

State and Local

A&M vet students to train for CPR with resusci-dog

By THOMAS OWNBEY
Reporter

A resusci-dog, the canine counterpart to resusci-Annie, will soon help veterinary students learn cardiopulmonary resuscitation for pets.

At present, students learn CPR work on live dogs, said Dr. Kenneth Knauer, interim department head, Small Animal Medicine and Surgery.

The live dogs are anesthetized and then, either chemically or electrically, heart fibrillation is induced, he said.

The student then performs CPR by chest massage.

Occasionally the dogs die, Knauer said.

"Sometimes we don't lose any," Knauer said. "Sometimes we lose as many as 6 or 8 a semester."

If there is any possibility of a dog being in pain after the experience, the dog is put to sleep, he said.

Resusci-dog will be purchased so that live dogs will no longer be used for CPR training.

"We're always looking for methods as good as, or better than the use

of live animals, and establishing this fund is the department's way of expressing our concern," Knauer said.

"We consider ourselves (veterinarians) to be among the most humane persons on earth. The purpose of our training and research is to relieve animal suffering," Knauer said.

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— Dr. Kenneth Knauer, interim department head, Small Animal Medicine and Surgery.

The new resusci-dog is a plastic, fur covered doll that has electronic parts that let the student know when he is performing chest massage correctly.

A special fund established by the Department of Small Animal Medicine and Surgery will provide for the

purchase of the \$800 mannequin, Knauer said.

No state funds will be used to purchase the dog, he emphasized.

Response to the fund, which was created at the beginning of the year, has been very favorable, he said.

The special fund, Alternatives to Animal Use in Research, was set up after talking with a Houston group, People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, Knauer said.

The group wanted to see the state's only veterinary small animal training program seek alternatives to using animals in research and teaching, he said.

With the money raised, the Department of Small Animal Medicine and Surgery hopes to eventually purchase a resusci-cat, now under development at Cornell University where the resusci-dog was developed.

Anyone wishing to contribute to the special fund should send donations to: Alternatives to Animal Use in Research and Teaching, Department of Small Animal Medicine and Surgery, Texas A&M University, College Station, 77843-4474.

Man killed over dispute about dogs

Associated Press

DALLAS — A man was shot to death and his wife seriously wounded over a longstanding argument about the man's dogs, police said.

A 41-year-old neighbor of the couple was arrested for investigation of murder and investigation attempted murder, officers said.

Willie Bradley, 58, was pronounced dead Sunday at Baylor University Medical Center. His wife, Bessie Carter Bradley, was in serious condition, police said.

Homicide investigators J.E. Gallagher and P.E. Jones said the neighbor and the Bradleys had been arguing since midsummer, when the neighbor had fired a pistol at one of the Bradleys' dogs.

Gallagher said the neighbor was angry Sunday about noise and sanitation problems caused by the dogs, which were kept in the backyard of Bradley's South Dallas home.

Senator's plea to run for Texas attorney general denied

Associated Press

AUSTIN — The Texas Supreme Court on Monday denied Sen. J.E. "Buster" Brown's plea to get on the Republican Party primary ballot for the attorney general, but Brown said his hopes remain alive.

Brown, R-Lake Jackson, said he is filing the same appeal the Supreme Court rejected with the 1st Court of Appeals in Houston, because the Supreme Court had failed to answer his questions of law.

The Supreme Court overruled, without comment, Brown's motion for a writ of mandamus with the court.

Attorney General Jim Mattox, a Democrat running for re-election, said, "Any layman or any lawyer could read the (Texas) Constitution

and see that Buster Brown was in violation of the wording of the constitution should he be allowed to run."

But Mattox added, "I'm not sure he believed from the beginning he was going to be eligible. I think it was an opportunity for him to get his name exposed on a statewide basis without any real danger."

Brown said the Supreme Court "can refuse to hear (an appeal) for any number of reasons, and since it didn't spell it out, I have no way of knowing" what the court's reason was for denying his motion.

The court's refusal to hear Brown's plea left three candidates in the Republican Party primary for attorney general just hours before the Monday filing deadline of 6 p.m.

Mattox, a former state House

member and congressman who is completing his first four-year term as attorney general, appeared to have no opposition in the May 3 Democratic primary.

The Republican candidates for attorney general are State District Judge Roy Barrera Jr., San Antonio; former Williamson County District Attorney Ed Walsh; and State District Judge John Roach, McKinney.

"None of them are very strong (candidates)," Mattox said.

Brown appealed to the Supreme Court after GOP state chairman George Strake refused last month to place Brown's name on the ballot.

Brown's eligibility centered on a provision in the Texas Constitution that says a legislator is ineligible, during the term for which he or she was elected, for "any civil office . . .

which shall have been created, or the emoluments of which may have been increased, during such term."

In 1985 the Legislature raised the salary of the attorney general from \$70,400 to \$71,100, an increase of less than 1 percent.

But the Legislature also put a rider, or special provision, on the state appropriations bill that says if a legislator is elected to another office, such as attorney general, the salary of that office would be rolled back to what it had been before the bill was passed.

Brown had argued that, since the increase was of less than 1 percent and also because the rider stated that he wouldn't get the increase even if he was elected, there was no reason he couldn't seek the office.

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