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## A new leash on life at Central Bark

### It's a dog's world, and she's OK with that

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Logan may think he's a chief executive officer, but he's not. You can tell because of his long teeth.

Another dead giveaway is that Logan is a dog. So, despite the fact that this tiny white Havanese poses on the counter at Central Bark Doggy Day Care, 6442 W. River Parkway in Wauwatosa, the real owner / operator is Kerry Krienitz, Logan's owner.

Krienitz lives the dog-person's fantasy: She makes her living pup-sitting 60 pooches every day.

It's afternoon, and the Central Bark student body has just come off nap time.

Krienitz opens the little-dog cage gates and a yapping, skipping pack of 12 knee-high critters burst into the indoor exercise area. They all jump on her, demanding attention *now*.

*Advertisement* Krienitz became leader of the pack in August, after doing graduate work in political science at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. "People say to ask yourself: 'What would I love to do with my life?' I have always loved dogs."

So it seemed natural for Krienitz to buy a franchise and open this Central Bark location, pitching tennis balls across the fenced yard for fetching and coaxing dogs down little slides. Plastic pools outside await warm weather for dog-paddle swimming.

"The dogs are never, ever, ever left alone," she says.

As the Yorkiepoos and Shelties romp, Krienitz makes mental notes for comments she'll write on the report cards she sends to pooch parents.

"I might write: 'Otis has a new girlfriend and is getting along well.' It's very funny," she says of the cards.

And she watches carefully for any behavioral issues. She gently carries Paxton, a Havanese who was a

puppy mill rescue, into the play yard. "He was so timid. You couldn't touch him. So we worked with him. Now look!"

She puts Paxton on the floor and he scampers over to wrestle with Logan and even summons the courage to sniff a visitor's shoe.

A Central Bark employee takes over dog-watch duties, and Krienitz goes to make sure the canine meal boxes are ready on the lunch cart for next day's chowtime. This doggie day care session is winding down, and soon the leash hooks on the wall will be empty.

It's a soul-satisfying job for Krienitz. "I love what these dogs do for their humans."

## Archive

-  [Kerry Krienitz, Central Bark Doggy Day Care](#) (3/25/2006)
-  [Mary Longsine, Wisconsin Humane Society](#) (3/4/2006)
-  [Cecil Austin, Oma-Ana African drum and dance group](#) (2/25/2006)
-  [Mary Noel, 24-hour Wisconsin Athletic Club](#) (2/11/2006)
-  [Bishara Dorre, Miss Wisconsin Teen USA 2006](#) (2/4/2006)
-  [Brian Kretschmann, Zamboni driver](#) (1/28/2006)
-  [Tasha Seals and Nicole Towns, Cardio Funk](#) (1/21/2006)
-  [Halim Mahdi, spoken word artist](#) (1/14/2006)
-  [Azmi Alaeddin, 'Tastes of the East'](#) (1/7/2006)
-  [Mary Ellen Pride, astrologer and psychic consultant](#) (12/31/2005)
-  [Elginia 'Eli' Walz, Nutcracker angel](#) (12/17/2005)
-  [Bambi Grajek-Specter, Milwaukee Art Museum](#) (12/10/2005)
-  [Jesus Morales, bartender](#) (12/3/2005)
-  [Lee Crooks, voice actor](#) (11/5/2005)
-  [Melissa Dorn Richards, MARN](#) (10/29/2005)
-  [Molly McCarty, Park People](#) (10/22/2005)
-  [Sheldon Rusch, creative director at BVK](#) (10/15/2005)
-  [Chris Griffin, drumline](#) (10/8/2005)
-  [Jeremy Prach, special education teacher and bartender](#) (10/1/2005)
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