

BUSINESS



Photos by David Samson / The Forum

Archie leads owners Kylee and Nick Lisburg up the stairs during a shopping outing at Scheels in south Fargo on Thursday, Dec. 5.

HOT DOG! Re-tail therapy with canine companions growing in popularity in F-M

By Helmut Schmidt
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Fargo

When Archie goes to Scheels he's a shopper with a mission. Get all the treats.

Get all the scratches. Belly rubs won't be turned down. Archie, a 2-year-old goldendoodle who probably is part social-doodle, too, owns a goodly share of the hearts of Kylee and Nick Lisburg.

That's why they take him wherever they can.

"He has his stops he likes. First we go up the stairs to the treat department, and then around to the hunting and gaming area, and then we go around by the arcade games. Then back down the stairs to the clothing department," Archie's furever mom, Kylee, said during a recent pre-Christmas stop.

On the second floor of the outdoors emporium, Nick held a big package of Archie's favorite chews.

"He knows the treats are upstairs," Kylee said. "He tells us what to buy." For Archie, Scheels "is like Disney World," Nick said. He gets plenty



Helmut Schmidt / The Forum

Teresa Terry works on obedience training with her Irish wolfhound Rowan at Runnings in Moorhead on Wednesday, Dec. 11. Terry is preparing Rowan to work as a therapy dog for people in hospitals and nursing homes.

of stimulation in the store, with its Christmastime crowds and the Ferris wheel.

"This tires him out enough and kids love to pet him," Nick said.

Archie is not the only pup patrolling area stores, as more and more people are seeking out places that they can bring in their furever friends.

When Rachel Mrozinski moved from

California to Fargo in 2016, she knew she wanted a dog.

After that, she decided that she wanted some friends, not only for herself, but her pup, too.

That's why she founded Downtown Dogs Fargo-Moorhead.

"I just wanted to create a safe space for people to make friends with people and dogs to make friends with dogs," Mrozinski said Wednesday, Dec. 11.

The group, now mostly coordinated through a Facebook page, started doing meet-ups at local dog parks, then later started meeting at taprooms and restaurants that allowed dogs on their patios.

Mrozinski has since added events like DOGA - yoga with doggies, and monthly meet-ups at facilities such as Fargo's Barks & Recreation. There are also critter-lover-only craft events coming up, including "Paws, Paint and Pints" at Wild Terra Cider, or pet dish making at Front Street Taproom.

In January, they will also do pawzercise. A local dance teacher will teach humans a beginners' dance

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INSIDE BUSINESS

Fargo's White Diamonds going out of business

Fargo

White Diamonds is going out of business.

Owner Gary Heyd says he expects that the jewelry store he opened in late 1992 will be closed by the end of December, if not by Christmas.

Heyd said he's not planning to sell the business at 3031 13th Ave. S. to anyone else.

"I'm just going to run the going out of business sale and then we'll be closing it," Heyd said Thursday, Dec. 12.

The 66-year-old said he's retiring.

"It's not like a bad thing or anything. Reaching a life goal," Heyd said.

The going-out-of-business sale has been going on since about mid-November.

The best part of selling with his customers, he said.

"It is being able to provide something to



Photos by Helmut Schmidt / The Forum

White Diamonds owner Gary Heyd is retiring. The longtime Fargo businessman said Thursday, Dec. 12, that he hopes to complete his liquidation sale by the end of the month, if not by Christmas.

people that they really like, or want or enjoy. Once in awhile you'll get to see when a guy proposes. That's pretty cool ... It's a really special moment. It's a lot of fun seeing people find things that they really enjoy or really love," Heyd said.

Heyd said the jewelry business has become more technical over time.

Designing and making jewelry used to require hard-won skills and experience, he said. Now computer-aided design and manufacturing programs make the

design process much easier, though they don't provide the insights required to ensure a piece of jewelry will be tough enough to last many years, he said. Because of that, "there's more problem repairing jewelry



White Diamonds at 3031 13th Ave. S., Fargo, is going out of business. Owner Gary Heyd said Thursday, Dec. 12, that he hopes to have the liquidation sale completed by the end of December.

now," he said.

Heyd said he'll miss "a lot of the friends that I've made through the years. The customers that have come here. A lot of these people I've known for over 35 years."

- Helmut Schmidt

Classy Sisters Boutique to close Dec. 14

FARGO — Classy Sisters Boutique, a store launched by sisters Missy

Ambers and Nicole Weiss in 2018 at 5622 36th St. S., will close at the end of business Saturday, Dec. 14.

The store that sells women's clothing and accessories moved to its current location at 4501 15th Ave. S. in February 2019.

Ambers made the closing announcement in a Facebook post Dec. 10.

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DOG

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Archie, owned by Kylee and Nick Lisburg, checks out the surroundings at Scheels in south Fargo on Thursday, Dec. 5.

David Samson / The Forum



I think that if people can bring their kids places, people should be able to bring their dogs places. I think I know many kids that could do way more damage than my dog could.

