

**METRO
PLANE
SLIDES OFF
RUNWAY
AT HOPKINS**



**SPECIAL BUSINESS
SECTION INSIDE
TAX GUIDE**
12 PAGES OF TIPS
TO SAVE YOU MONEY.
PLUS: A REVIEW OF THE
LATEST TAX PREP SOFTWARE



**NBA ALL-STARS
WEST
POUNDS
EAST, 153-132
LEBRON
SCORES 28. C1**

THE PLAIN DEALER

BREAKING NEWS: CLEVELAND.COM ★★★★★ 41¢ HOME DELIVERY | 50¢ NEWSSTAND

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2007

MONDAY NEWS MINUTE



SPORTS Harvick edges Martin in Daytona 500

Kevin Harvick completes a final-lap rally by edging Mark Martin to win the 49th Daytona 500. As Harvick and Martin cross the finish line, a wild crash takes place behind them when two cars lose control in front of a tightly packed field. **Details, C1**

PHOTOGRAPHY Another look

A new photo column gives a glimpse at the unusual, unexpected and offbeat from the files of Plain Dealer photographers. The column will run occasionally, filling in for The Daily Life. **Details, A2**

INTERNATIONAL Bombings shatter calm, kill dozens in Iraq

Two explosions at a market in the New Baghdad neighborhood of the capital leave at least 60 dead and more than 130 injured. **Details, A3**

METRO Cleveland limits idling

New city policy will prohibit city vehicles from running unnecessarily. The move is expected to save money and contribute to cleaner air. **Details, B1**

ARTS & LIFE Suffer the little children

Youth pastor at Cleveland Korean Presbyterian Church raises money to support his Huruma Rescue Mission, an orphanage in Kenya. **Details, D1**

FORECAST, B8:
Clouds and sun.
High 34,
low 24.

CLEVELAND.COM
BREAKING NEWS ALL DAY
NBA ALL-STAR GAME
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LAB OF LUXURY



LYNN ISCHAY | THE PLAIN DEALER

Bailey is one of the pampered pets that enjoy amenities ranging from standard suites to limo rides at The Barkley Pet Hotel and Day Spa in Orange.

Pampered pets find accommodations

LEILA ATASSI
Plain Dealer Reporter

ORANGE — Melani Polk once called from a cruise ship in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean — at a rate of \$20 per minute — just to check on her golden Labrador retriever, Bailey.

“He’s the best thing that has ever happened to me,” Polk said, beaming with pride at her dog, as he happily sniffed the rear ends of other pooches while playing on an AstroTurf lawn Sunday afternoon.

“I would do absolutely anything to make him more comfortable when I leave town.”

Pet owners like Polk now can rest easy knowing that, for the right price,

their coddled cats and dogs can still be pampered while they’re away.

The Barkley Pet Hotel and Day Spa — the first luxury pet resort of its caliber in Ohio — opened its doors this weekend to a stampede of animal lovers and their pets, eager to check out the high-end accommodations.

Sunday, it also was the site of a seventh birthday party for Polk’s dog.

At the hotel, on Miles Road in Orange, amenities range from high-quality kennel-style “petite suites,” with tempered glass and soothing music, to poolside “executive suites,” complete with fine tile, individual climate control and high-end artwork.

SEE BARKLEY | A10

Pets’ best friends

The Barkley Pet Hotel and Day Spa offers 24-hour service and deluxe accommodations — for owners willing to pay the price.

Standard Suites: \$29/night
Dogs enjoy music and privacy. A central sanitation system automatically eliminates waste and odor.

Barkley Park Suites: \$44/night
With views of a water fountain, these suites feature luxurious bedding and plasma TV screens.

Executive suites: \$65/night
These poolside suites feature designer bedding, in-suite flatscreen TVs and “snoutcams” for owners to watch their pets.

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Year of the Golden Pig could trigger baby boom

JESSE TINSLEY
Plain Dealer Reporter

A new lunar year could bring an Asian baby boom stretching from Seoul to Cleveland, thanks to the mysterious powers of the Golden Pig.

Condom sales are reportedly down in South Korea, and maternity wards across Asia are bracing for a surge in expectant moms who believe that this lunar year — which started Sunday and ends Feb. 6 — means their children will be blessed with

good fortune and wealth.

“A lot of women are trying to get pregnant this year,” said Trang Nguyen, a native of Ho Chi Minh City in Vietnam, who recently moved to Cleveland with her husband. “At least three of my friends are trying to have babies.”

The pig is one of a dozen animals that represent Chinese years in the lunar calendar, which are then mixed with five elements, including gold, that give added meaning to each year.

SEE PIG | A5

Lost a job? Had a flood? How events change taxes

PETER KROUSE
Plain Dealer Reporter

We would all like tax preparation to be simpler. Oh, for the days of the 1040EZ, when our incomes were meager and our lives uncomplicated.

That’s when the entire process could be completed while eating a pizza. The most difficult step was not getting

grease on the form.
It’s different now.
We’re married, with children.
We own homes.
We have well-paying jobs.
But things happen.
We get divorced.
Streams rise, and rush into our homes.

