

reporterherald.com

Publish Date: 6/5/2009

Murder victim's passion for animals will live on with Linnea Memorial Pet Walk

By Pamela Dickman
Loveland Reporter-Herald

FORT COLLINS — Opal Dick remembers how her daughter, Linnea, loved all animals from the time she was a little girl.

“When we went for a drive in the mountains, she’d look out and see a deer or a bird, and they’d instantly have a name,” said Dick.

This weekend, just more than a year after Linnea was murdered, her own beloved dogs will lead a memorial walk in her honor — a walk that will raise money for animal rescue organizations in Northern Colorado.

“It’s something we could carry on for her, that she could still do good in the world and still have a voice,” Dick said.

Linnea, 20, was attending Front Range Community College and had plans to pursue a business degree at Colorado State University.

Her mom is convinced she would have merged that with her passion for saving and loving animals.

But she was murdered March 30, 2008, in her Fort Collins home by a man now serving a life sentence.

Linnea’s family wants to celebrate her life and honor her memory.

Because she loved animals, they decided an event that brings families out with their pets and raises money to help animals in need would be the way to go.

“That was her thing; that was her passion,” said her sister, Andrea Gliva.

About two months before Linnea died, she hosted a birthday party for her Chihuahua, Lage.

She baked a birthday cake from a special dog treat cookbook, invited her sister and her dogs and bought birthday hats for the dogs.

Gliva and Linnea always spent time together with their dogs, going to the park, playing with them.

The sisters had planned to participate in a two-mile walk and run with their dogs in Denver in 2009 — something they didn’t get to do.

What: Linnea Memorial Pet Walk and Adopt-a-thon, a one-mile memory walk in honor of slain animal lover Linnea Dick to raise money for animal rescues throughout Northern Colorado.

When: Saturday. Check-in at 8 a.m. Memorial walk at 9 a.m. with Chihuahua races to follow. Vendor and adoption booths open 8 a.m. to noon.

Where: Spring Canyon Community Park, 2626 W. Horsetooth Road, Fort Collins.

Highlights: Chihuahua races (other toy breeds welcome); agility demonstrations; Angelyne the “Amazing Deaf Cattle Dog” and Eric Melvin; Dr. Julie M. Brauns, an animal communicator and human psychologist; live band, Prairie Dog Companion.

What to bring: Walking shoes, pets on leashes and a passion for animals.

Cost: \$20 per person if registered ahead (www.linneamemorial.com) or \$25 per person the day of the event. For families with more than three walkers, the day-of fee drops to \$20 per person.

For more information:

www.linneamemorial.com

Linnea also had talked about entering Lage in Chihuahua races in the future.

She didn't get to do that, either.

This weekend, Linnea's two dogs, Lage and Bentley, will lead the memorial walk.

And Lage will participate in for-fun Chihuahua races.

Gliva said, "This way, we're kind of bringing that to her."

Comments

a very thoughtfull thing to do.....RIP.....

rbonilla, Berthoud, Co 6/5/2009 8:57:31 AM

Copyright © 2009 Daily Reporter-Herald. All rights reserved.

This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten, or redistributed for any commercial purpose.