

Lifestyle

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Older residents experience
the healing benefits
of fitness program.
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LIFESTYLE IN BRIEF

Local companies raise money for cancer fight

From staff reports

More than 25 local women will model the latest styles from Weekenders USA and Deirdre of London as they raise money for the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation and Y-Me Breast Cancer Organizations at 7 p.m. May 1 at Atlanta Dance, 2213 Roswell Road in Marietta.

"We're working with the dance professionals at Atlanta Dance to make this a truly fun event," said Weekenders Manager Eileen Witt of Atlanta. "In fact, for those attending, we're offering a free dance lesson beginning at 7:30 p.m."

Cost for the event is \$12, with a portion of the proceeds from admission and the silent auction going toward the Komen and Y-Me organizations. For reservations, call (770) 973-5191.

Additionally, a purchase of Longaberger Baskets and Pottery will donate 15 to 20 percent of the retail amount to the Greater Atlanta Affiliate of The Komen Foundation. For more information on the baskets, visit www.longaberger.com.

Tables still available for Legends Concert

MARIETTA — The Marietta Parks and Recreation Department is teaming up with WLCL Clear Channel Radio COOL 105.7 for a Legends Concert in Glover Park. The Square will offer an intimate oldies spectacular featuring Beary Hobbs Drifters & The Marvelettes.

The event will also include a small community festival with festivities beginning at 4 p.m. May 22.

For more information about the Cool 105.7 Legends Concert, call Marietta Parks and Recreation at (770) 794-5601.

Free scoop night to benefit literacy

There's nothing sweeter than ice cream — unless it's free ice cream. Stay cool this summer with a free scoop of ice cream from Baskin-Robbins during the fifth annual Free Scoop Night at participating Baskin-Robbins stores in Cobb from 6 to 10 p.m. Wednesday.

To celebrate Free Scoop Night and give back to the community, Baskin-Robbins will make a donation to First Book, a national nonprofit organization that provides free, new books to children from low-income families. For a list of participating store locations, go to www.baskinrobbins.com.

E-mail items for Lifestyle in Brief to lifestyle@mdjonline.com. Fax to (770) 428-9533 or mail to 380 S. Fairground St., Marietta, GA 30060.

Throw 'em a bone

Give your behaviorally challenged dog a break — the problem could be you

By Andrea Lynn
Marietta Daily Journal Staff Writer

Does your dog relentlessly chew the couch, jump on visitors or ignore calls to come? Pet training experts said the problem isn't the dog — it's the owner.

"In reality, most behavioral issues are from lack of leadership in the home," said Bark Busters dog trainer Tom Zebrowitz. "It only takes dogs a few days to become leaders. You have to change the leadership."

It was the big brown eyes and floppy ears of Elvis and Baxter that captured the hearts of dog-lovers Ken and Laney Kay — whisking the foster dogs off to their east Cobb home.

There was just one problem — "We didn't know beagles were barkers," Mrs. Kay said. They asked Zebrowitz to visit their home and help cure the problem. Bark Busters vows to transform behaving dogs into obedient companions in two to three hours with a holistic, non-physical approach.

"It's a matter of communicating with the dog in a way they understand," Zebrowitz said. "Barking is good when there is an intruder, but not when someone knocks on the door. Barking is natural for dogs, but when it gets out of hand, it becomes

a problem." Communicating with the dog about what is right and wrong can be done through voice tone, body language and the growl-like sound "bah." During a follow-up visit last week, Zebrowitz revisited the barking problem, as well as getting Elvis more comfortable stepping into a vehicle and practicing water-safety techniques with both dogs.

It's important to get behavioral issues under control. According to Nicholas Dodman, author of the book "The Dog Who Loved Too Much," many of the pets brought to shelters are surrendered there because of behavior problems that their owners believe to be permanent. Approximately 70 percent of these animals end up being put to sleep. At least three times as many dogs are destroyed annually because of behavior problems as die of cancer, another leading cause of death.

"People want someone else to train their dogs. They really can't have that because they are going to need to reinforce their dog's behavior," said Jeanne Daughenbaugh, dog trainer for Marietta's Best Friends Pet Resorts and Salons. "Owners need to understand how to reinforce the dog's training or else



Dog trainer Thomas Zebrowitz of east Cobb works with Baxter.



Bark Busters owner Zebrowitz, left, talks about obedience training while Laney and Ken Kay walk their dogs Elvis and Baxter.



Elvis was brought to Bark Busters by east Cobb residents Laney and Ken Kay because of frequent barking. The Kays soon discovered that dog obedience depends heavily on the leadership skills of the pet owner.

Staff photos
by Bret Gerbe

See Page 5D
for ways you
can improve your
dog's behavior
at home.

Behavior Quiz

Answer the following questions to see how much your pup acts up. If the answer that applies best to your dog is "frequently," add one point; if it is "sometimes," add five points; if it is "infrequently," add 10 points. Total the points and compare with the key.

- When the doorbell rings, does your dog bark and/or run to the door?
- Does he demand attention by asking to be petted or to play?
- Does your dog jump up on visitors (and sometimes on you)?
- Does your dog ignore you when you call him to come?
- Does he exhibit destructive behaviors, i.e., ruining furniture, etc.?
- Does your dog attempt to escape from your house or yard?
- Does your dog have house-breaking accidents in the home?
- Does he chew on items such as shoes, children's toys, trash, etc.?
- Does your dog play too roughly with children and/or adults?
- Does your dog bark while outside, at passers-by or just about anything?
- When left alone, does your dog show signs of "separation anxiety"?
- Does your dog dig holes in the yard?
- Does your dog show unusual behavior or anxiety at the vet hospital?
- Does your dog "steal" items, such as food from counters or tables?
- When under a "stay" command, does he leave before being released?
- Does your dog show any aggression toward other dogs or people?
- Does your dog run up the stairs and/or through doorways ahead of you?
- Does he walk ahead of you or pull you when on the leash?
- Does your dog mouth or nip people's hands, arms or feet?
- Has your dog ever bitten a person or another dog?

For results, see Quiz, Page 5D

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