

YP YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

A weekly profile of one of Hamilton's growing number of young professionals

Haley A. Luckanuck

Name: Haley A. Luckanuck

Age: 19

Position: Owner/operator, Spoiled Rotten Pet Sitting & Dog Walking Inc.

Job description: I and our staff service dogs, cats, small cage animals, farm animals and special-needs pets. We cover a wide area including the entire Hamilton and Burlington areas and we have a location serving Stoney Creek to Beamsville. My background is diversified, from kennel work, groomer, vet experience, and working with the SPCA. I have my pet first aid and a certificate in animal

handling with the SPCA.

Spoiled Rotten is also involved in a used pet supply drive each spring and we donate to pet charities.

Is this the job you thought you would be doing? Yes and no, when I was a few years younger, I tried my hand at the restaurant business and decided at the time my love for pets was greater. My mother worked in small business development and suggested I open a dog walking business for the summer. I received a \$500 loan from the bank of mom, networked, painted the town with pink posters and offered a superior service. Within three months, it

was time to return to school and I had to hire walkers. I have 18 walkers and pet sitters and even my grandparents work with us daily doing off-leash park runs for dogs!

Advice to others on launching a career: You may not know what your dream is right away. There is so much pressure in high school to choose your career path; sometimes it just falls into place. You need to do what you love. Make sure you surround yourself with good mentors and join social networks that will help you make valuable contacts that you can rely on for advice. Strive to be the best of the best and



JESSICA NYZNIK, THE HAMILTON SPECTATOR

don't settle for anything else!

Roots: Born and raised in the Hamilton area, attended high school in Hamilton and still wish to pursue a career in animal protection services.

Twitter handle: @Spoiled-Pets4U

Networks: Flamborough Chamber of Commerce, Flamborough Animal Aide, SPCA, Guide Dogs, and many other animal related networks that support the greater good

for pets.

Favourite restaurant in Hamilton: The Bread Bar on Locke for its quaint atmosphere and Starbucks in Waterdown for great personal service.

Best feature of Hamilton: I love the country life and open areas. Living on the outskirts gives you the opportunity to be close to all sorts of wildlife and yet the amenities are a short drive. The great parks and beaches that Hamilton and surrounding areas have to offer are available to us all within a half-hour drive.

What would make Hamilton a better city? Keep our parks, green space and local attractions looking pristine. Encourage Hamiltonians to shop local and open more fresh food markets to support the local economy and farmers.

Contacts: www.spoiledrotten-petservices.ca, email: spoiled.rotten@cogeco.ca, Call: 1-877-867-4616 or Local: 905-541-6450

Quote: Surround yourself with great mentors, don't be afraid to ask lots of questions, believe in yourself and treat others as you would like to