



Stop annoying habits — and other useful bits of news about your family's pets

We have an 8-month-old Golden Retriever. She is wonderful with our two children under age 6. She loves to run with the kids, but the problem is she grabs their clothes and arms and legs. How can we stop this behavior?

Your retriever is just a bouncy puppy, but trainable. You will need to use lots of patience and praise.

During training, an adult needs to be outside while the kids and puppy are together. Place a favorite toy, frisbee or stuffed, even a ball in your pup's mouth. Have the kids start running in which case your pup will chase them. Praise your pup for playing with the toy in his mouth and not grabbing them.

For the first few times, put your pup on a long rope to help control the situation. Hopefully she'll want to please you. If so, it shouldn't take too long for her to learn this new way of playing.

Praise goes a lot farther than yelling.

Can dogs and cats get bladder stones?

Dogs and cats can develop bladder stones. Bladder stones are dissolved minerals that fall downward out of the urine once it reaches the bladder. Some dogs with bladder stones don't show any signs of having them. Other dogs have blood in their urine or strain to urinate.

Most of the time, your vet can find the bladder stones when the abdomen and bladder are palpated for any abnormality. Bladder stones in pets can be removed by surgery or your pet may be placed on a special diet that dissolves the stones over time.

Our dog loves to play with a frisbee. The problem is our dog is a lab and loves water. He keeps losing his plastic frisbees in the water. Is there a frisbee that floats?

Bristol loves to play frisbee in the water, too. Yes, there is a great frisbee that floats. It's called the soft bite floppy disc. It's soft, durable and it floats. It measures about ten inches in diameter and is sold at most pet stores.

Is there such a thing as a no jump harness?

Yes, there is a no jump harness that can be used without a leash. I have never used one on any dog but I have seen them used. The no jump harness restricts the use of your dog's rear legs and it soon learns not to jump.

Rev. Cornell is a wildlife rehabilitator licensed by the state DNR. She is also a retired veterinary assistant. Bristol is her trusty dog. She will answer your pet questions in care of: Ask Bristol, Farmington Observer, 33411 Grand River, Farmington MI 48335.



STAFF PHOTOS BY DAYAN MITCHELL

Seniors enjoy a holiday Victorian theme tea party at Costick Center.

'T is the season for baking, decorating, buying and wrapping presents, mailing cards and caroling and STRESS!

The City of Farmington Hills, senior adult division, had a seasonal remedy when it presented a soothing Victorian Holiday Tea last Tuesday enjoyed by many local seniors at the Costick Center.

A holiday showcase of elaborate tablescapes was presented by Crowley's, Heslop's China and Gifts, and Hudson's Interior Design Studio.

A floral fantasy was provided by Hearts & Roses Florist.

There was holiday music, fragrant greenery, finger sandwiches and delicious desserts to be enjoyed by all present. For the modest cost of \$5, seniors could get a break from the hustle and bustle of the holidays. At right, Clara Harris of Farmington Hills enjoys sipping her tea.

Above, seniors pick out some tasty treats at the tea.



WEDDINGS & ENGAGEMENTS

DURKIN-LAFORET

Mary Elizabeth Laforet and Peter Durkin were married Nov. 2, 1997 at St. Philip Neri Catholic Church in Philadelphia, Pa.

The bride is the daughter of Al and Ad Laforet of Farmington Hills and a graduate of Harrison High School and Michigan State University. She is employed by Corestates Bank in Philadelphia.

The groom is the son of Molly Durkin of Cape Coral, Fla. and Ed Durkin of Hartford, Pa. He is a graduate of Villanova University and is self-employed.

The couple reside in Philadelphia.



Mary Laforet Durkin



TRUITT-DANIELS

Mr. Doug Truitt of Milford and Mr. and Mrs. David Nussbaum of Farmington announce the engagement of their daughter, Dawn Marie to Rev. Michael Joe Daniels, son of Mr. and Mrs. Carmen Daniels of Kingston, Ill. and John Daniels of Chicago, Ill.

The bride is a graduate of Farmington High School and is employed as a home health care assistant.

The groom is a graduate of L.I.F.E. Bible College in East Virginia and is a children's pastor.

A May wedding is planned at Maranatha Foursquare Church in Waterford. The couple will honeymoon in the Poconos and make their home in Waterford.

WASSMANN-BEBES

Shannon Marie Bebes and Michael Gustave Wassmann were married Sept. 27, 1997, at Our Lady of Sorrows Church in Farmington Hills.

The bride is the daughter of Ronald and Patricia Bebes of Farmington Hills and a graduate of Mercy High School and Western Michigan University. She is a manicurist at the Eatee Lauder Spa in Hudson's at Somerset Mall.

The groom is the son of Patay Waters of St. Helen and Melford Wassmann of Oscoda. He is a graduate of Hilledale College and George Mason University School of Law and is employed



at Simon & Associates Law Firm in Birmingham.

The couple honeymooned in California and live on Van Norman Lake in Waterford.

Children's '97 Directory

Children have many special needs... and because parents don't always have a lot of time, the Observer & Eccentric has created this unique directory to make life just a little easier.

Activities

Skatin' Station II
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OPEN SKATING 1 pm-4 pm
December 22-January 2
313-459-6400

Child Care

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