

# Pet Corner

## Aging Dogs

By Jacquie Pipkin

Wasn't it just yesterday that you picked up your new puppy and were overwhelmed with her energy, impulsiveness and exuberant joy over all things new? Now, seven, nine maybe 12 years later, she's slowing down a bit and is perhaps just content to be quietly beside you. Even though your dog may be slowing down, with some understanding of how dogs age and what can be done to keep them healthy and engaged, there can still be many happy times ahead for you to enjoy together.

Symptoms of aging vary with the breed and size of the dog. Small dogs live the longest. In general, large breed dogs such as Great Danes and Irish wolfhounds begin the aging process at age five or six, medium-sized dogs (30-50 pounds) such as cocker spaniels and corgis at around age eight and smaller dogs such as toy poodles and Shih Tzus at about age 10. In addition to a dog's breed, diet, exercise and healthcare are factors in how long your dog will live.

Some of the typical signs of aging include graying around the muzzle, stiffness in the joints and decrease in eyesight and hearing. Maladies in older dogs often mimic those of aging humans. Our veterinarian once told us that dogs often respond stoically to pain and that it is up to their people to observe and be responsive to signs of aging and conditions that may be treatable if discovered early. For example, is your dog noticeably gaining or losing weight? Does he drink excessive amounts of

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## @The Library

**Autumn Moods.** Make the transition from summer to fall with a great book. Here are two suggestions for young readers: *Autumn Days*, by Ann Schweninger, and *Lionel in the Fall*, by Stephen Krensky.

**Get Puzzled.** Bogue Banks Public Library has a collection of beautiful and challenging jigsaw puzzles for you to enjoy in-house. According to experts, solving puzzles is like brain calisthenics for older minds and brain food for younger minds. Come check out our selection.

**Activities for Children.** Preschool Storytime is held each Thursday at 10 a.m. September 1 will be "Takk." September 8 will be "Ahsante." September 15 will be "Arigato." September 22 will be "Kiito." September 29 will be "Merci." Preschool Storytime is for ages 3 - 5. Programs are with Ms. Brita.

**Featured Artwork.** In September, the Art Gallery of Bogue Banks Public Library will display a collection of posters for previous North Carolina Seafood Festivals. Also, the original painting of the winning poster design will be on display from August 31 to September 30.

**The Showcase.** The shell crafts of Teddy Wimberly will be featured. In addition to painting and writing children's books, Teddy has been creating beautiful items such as wreaths, shell floor lamps, gifts, eggs and various jewelry items from her vast shell collection gathered from our own beach here in Pine Knoll Shores.

The library's regular hours are Monday through Saturday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. There will be no artist reception in September.

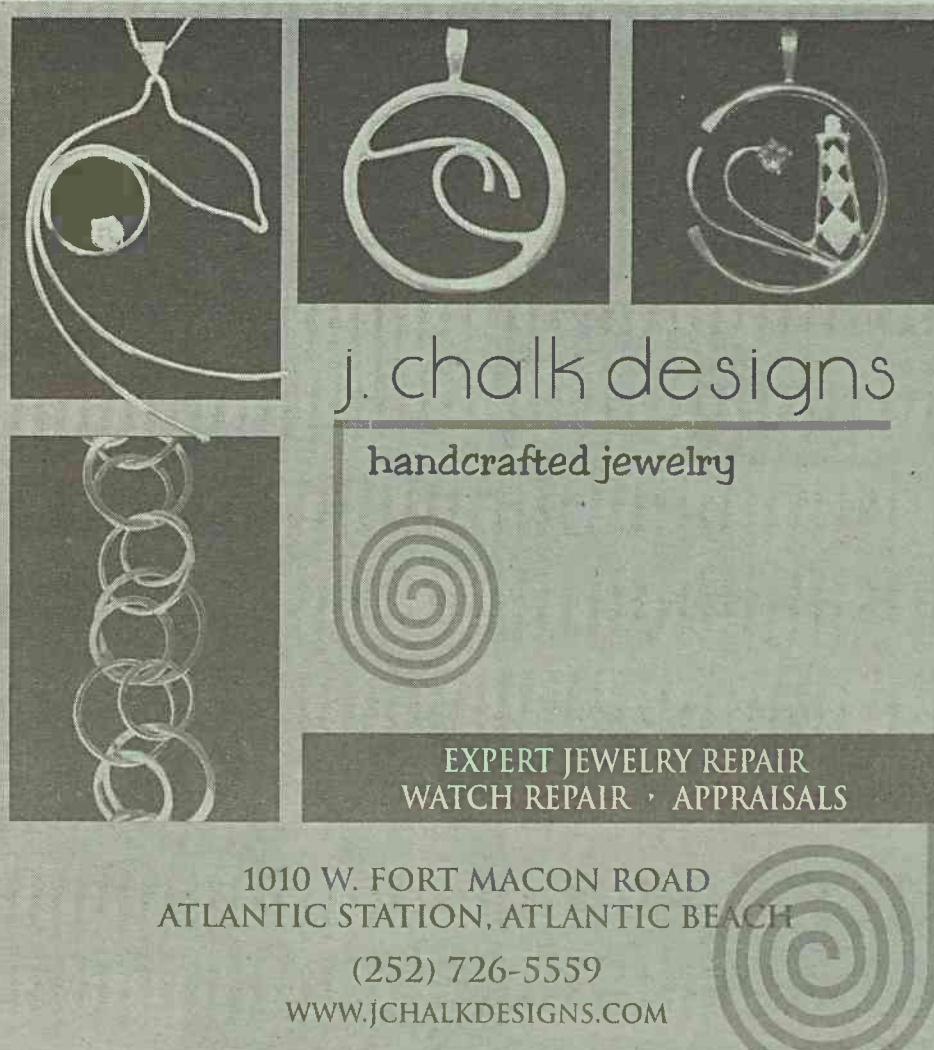
The Bogue Banks Public Library, at 320 Salter Path Road, Suite W, in Pine Knoll Shores, is a branch of the Carteret County Public Library in Beaufort and is affiliated with the Craven-Pamlico-Carteret Regional Library. For more information; call 247-4660 or go to <http://carteret.cpclib.org>.

## Carteret Community College Corporate and Community Education

September Schedule - Call 222-6200 for details.

Course	Start Date	End Date
Bank Teller Training	09-20-11	10-27-11
Carteret Adventure: Cape Lookout	09-15-11	09-15-11
Certified Prof. Wedding Planner	09-13-11	10-06-11
Computers for Beginners, Window	09-20-11	10-27-11
Knitting - Beginning	09-20-11	10-20-11
Marine Captain's Licensing OUPV	09-13-11	12-13-11
Medical Office Administration	09-12-11	12-21-11
Medical Terminology	09-13-11	12-01-11
Microsoft Office, Intro. to	09-12-11	10-19-11
National Electric Code Lic. Prep.	09-07-11	12-12-11
Networking & Job Search	09-19-11	09-22-11
Photoshop Elements	09-13-11	10-06-11
Professional Cake Decorating	09-15-11	12-22-11
Professional Digital Imaging	09-13-11	11-03-11
Professional Organizer	09-20-11	10-27-11
Professional Wine Appreciation	09-19-11	11-07-11
Real Estate Provisional Broker	09-26-11	12-06-11
Small Business Ownership	09-13-11	10-06-11
Wastewater Treatment Plant Oper.	09-08-11	12-08-11

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