

Berkshire Business: Shamrock Dog Grooming relocates, expands in Pittsfield

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Holding their dog, Jack, Paula and Tim Phillips recently moved their dog day care and grooming business to Lyman Street in Pittsfield. (Gillian Jones — The Berkshire Eagle)

PITTSFIELD — A well-established canine care business has relocated, expanded and is looking to hire more staff to pamper pooches in Pittsfield. Originally located on South Street near the Lenox town line, Shamrock Dog Grooming three months ago moved to 10 Lyman St., Suite 10. Owners Tom and Paula Phillips invested close to \$100,000 via a bank loan to lease and renovate commercial space to accommodate more grooming and realized their dream of adding a day care facility to the operation.

The relocation and expansion has paid immediate dividends, according to Tom Phillips.

"We opened April 20 and we've taken on about 50 more customers for just the grooming, but I'm sure we lost some from the Lenox area," he said.

"The fact we get more dogs in and out has been great," added Paula Phillips, a groomer for nearly 30 years.

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The couple are currently looking to hire another groomer to help handle the increased workload, with four-part-timers added to the payroll in the near future, they said.

The Phillips also expect increased enrollment in Black Jack's Boot Camp Dog Day Care, named for the couple's five-and-a-half-year-old champion show beagle. Roughly 2,000 square feet has been set aside within the building for day care services that include canine socialization, agility exercises and obedience classes. Additional day care space is planned for outdoor activities, Tom Phillips said. "We hope to have 20 to 25 dogs a day," he said. "You can bring them for an hour or the entire day."

Wendy Herrera plans to take advantage of both the grooming and day care facilities. A regular customer for years with Shamrock, the Pittsfield woman now has a 12-week-old Yorkshire terrier/Havanese mix — her very playful female furry friend.

"I want to bring Gemma to day care so she can learn to socialize with other dogs," Herrera said.

The dog day care hours are from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday. Grooming hours 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. weekdays and Saturday. Shamrock Dog Grooming continues to provide a dog waste removal service, whereby Tom Phillips — for a fee — scoops the poop from residential properties and properly disposes of the feces.

For more information about Shamrock, go to www.shamrockdoggrooming.com or call (413) 443-9700.