SEE TAX | A8

TAX GUIDE Today’s Business Extra answers the most common tax questions, reviews tax software and helps you find hidden savings.

Al-Qaida terror network growing

Battered organization
showing new strength

MARK MAZZETTI
AND DAVID ROHDE
New York Times

WASHINGTON — Senior leaders of al-Qaida operating from Pakistan have re-established significant control over their once battered worldwide terror network. Over the past year, according to U.S. intelligence and counterterrorism officials, they have set up a band of training camps in the tribal regions near the Afghan border.

U.S. officials said there was mounting evidence that Osama bin Laden and his deputy, Ayman al-Zawahri, had been steadily building an operations hub in the mountainous Pakistani tribal area of North Waziristan. Until recently, the Bush administration had described bin Laden and al-Zawahri as detached from their followers and cut off from operational control of al-Qaida.

U.S. analysts said recent intelligence showed that al-Qaida compounds functioned under a loose command structure and were operated by groups of Arab, Pakistani and Afghan militants allied with the terror organization. They receive guidance from their commanders and al-Zawahri, the analysts said. Bin Laden, who has long played less of an operational role, appears to have little direct involvement.

The new warnings are different from those made in recent months by intelligence officials and terrorism experts, who have spoken about the growing abilities of Taliban forces and Pakistani militants to launch attacks into Afghanistan. U.S. officials say the new intelligence is focused on al-Qaida and point to the prospect that the terrorist network is gaining in strength despite more than five years of a sustained U.S.-led campaign to weaken it.

The intelligence and counterterrorism officials would discuss the classified intelligence only on the condition of anonymity.

They said that the United States still had little idea where bin Laden and al-Zawahri had been hiding since 2001 but that the two men were not believed to be present in the camps operating in North Waziristan.

Officials from several different U.S. intelligence and counterterrorism agencies presented a consistent picture in describing the latest developments as a major setback to U.S. efforts against al-Qaida.

“The chain of command has been re-established,” said one U.S. government official, who said the al-Qaida “leadership command and control is robust.”

IN AFGHANISTAN: Pilot reports loss of power before Chinook goes down early Sunday. **Details, A9**



THE PLAIN DEALER

BARKLEY

FROM A1

Pet hotel promises 'spa treatment'

In-suite flat-screen TVs broadcast animal programming, such as Animal Planet, and "snoutcams" allow pet owners to watch their dogs over the Internet.

Cats enjoy private "cat condos" with large windows and views of outdoor bird feeders or portal windows to the "Kitty City's" giant aquarium.

President and CEO Howard Perlmutter said he scoured the region for the most highly qualified and experienced animal-care specialists to treat guests at the Barkley to massage sessions, acupuncture and canine hydrotherapy on a \$40,000 water treadmill.

For Perlmutter, the \$4.5 million project is a dream five years



PHOTOGRAPHS BY LYNN ISCHAY | THE PLAIN DEALER

Accommodations in the Barkley Park Suites include a plasma TV in each suite, a lush Astroturf lawn and views of the fountain and silk flower garden. For an extra \$65 per night, some suites can be combined with executive poolside accommodations.

