

# For the LOVE of Dogs



by Benjamin Margalit/Margalit Studio

Nancy Secrist (C), along with Kristie Brett (L) and Kelly Arnold, are giving dogs across our region a relaxing, safe—and fun—vacation of their own.

With over 30 years of experience and an obvious passion for pooches, Nancy Secrist has created *Easdale*—a one-of-a-kind retreat tailored for your pet.

by Olivia Bloom

Since 1933, when Bath residents George and Amy Wuchter opened a spot for dog lodging—dubbed *Easdale*—the wooded and grassy four-acre lot in beautiful Bath Township has served as a home away from home for man’s (and woman’s) best friends.

As of August 2003, *Easdale* is now the home of the Secrist family, their Seneca Airedales, and some of the region’s finest pet care.

Local business owner Nancy Secrist has over 30 years of experience in grooming, showing, and training—and, of course, loving dogs.

“I love dogs,” Nancy says with a smile. “I mean I really love dogs.”

Having a love for dogs is not just about playing in the grass with cute puppies (and sure, that’s fantastic fun), Nancy explains, but it’s about really understanding how and why dogs act the way they do.



*Easdale’s* creative PawPainting Art Class brings out your pup’s inner Picasso—with no messy paws.

“Loving a dog is thinking about how he handles heat and thirst on a hot summer day,” she says. “It’s being conscious about how she interacts with other dogs and about how her coat feels next to her skin.”

Nancy really does love dogs.

That’s something you just can’t fake.

In fact, the well-qualified staff you’ll find at *Easdale* shares Nancy’s true love of animals, so your pet’s stay will be worry-free and relaxing for both your pet—and for you.

“Nancy certainly has ‘the touch,’” shares one of her human clients. “Our dog comes home relaxed and calm when I pick him up from grooming or boarding with ‘Miss Nancy.’ It is so comforting to know how personally your dog is treated and with such loving care.”

“Every dog has a different personality and temperament, so they need a tailored experience,” Nancy explains. So *Easdale* offers oodles of ways to customize each guest’s experience in terms of fun, relaxation, and safety.

“Not all of us liked to play during gym class, and dogs are the same way.”

For the more social pets, Nancy offers daily one-on-one time with each doggie guest. The active and adventurous dogs can take guided trail hikes and enjoy playtime on *Easdale’s* adorable Puppy Playground equipped with ramps, sticks to throw and even a slide. For more laid back dogs, the excellent staff at *Easdale* also offer customized one-on-one time that might include a gentle brushing, a

relaxing sit in the grass, or a slow meander through the lush fields.

*Easdale* even offers a PawPainting Art Class to showcase your dog’s inner Picasso. Plus, you’ll get a frameable—or at least refrigerator-worthy—piece of one-of-a-kind art.

In addition to all of the activities offered at *Easdale*, Nancy also believes a private space is important for every dog. “Each dog guest has an individual room, and most have a private door,” Nancy explains. That’s right—a room. No small cages here.

Plus, your pet is never unattended. “Sure, *Easdale* is a pet boarding center, but it’s also our home,” she says.

“Dogs are incredibly perceptive animals,” she shares. “Having their family leave for several days can be stressful, so a facility that feels like a comfortable home, with knowledgeable staff who have a nurturing temperament, is absolutely critical.”

You can’t fake that either.

To conclude your dog’s stay, you might also opt for a bathing session or a groom. In fact, Nancy is one of the area’s most sought-after groomers.

She starts with the new “Bathing Beauty” shampooer and water massage. “You might laugh at the idea, but the hydro massage is a big hit with the dogs!” Nancy says. “Plus, we use only the highest quality pet grooming products made of natural ingredients.”

All of *Easdale’s* professional equipment, from shampooing to drying to clipping, is designed to keep pets safe and create their

best look.

“Great grooming is all about the relationship with the dog,” she explains. “It takes a lot of trust, and you have to earn it.”

And luckily for our feline friends, *Easdale* isn’t just for the dogs.

The *Easdale* cattery, complete with individually ventilated condos, natural light—and even a view of a TV, makes for a relaxing getaway, when leaving loads of food out won’t work for longer family vacations or for a cat that might need a bit more attention. The *Easdale* team have dubbed the area the “Garden Cattery” because it’s the same room where Nancy grows another passion of hers—African violets.

In fact, Nancy offers each of her customers an African violet of their own.

Passion and love. You just can’t fake that.

*Easdale* is located at 1814 North Revere Road in Bath. To make your reservation for boarding or grooming appointment, please call 330-666-2004. For more information, you can visit their website at [www.BestPetCare.net](http://www.BestPetCare.net).

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