



Contact: Francisco Garcia III
Communications Media Specialist
Ph: 512/452-4224
Fax: 512/452-6633
fgarcia@tvma.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Rescued Street Dog Turned Therapy Dog Recognized for Work

AUSTIN—The Texas Veterinary Medical Foundation has announced the 2009 class of inductees into the Texas Animal Hall of Fame. Gus, who lives with his owner Diane Greytak, in Arlington, Texas, is one of the nominees receiving the award. He is being honored with the Texas Animal Hall of Fame Companion Dog of the Year award. The award ceremony is scheduled for April 15, 2010 at the Tarrant County Veterinary Medical Association meeting where he will be officially inducted.

Gus is a rescued street dog and now a certified therapy dog. Greytak registered him with Therapy Dogs International two years ago. Gus has been visiting the students at Kenneth Davis Elementary in Mansfield ISD on a weekly basis where he interacts with children who are physically, mentally, and emotionally challenged. Gus' sensitive, intuitive nature breaks down all barriers, resulting in strong bonds with the students.

"We have all witnessed what seem to be small steps with our medically fragile children, but in reality are small miracles," said Holly Smith, principal of Kenneth Davis Elementary.

His veterinarian Dr. Nancy Bader, DVM, nominated Gus for the award.

The Texas Animal Hall of Fame was established by the Texas Veterinary Medical Foundation to help celebrate the human-animal bond. The Hall of Fame gives veterinarians a chance to recognize outstanding patients.

Founded in 1903, the Texas Veterinary Medical Association is a professional association composed of more than 3,700 veterinarians committed to protecting public health, promoting high educational, ethical and moral standards within the veterinary profession, and educating the public about animal health and its relationship to human health. For more information, call 512/452-4224 or go to www.tvma.org.

###

