

Going to the Dogs

For employees of Frolic Residential and Commercial Canine Services, doggie transport, errands, sitting and walking are all in a day's work By Cindy Klinger

You can barely remember life before Fido became a member of your family, and you don't really want to. But the demands of having a dog in your household, as rewarding as it is, can sometimes add stress to an already packed routine. Enter Frolic, a professional canine service company that offers dog walking, pooper scooping, pet sitting, pet transportation and pet-related errands. Going out of town or stuck late at work? Have to get your pup to a play date or have to pick up new meds for your little munchkin? No time to clean up after your pooch pops a squat? Frolic can do it all.

Founders Magrick Lewis and Yedidah Glass were in the concierge business when they recognized the need Atlantans had for dog-related services. After opening Frolic in 2004, the pair employed a slew of dog walkers and sitters as well as trained veterinary technicians, and now caters to some 375 four-legged clients.

When it comes to doggie daycare, Lewis and Glass found that many pet parents as well as dogs are more comfortable when Fido stays in his own home and neighborhood as opposed to going to a daycare center. "[It's] giving your animal, your pet, the same kind of loving care that the owner gives," Lewis says. That attention to detail begins the minute you make the first phone call to the company. "When we get a customer," Lewis explains, "we go out for the first visit and meet them and meet their pets and go over everything they requested. They teach

us how to enter and exit their property... we get accustomed to being with the dog and let them get accustomed to us."

Every canine gets a 50-minute visit, unless a customized package for more or less time is arranged. The pet sitter will do whatever you want him or her to take care of during that time. Some customers request a park or trail walk, a water change, medicine administration or play time, or a combination of those things. While some clients request up to three visits a day, others pay for a weeklong stay. Frolic works with each family to arrange the best care for their dog and his or her particular needs and wants, just like a babysitter would for human children. "Every client is a little bit different because of their special needs," Lewis says.

Frolic offers the same level of attention with its other services as well. Want a Frolic employee to stay with your pooch while she has a visit with the vet? No problem. You can also expect prompt and reliable service when they take care of your pup's errands, no matter what they are.

The company also maintains a partner program that works as a pet networking community to help foster a deeper sense of community and promote positive interaction between pet parents and pet service companies.

Frolic's basic service areas include Midtown, Buckhead, Sandy Springs, Vinings, East Cobb, Roswell and Alpharetta, and most errand services are offered Monday through Friday unless special weekend requests are arranged. Prices vary for the different services. www.frolic-atl.com



Cherie Thompson, a Frolic dog walker, and Maizy, Terrier mix

Photo by Heidi Broadwell



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