Asheni becomes man’s best friend

Asheni (pronounced Ah-zha-nee) is the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation’s word for angel. And for Patrick Baldwin, Asheni, a KSDS dog, has lived up her name’s meaning.

Faculty, staff and students will remember Asheni, the black Labrador retriever who was constantly at the side of Dr. Patricia Payne, CVM assistant professor in diagnostic medicine and pathology. Asheni now loyally stays at Patrick's side. Patrick, a junior at Central Washington University, Ellensburg, has Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy, an exhausting condition that leaves him with very little energy. Asheni conserves Patrick’s energy by performing tasks such as opening doors and retrieving items. Patrick said he feels more confident and independent with Asheni at his side.

Dr. Payne, who is currently raising her third puppy for KSDS, had Asheni from July 2005-December 2006. Asheni went everywhere with Dr. Payne, learning and growing from each new experience. “We teach basic obedience and socialization and expose our dog to anything and everything we can think of — traffic, elevators, statues, crowds and cars,” Dr. Payne said.

KSDS is a nonprofit organization located in Washington, Kan., that trains and places assistance dogs with disabled individuals. The K-State Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital provides 40 KSDS dogs with free Orthopedic Foundation for Animals (OFA) hip evaluation radiographs and discounts eye exams every year. People receiving service dogs attend 13 days of team training at the KSDS facility.

Patrick said, “The classes are to train the people, not the dogs; the dogs are already trained really well. It is us, the people, who need the work.”

Coincidentally, Asheni’s new veterinarian in Washington state is Matt Moultray, class of 2002.

A note from Dr. Payne:

I thank everyone in the college — faculty, staff and students — for supporting Asheni and me during her early training. I can’t express in words how proud I was when I saw our little black angel jump up and hit the metal plate that opened the door for Patrick. The smile on the young man’s face was truly the most precious gift. I wish you all could have been there!
Dr. Kaufman formulates fruit with fizz

Imagine fruit that sparkles, tingles and is fun to eat. Sound good? Then look no further than Fizzy Fruit, the unique invention of an alumnus who is transforming the way kids feel about eating fresh fruit.

In 1994, Dr. Galen Kaufman, class of 1989, discovered a process that adds carbonation to the water that naturally exists in fresh fruit. The result is carbonated fruit with a 100 percent nutritional value and no additives. He patented his process and named the product, appropriately, Fizzy Fruit.

“Veterinary school opened my eyes to biology and provided a rigorous basis for learning the scientific method,” Dr. Kaufman said.

“I remember being amazed at all the information they kept trying to cram into our heads! I think that’s one of the most important lessons of all — to realize how much you don’t know, and to learn how to plow through difficult work and not be too intimidated.”

Fizzy Fruit has gained national attention and has been featured in USA Today, Newsweek, People and dozens of other newspapers and magazines. Currently, the company’s primary markets are school lunchrooms nationwide, where kids are now more willing to eat fresh fruit thanks to kid-friendly Fizzy Fruit. Fizzy Fruit is not currently available on shelves, but plans are under way to sell it in retail grocery chains as well as quick-service restaurants in 2008.

Besides discovering the Fizzy Fruit process, Dr. Kaufman earned a doctorate in neurobiology, worked in partnership with NASA and began a neuroscience lab at the University of Texas Medical Branch. He has written two science fiction novels and is an active partner in a business incubation company, MindFund. Dr. Kaufman currently sits on the board for Fizzy Fruit, does public relations and oversees the company’s research and development efforts.

For more information on Fizzy Fruit, visit the Web site: www.fizzyfruit.com.

Employees enjoy appreciation picnic

The annual staff appreciation picnic was held Aug. 9 after work on the lawn outside Trotter Hall. Attendees enjoyed the time with family, friends and co-workers. Hamburgers, hot dogs and bratwurst were served, along with beans, potato salad, chips and drinks. T-shirts and door-prizes were given away to those present.

World Rabies Day events will be held at CICO Park 12 p.m. - 4 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 9th. Events include a 5K Run, live music, food vendors, fun activities for the kids and much more. Pre-register for the 5K Run at www.active.com. World Rabies Day was created to raise awareness, mobilize resources for rabies prevention programs in developing countries and assist in education about rabies control and prevention for the most at-risk persons, children.

Visit www.worldrabies.com. To volunteer for this event e-mail mstukey@vet.k-state.edu
CVM welcomes class of 2011 during orientation week

Freshman orientation was held Aug. 13-17. New students learned about CVM history (bottom left) and introduced themselves and met new classmates (bottom middle). Families were treated to a welcome picnic (bottom right). Parents had a Q&A session (organized by SOKS) with the dean and current students (right). SOKS (with support from Pfizer) sponsored a lunch for the incoming first year students, their families, and the senior students. Students also partook in teambuilding activities, tours and meetings. Each student was issued a Toshiba tablet computer to use throughout veterinary school as the college goes “paperless” starting this year.

Class of 2011 stats:
Females to males: 72 to 33
Average age: 24 (range 20-44)
Avg. previous college experience: 4.6 years
Areas represented:
24 states, Japan and Korea
Top 4 states: Kansas 46, Nebraska 11, New York 7, North Dakota 5
Students with a degree: 85

Check it Out at the Library
Welcome back!

By Carol Elmore

Now that the fall semester has begun here at the College of Veterinary Medicine, we want to remind you that the Veterinary Medical Library is resuming our regular hours. We will be open until 10 p.m. on Mon.-Wed. and Sun., 11 p.m. on Thurs., 6 p.m. on Fri., and 3 p.m. on Sat. We open at 7:45 a.m. on Mon.-Fri., at 11 a.m. on Saturdays and 1 p.m. on Sundays. We will be closed on Saturdays of home football games for security reasons. Our hours will always be posted at: http://www.vet.ksu.edu/depts/library/info/hours.htm.

Our food-and-drink policy permits drinks in spill-proof containers in the library in all areas except in our computer area and eating of food in the library within reasonable limits. We have a service-oriented staff who will assist with all of your faculty, staff and student information needs. We are also open to the public, and one of our staff members provides reference service and assistance for any questions and help that public users may need. Library Research Services is also available to provide document delivery, reference and database searching for nonuniversity persons who can’t come to our library.

We would also like to remind you that we are always taking donations for our annual book sale held every February. As you are organizing your offices for this new school year, remember that we will take donations of books and journals that you no longer want.
Dr. David Anderson spoke at the North Dakota Veterinary Medical Association meeting in Bismarck, N.D. His topics included exam, prevention and surgery of lameness in cattle, emergencies of gestation, urogenital surgery of bulls and critical care in the field.

Dr. Hans Coetzee spoke Aug. 3 at the AVC in Kansas City on assessment of pain and analgesic drug efficacy in food animals.

Dr. Jane Brunt, class of 1980, was selected as the 2008 spokesperson for KNOW Heartworms, a campaign to promote awareness of feline heartworm disease.

Joanna Berg successfully completed course requirements in Central Service Technical Training and has been awarded a certificate of achievement by Purdue University and the International Association of Healthcare Central Service Material Management.

Drs. James W. Carpenter, Ronette Gehring and J. Tarus-Sang were the 2007-2008 recipients of the Association of Avian Veterinarians’ Research Award for their proposal, “Single-dose Pharmacokinetics of Piperacillin/Tazobactam in the Hispaniolan Amazon Parrot.”

Dr. James W. Carpenter, president of the Association of Avian Veterinarians, chaired two scientific sessions, chaired the governing board, and presented a paper at a joint meeting of the AAV and the Association of Exotic Mammal Veterinarians in Providence, R.I. (Aug. 5-9).