



TIM LAMORTE/RIVERTOWNS ENTERPRISE

ECAD celebrates quartet of canine twosomes

East Coast Assistance Dogs (ECAD), which has a facility at The Children's Village in Dobbs Ferry, held a graduation at Hastings' James Harmon Community Center last Wednesday, Aug. 8. The ceremony was the culmination of a two-week training session for four individuals who were paired with service dogs. The graduates and their canine companions, pictured above, include (from left to right) Lois Pappalardo and Chanel, Robert

Pratte and Armani, Kevin Conlon and Dior, and Cayla Lemire and Billie.

Pappalardo, 63, of Long Island, has a progressive nervous system disorder called Friedreich's ataxia. Pratte, 64, of New Hampshire, suffers from PTSD related to 15 months' service in Vietnam as a Marine. Conlon, 29, also is dealing with PTSD as well as TBI spinal pain syndrome and tinnitus after two tours of duty in Iraq with the U.S. Army. Finally,

22-year-old Lemire, of Massachusetts, has congenital muscular dystrophy and breathes with the aid of a tracheostomy.

For Pappalardo, Chanel is her second service dog. She has a master's degree in special education from Hofstra University. Pratte is active in veterans affairs, including fundraising drives, for Chapter 992 of the Vietnam Veterans of America. Lemire is working toward a graduate degree in child psychology at Northwestern University.

School notes

UChicago graduate

Julia Wetherell, a 2008 graduate of Hastings High School, graduated with honors from the University of Chicago on June 9 and received the Napier Wilt Award in English for the best bachelor of arts thesis in fiction. She majored in English and literature and has returned to New York to work on the public radio program "Studio 360" with Kurt Andersen.

New Paltz dean's list

Greg Gondek, Charlotte Mitchell, Maximilian Rice, and Anthony Tino were named to the dean's list at the State University of New York at New Paltz for the spring 2012 semester.

New Paltz grad

Emily Erwin-Mcguire graduated from the State University of New York at New Paltz this past spring with a bachelor of science in childhood education.

Wash U. dean's list

Kristina Hinman and Allison Hopkins were named to the dean's list at Washington University in St. Louis for the spring 2012 semester.

Villanova dean's list

Dana O'Toole was named to the dean's list at Villanova University for the spring 2012 semester. Dana is studying biology in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.