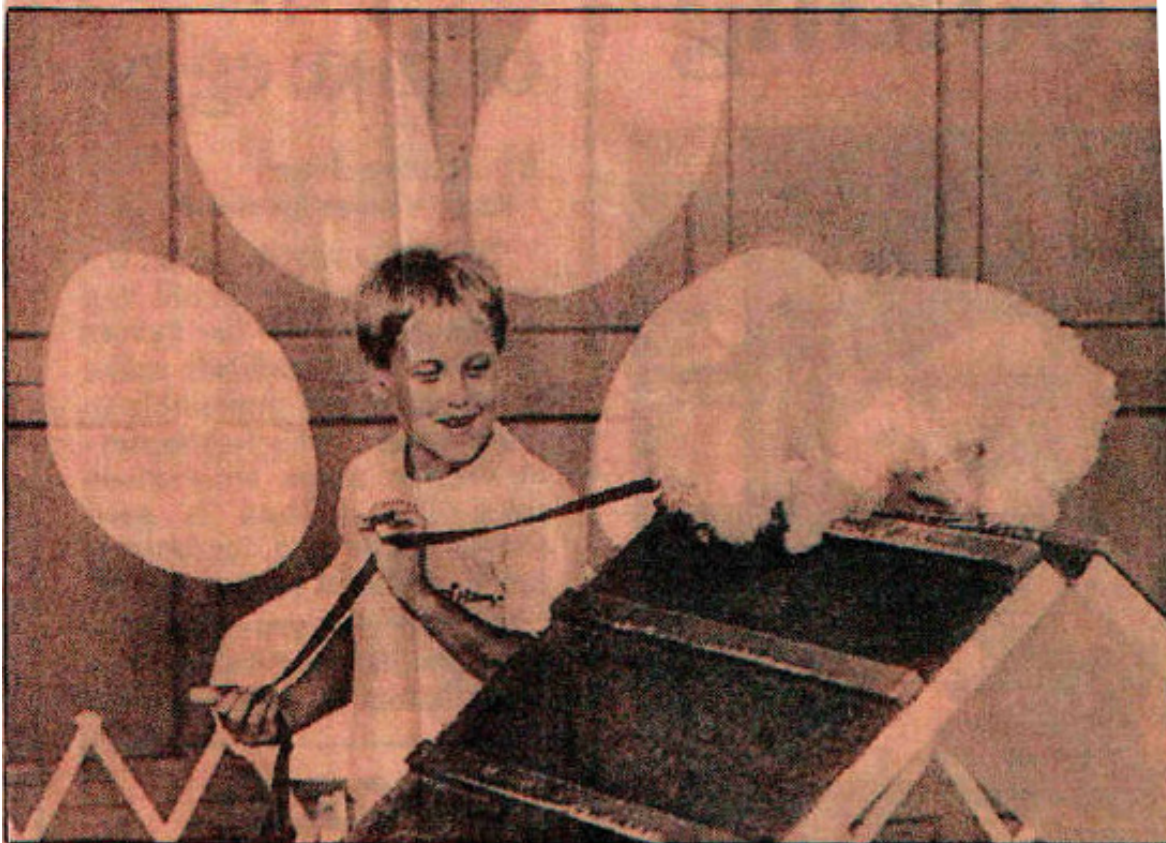


—Richmond Times-Dispatch, 1990



Staff photo by Lindy Keast Rodman

WAY TO GO, MINDY — Nathan Woods' natural talent with animals has blossomed in the course of training his family's poodle puppy, Mindy. Here he leads Mindy through the confidence-building obstacle course at Richmond Dog Training Center.

For 11-year-old Nathan Woods, leading the family's poodle puppy, Mindy, through the beginner class at the Dog Training Center has allowed his natural talent with animals to blossom. He's hoping to start showing Mindy in obedience trials and is even thinking of becoming a veterinarian.

Proudly looking on as boy and dog

move together in precision form, Nathan's father, Charlie, added, "You want your child to find something they're good at. We tried all the sports, but for Nathan, this was it."

Perhaps the simplest endorsement of obedience training came from Nathan's 4-year-old brother, Zachary. "When I tell her to come, she comes."