



## Puppy Tails

Mialie T. Szymanski

*As the moon goes to bed,  
the sun comes up  
And here we meet a sleepy pup,  
Who was walking through  
G-ville one bright sunny day,  
Then saw The Villager  
and decided to stay.*

Doodle Dog loves to explore all the nooks of his little town and all of the places that have become his favorite spots to spend the day. He likes to wander the familiar paths and always greets all of his friends along the way. There are the usual scents that help Doodle Dog to know where he is just by sniffing the air, like the yummy smells of the bake shop down the street or the woody smell of the forest near the edge of the park. And there are the sounds that help Doodle Dog know which side of town he is by how loud they are, like the chimes from the clock tower telling the time. Bong bong bong!

Today he wanted to go somewhere he'd never been. His favorite meadow is on one side of town – he'd been there many times – but he didn't know what was on the other side of town – he'd never been that way before – and today was the perfect day to find out!

When Doodle Dog crossed the sidewalk, he looked in the direction of his meadow. It was just down the hill and to the right. But instead of going that way today, the little floppy-eared puppy turned up the hill and to the left, bravely on the path to what he hoped would be a fun new adventure!

As he continued up the hill, Doodle Dog's nose immediately picked up a scent he couldn't quite place. It seemed like something he'd smelled before but not exactly.

It was sweet like a flower but woody like a tree at the same time. Doodle Dog's paws began to move a little faster on the sidewalk – the curious puppy wanted to sniff out this mystery! As he turned a corner up ahead, Doodle Dog's ears picked up a sound he couldn't quite place. It seemed like something he'd heard before but not exactly. It was swishy, like the wind going by when he runs through the meadow, but at the same time dull and metallic like the noise the Maypole made when Doodle Dog's tail thumped against it.

The mystery didn't take long to solve, as Doodle Dog's excited little paws made quick work of the journey to the top of the hill. There, surrounded by beautiful, flowering trees that Doodle Dog had never before seen, was another meadow almost like the one he loved so much but not exactly. Doodle Dog likes to go to his meadow and spend a quiet day with the woodland creatures, or run around with his little human friends on the playground toys. This new meadow was a very special meadow indeed, made especially for four-legged friends just like the little floppy-eared puppy. Doodle Dog found a safe place by the trunk of one of the flowering trees (so that's what he smelled!) and watched as dozens of dogs of all sizes and breeds happily ran around on what appeared to be playground toys made just for them. On one side of the park, little roly-poly puppies, fat and furry, chased soft, squishy chewy balls thrown by their owners. In another area, a large dog with a golden coat chased a brown and white Collie who was already chasing a squat little pug in

a friendly game of doggie tag.

And in the far corner of the park, two dogs were racing through what appeared to be an obstacle course with brightly-colored teeter-totters, balance beams, and curvy tunnels. At the end of the course were several skinny flexible poles where the dogs were quickly weaving in and out as the poles whipped and bent in rhythm with the dogs' tails thumping against them (so that's what he heard!). Taking a break from all the fun, a spotted Dalmatian was getting a cool drink of water from a fountain shaped like a bright red fire hydrant. A German Shepherd sat nearby, straight and proud as it seemed to be guarding the park and quietly protecting those who had come to play.

All the dogs seemed friendly and they certainly looked like they were having fun, so Doodle Dog decided to be brave and make some new friends. He took a step away from the tree trunk, cautiously at first, but then the dog with the golden coat zipped by – nearly knocking Doodle Dog over! – and nudged the little puppy into the game. The dogs spent the afternoon running around the park, over and under the puppy playground toys, and through the flowering trees until they were so exhausted they plopped on the grass for a nap.

As the sun began to set, the little floppy-eared puppy woke from his nap, blinking his eyes to adjust to the dim light. He looked around this newfound meadow but there were no dogs zipping by, no special playground equipment, no brightly-colored obstacle course, and no fire hydrant fountain. There wasn't really a doggie play park in that meadow, but maybe someday there would be!



## Friday Night Lights

Jason Adkins

The Windham Bombers continue to struggle as a long trip to Fairport Harding ended with a 53-6 loss. The Skippers had six different players score touchdowns as the 0-3 Bombers were only able to prevent the shutout with a late 10-yard touchdown run. Windham has their work cut out for them as they open league play this week at 3-0 Rootstown and next week at 3-0 Southeast.

Newton Falls traveled to undefeated Columbiana last week and almost came away with their first victory of the season. The 27-21 setback leaves the Tigers winless at 0-3 while the Clippers move to 3-0. The Tigers move on to play another undefeated as they host Girard this Friday. The Indians' latest victim was the Eagles from JFK, 49-17. The Tigers' defense will have their hands full because Girard is averaging over 47 points per game. Newton Falls has not beaten Girard in over 10 years.

The red hot Pirates of Southeast handed the Red Devils

of Crestwood their third straight loss of the season 41-7. Crestwood looks to pick up the pieces this Friday as they host Ravenna. The Ravens have been a team on the rise with wins over Louisville and Tallmadge and their only loss coming at Mentor to Lake Catholic.

The Huskies are victims of another loss to a team full of seniors. Last week the 15 seniors from Ledgemont beat up on the younger Cardinal team, 39-0. Redskins' senior Danny LaRosa ran up 284 yards rushing with four touchdowns. Cardinal will look to stop the losing streak this Friday at Fairport Harding. Harding has given up 64 points this season.

The Garfield G-Men worked late into the night last Friday to put away a pesky Champion team. The 14-7 victory was delayed at times due to lightning strikes in the area. Bobby Bright's 41 yard touchdown run in the fourth quarter was the difference maker. Tyler Covey also hauled in a pass for a score.

Make no bones about it, this week the G-Men host a make-or-break game at home against the Pirates from Southeast. Garfield last met the Pirates in 2004 with the Pirates being the only regular season loss for the G-Men 23-14. That was then - coach Matt Jordan's final season and the next year the league was realigned. This year Southeast has dropped into the County Division and comes in 3-0 with impressive wins over Newton Falls, Field and Crestwood. Southeast is giving up an average of seven points per game while scoring just over 37 per game.

It was week five last season before the G-Men had given up 50 points, this year the defense has already given up 51 in three weeks.

While Jordan's squad won the league in '04, it was now-coach Steve Wyllie that took over in '05. That was the last back-to-back seasons the G-Men made the playoffs. This week coach Wyllie looks to do something his predecessor could not do, beat Southeast.

### James A. Garfield High School Website Information

The Garfield High School website is up and running. Please be sure to activate your parent account in order to view your students' grades and assignments.

It is important that you add a contact email and phone numbers to the account in order to receive important alerts that the school will be sending through the communication system. The first grade report will be posted on Friday, September 30th. We will not send home Interim reports. If you need the activation code, call the High School office at 330.527.4341

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