# Eaglebrookellife

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### **Meet Dennis & Dawn Diaz!**

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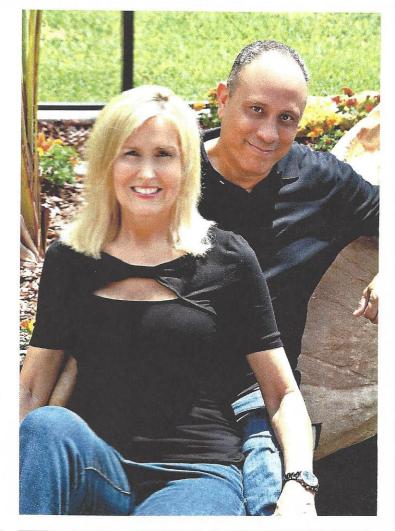
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# Family

### **The Diaz Family**

Written By Dan Buffa Photography By Foster's Photography

Then it comes to Dennis and Dawn Diaz, the love and care of animals is their passion. They have two dogs, Kali Girl (beagle/dachshund) and Casey Mae (rat terrier). Their love for pets also drives Dawn's profession. Dennis is the director of sales at ITW Corporation and Dawn owns and operates Country Club Critter Sitters Pet Sitting Service based in Lakeland, Florida and Dallas, Texas. The Diaz's have lived in Lakeland for one year after relocating from Texas. Originally, Dawn is from Webster City, Iowa, and Dennis was born in Goshen, New York. You can call them lovebirds that helped connect the Midwest with the East Coast.





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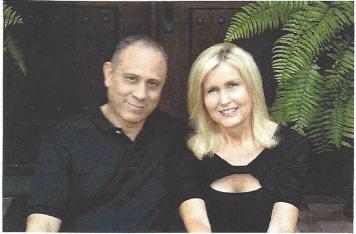
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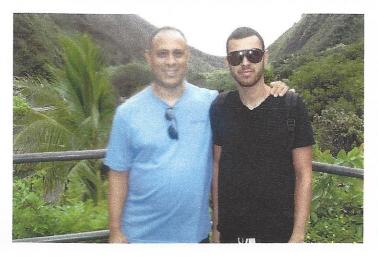
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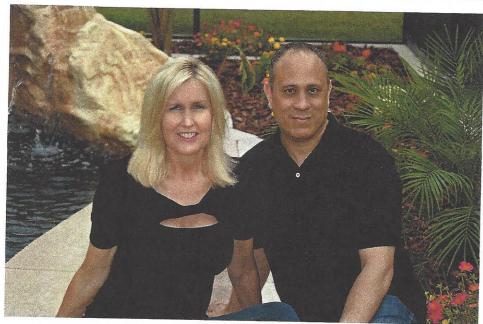


The couple's time in Lakeland has been like an extended holiday while their two grown kids work to build their own lives. Chris lives in Dallas and just bought his first home. Anyone knows that first time homeowners are in a continual process of trying to make their home as a comfortable as possible. Katrina lives in Buffalo, New York and is planning for an upcoming wedding. With a pair of highly successful and ambitious young adults already off and on their own, Dennis and Dawn enjoy going to the beach and having dinner near the ocean. Their favorite neighborhood dinner spot is Stadium Pizza located in Lakeland and The Rusty Pelican located in Tampa. Their favorite foods are Sushi and seafood. Their love for quiet walks near the sea connects them to their favorite vacation destinations in the Caribbean.

The Diaz's success story started back in college, where Dawn attended AV College in Lancaster, California while Dennis stayed close to his native New York, attending State University. They have been around the world but have found a comfortable landing spot in Lakeland enjoying the quiet peace of their Eaglebrooke neighborhood. For the Diaz', the peaceful tranquility of Florida has been comforting. The people in their neighborhood are quite friendly and take great pride in their homes. It also gives them solace knowing that their new neighborhood is safe and secure.

Dennis and Dawn feel fortunate to live in Florida where they can combine their love of peaceful walks and the sea in such beautiful settings like Ana Maria Island or Marco Island. They enjoy rooting for The New York Giants, Dallas Mavericks, and Texas Rangers, with gardening and family time making up the balance of their activities. At night, The Voice is their show of choice while Bradley Cooper and





Clint Eastwood's American Sniper is their preferred cinematic adventure. They aren't picky when the radio is on, as long as it houses some rock n' roll, blues or country.

A popular tradition during Christmas time is viewing A Christmas Story and National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation, which both offer the Diaz' the perfect combination of humor and warmth for the holiday season.

They are active in the community with Dawn volunteering for the local SPCA in Lakeland and Dennis taking part in

the United Way campaign through the ITW Corporation.

Dennis and Dawn Diaz are living the good life, and keep their lives vibrant and meaningful. They love a peaceful walk and a healthy meal, but value God and family the most. If you happen to run into them, say hello. Just don't mention the Dallas Cowboys or Los Angeles Lakers.



## preciouspets

Casey Mae









Family Members: Dennis and Dawn Diaz

Pets' Names: Kaligirl and Casey Mae

Breed of Dog: Kaligirl is a beagle / dachshund mix and Casey Mae is a rat terrier.

Male or Female: Both are females

Pets' Ages: Both the girls are 12.

Where/why did you get your pet? Kaligirl was rescued from The Humane Society of North Texas and Casey Mae was rescued from the Arlington Texas Animal Shelter.

Is there a story behind the girls' names? We recently had relocated from California to Texas and Kaligirl was our attempt to put a spin on the term "California girl." Our son always loved the name Casey and Mae was after Dawn's late grandmother who was a wonderful woman with a kind soul.

### Anything special or unusual about them (talents/quirks)?

Kaligirl is extremely sly and tries to outsmart Casey Mae with a fake bark to draw her to the front door while she cuts through the house to steal her food! Casey Mae has many hang-ups. She barks non-stop when she hears you crumple up paper, use a flashlight, or make certain sounds. Additionally, she likes to sleep on her back with her paws in the air. Needless to say, they can entertain us for hours.

What do you like best about your pet? They are both extremely loving with our family members.

Any funny stories? Kali has taken over our bed in the master bedroom and thinks that the bed is her own. Each night she stands at the door and waits for us to prepare the bed for her to sleep. She thinks she is royalty. Casey chases all birds, cats and any other animals that may come in our yard. She thinks she is a large dog in a small body!

How spoiled is your pet? We recently saw a Cesar Millan (the Dog Whisperer) performance that shed light on how much we have totally humanized and spoiled our two furry ladies. Casey has recently taken over one of the bedrooms in our house and the sign on her door reads: A spoiled rotten dog lives here! We can honestly say that Cesar would not be too happy if he visited the Diaz residence!

What else should we know about how your pet has enriched your family? We have been empty nesters now for about seven years and have realized that our two dogs have made our lives much more meaningful and fun. We really don't know what we would do without them. At the end of each day we look into their eyes and see unconditional love and loyalty and are always happy to return the favor.

Do you have a pet and would like to share his/her story? Then email bianca.mckinney@n2pub.com to have them featured in the next available issue! Dogs, cats, horses, fish and any other type of animals are welcome!