

# THE SPARTAN



# PETS

EXTRA!

They are our companions. With us through ups and downs, they become part of our family and part of our neighborhood. Some are frequently seen, eager to say hello, while others are stay-at-homers. There is a lot to be said for living here, some in their own words. Here are their cameos.



## Eleanor and Phoebe

LANA KITCHER AND ELLIOT BRICHFORD AND AMY ROSATO

*Eleanor is 5 years old (Black Lab mix), and Phoebe around 7 (Terrier mix)*

A mix of breeds, these two get along very well with each other and other dogs, but are always opposite in what they want to do. Eleanor prefers to stay home, chase a ball, or find something around the yard exceptionally smelly to roll in. Phoebe wants to be on the go, walking around town. Try walking them together and you find your arms going in completely different directions. They both agree, however, that Sparta is a wonderful home. They love walking past the Jug and over to Sparta Park on a nice spring or fall day. They look forward to meeting all the other doggy neighbors along the way!



## Moose

CHRIS AND JAMIE WALKER

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Hi, Neighbors!

My name is Moose! My parents also call me Little Wolf, Big Bear, and Polar Bear Cub, but I am just a dog. I moved to Sparta two years ago and I am very happy here. I have been able to meet so many new friends and critters, but I will never understand why the stinky striped squirrel does not want to be my friend.

I live at 329 Spring Street and often like to watch the neighborhood from the front windows, or I lounge in the backyard. I also love the Sleepy Hollow dog park and the Aqueduct Trail. I am 50% Great Pyrenees, so I like to keep an eye on things while I relax. I am also 35% Husky, so I am very friendly and playful. The rest is German Shepherd and Akita, so yes, I am big, but just a puppy at heart. I am a gentle, giant so please feel free to say, "Howdy" when you see me!

## Ty

AMY GREDINGER AND ADAM TANIS

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Hello! My name is Ty. I am a five-year-old, 15-pound white/blonde wire-haired mutt. We don't know my exact breeds, but does it matter when you're this cute? I moved from Brooklyn to Ossining in January, and since then, I have been marking as much of the village as I can.

My hobbies include nature walks, frolicking in the grass, and chasing squirrels at the park. I also love the beach, but don't expect me to get my hair wet. I have a refined palette; only duck will do. But that's really because I'm allergic to some yummy foods, such as "chimken". I stick close to my humans and hate to be left alone, especially now with so much more territory to protect. I like to bark at anyone that comes over until they give me treats and I decide we're friends. Chin scratches help win me over, too.



## Gracie

DAN GARBOWIT AND  
WENDY MANTEL

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Gracie hails from South Carolina via the Briarcliff SPCA. She's been with us since February and the shelter reckoned that she is around 6 years old. Gracie is wonderfully behaved but keeps her nose to the ground, fixated on digging promising holes and quickly devouring whatever creature she finds. Balls, tug-of-war, playful chases and water do not interest her. The shelter was not specific on her mix so we swabbed Gracie and learned she is 40% Dachshund, 20% Chihuahua, 20% Beagle and the rest "rat" Terrier. She loves to meet people who give belly rubs, but is indifferent to other dogs. With that pose and red harness, Gracie reminds us of Underdog - every boomer's childhood cartoon superhero.

# WANTED



MARGARET PHELAN AND TED WEINBAUM

## FELINE FELONS OF 15 FAIRVIEW PLACE CONSIDERED PAWED AND DANGEROUS!

Most recently under suspicion for disemboweling houseplants and eating the mail.

Operating under the following aliases:

**SAUCE** the Tuxedo'd Terrorist. **LUCY** the Kickboxing Calico.  
**SQUIRREL** the Floofy Fluffball. **HUGO** the Grumpy Gargoyle.

# Chataruza

BILL HANAUER AND ALAN STAHL

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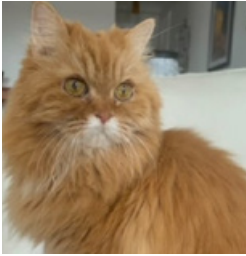


It is a well-established fact, and has been throughout my life, that I am not now, nor have I ever been a “morning person.”

Throughout my career, it was not unusual for me to work through the night and, after eating a quantity of dim sum, face the day, if not cheerily, then with equanimity. But, if I slept at all, most knew not to talk to me or make demands of me in the early morning.