RACHEL MROZINKSKI, Fargo

- Highway 10, Moorhead
- ▶ Tractor Supply Co., 3330 U.S. Highway 10, Moorhead.
- ▶ Petco, 1126 43th St. SW., Fargo.
- ▶ Petsmart, 1630, 13th Ave. E., West Fargo
- ▶ Natural Pet Center, 3037 13th Ave. S., Fargo.
- ▶ Amy's Hallmark Shop, First Center South, 3051 25th St. S., Fargo. Pets must be well-behaved and on a leash or held.
- ▶ Barnes & Noble, 1201 42nd St. S., Fargo. The store allows pets that are well-behaved and leashed or held. However, only service animals are allowed in the coffee shop area.
- ▶ Bed Bath & Beyond, 4340 13th Ave. S., Suite 1, Fargo.
- ▶ Beyond Running, 516 Broadway N, Fargo.
- ▶ Drekkker Brewing Co. (Dogs can be indoors, but only in the barrel room.), 1666 1st Ave N, Fargo.
- ▶ Hobby Lobby, 4427 13th Ave. S., Fargo.
- ▶ Michaels, 1638 13th Ave. E., West Fargo. The store, a tail wag away from PetSmart, is "pet

friendly all the way through," a manager said.

- ▶ Old Navy, 4440 13th Ave SW., Fargo.
- ▶ Others, 218 Broadway N, Fargo.
- ▶ Pets R' Inn, West Acres shopping mall, 3902 13th Ave. S. The shop in the mall is the only one open to all pets. The rest of the mall is generally open only to service animals, a mall spokeswoman said.
- ▶ Unglued, 408 Broadway N, Fargo.
- ▶ Zandbroz Variety, 420 Broadway N, Fargo. Well-behaved dogs are allowed, but the shop asks that you let them know you'd like to come in with your canine buddy.

When the weather is warm, some restaurants and taprooms allow dogs on their outdoor patios. The Fargo-Moorhead Convention and Visitors Bureau lists some at www.fargomoorhead.org/outdoor-activities/article/dog-friendly-spots-check-fargo-moorhead/.

Some websites list stores that are reportedly pet friendly. However, that may not hold true for every location. Be sure to check signs, often by entry doors, that state whether or not a business will allow animals other than service animals.

If you are unsure if your pup or kitty will be welcome at a store, call ahead and ask.

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Taking part in training classes and keeping hounds on a short leash are also helpful, she said.

One of Case's training sessions was at Runnings in Moorhead on Wednesday evening.

Not just a pet

Teresa Terry was there with her gentle giant, Rowan, a year-old Irish wolfhound.

Rowan is a daunting sight already. At not quite a year old, he's already a whipcord lean 130 pounds. In the next year or so, he'll probably put on some weight, Terry said. His sire is 190 pounds.

For all that, Rowan is a budding master of mellow and a hit with kids.

"We hope to become a therapy team so we can go into hospitals and nursing homes," the Fargo woman said. "His disposition is wonderful."

Terry enjoys doing retail therapy with her super-economy-sized pup.

"It's nice not to leave him at home. I'm a dog mom. I got him to be a companion, not a pet," Terry said.

"You learn, Your dog learns. You learn what they feel comfortable with and what they don't feel comfortable with," Terry said. "Hopefully it (the experience) will make us a better therapy team," Terry said.

Back at Scheels, Nick figures at least 30 people will come up to Archie each time they visit Scheels.

When Archie sees new people, it's like, "No, we're not leaving until I say hello," Kylee said.

Other favorite spots for Archie are Natural Pet Center, Home Depot, and Drekkker Brewery, "because there's a lot of people there, too," Kylee said.

He's also done his share of downward and upward dogs at doggie yoga.

"During the end, during the relaxation part, he was laying on a mat with his legs up in the air," Kylee said.

Archie feels very comfortable in Scheels. In fact, if no one is around to pet him, and his owners stop for a couple seconds, he'll just

plow down and watch the world go by.

"It helps that there are stores in the area that allow dogs, especially when it's 20-below (zero) out," Nick said. "We try to take him as many places as we can. We didn't get a dog to leave him at home."

But every good thing comes to an end. Even a good boy has to move on, and Archie does so, pulling Kylee behind him past the Ferris wheel and through the team clothing.

After all, Archie's got places to be and people to sniff.

F-M hound havens

There are a number of stores in the Fargo-Moorhead area that are

pet friendly. Among them are:

- ▶ Scheels, 1551 45th St. S., Fargo. Dogs are welcome throughout most of the store, but are not allowed in the coffee and fudge shop.
- ▶ Scheels, 505 Center Ave., Moorhead
- ▶ Scheels Home & Hardware, 3202 13th Ave. S., Fargo.
- ▶ Fleet Farm, 3730 36th St. S., Fargo.
- ▶ Harbor Freight Tools, 3207 Main Ave, Fargo.
- ▶ Home Depot, 4700 17th Ave. S., Fargo. Dog's must be on a leash and not disturb other shoppers.
- ▶ Lowe's Home Improvement, 5100 13th Ave. S., Fargo.
- ▶ Runnings, 3000 U.S.

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Annual Report

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Thank you for your continued support as we serve the citizens of Fargo by providing its students an excellent educational experience.

Access the full document at www.fargo.k12.nd.us/AnnualReport