LOCAL VETERINARY SPOTLIGHT

Pet hospital, animal orphanage join forces to find good homes

By Shari Stern

When you pass by the bubble-gum pink, Spanish-style building on East Northwest Highway, you may think, as I have for years, "What an unexpected look for a veterinary hospital."

As you read on, you will learn that the unexpected also goes on inside. Not only is East Lake Pet Hospital a full service veterinary practice with eight DVMs on staff, but miracles happen in there, too.

Karen Fling knew in second grade that she wanted to be a veterinarian some day. So, along with many future Texas veterinarians, she graduated from Texas A & M, in College Station.

After graduation, Dr. Fling started a veterinary practice. A few years later, in 1987, she took a great risk when she took the site of an old pizza restaurant on Northwest Highway and converted it to a state-of-the-art animal clinic.

Today, East Lake Pet Hospital has grown to one of the most successful practices in Dallas, with eight DVMs on staff and a caring, devoted staff, including Dr. Fling.

But also housed at this address is the East Lake Pet Orphanage (ELPO), which Dr. Fling founded in 1999. And it calls on the sweat and tears of a cadre of volunteers, all animal lovers who want to do everything they can to save animals from harsh realities of being alone and lost, abused, sick or hurt or just unwanted, then euthanized.

According to the American Humane Association, an estimated 9.6 million animals are euthanized in the United States every year. The majority of these are euthanized at animal shelters, typically after a standard period of time ranging from several days to several weeks for unclaimed stray animals.

Dr. Karen Fling and two orphans.

In Dallas, eight out of ten homeless pets are euthanized. This equals around 20,000 annually.

East Lake Pet Orphanage was founded as a rescue and no-kill facility, committed to rehabilitating animals and finding them suitable homes. But of course, as a non-profit organization, funding is crucial. It is costly even to care for a healthy animal during its stay until a suitable family adopts it. Special events and estate sales raise funds to support the organization. Upcoming off-site adoptions featuring East Lake orphans include:

• September 19, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. at Café Lago on Garland Road - have lunch at Dallas' first pet-friendly patio with your pets and choose from the restaurant's gourmet canine cuisine menu, benefiting ELPO.

• September 26, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. at Whole Foods on Abrams, an event featuring Conductor Jack, a singer & songwriter for children, along with a dog walker and groomer. It's an opportunity for parents and kids to be entertained while visiting some of the East Lake adoptees.

• November 15, a Pet Fair will be held at East Lake. Contributors can participate as vendors or sponsors alongside various Dallas adoption agencies.

This is a free, fun event for the whole family, including food, games, a silent auction, teddy bear surgery, and a bounce house for the kids. Items to be auctioned are also requested, with some examples being lessons or classes for children, like dancing or music, art museum or events passes. Sponsors are encouraged to apply by September 30 to participate.

• May 10, 2010 - *Wine on the Roof* is another annual event that last year raised an increase of $10,000 gross over the previous year. It also features a silent auction of more high-end items like art, crystal and designer accessories.

Second Chance Treasures is a resale shop at 9340 Garland Rd., Dallas 75218, that benefits East Lake Pet Orphanage. The store is open Mon - Sat 10 a.m. – 6 p.m., and Sun 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. You can find a variety of items, changing out often, including china, crystal, sterling, art, curios, ceramic and resin figurines, collectibles, jewelry, occasional furniture pieces, and more. The shop can use your help with donations and merchandise, or just drop by to shop. For more information, visit www.secondchancetreasures.org.

East Lake Pet Orphanage, in its usual operations, sales and events, along with Second Chance Treasures, utilize the help of 50-75 volunteers, and 800-1100 volunteer hours per month.

According to Dr. Fling, "We like to think of ourselves as the voices of the stray, abused and forgotten animals who need attention and love. Some of them need more than others."

When asked if she and the staff and volunteers ever get attached to an animal that they have a hard time parting with, Dr. Fling said through teary eyes: "Pretty much every day. Yes. Just about every day." This is one vet with an enormous heart and matching determination.

For additional information visit their Web site at www.ELPO.org or call 214.349.ELPO. Also read *White Rock Lake Weekly* for details on upcoming events.

Destination – Key West Arboretum transporting crowds to tropical paradise

Key West The Band, will perform at the 4th annual Dallas Arboretum's Fall Cool Thursday's Concert Series on September 24th. The concert will be performed on the Martin Rutchik Concert Stage and Lawn at the Dallas Arboretum. Key West The Band, sponsored by Jackson Walker, LLP, has a little something for everyone, playing hits from: Elton John, The Beatles, Billy Joel, Van Morrison, and favorites by Jimmy Buffet. Key West will perform hits including, "Mardi Gras" and "Tropical Girl," as well as covers such as "Margaritaville" and "Only The Good Die Young."