That is, until the last sixteen years. Chataruza, named for the second wife of Medieval Venetian seafarer Michael of Rhodes, about whom Alan was writing when she adopted me from the SPCA, sleeps next to my left foot at night and across my chest with her chin on my right shoulder at TV time. She thinks it perfectly appropriate to walk up from my foot to my chest and smack me in the face at 4:00AM when she wants her first breakfast. I get up in a better-than-one-night-expect mood and provide her favorite food and treats, as well as replace the water in her bowl. Then, I go back to sleep until her next demand, usually no more than an hour later. NO! I will not lock her out or try to ignore her. She, who must be obeyed, is a one-man cat and I have the honor. That is not to say that she is hostile to others. She is cordial to most people, except small children, whom she avoids. She never bites or scratches anyone except me. She tolerates Alan and Hardik, and likes Margaret, Ted, and Pam – all of whom feed her from time to time. She never asks to share our food.

TRINA DINAPOLI AND ERIC GOLDMAN



Clifford

Cliff is the head of the “cat-hold.” He’s 17 and has seen it all. He doesn’t tolerate the “little ones” very well. And the younger cats respect this elder.



Clyde

Clyde is second in command coming in at 11 years old. ASPCA rescue. He is the sweetest, gentlest cat but don’t get him angry!



Cleo

Ahh, Cleo. Tough little 6-year-old girl adopted from the ACC. Had a rough start and it shows but she is lovable – when she wants to be.



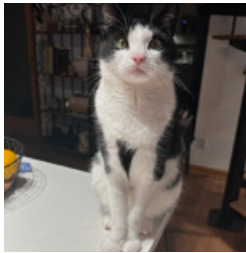
Lily

Lily is the baby, 2 years old and found in the basement of my former apartment building. She is not the friendliest, but she is a loving girl deep down – when she trusts you.



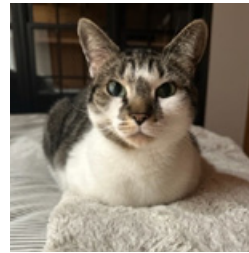
Junior

Junior is 5 years old and hails from the Bronx. Like many of my cats, Junior was a rescue, but he had the good fortune of having his mama when he was a kitten so he’s very well adjusted. Don’t believe what they say about black cats!



Louie

In a word, *trouble*. This little 4-year-old is the epitome of mischievous. He was once found clearly contemplating a leap from the railing to the chandelier! Louie was found in Fort Tryon Park in Washington Heights by my daughter.



Lucy

This little 4-year-old doesn’t take much from any of her house mates. The most energetic and curious of the clan, she can be loving, but she’s much more interested in adventure!



Sammy

Sammy is 5 years old and is the biggest of our crew weighing in at a whopping 16 pounds. He is demanding when it comes to attention, can be a bit of a bully when the mood strikes, but all he really wants is to sit on your lap.



## Bowie

MATT AND KIM MITCHELL

Hi, my name is Bowie. I reside at 4 Rockledge Avenue. My family moved here about a year ago. I was adopted from Paws Crossed Animal Rescue in Elmsford at 10 weeks old. I will be turning three in October. My DNA results said that I am Old English Sheepdog and Australian Cattle Dog. I get along with other dogs and don't mind humans (except the ones that deliver mail to my house).

I love long walks while holding my slipper (I'm a bit anxious), playing fetch at the

park, and watching TV with my dad.

However, my favorite time of the day is when my niece Clover comes over and plays with me in the backyard. I am working on my manners and trying to control my barking, I heard it's annoying. I hear my family say the word "chaotic" a lot, but I'm not sure what that means. I've met so many of my neighbors over the past year – Molly, Gracie, and Moose are just a few. Hopefully I get to meet more Sparta friends while I'm out and about.

## Molly

SCOTT KAMEN

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My name is Molly (a.k.a. “the mole”, a.k.a. “Boll”). I live in a historic home at 4 Liberty Street in Sparta with my human, Scott. Mostly, I perch myself on the lower porch that my human fixed up for me. I’m not big on barking or even coming to the door when humans visit. It’s just not my thing. But if there are other hounds visiting, then I put on a show. I go to Sparta Park almost every morning where I can chase rabbits, squirrels, an occasional fox and little humans playing on the grass. Sometimes, if I feel like it, I jump up on humans for fun or just to say hello. Whenever I jump up on someone, my human yells something about “lawsuit,” so I guess that’s the jump command he likes.

Anyway, I’m part Black Labrador Retriever and part Border Collie, or so they say, but nobody really knows. Everyone says I’m cute, so I’ll go with that.



## Babette

ADAM AND JOYCE MARKOVICS

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Each morning at 7:20AM, Babette knocks her two ceramic bowls together. It’s bunny breakfast time! Babette is 4 pounds of bossy rabbit cuteness. Our TV room is her “rabbitat.” There, she’s free to hop around, explore her tunnels, destroy cardboard boxes, and do whatever she pleases. Since we adopted Babette, she has always been fastidious about using her litter box. A banana, her favorite treat, is the best way to summon her. While quietly nibbling away, she leans into our petting hands and happily grinds her teeth (aka tooth-purring). Then she stretches out her beautiful accordion-like body to laze the day away.