

MONTGOMERY REGION PUPPY RAISERS

2011 GRADUATES

A YEAR IN REVIEW

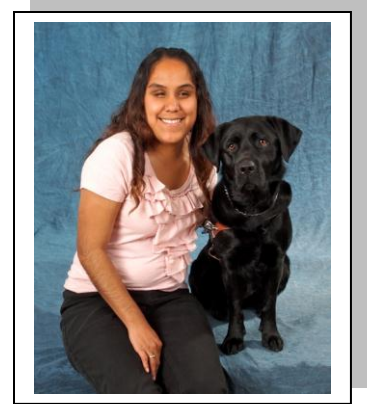
Cynthia Marrugo and Winsome

Cynthia Marruga lives in Texas. She will return home with Winsome, a black female Labrador.

Cynthia is a high school graduate and has taken college classes. She works full time, and enjoys spending time with her friends and boyfriend when free.

Retinal detachment caused Cindy's vision impairment, and Winsome will be her second guide dog. She is playful and loves squeaky toys.

Cynthia is looking forward to getting out more, as she was uncomfortable going places without a guide dog. Winsome will be good company and she is looking forward to introducing her to her routine and her friends.



Montgomery Region Puppy Raiser Family: Diane and Fen Wong

Jacquie Bukolt and Oak

Jacquie Bukolt is a native New Yorker. Black Lab Oak is her fourth guide dog.

An insulin dependent diabetic since the age of three, diabetic retinopathy and a moderate concussion caused her sight impairment. She was introduced to Guiding Eyes at a presentation during rehab training. After more mobility training, Jacquie had a tendency to veer. After finding herself in the middle of an intersection, she realized how helpful a dog would be, and she applied before returning to college.

Jacquie majored in social work and holds a bachelor's degree from Buffalo State College and a master's degree from the University of Buffalo. She was employed for 16 years with the Erie County Health Department as a case worker, but was laid off last December when the program's funding was eliminated.

She is an avid hockey fan and creates latch hook rugs and other small items. She enjoys reading and time with family. She has a brother, sister-in-law and two nephews. Her retired dog is with her cousins while she bonds with Oak.

Jacquie is looking forward to the freedom of getting around safely with Oak.

Montgomery Region Puppy Raiser Family: Susan and Jim Loewen



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Pamela Garde and Hildy

Pam Garde traveled from neighboring Connecticut and was matched with Hildy, a yellow female Lab.

Pam received her bachelor's degree in sociology from Eastern Connecticut State University. She has been employed with Reminder Media, Inc. for over 22 years. She began as a telemarketer and now works as a liaison between the public and various internal departments to help resolve customer issues.

Pam has always enjoyed creative writing. In addition, she spends time on long walks with her dog, meeting with friends, watching movies, and reading books on tape. When she realized she could be even more independent, she reached out to Guiding Eyes for a guide dog.

Retinopathy of prematurity is the cause of Pam's sight loss. Hildy is her fifth guide dog, and Pam marvels over her skills – she finds her absolutely amazing. “She is fabulous!. I want to shout from the rooftops. A perfect match...like Goldilocks and the Three Bears.”



Montgomery Region Puppy Raiser Family: Carolyn Lauer

Jessie Laurie and Otis

Not pictured is Jessie Laurie who received Otis as a home graduate candidate.



Montgomery Region Puppy Raiser Family: Jean Silverman