot!!!”
25th Silver Jubilee Information Table
representatives, Leader and 4-H'er.*

support of its canine therapy program for children with disability. Best Friends 4-H Club hosts the ninth 4-H Spring Achievement Canine Evaluations in the American Kennel Club Canine Good Citizen Test for Obedience, Agility and Presentation.

- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club leaders and members, upon receiving an invitation, still enter local schools and libraries with his or her canine to educate the children on dog safety and dog ownership responsibility.

- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club continue to make improvements on the Berrien County Youth Fair Canine Exhibitor with Disability Obedience and Agility Judging Procedures and Guidelines per disability census.

- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club again pairs with the Iams Company and is still committed to their 4-H Community Service Project of collecting Iams and Eukanuba UPC Proof of

Purchase from Iams and Eukanuba dog food products for **FREE DOG FOOD** for the Berrien County Animal Control.

- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club leaders and his or her CGC tested canine, is still committed to twice a month canine therapy program at Blossomland Learning Center in Berrien Springs, Michigan with Team Instructor Kathy Zuraw and her canine, Polly, still leading the way into her classroom.
- ✦ Nancy Agnetta, Assistant Professor of Teacher Education at Andrews University, Berrien Springs, Michigan, again invites Best Friends 4-H Club leaders, 4-H'ers and his or her canine into her classroom to teach canine therapy and its benefits for school children with disabilities as an alternative education.
- ✦ Andrews University students again has his or her observation hours and hands on experiences with Best Friends 4-H Club's dog training classes.
- ✦ Best Friends Coordinators and Parent spoke on the Brenda Layne radio show, *“In the Spotlight”* regarding Silver Jubilee.
- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club celebrates its twenty-five years as a 4-H canine therapy dog competition club at its **SILVER JUBILEE PARTY** on Sunday, May 19, 2013 at Mutterly Love, St. Joseph!



*Best Friends 4-H Club Coordinators with the
Berrien County Youth Fair's 2013 Canine
Exhibitor with Disability Grand Champions
and Reserve Grand Champions!*

Best Friends 4-H Club *Historical Time Line of Accomplishments*

By L. M. Shannon-Chaillet
Updated 7/26/2014

- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club receives the **BERRIEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS RESOLUTION B1305120** on Sunday, May 19, 2013!
- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club receives the **STATE OF MICHIGAN SPECIAL TRIBUTE** on Sunday, May 19, 2013!
- ✦ Article: **The Pet Corner** by Lucy Kubash appeared in Mail Max; April 27, 2013
- ✦ Article: **Special Needs Kids Work with Canines** by William Crandall, appeared in Off the Water Magazine; May 31, 2013.
- ✦ Best Friends Coordinators and MSU Extension Youth Agents begin plans to take Best Friends 4-H Club's Canine Therapy Dog Competition Program to a State Level.
- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club becomes an **ALL INCLUSIVE** 4-H dog club by defining and having Traditional and Non-Traditional 4-H'ers.
- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club attends the Berrien RESA (Regional Education Service Agency) **Festival of Families** on September 7, 2013 to help spread the word regarding our canine therapy dog competition program for the non-traditional 4-H'er.
- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club's Community Service Project was assisting in the planning and executing the Niles District Library's second annual **PUPPALOOZA's** American Kennel Club Canine Good Citizen Test and Agility Workshop on September 14, 2013.
- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club leaders and canine therapy dogs attend Andrews University Health and Fitness EXPO and share information regarding canine therapy.
- ✦ Michigan State University Extension Office Youth Agents and Best Friends 4-H Coordinator and Co-Coordinator begin preparations for speaking at 4-H conferences and events regarding our canine therapy dog competition training program.

2014

- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club enjoys its club house at Mutterly Love, St. Joseph, Michigan.
- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club hosts the ninth 4-H Spring Achievement Canine Evaluations in the American Kennel Club Canine Good Citizen Test for obedience, Agility and Presentation.
- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club leaders and members, upon receiving an invitation, still enter local schools and libraries with his or her canine to educate the children on dog safety and dog ownership responsibility.
- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club continue to make improvements on the Berrien County Youth Fair Canine Exhibitor with Disability Obedience and Agility Judging Procedures and Guidelines by introducing two new terms and definitions... Traditional and Non-Traditional.
- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club again pairs with the Iams Company and is still committed to their 4-H Community Service Project of collecting Iams, Eukanuba, Innova, Evo, and California Natural UPC Proof of Purchase from Iams and Eukanuba dog food products for **FREE DOG FOOD** for the Berrien County Animal Control. (Collected 9 thirty-six pound bags of Iams dog food!)
- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club leaders and his or her CGC tested canine, is still committed to twice a month canine therapy program at Blossomland Learning Center in Berrien Springs, Michigan with Team Instructor Kathy Zuraw and her canine, Polly, still leading the way into her classroom.



"YOU DID IT!!!"

Best Friends 4-H Club Historical Time Line of Accomplishments

*By L. M. Shannon-Chaillet
Updated 7/26/2014*

- ✦ Nancy Agnetta, Assistant Professor of Teacher Education at Andrews University, Berrien Springs, Michigan, again invites Best Friends 4-H Club leaders, 4-H'ers and his or her canine into her classroom to teach canine therapy and its benefits for school children with disabilities as an alternative education.
- ✦ Andrews University educational students again has his or her observation hours and hands on experiences with Best Friends 4-H Club's dog training classes.
- ✦ Benton Harbor Library invites Best Friends leaders and dogs into the library to teach Canine Safety: Your Safety Begins with YOU!
- ✦ Chopin Productions (<http://www.chopinproductions.co/about-chopin-productions--chopin-productions.html>) begins filming a documentary on Best Friends 4-H Club's Canine Therapy Dog Competition Program. Documentary will be used as a teaching film for future 4-H Clubs and Canine Therapy Seminars.
- ✦ United Federal Credit Union donated \$750.00 to Best Friends 4-H Club, June 2014.
- ✦ St. Joseph Knights of Columbus (KOC) donated \$528.80 from their Tootsie Roll Drive to Best Friends 4-H Club, November 2014.



"In, Out"

- ✦ Andrews University ask that Best Friends 4-H Club bring the canines into the Community Center and have four hours of Canine Therapy for the new students at the university.
- ✦ Best Friends 4-H Club celebrates with Berrien RESA's **Festival of Families** on September 6, 2014.
- ✦ December 1, 2014, Best Friends 4-H Club members enjoy Chopin's Production of "Paws-ative Therapy!" at their annual Christmas Dinner Meeting.