



## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **Alaqua Animal Refuge announces appointment of development and events director**

*- Carla Layne joins the no-kill refuge in newly created role*

*Editor's note: A headshot of Layne can be downloaded from:*

*<http://thelastword.zenfolio.com/aarlayne> password: aar Photo credit: Joy Barker*

**FREEPORT, Fla., (Aug. 30, 2011)** – Alaqua Animal Refuge officials announced today the appointment of Carla Layne as director of development and events for the no-kill animal shelter and adoption center, located in Freeport.

In the newly created position, Layne will focus on sponsorships, fundraising and special events to support the nonprofit organization, as well as oversee the Alaqua Animal Refuge Volunteer Network Program.

Layne's professional experience includes serving as a senior sales representative from 1995 to 2001 for Toshiba America Computer Systems Division, in the metropolitan Chicago area. From 2001 to 2010, she was co-owner of Ground Cover Industries, a geo-textile company, based in Chicago.

Layne, who holds a Bachelor of Arts in international studies and economics from the University of Wisconsin and completed an internship in Barbados through Northeastern University in Boston, relocated to the Emerald Coast in 2008 from Chicago. The native of Oshkosh, Wis., is a longtime supporter of An Orphan's Bright Star, an organization providing fundamental assistance to sponsored orphanages in Ukraine.

**About Alaqua Animal Refuge:** Alaqua Animal Refuge, an independent, nonprofit organization located on Florida's Emerald Coast, advocates the general welfare and humane treatment of animals by providing shelter, prevention of pet overpopulation and adoption services. Alaqua, located on 10 acres in the town of Freeport, was formed by Walton County, Fla.-resident Laurie Hood in 2007 when she discovered that countless animals were being euthanized due to a lack of a no-kill shelter/adoption organization in the area. Since that time, Alaqua Animal Refuge has helped find homes for more than 7,000 animals. Currently, up to 100 animals are adopted per month from this unique rescue facility, which serves as a true refuge for more than 250 animals at any given time.