

# GNI Employee Newsletter



Exceptional Design for a Better Community

May-June 2018

## Dates to Remember

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- 6/17 Father's Day
- 6/19 Book Club Discussion: "Who Moved My Cheese?" 12pm
- 6/29 Ice Cream Social 4pm

## GNI Anniversaries

- |      |                |        |
|------|----------------|--------|
| 5/22 | Josh MacDonald | 1 Year |
| 6/1  | Josh Maurer    | 1 Year |

## Happy Birthday!

- |      |                 |
|------|-----------------|
| 5/12 | Kevin Dickerson |
| 5/16 | Stephanie Bell  |
| 6/11 | Jesse Alborano  |
| 6/14 | Leah Sterling   |
| 6/15 | Shawn Caldwell  |



## Welcome Jesse Alborano!

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Jesse Alborano recently joined the GNI team as a Survey Field Technician. Before coming to GNI Jesse was working for Centerra Group as an armed security officer at the Radford Army Ammunition Plant. Jesse graduated from Glenville State College in December of 2015 with a Bachelors of Science in Natural Resource Management and an Associates of Science in Forest Technology. He is excited about the opportunities that are provided here at GNI to learn and grow professionally.

When not working, Jesse spends time with his unit, which is the 363rd Military Police Company based out of Grafton, WV, each month for training purposes. He loves hunting, fishing, camping, hiking, lifting etc. He enjoys most outdoor activities and sports but most of all spending time with his fiancé Amber and soon to be stepson Jackson. They currently have a house together in Christiansburg and have two dogs (Indy and Beau), two cats (Joey and Oliver) and a guinea pig named Mocha.

Some of the goals he has include earning his NSPS survey technician certificate in the hopes of pursuing a license in surveying.

Welcome to GNI, Jesse!

## Welcome Zeke Moore!

Zeke has joined GNI as a Design Technician. Before GNI, he was a full time student at Radford University, studying Geospatial Science, and working at the on campus IT support desk. Zeke decided to work here because he was impressed by the number and quality of the projects that GNI has been involved in and he also likes the focus on community outreach and support.



So far what he has liked most is the atmosphere of the office. Everyone works together, and it functions as one big family. Because he comes from a background of mechanical drafting, Zeke is trying to learn as much as he can about engineering and land development while here.

Outside of work, Zeke's hobbies include hiking, backpacking, watching movies, playing videogames with friends, fixing electronics, and the occasional round of paintball. Zeke shares an apartment in Radford with his girlfriend of two years, and 1 other roommate. Together, they have 2 bunnies, 1 cat, 2 birds, and a corn snake named Abby.

Welcome, Zeke!

## Biggest Loser Results



Congratulations to our Biggest Loser winner, Josh MacDonald! He had a total weight loss of 16.32%! He was the winner of over \$440 and massive bragging rights.

Congrats to Drew Weir (Sarah's husband) who came in 2nd place with a total weight loss of 11.82% and to Kate Turner who came in 3rd place with a total weight loss of 9.58%. Way to go guys!



## Josh MacDonald Speaks to Students



Josh MacDonald recently had the pleasure of speaking at one of Virginia Tech's Intro to Land Development classes.

Maybe there is a future GNI employee in there somewhere??

## Congratulations!!



Congratulations to Matt Tomlinson and his girlfriend Chrisha who are expecting a baby girl in September!

Congratulations to Josh MacDonald and his wife Stefanie who are expecting their 3rd child, a girl, in September!

# Pictures of the Month



Congrats to Annah Lester (Mark's daughter) who graduated from Virginia Tech with a Bachelor of Arts. She majored in Art History with a Minor in Communication.



Congrats to Zeke who graduated from Radford University with a BS in Geospatial Science with a minor in Information Systems.



Happy Cinco de Mayo! We celebrated with a yummy lunch here at the office.



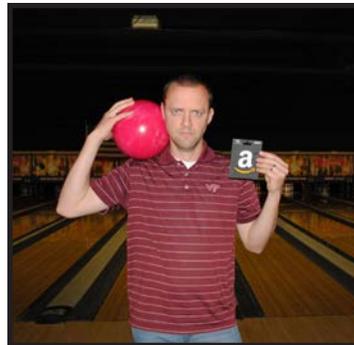
Thanks to Steve Sunderman who recently came in to speak to us about Concrete Parking Lots.



