



PRESS RELEASE

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Alaqua Animal Refuge's 4th Annual Canine Carnival is coming to town *- Outdoor event features family fun that includes four-legged members, too*

Editor's note: High-res graphics and photos from past Canine Carnival events are available at: <http://TheLastWord.zenfolio.com/caninecarnivalpast> password: aar

FREEPORT, Fla., (March 3, 2011) – Laissez bon temps rollover with Rover at Alaqua Animal Refuge's 4th Annual Canine Carnival, to be held on Saturday, March 26 at Gulf Place in Santa Rosa Beach.

The Mardi Gras-themed, pet-centric outdoor party will feature a parade of activities for pups and the people who love them, including games for kids and canines, live music, local vendor booths, food, a raffle, silent auction, agility demonstrations and the ever-popular dachshund races.

“Our focus at Alaqua Animal Refuge is to save the lives of abused, homeless and neglected animals, and while this is a serious mission, we still find time every year to celebrate the joy of pet companionship with our Canine Carnival,” said Laurie Hood, president and founder of Alaqua Animal Refuge. “This special day, with its Mardi Gras theme and more activities than ever, is about fun for the entire family, including dogs!”

Sponsors for the 2011 Canine Carnival include Bentley's on the Bay, Coastal Builders of Northwest Florida, Gigi's Fabulous Kids Fashions and Toys, Gulf Place, Kappy the Clown and Qantum Communications with guest emcee Aimee Shaffer. A \$5 donation is suggested at entry. To learn more about Alaqua Animal Refuge's 4th Annual Canine Carnival, including vendor booth qualifications, please call (850) 880-6399.

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 6,000 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.