

Pet advocate honored by veterinary center

Submitted by Sally Bonneau

Greenwood resident Coleen Ellis, founder and president of Pet Angel Memorial Center in Carmel, has received the 2006 PETS Award, an honor presented annually by Indianapolis Veterinary Emergency Center (IVEC).



Ellis was recognized during IVEC's 8th annual Original Pet Carnival, an event that attracted more than 700 people. Most accompanied by their pets - to IVEC's southeastside location, 5245 Victory Drive, earlier this month.

The PETS . Professional Excellence Through Service . Award was created by IVEC to recognize individuals or

organizations demonstrating outstanding community service, dedication, love, and commitment to companion animals.

Ellis, who founded Pet Angel Memorial Center two years ago, was honored for her tireless work in behalf of owners who are dealing with the loss of a pet. A veteran of the human deathcare industry for more than 15 years, Ellis recognized the need for a similar business focusing on end-of-life matters for animals - particularly as more people consider their pets to be members of the family.

Last summer, Ellis and Pet Angel orchestrated a Service of Honor tribute for Arco, the Marion County Sheriff Department's K9 officer who died in the line of duty. The tribute, held at the Warren Performing Arts Theatre, attracted K9 corps personnel from throughout the state as well as the general public.

Past recipients of the PETS Award include the Marion County Sheriff Department's K9 Corps; the Humane Society of Indianapolis; Indiana Pacers mascot Boomer; Joni Michels of Fox 59 Morning News, and Brad Haberman, founder & publisher of Indianapolis Pet Quarterly.

IVEC is Central Indiana's original 24/7/365 emergency and critical care clinic for pets. It is well-known for its PET-E-911 emergency call line.

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