# Bowling Party!



Winning Team with a score of 955  
Jesse, Stephanie & Craig



Highest Score - 306  
Josh MacDonald



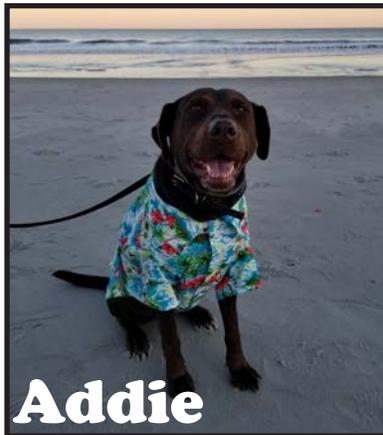
Lowest Score - 149  
Kate Turner



## GNI Pets



Jack is Kate's dog and is 4 years old. She has had him since he was 8 weeks and loved watching his spots come in and come to life. He loves to go for runs and rides in the car and is one of Christiansburg's favorite Fire Dogs appearing in local parades.



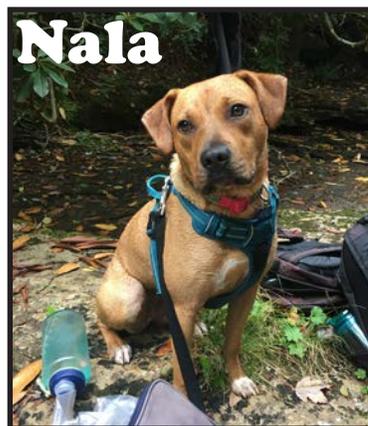
Addie is Stephanie's 3 year old chocolate lab mix. She and Landon adopted her from Peak Lab Rescue in Apex NC April 2017. Addie was skittish of everyone and everything at first. She had a rough couple of years before being rescued. She has come a long way in a year. She takes a while to warm up to new people, but once she does she is a real cuddle bug. She loves treats and lots of pats. She will paw you for more attention or if you are not patting her fast enough.



Sage, Born 11/22/2012 to Kevin & Kim Dickerson. Loves, loves, loves people but is not very sociable with other animals. Sage likes to ride in the front seat of the truck and he likes to attend picnics. When Kim and I ask Sage "want to go for a ride" he immediately goes to the door on the driver's side of the truck. Sage also knows sign language.



Zoey is Sarah's Boxer/Pit Bull mix. She is around 2 years old. Sarah's family adopted her in February from the Animal Welfare Foster Program, which is ran by Vet Med students. Zoey enjoys long walks, running 60 mph around our backyard, long naps on the couch, and giving lots of kisses.

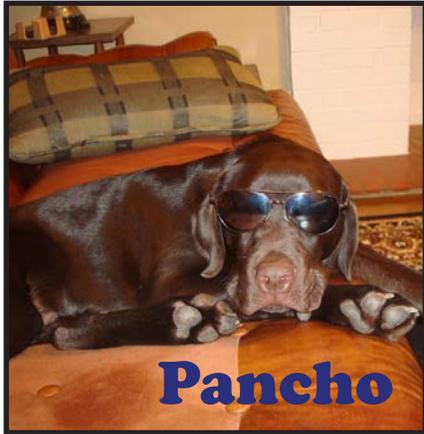


This is Nala, an American Staffordshire and American Bulldog mix. Josh Maurer and his girlfriend rescued her almost a year ago from the Wythe County animal control on the day she was supposed to be euthanized. She was afraid of everything at first but she's come a long way. Some of her favorite things are going to doggie daycare, snuggling on the couch, and eating popcorn.



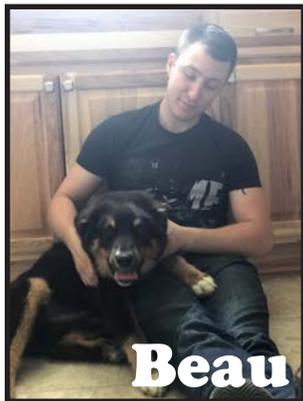
Bucky is Shawn's lab. He got him in October 2015. He's almost 3 (August 2). His favorite things are his blanket and walking. Biggest dislikes are loud things like guns and lawnmowers.

