

Agency fills physical, emotional needs

Pet C.A.R.E. extends aid to animals

By KIRSTEN DIETZ
Assistant City Editor

People who have thousands of dollars to provide for the care of their pets now have a place to spend it.

The Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine is offering a new option for pet owners who can no longer care for their animals.

Pet C.A.R.E. (Companion Animal Retirement and Education Center), a non-profit agency, accepts any species, although dogs, cats and horses are the primary companion animals.

"We are trying to provide the service because we feel sure that there are many dog, cat and horse lovers that we feel sure would like to ensure their animal of care, just as they do their children," says Dr. Edwin W. Ellett, director of the center, who also is professor of veterinary small animal medicine and surgery at the college.

To enter a pet in Pet C.A.R.E., the owner donates a set rate to the A&M Development Foundation — \$15,000 for a cat, \$20,000 for a dog or \$50,000 for a horse. Interest from the fund provides the pet's day-to-day care for the rest of its life.

Currently, the Pet C.A.R.E. facilities can be seen only on the drawing board. The program's development has taken 1½ years, since the day the college received a letter from an Illinois veterinarian, a graduate of the college.

"She said that she had always had the Texas A&M Veterinary College in her will and that she had gathered together several animals and wanted to increase the amount in her will sufficiently, so Texas A&M could take care of the animals," Ellett says.

However, her ideas of how to do that weren't consistent with University requirements.

"Because of that beginning," Ellett says, "we have devised this whole program."

Development took so long, he says, because too many groups had to agree on the proposed

plans — the Pet C.A.R.E. board of directors, the development foundation, the University's legal office, the College of Veterinary Medicine, the state and the Internal Revenue Service.

"But we think we've got it now," Ellett says. Next begins the work of finding enough acceptable means of funding so construction can begin. If all goes well, Ellett estimates the needed funds could be available as soon as this month or April. The facility will be built on 40 acres of land west of A&M.

"We have a number of people who are interested in investing in the land and the building," he says. "We have to have a number of agreements in hand before people are going to want to put up the kind of money we're talking about to buy the facilities and the land."

Ellett stresses that the animals will have separate and spacious quarters of at least 24 square feet each instead of being kept in cages. Like many human adoption agencies, Pet C.A.R.E. will allow pets from the same family, even if they are different species, to stay together. The pet family will share the same quarters and be separated from other animals. Outside, runs will separate the animals while they exercise, but the animals will be allowed to interact.

Hired animal technicians will give the animals individualized attention and affection and provide the animal's daily care. In addition, the animal will receive complete medical and surgical care from a resident veterinarian plus access to the specialists and facilities of A&M's College of Veterinary Medicine. Nutritious food or special diets also will be available.

A foster home option will give the pet a second chance to experience home life while making a senior citizen happy.

"We anticipate that most of our foster homes will be with senior citizens on a limited income who really feel they cannot afford to have a pet," Ellett says. "On the agreement of the original owner and of Pet C.A.R.E., a specific home will

be designated as a foster home for a specific animal. But everybody has to agree to it. When the original owner is no longer able to provide care, the pet will go to the foster home and they'll provide the love, the sheltering and the daily care. Pet care will pay the expense of the food and veterinary care.

"We also expect to have people who are ambulatory from the rest homes come out and have an animal they could pet for a little while."

When the animal dies, Pet C.A.R.E. will provide cremation and/or burial and a marker in a pet cemetery close to the facility. The remainder of the original owner's fund will go to the College of Veterinary Medicine to fund medical advances in animal health, for scholarships to the college's students and to benefit other animals at the facility.

Pets are not the only ones who will benefit from the Pet C.A.R.E. program. The owner's initial endowment carries an income tax reduction and, if the owner has died, the gift carries no estate tax. But Ellett says he realizes that most of the older donors don't benefit from an income tax deduction, so he is looking into a new method of payment similar to insurance payments.

"We're trying to establish a new means of funding of annuities of a lesser amount that carry no income tax deduction, but that are paid over period of years consistent to the life expectancy of the individual," he says. "It would grow to the amount necessary to provide the care."

Ellett says the agency is running a cost analysis on the payment method. If it is approved, Pet C.A.R.E. will probably get the funding it needs to begin construction, he says.

