



Pamper your pet

Hotel and spa offers special Valentine's Day package for your four-legged friend

By **PATRICIA A. WEST-VOLLAND**
Correspondent

CLEVELAND – Are you looking for a unique gift to surprise your loved one this Valentine's Day?

If your loved one is the four-legged furry type, The Barkley Pet Hotel & Day Spa, 27349 Miles Road, Orange Village, offers a special Valentine's Day spa package just for pets.

Pet owners often stay home because they hate to leave their cherished pets alone. Now your furry friends can enjoy a day at the spa while the family enjoys sightseeing.

"The Barkley's really a special place for pets," owner Howard Perlmutter said. "The pet human bond is continuing to grow and more and more pets are becoming humanized. For those who believe that their pets are now part of their family their pets deserve special treatment, too."

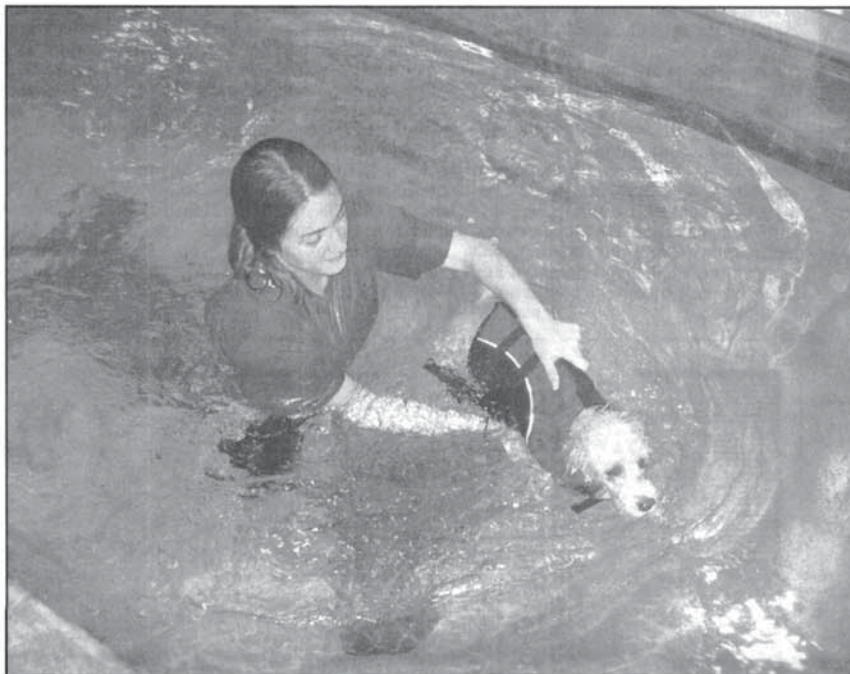
The ultimate pampering for your pooch is the two-hour Valentine's Day spa treatment that includes a spa bubble bath with towel drying, "pretty ribbons," a 15-minute aromatherapy massage, 20 minutes of personal playtime and your pet is picked-up in a "Cat"illac for \$50 (price is for pick-up in the Cleveland area and is adjusted for other pick-up locations), Perlmutter said. Spa packages are available for cats, too, but your cat must enjoy getting a bath.

"That's all part of the spa day at The Barkley. We do offer a lot of other amenities, too," Perlmutter said.

Perlmutter designed the Barkley to pamper pets because people want the best for their animal companions. Services offered at the 15,000-square-foot state of the art complex include spa treatments, daycare services and overnight boarding with rooms ranging from standard to luxury suites.

"It's truly a unique facility and it's affordable for everybody. There's this mystique that The Barkley is an expensive place. It's really not anymore expensive than a regular kennel," Perlmutter said.

Your pet can choose to stay in the petite standard suites that include lambskin bedding for \$29 a night, or The Barkley Park suites that offer a garden view, deluxe bedding and TV with animal entertainment for \$49. But the truly pampered pet will prefer the Executive Poolside suites at \$65 a night that include such luxuries as monogrammed towels, plasma TVs, bottled water and a tummy rub before being tucked in bed. Many suites have webcams so the owner can check on their pet via the computer.



Photos by PATRICIA A. WEST-VOLLAND/For the Times Recorder

A spa worker holds on to a dog as it enjoys a swim in the pool.

More information

Appointments are necessary at The Barkley
Hours are 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Monday through Friday
9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday
11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday
440-248-BARK (2275)
Visit the Web at www.thebarkleypethotel.com

"There's 32 webcams throughout the facility. There's private cams in certain suites but we also use the cams for training and security purposes," Perlmutter said.

Some services are very popular and would make a great add-on feature to your pet's spa day.

"Our most popular (amenity) for cats, tuna from Hyde Park. We bring in fresh tuna. For dogs it's swim time in the pool and a limo ride," Perlmutter said.

To use the daycare, pets must be screened and determined to be non-aggressive before they can participate in any daycare services. Spa treatments and overnight services are one-on-one so no prescreening is necessary.

While that special furry friend is receiving the royal treatment there are many things for the family to do in the Cleveland area including a spa treatment offered by the Marengo Institute located in The Arcade.

While at The Arcade, opened



A dog is read to by a spa worker as part of its relaxing day at the spa.

Directions from Zanesville

Travel Interstate 70 E toward Cambridge, take Interstate 77 N toward Cleveland via exit 108B, keep left to take OH-8 N via exit 125A toward Cuyahoga Falls, merge onto Interstate 271 N toward Interstate 90/Erie PA, Travel Interstate 271 North to

the Miles Road exit. Turn right off the exit onto Miles Road heading Eastbound. After crossing Richmond Road, The Barkley is approximately 1/4 mile on the left hand side. Take a left into The Barkley, just before the freeway overpass.

in 1890, visitors can enjoy the shops and a food court on the lower levels of the nine-story building or plan an overnight stay at the Hyatt Regency on the upper levels. It is one of the last buildings of its type left in the nation.

Visitors can see about 100 points of interest riding Lolly the Trolley around the city or take a train ride on the Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad when the Cuyahoga Valley National Park is blanketed in snow.

The Rock 'n Roll Hall of Fame and Museum is a great place for families and features bands, songwriters and music from the past to the present. Current exhibits include Ricky Nelson, The Beach Boys, The Doors, Monterey

Pops, and "Help! Behind the Scenes of the Beatles Movie."

Visitors can stroll through the rainforest at the Cleveland and Metroparks Zoo or enjoy the museums on University Circle that include The Cleveland Museum of Art, Western Reserve Historical Society, Cleveland Museum of Natural History and the Cleveland Botanical Garden.

This Valentine's Day can be truly special for the entire family including your pets with a little advance planning. For a complete list of services and to receive a preFUR'd e-mail visit the Web site at www.thebarkleypethotel.com.

Reservations are necessary at The Barkley and the Marengo Institute.

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Howard Perlmutter, owner



A dog being treated by the spa gets a car ride through town.