Concert Information

· Gates open at The Dallas Arboretum at 6 p.m. and the concert begins at 7:30 p.m. with seating available on the lawn.

· Individual tickets are available for $7 for Dallas Arboretum members, $14 for adult non-members and $7 for children 3-12. Parking is complimentary to all concert attendees.

· Memberships to the Dallas Arboretum start at $60.

· Concerts do sell out so order tickets early.

· Outside food and beverages are permitted. Pre- purchased picnic baskets and select entrees are available from Highland Park Cafeteria. Visit their Web site for more information. Food from Gil's Elegant Catering is also available for purchase at the concert site. Pre-concert Wine Flights at the DeGolyer Loggia are available 4:30-7:00 p.m.. Call 214-515-6610 for reservations and pricing.

For further information on tickets to the Cool Thursdays Concert Series at the Dallas Arboretum, please call (214) 515-6518 or visit www.dallasarboretum.org

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DEEP cont'd from page 1

features local, national and international art in everyone's price range.

Historic Deep Ellum was founded in 1873, and for more than 100 years, it has been the "Mecca of Art and Music" for Texas. From its birth as a warehouse district in the late 1800s to it emergence in the 1920s as a jazz and blues hotspot for the South, the neighborhood has grown and matured into a unique cultural arts district.

The art in Deep Ellum is as diverse as the community itself. DEEP Art Walk encourages the diverse crowds in the neighborhood to partake in the growing art culture.

From classic to modern, including mediums of paintings, photography, pottery, sculptures and performance arts, people attending the art walk will experience the background of the community that makes the neighborhood unique. This is one of the only events where one can truly walk to more galleries in one evening than most go to in a year.

Dining is fun, too. In Exposition Park, you will find one of Draft Magazine's top 200 Bars in the country. And for a bite to eat, Deep Ellum is home to a wide range of dining options from great burgers (one of Texas Monthly's "50 Best Burgers in Texas" is in Deep Ellum), soul food and Cowboy cuisine to fine American and Asian restaurants. The members of DEEP organize, promote and guide the success of the event on behalf of the talented artists who work and live in Deep Ellum.

The event is free to the public. For more information on the art walk visit, DEEP's Facebook page at http://www.facebook.com/DeepEllum.

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Solution to last week's puzzle

Editor's note: The correct title to last week's puzzle was "A as in." Sorry for any confusion this may have caused.

A	S	S	A	Y	■	S	K	I	T	■	P	L	U	G
D	A	C	C	A	■	A	N	D	O	■	L	I	R	A
A	V	A	I	L	■	N	E	O	N	■	A	N	D	Y
G	O	L	D	E	N	D	E	L	I	C	I	O	U	S
E	Y	E	S	■	O	R	S	■	C	O	N	■	■	■
■	■	■	■	I	D	A	■	U	S	E	■	O	A	T
A	T	T	E	N	D	■	U	M	■	■	U	M	B	O
J	O	H	N	N	Y	A	P	P	L	E	S	E	E	D
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R	E	D	O	■	T	I	L	E	■	N	O	L	L	E
E	A	S	Y	■	Y	E	L	L	■	I	N	S	E	T

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You are invited to a FREE "how to" demonstration of using a Self-Directed IRA and savings to make money from traditional investments in the White Rock Lake area.

This is a FREE information session, *not* a sales presentation.

When: **Tuesday, September 22 ... 11:45 am – 1 pm**
Where: The very wonderful **Highland Park Cafeteria**
1200 N. Buckner in the Casa Linda S.C.
Who: You can learn from these 3 local professionals:

Shaun McQuistion – President of Helping Hand Mortgage, Inc. was raised in Dallas. After a long career as a successful insurance executive, now with 17 years of real estate investment experience, and as former President of the largest real estate association in the Dallas/Fort Worth area, Shaun is highly regarded for his leadership, expertise and integrity. These attributes, and his vast network of local resources, allows Shaun to do what he loves best: helping others achieve the same success.

Ryan Kimura – DFW Director for Entrust Retirement Services, Inc., a self-directed IRA third party administrator, with offices in Houston and Dallas. Entrust currently administers over $160 Million in assets for more than 2,500 clients in the U.S. Ryan has been working with self-directed retirement accounts for years and is a well-known educator about the power of investing with tax advantaged retirement funds. He also practices what he teaches as he actively invests with his own IRAs and Health Savings Account.

Dennis Keith Noble – President of First Select Mortgage, With more than 30 years experience in sales and marketing, for the past 12 years Dennis has worked with residential and commercial acquisitions and development. He has positioned First Select Mortgage to help first-time home buyers with an understandable, comprehensive mortgage.

Again, please note: This is a **FREE information session**, not a sales presentation.
Seating is limited to 30 people. Bring a friend !!!
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