

Welcome to Times Recorder Zanesville, Ohio

**Customer Service:** [Subscribe Now](#) | [Place an Ad](#) | [Make us your Homepage](#)**zanesvilletimesrecorder.com** [Weather](#) [Jobs](#) [Cars](#) [Apartments](#) [Shopping](#) [Classifieds](#)Search Zanesville:  All 

Sunday, February 10, 2008

- » [Home](#)
- » [News](#)
- » [Local News](#)
- » [Local Sports](#)
- » [High School Sports](#)
- » [Nation/World](#)
- » [Ohio News](#)
- » [Obituaries](#)
- » [Opinion](#)
- » [Forums](#)
- » [Lifestyles](#)
- » [Milestones](#)
- » [Photo Galleries](#)
- » [Technology](#)
- » [Travel](#)
- » [Weather](#)
- » [Customer Service](#)
- » [Entertainment](#)
- » [RSS Feeds](#)
- » [XML](#)
- » [Newspaper Network](#)

Select a s

**Email**  
 Newsletter

» ADVERTISEMENT

**PLACING A  
 CLASSIFIED AD  
 DOESN'T  
 HAVE TO BE.**

» ADVERTISEMENT

 Search  
 2 million  
 vehicle  
 listings

» ADVERTISEMENT

Nationwide On Your Side Life Comes At You Fast™ Be Ready  
 Auto Lee A. Brown Ins Agcy LLC Nationwide Agency

## Dogs show skills at agility trials

 By **CHRISTINE SHAW**  
 Correspondent

Exercising with your pet can be rewarding for both dog and owner. The Fieldhouse, best known for health and fitness, is capitalizing on this concept by hosting a dog agility trial competition this weekend. More than 100 dogs and 80 handlers and their families are in Zanesville for the event, which runs through Sunday.

The North American Dog Agility Council (NADAC) Agility Trial event is put on by the Parkersburg Dog Obedience Club.

» ADVERTISEMENT

Zane State College  
 Ranked 9<sup>th</sup> in the Nation!  
 Now Enrolling  
 740-588-1226  
 www.zanestate.edu  
 Start HERE. Go ANYWHERE!

Club in Gahanna.

"For me, it's to have fun and have a strong bond with Jewels. We work together as a team," she said.

Zaborniak said she got Jewels as a puppy when she was 9 years old. "I wasn't as focused then, but when I looked at the tape of her in puppy class I saw she did well and thought we should try," she explained.

She advises that those just starting out should not assume the dog will just do the various parts of the course. "You have to stay with your dog so she doesn't get hurt or anything."

Advice and training ran as rampant as the dogs through the course on Saturday. As Alexis and Jewels left the ring, Mark Paskawych said, "Use random treats while training."

"The treats keep the nose up and more alert to the handler," he said.

It was obvious that whatever these dog owners are doing, the dogs seem to love it. "We can tell they enjoy it by their excitement and enthusiasm," said Paskawych, who is

"It's fun," said Alexis Zaborniak, 13, of Pickerington. She and her beagle, Jewels finished the course with ease, but did not quite hit their mark. The pair has been training together for about a year and half through the Wild Weavers

Buy this photo

Zoom Photo



MATTHEW LEASURE/Times Recorder

Jim Hudkins guides his dog, Maera, through the course during Saturday's dog agility trial competition at The Fieldhouse in Zanesville.

### If you go:

The dog agility trials are free to attend and are open to the public. This weekend's event runs on Sunday, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at The Fieldhouse in Sunrise Center.

Future events will be held June 8 and 9 and October 9 and 10. Contact The Fieldhouse at 740-454-2224 for more information.

### Related articles:

- [Catch up on the weekend's news](#)

participating in the event with this wife, Maggie, and their three shelties.

Mark advises, "If you have a dog that's not excited, find a dog that is because they should enjoy it and want to participate."

Deborah Richards, of Hopewell agrees. "It's a game to them. Doing agility is all the things they like to do and it is very reward-oriented," she said.

"It's such an ego booster for the dogs and they get a special bond with their owners," said Linda Roush of Zanesville.

"They're like kids. They all have their own personality," said Richards. "They all have their moments."

Glenn Rawsy and Rebecca Smith of Vienna, W.Va., say their dogs are less troublemakers at home when they have an outlet. The couple started out, like many dog owners, in obedience classes and then found agility.

"Once you do it, you're hooked," said Rawsy. He and his wife have been involved in the sport for about 8 years. "It's one of the fastest growing dog sports in the world," he said.

Dogs of all breed and handlers of all ages participate in the agility events according to Rawsy.

"She ran really well," said Glenn to Rebecca as Kiska, their 12-year-old American Eskimo finished the course.

"This is an awesome sport to connect with your dog," Rebecca said. "It's a great way to bond."

The Fieldhouse has hosted five such events and have more scheduled in the coming year. "We started doing this to help the community," explained Alainna Amicone, director of marketing. "The visitors stay in our community's hotels and eat at our restaurants, so it's a win-win for everyone."

"We love this venue," said Paskawych. "It's got a great central location and the facility is perfect."

"We live for fitness and they live to keep their dogs healthy, so it's a perfect fit," Amicone said.

"We hope people will get interested in doing things with their dogs and not just have them chained up," said Roush. "Since dogs have become domesticated they look to us for everything. When we nurture that, they just want to please us even more."

#### STORYCHAT

 [Post a Comment](#)  [View All Comments](#)

For all you that say theres nothing to do in Zanesville where were you when the Dog Show was in town? This is good family fun , and best of all its FREE !

Posted: Sun Feb 10, 2008 9:22 am

 [Post a Comment](#)  [View All Comments](#)

**Originally published February 10, 2008**

 [Print this article](#)  [E-mail this to a friend](#)  [Subscribe Now](#)