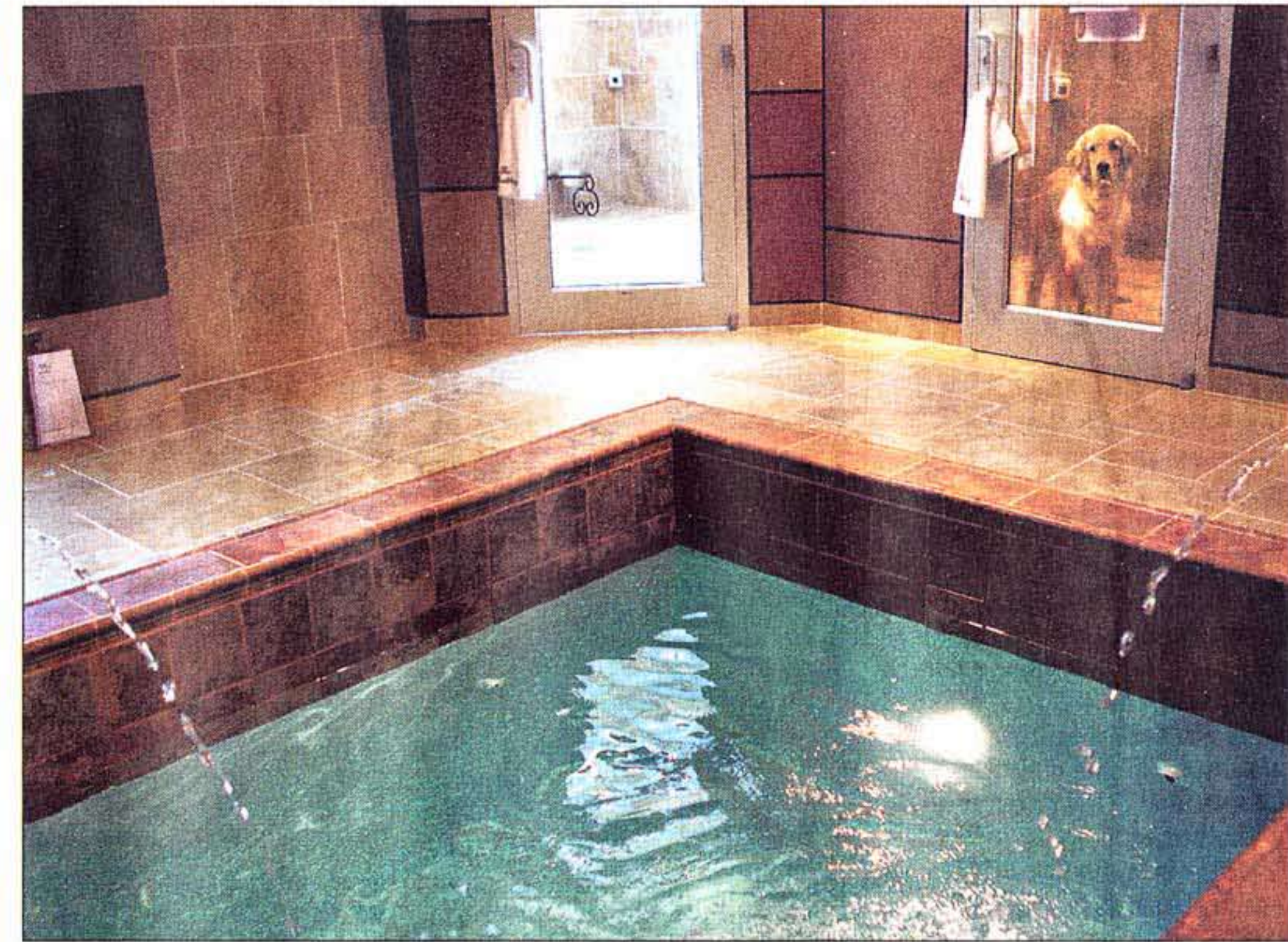
in the making.

The 33-year-old Pepper Pike native, who spent the greater part of the last decade in Los Angeles working in the entertainment industry, had seen animals make it big in show business and decided to sign his two golden retrievers, Barnum and Bailey, as clients.

Perlmutter enlisted the help of the best dog trainers in Los Angeles. And in no time, the young pups were well on their way to becoming two of Hollywood's hottest animal actors, Perlmutter said.

When Bailey was diagnosed with epilepsy in 2002, Perlmutter spared no expense for an MRI at a local children's hospital. It was then that he realized how far pet owners often are willing to go to ensure their pets' well-being and comfort.

So on a Taco Bell napkin one afternoon later that year, Perlmutter brainstormed the first of many plans for The Barkley Pet Hotel and Day Spa. He traveled the country, observing conditions and lavish amenities in more than 200 luxury pet hotels, he said. And through countless



Callie, a golden retriever, watches from her posh "executive suite" as water spouts into a four-foot deep swimming pool. Certified animal care specialists at The Barkley Pet Hotel and Day Spa use the pool for animal exercise and rehabilitation. Flotation devices are available in several sizes.

focus-group sessions with pet owners in the Midwest, he learned that most have never boarded their dogs or cats in kennels because the accommodations did not cater to the lifestyle their pets were accustomed to.

Enter The Barkley — where extras include rides in a black stretch limo, steaks from Hyde Park Steakhouse, and gifts from the hotel's pet boutique, including \$500 Louis Vuitton collars and handmade Swarovski crystal dog tags.

Sure, the amenities are a little over the top, Perlmutter admits. But the flood of interest in just the first few days — and the fact

that pets represent a \$36 billion-a-year industry in the United States — means pet owners believe their furry friends are worth it, Perlmutter said. The Barkley already has booked reservations for doggie nuptials and a "Bark-Mitzvah" in the spring.

"We wanted to create an experience similar to what you might find in a resort for humans," he said. "And in my field research, I discovered that if you build it, they will come."

Greg and Edie Dore are among those who have. The couple, who share their Chagrin Falls home with two Shih Tzus named Casey and Dakota, toured the

15,000-square-foot facility Sunday afternoon — awestruck by the doggie day-care center's indoor Astroturf lawn, and the Barkley Park Suites, surrounded by a garden of silk flowers and wrought-iron fences.

"We'll be vacationing for a couple weeks in Alaska this year," Edie Dore said. "And this place is wonderful. We have a doggie nanny at home. And she's really very good. But what if something happened to her while we were away? We wouldn't want our dogs to be left all alone."

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Riley, a chow-shepherd mix, curiously peeks from the door of his executive poolside suite at The Barkley Pet Hotel and Day Spa. The executive suites, which start at \$65 a night, feature designer bedding, and individual climate and lighting control. A "snoutcam" allows pet owners to keep an eye on their pups over the Internet.