



About Town

THE NEIGHBORHOOD FILES, OPINION

Who Let The Dogs Out?

I don't know, but Mitzvah Dog sure sounds like a great place to board them!

By **Lauren Margolin** 6:00am

They say a dog is man's best friend. I believe that's true as well as being the whole family's best friend. The unconditional love a dog provides is incomparable. If you've never owned a dog, you just can't understand. It's truly something that needs to be experienced. However, as much intangible love is bestowed on us two-legged species, we give in return a whole lot more. Trips to the vet, the dog parks, doggie day care, monthly grooming and high-priced organic food are just a few of the things that families do for their dogs.

For my family and many others, going on vacation or even a quick get-away always poses the question of where to board the dog. Like any pet, they are truly part of the family and you can't just leave them anywhere. Luckily, **Michelle Roth**, a Buffalo Grove resident, has opened [Mitzvah Dog](#). Mitzvah Dog is a private in-home (her home) dog sitting service, which only accepts well-socialized dogs — and only a few at any given time — so they get an ample amount of personal attention.

Michelle says, "Dogs have always been my passion. I love all dogs, big and small and every size in between and no matter where they come from, but I have always been a huge advocate for dogs that truly need a 'second leash on life.' My own dogs are only rescue dogs from shelters or from dog rescue groups."

She explains that after always watching her family and friend's dogs when they went on vacation, she decided to make it official over a year ago and start Mitzvah Dog. The guests are required to have a free consultation before they can stay at Mitzvah Dog. Michelle needs to make sure these four-legged guests are well socialized, and good with both adults and other dogs.

Michelle offers the dogs amazing comfort, often letting them sleep in her bed! She says, "We take pride that, when someone leaves their dog with us, we stay in touch with them by emailing or texting them pictures or little videos and updates many times during their stay with us. As a dog owner myself, I think it is important to give the owner a peace of mind how great their dog is being cared for and that their dog is having a good vacation, too!"

Saying goodbye to the new furry friends that stay with them is always difficult. Of course it's worth it though, as she's able to love so many different types of dogs even if it's only for a short time.

As always, email me with any news, topics or ideas that you want to read about. Remember, I'd like to be the first to know! I can be reached at laurenbpatch@aol.com.

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