

►►► BRIEF

Chatham Community Library Semi-Annual Book Sale

The Friends of the Chatham Community Library (FotCCL) will hold its Spring Book Sale on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, April 12, 13 and 14 at the library on the campus of Central Carolina Community College in Pittsboro.

More than 18,000 hardbound and softbound books, audio books and more will be available for purchase. Each sale offers a completely new assortment of titles in very good to excellent condition, and all are organized by category, subject or format. Audio-visual items like DVDs, CDs, LPs and audio books will also be offered.

Hours of the FotCCL Spring Book Sale are Thursday and Friday from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Admission is free, and there is plenty of free parking.

On Thursday, the first day of the sale, purchases of \$200 or more are entitled to a 20 percent discount. On Friday, all books and materials are half price, and on Saturday customers

may fill grocery bags with books for \$5 each, with no limit to the number of bags they fill. Bags are available free, compliments of local food stores.

The Friends book sale is held at the library, which is located at 197 NC Highway 87 in Pittsboro, about a half mile north of US Highway 64 Business (West Street). There is ample free parking at the library and adjacent Central Carolina Community College (CCCC), plus volunteers to assist with carrying out and loading books.

Proceeds from the book sale are used to benefit the library for underwriting various programs; purchasing needed books, materials and equipment; and improving its technology and services.

More information about the book sale may be found on the FotCCL Website at www.friendscl.org.

►►► DISPATCH

Chatham Literacy benefit luncheon features Clyde Edgerton

Chatham Literacy will host its 8th annual Spring for Literacy Luncheon on Thursday, April 19 (11 a.m. – 2 p.m.) at the Chatham County Agriculture & Convention Center. This year's keynote speaker is the renowned author Clyde Edgerton with an introduction by NC Bookwatch host D.G. Martin.

Clyde Edgerton is the author of 10 novels, a book of advice, a memoir, short stories, and essays. His talks are always packed with energy, humor and wisdom. In an interview, Mr. Edgerton said he plans to read excerpts from his most recent work of non-fiction, "Papadaddy's Book for New Fathers." He will also read a short story, discuss the genesis of this story, and how it developed into the first chapter of his current novel-in-progress, tentatively titled *The Funeral Militia*. He may even sing a song or two.

As you would expect of an author, Mr. Edgerton is an avid proponent of literacy education. For years he has tutored elementary students, helping them to create a book of their own with photos and sentences they create.

The Spring for Literacy Luncheon is an important annual fundraising and awareness raising event for Chatham Literacy. Chatham Literacy provides free tutoring to adults in reading, writing, English for Speakers of Other Languages and workforce soft skills, as well as citizenship and GED preparation. Registration for the Spring for Literacy Luncheon is \$100 per person. Register now before this event sells out: online at chathamliteracy.org or by calling 919.542.6424.

Common Dog Training Equipment, Part 2

There are some items every dog owner should have in order to train, keep their dog safe, and maintain control in a humane way. Basic training supplies are affordable and can be found where pet supplies are sold. In last month's issue, collars, leashes, and long lines were covered. This month additional training equipment will be explained.

CRATES

For puppies and some adult dogs crates are a must for house training and physical management. Crates are a safe place for dogs to be when they can't be supervised. All puppies should be crated until they are no longer at risk of peeing/pooping in the house, chewing things up, or excessively bothering other pets. Most dogs can be trusted to be loose and alone in the home by the time they are 2 years old. Small breed dogs mature quicker and may be able to be left uncrated soon after their first birthday. Some dogs will have to be crated longer, and possibly all their lives, if they cannot prove they are trustworthy when unsupervised.

Crates should be large enough for dogs to stand comfortably with their head held in a normal position, turn around easily, and lay down with room for legs to stretch out. Dogs

the Canine Coach

by Valerie Broadway



prefer to be crated in the busiest room in the house. Otherwise, they feel ostracized from the family and stressed.

TREATS

Treats are very helpful when training to keep dogs focused and encourage them to follow commands. While learning something new, using real meat for treats works well to keep dogs attention. Turkey lunchmeat and deboned chicken work well. Once dogs are reliably performing the commands, regular soft meaty-type dog treats can be used. Dogs work for cheap. Each treat given only has to be about the size of a fingernail. Once the dog is reliably following commands, treats can be phased out and verbal praise and affection can

replace them as the reward.

TOYS AND CHEWS

Playing with a favorite toy or chew can be great rewards for dogs who aren't treat motivated, or when owners prefer not to use treats when training. Toys and chews give dogs something to focus on and look forward to.

FENCING

Having a safe enclosed area is essential when training dogs off-leash. Knowing the dog can't run off allows the handler to feel more relaxed and confident. In return this will keep the dog in a better state of mind since they feed off the handler's energy.

Dogs must have an outlet for their energy in order to be able to focus on training. To do this safely they should be in a fenced area large enough to allow them to run with abandon. All healthy dogs need to run full speed off leash at least once a day to be fulfilled.

Underground fencing is a gamble. It works for some dogs, while others just grit their teeth and run through it. If not trained

properly and dogs don't understand why they are being shocked they can develop serious anxiety issues about being in the yard. This type of fence also doesn't keep other animals out, leaving pets vulnerable.

OTHER TRAINING TOOLS

For the majority of dogs the training equipment mentioned above is all that is needed for most basic training. However, there are some dogs who have impulse control issues, especially around pulling on the leash. In these cases head halters work almost instantly. There is an important feature to look for when purchasing a head halter. Use brands that comes with a safety strap that attaches to the dog's collar. That way, if the dog gets the halter off his head the leash will still be attached to the dog.

Another helpful tool for dogs that pull is an anti-pulling harness. Most harnesses actually encourage dogs to pull harder. Anti-pulling harnesses have straps that tighten between dogs front legs when they pull against the leash. The result is that most dogs immediately stop pulling.

When training moderate to highly anxious dogs, a compression wrap can be helpful. These wraps are made of a stretchy tee shirt material and Velcro®. A popular brand is a Durham, NC based company called Thundershirt®. These compression wraps work similarly to swaddling a newborn baby in a blanket. Most people report a change the moment they put the compression wrap on their dog.

Dog training can be accomplished with a few key tools. Be wary of the latest fads. Pet supply stores carry many items that claim to be just what is needed to solve all sorts of dog training issues. Unfortunately, many of them involve inflicting pain. Just because a store sells something doesn't mean it's a good idea. Dogs are sensitive beings and training shouldn't be traumatizing. Dog training can, and should, be accomplished using the most simple and humane equipment possible. There is a saying in the horse training world, "You want the most from your horse with the least amount of effort." The same is true in dog training.

Valerie Broadway, the Canine Coach, is a dog trainer and behavioral specialist. For more information, call 919-542-4726 or visit www.caninecoachingservices.com.

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"where all voices are heard"

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Chatham County Line is a community newspaper serving all of Chatham County as well as the southern part of Orange. Our mission is to inform our community by providing a forum "where all voices are heard." We seek all views and ideas about our community, and we report on important matters — including our cultural life — comprehensively and in-depth. Our commitment is to create the best-written, best-edited and most stylish community newspaper anywhere. Chatham County Line is published ten times a year.

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