

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 13, 2006

Smokey's Day: For the Love of Your Pet

NORWALK, CT – “Smokey's Day: For the Love of Your Pet” will be held Sunday, June 25th from noon to 4 p.m. at Taylor Farm Park in Norwalk, CT. The Veterinary Oncology and Hematology Center is partnering with area veterinarians to raise awareness among pet owners about good health practices. Pet owners are invited to bring their pets to the event, where on site veterinarians will donate their time to review a healthy pet checklist of do's and don'ts every pet owner should follow. No medicines will be dispensed and any follow-up care will be referred to the pet owner's family vet.

Sponsored by Blue Buffalo and Healthy Pet, Smokey's Day is a tribute to Smokey, a terrier who died of cancer after a long battle with the disease. Nationally recognized Norwalk veterinary oncologist Dr. Gerry Post created Smokey's Day to encourage pet owners to be more proactive toward their pets' ongoing health needs and to raise money to benefit various pet-related charities. Pet owners who have lost a beloved pet will be invited to tell their story on a “Memory Wall” displaying photos and the story.

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This family event includes exciting demonstrations throughout the afternoon of Dancing with Dogs, the Norwalk Police K-9 Unit, a dog agility demonstration by Good Citizen Dog Training, the Yankee Flyers Dog and Disc Club and a Celebrity Dog Walk featuring Marlo Thomas. Hummel Brothers and Crystal Rock Water will give away free hot dogs and bottled water, and assorted prizes and giveaways will round out the day.

Marlo Thomas said, "I am honored to be a part of 'Smokey's Day, For the Love of Your Pet' to raise awareness about animal cancer and how to keep our beloved pets healthy.

"I have seen first hand the compassion, caring, and expertise of Dr. Gerry Post when he treated my dogs. I look forward to joining in the fun to raise much needed funds for the Animal Cancer Foundation, Paws:The Cosmos Fund, and Adopt a Dog. Thank You."

Admission to all events and the healthy pet checklist are free though people are encouraged to make a donation to charity. Proceeds from pet owner and the event's sponsor donations will equally benefit the Animal Cancer Foundation, Paws, and Adopt a Dog. In addition, these organizations will receive all funds raised though sales of "Smokey's Bandana", a charity raffle and additional Animal Cancer Foundation products.

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Participating Veterinarians include Broad River Animal Hospital, Norwalk Veterinary Hospital, Strawberry Hill Animal Hospital, Schulhof Animal Hospital, South Wilton Veterinary Group, Bull's Head Animal Hospital, Engelberg-Kristy Animal Hospital, Milford Animal Hospital, Greenfield Animal Hospital, Miller-Clark Animal Hospital, Davis Animal Hospital, Darien Animal Hospital, Veterinary Referral and Emergency Center, Fairfield Veterinary Hospital, Veterinary Oncology and Hematology Center and Meadow Veterinary Hospital.

WEBE 108-FM will broadcast Smokey's Day live from 12-2 pm with a popular daytime personality. The event will also be supported by web, print, and other local media coverage.

Schedule:

12:00 - 12:45 pm	Dancing with Dogs
1:00 - 1:30 pm	Norwalk Police K-9 Narcotic Apprehension Demo
1:30 - 2:00 pm	Celebrity Dog Walk with Marlo Thomas
2:00 - 2:30 pm	Agility Demo
2:30 - 3:00 pm	Norwalk Police K-9 Unit Criminal Apprehension Demo
3:00 - 3:30 pm	Yankee Flyers Dog and Disc Club Demo

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