**GNI Pets**



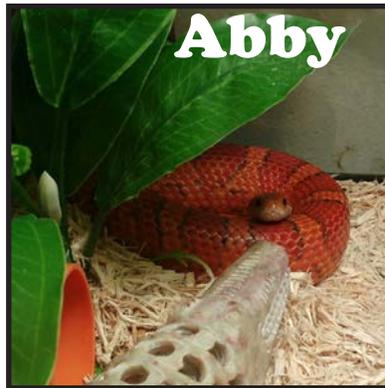
**Pancho**

Pancho is Matt T.'s dog. When I first moved into my new house back in 2009, I specifically picked it because it had a fenced in backyard for the inevitable dog I would be getting. I always wanted a big dog and had narrowed it down to a Rottweiler, German Shephard or Labrador Retriever. It just so happened that one of my mom's patients at the time was a labrador breeder who actually lived just a few blocks from my new house. So I went to visit her and see the two fresh litters of black, yellow and chocolate labs she had. At first I picked out two male puppies, a chocolate lab and a yellow lab. The chocolate lab was much more rambunctious than the quiet and calm yellow lab, chasing me around and biting my flip-flops while the yellow lab sat in my lap. I wanted to get them both and name them Pancho and Lefty after one of my favorite Townes Van Zandt songs made famous by Willy Nelson and Merle Haggard. However, I decided not to bite off more than I could chew and ended up just picking Pancho. Boy was that a good decision as he is certainly a handful having eaten two couches, countless dog beds and a fully lit scented candle at one point. Almost eight years later (he'll be 8 this June), I would do it all over again as he truly is man's best friend.



**Beau**

This is Jesse's 6 month old Australia Shepherd that his wonderful fiancé got him for Christmas. His name is Beau and he is spunky, smart and loves to please.



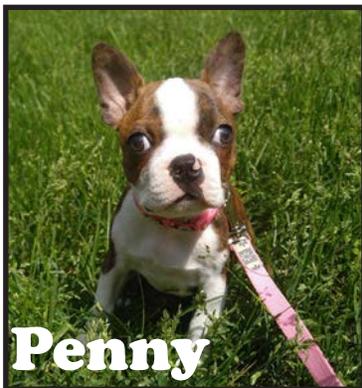
**Abby**

This is Zeke's 2-1/2 year old Abbott's Okeetee corn snake named Abby.



**Gus**

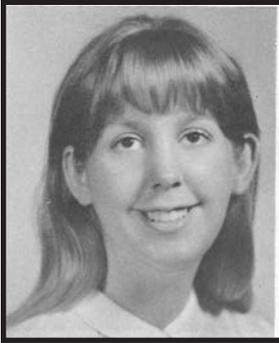
Here is Gus, the cat adopted by Mrs. Clements and her daughter Julianne, without consulting Ralph. Gus has lived in the Clements house with his sister, Penny, much to Ralph's dismay, over his objections and rent-free since late 2015 when they were adopted from the spay-n-neuter folks. In his spare time, Gus enjoys shedding copious amounts of fur, sticking his nose where it doesn't belong, making lots of noise to be let out, changing his mind when the door is opened, sleeping and generally pushing his luck. The rest of the time he practices being annoying, aggravating and non-productive. He is wearing a special "Japanese Cat Fish Bonnet" Julianne got for him in this photo.



**Penny**

Here's Penny, John's 2 year old Boston Terrier. She has never met a stranger. This picture is from when they first got her. She can't see stuff that's right in front of her.

## Throwback to GNI Grads



Leah graduated from Patrick Henry High School (Roanoke, VA) in 1967.

The No. 1 Song on the Charts in June 1967 was "Respect" by Aretha Franklin.  
The No. 1 Movie in 1967 was *The Graduate*.

Average Cost of a new house: \$14,250  
Cost of a gallon of gas: 33 cents

Matt M. is a 1993 graduate of South Williamsport Area High School, South Williamsport, PA.

The No. 1 Song on the Charts in June 1993 was "That's the Way Love Goes" by Janet Jackson.  
The No. 1 Movies in June 1993 were *Cliffhanger* and *Jurassic Park*.

Average cost of a new house: \$113,200  
Cost of a gallon of gas: \$1.16



Stephanie is a 1994 graduate of Christiansburg High School.

The No. 1 Song on the Charts in June 1994 was "I Swear" by All-4-One.  
The No. 1 Movies in June 1994 were *Speed* and *The Lion King*.

Average cost of a new house: \$119,050  
Cost of a gallon of gas: \$1.09

Sarah is a 1998 graduate of Christiansburg High School.

The No. 1 Song on the Charts in June 1998 was "The Boy is Mine" by Brandy & Monica.  
The No. 1 Movies in June 1998 were *The Truman Show*, *The X-Files*, and *Doctor Dolittle*.

Average cost of a new house: \$129,300  
Cost of a gallon of gas: \$1.15



Kate graduated from Surry County High School in 2011.

The No. 1 Song on the Charts in June 2011 was "Rolling in the Deep" by Adele.

The No. 1 Movies in June 2011 were *X-Men: First Class*, *Super 8*, *Green Lantern*, and *Cars 2*.

Zeke is a 2011 graduate of Blacksburg High School.

In 2011:  
Average Cost of a New House: \$262,260  
Cost of a gallon of gas: \$3.52  
US Postage Stamp: 44 cents