Ellett presented the Pet C.A.R.E. concept to about nine other colleges of veterinary medicine at a recent national convention.

"These colleges are an essential part of the care of animals," he says. "When ours is fully underway, we will offer it to other colleges that wish to institute Pet C.A.R.E. facilities."

Edwards to have different lawyer for retrial

Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — James Neal, the courtly Tennessee lawyer who defended Gov. Edwin Edwards in a racketeering trial that ended in a mistrial Dec. 18, will be unable to repeat his performance when a retrial begins March 24.

Camille Gravel, Edwards' other lawyer in the case, said Tuesday that Neal will be replaced by Michael Fawer, a New Orleans attorney who successfully defended one of Edwards' co-defendants in the first trial.

Neal is defending movie director John Landis on involuntary man-

slaughter charges stemming from the death of three actors during the filming of "Twilight Zone — The Movie."

Neal was unable to convince a California judge on Monday to delay the start of the trial beyond June 24.

In other developments, federal prosecutors have filed an amended indictment in the Edwards case, dropping two mail fraud and two wire fraud charges against Edwards and two of his co-defendants.

However, Edwards, Ron Falgout and James Wyllie Jr., still face one count each of racketeering and 45 counts each of mail and wire fraud

in connection with a \$10 million hospital investment venture.

Edwards' brother Marion still faces one racketeering count and nine mail and wire fraud counts. Shreveport businessman Gus Mijalis still faces one racketeering and three mail fraud counts in the case.

In the first trial, which lasted 14 weeks, U.S. District Judge Marcel Livaudais declared three defendants — Charles Isbell, Perry Segura and Philip Brooks — innocent on all charges. Fawer represented Brooks. The jury later found Marion Ed-

wards innocent on 41 counts. But, although most jurors voted to acquit all defendants, they couldn't reach a unanimous decision on the remaining nine counts against Marion, or on any of the other charges against the other defendants.

The defendants are charged with engaging in a scheme in which federal prosecutors say they illegally obtained state approval for health care projects in which they held interest. They sold the projects for \$10 million, the bulk of the money going to The Edwards brothers, Wyllie and Falgout.

AM/PM Clinics

Ask about our Non-Smoking and Weight Reduction Programs

846-4756 779-4756

Petal Patch

Florist

"Let's Dance"

We'll custom design your Corsage or Boutonier for that special date

roses orchids spring flowers daisies tulips lilies carnations iris

Major Credit Cards Accepted By Telephone

Two Locations

696-6713
707 Texas Ave
College Station

764-0091
900-7 Harvey Rd
Post Oak Village

MSC CEPHEID VARIABLE PRESENTS



THURSDAY MARCH 6

at 701 RUDDER

7:30 & 9:15 P.M.

*** \$1.50**

DONT FORGET... AGGIE CON 17 APRIL 3-6

GET RICH THE HARD WAY.

Luby's Cafeterias, Inc., operating 89 cafeterias in Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico and Arizona, is looking for twenty-four people to enter its management training program in March.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>To qualify, you must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be at least 22 years old • Be willing to relocate • Have a stable employment history • Be college educated or have equivalent experience • Have little or no food service experience | <p>You will receive:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$19,200 starting salary • company funded profit sharing/retirement • group health, life and disability insurance • relocation expenses • merit raises and advancement |
|--|--|

This is a serious offer by an established and rapidly growing company. We invite you to call or send your resume and find out more about us. You will be amazed at the proven earnings potential of a career with Luby's.

Interviewing in your placement center
Wed. & Thurs., March 12 & 13, 1986
or call Steve Schafer or Dave Simpson
(512) 225-7720
(No collect calls please) or write P.O. Box 33069
San Antonio, Texas 78265

Luby's Cafeterias, Inc. is listed on the New York Stock Exchange with sales exceeding \$175 million last year.

Luby's

Good food from good people.

LUBY'S CAFETERIAS, INC., 2211 N.E. LOOP 410, P.O. BOX 33069, SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS 78265
Luby's is a Registered Trademark of Luby's Cafeterias, Inc.

Battalion Classified 845-2611

Filing for Spring Election

Wednesday, March 5
thru
Friday, March 7

**Student Government,
OCA,
RHA, Yell Leaders,
CLASS COUNCIL,
Graduate Council**

214 Pavilion 9:00 am - 5:00 pm