

What's On

PET PALACE

people & their pets

Look out for the Arab Times series, the Pet Palace, and read about how people and their animals enrich each other's lives.

The Palace welcomes submissions by our readers. If you'd like to tell the world about your pet, send us a photograph and accompanying article for publication. — Editor



By Valiya S. Sajjad
Arab Times Staff

Frizz has melancholic eyes, haunted by perpetual sorrow. That is what attracted Andrews to him. "There was something the eyes told me." Frizz was looking worn out with shaggy coat when Andrews bought him, and the dog used to move around dragging his hair along the ground as if in some freak fashion garment. Frizz has grown a lot since then, but he has always been a calm and quiet dog. If eyes are any reflection of the soul, then it can't be truer in Frizz's case. The nondescript sorrow of his eyes seem to be emanating from deep within, as if he came into existence from a pathos embryo. But it only makes him more beautiful. It is not a sorrow of pain, but the kind of sorrow that touches peo-

ple when enlightenment dawns.

The only thing that has an animalistic recklessness in Frizz is his frizzle of hair. It grows very fast, with an urgency of being on some mission. If allowed to grow the hair might become lanky wisps like a seer's beard. Is there a secret the hair is trying to protect?

Frizz is very fond of children and loves to play with the kids in the neighborhood. He is the hero of all the tiny tots in the apartment building. When he is taken out for a walk, he attracts a mini procession of children, doing everything possible to please him. And he walks with a royal air, condescending to appreciate just a few of the many attention-calling antics of the children. Sometimes it is just a nod, and sometimes it is a jaw-dropped eye.

When he is in that pose of a self-forgotten rap-

ture it is a pretty sight to watch. With mouth wide open, he would salivate, wetting his goatee into a thick mat of yarns. This happens when he is taken in the car, and the scenes fly past him through the frame of the window. Certain scenes in the TV also elicit this response from him. He treats it like make-believe box that spins out dreams. When there is nothing very interesting happening in this magic box, then he would rest his chin on his folded limbs and look up with at the screen, like a professor looking over his pince-nez glasses.

But that sadness in his eyes never leaves him. No matter what the mood, the shadow of pall is forever clouding his sepia eyes. Even the tone of it is like from another time, and creates a sensation of vagrant memories like when you flip through an old album.

PAWS for thought!

Do you have a question about your pet? Our PAWS team will answer your pet queries and questions. To submit a question email us at pawsq8@yahoo.com



PAWS to consider the advent of Parvo Season

This is the time of year in Kuwait, with its changing temperatures and cooler, humid weather that PAWS refers to as 'parvo season' (although this horrible virus can and does strike throughout the year). Parvo is a serious viral disease that can be deadly to young dogs and pups. So, to protect your puppy from contracting parvo you need to have your puppy vaccinated against this disease.

First, let's look at what Parvo is and what the symptoms are. Canine Parvovirus is a disease that attacks dividing cells. The most prominent location for dividing cells in your puppy's body is the intestinal lining or the lining of the digestive system. When this disease attacks and kills these cells it prevents dogs and puppies from absorbing nutrients or liquids. Parvo is seen more in puppies than in adult dogs, but both can catch the disease. The reason that puppies are more affected is that they have an immature immune system.

Symptoms of parvo include diarrhea, vomiting and lethargy. Most dogs when they are infected with parvo stop eating or have a loss of appetite, diarrhea and high fever. Their stool is very liquid, foul smelling and contains blood. In the later stages of parvo dehydration can cause death if the condition is untreated. Parvovirus is an extremely tough and resistant bug. The virus lives for long periods of time on floors, food containers and other household objects. It can be inactivated, however, with ordinary household bleach like Clorox used at a concentration of one part bleach to twenty parts water. Exposure to sunshine also kills the virus. It can take one or two weeks for a dog to develop signs of disease. The best prevention begins when your puppy is vaccinated at 6-8 weeks of age. You should also keep your puppy away from any other dogs until he has received his last shot for parvo. The parvo vaccine is usually included with the distemper vaccine.

All dogs and puppies are susceptible to parvo but there are a few breeds that seem to be more susceptible than others. These include Rottweilers, Doberman Pinschers, and other black and tan breeds. These breeds usually are more prone to contracting this disease and not recovering. Dogs over six months of age develop natural resistance to the effects of parvovirus. By the time the dog reaches one or two years of age the disease can be so mild that it passes unnoticed by pet parents. There are many other virus and bacteria that can cause bloody diarrhea in dogs. This leads to misdiagnosis where not all cases of "Parvo" in puppies and adults are actually due to this virus.

Although symptoms can be very suggestive of Parvo, true diagnosis requires a test that detects the actual parvovirus in stool samples. Early in the disease, this test can be negative. In practice, the presence of bloody diarrhea is usually all that is required for a tentative diagnosis of parvovirus. Treatment of parvovirus is directed at correcting the life-threatening dehydration that accompanies the diarrhea with intravenous fluids. Once the initial dehydration is corrected, maintenance fluids can also be given by drip. How soon you take action and get a young dog showing symptoms to the vet can be the difference between life and death. Early in the disease dogs may run a short period of fever. But puppies' temperatures often drop to subnormal a few days later. These dogs need additional sources of heat. It helps to sit with the dog, pet it and encourage its will to live. Many of the younger dogs have hookworm infestations that make the parvovirus disease more severe. Dogs and puppies that begin to accept small portions of food are on the road to recovery. A wagging tail is also a good sign.

Parvovirus is still a major threat to dogs in Kuwait and a common cause of mortality in puppies. If you purchase a pup from a pet shop or the Friday market your next stop should be at a vet clinic. No matter what puppy vaccination schedule is used, there will be a window of susceptibility when puppies are at risk of disease if exposure occurs. Rapid veterinary care can save many infected dogs. If you dog or young pup shows symptoms such as refusing food, vomiting or passing bloody diarrhea get your pet to the vet (Dr Andro at Al Dohama will test for Parvo and treat with the necessary fluids and antibiotic drip at a very reasonable charge). Keep pet vaccinations up to date; boosters should be given annually.

PAWS urge all pet owners to visit a vet for advice on any concerns about a pet's health. Prospective pet adopters and volunteers are welcome to visit the shelter by appointment.

www.paws-kuwait.org email: pawsq8@yahoo.com SMS: 99440089

will be held on Nov 7 at American International School, Maidan Hawally and is open to all Kannadigas in Kuwait (people of Karnataka origin residing in Kuwait). Last date for registration is Oct 31, '08. Cricket tournament is open only for members of KCWA and will be held on Nov 21 at Ahmadi grounds. Last date for registration is Nov 15.

For more information and registration log onto www.kcwa.org or contact Sports Secretary Naveen Mascarenhas on Tel 9789-5654 or send email to info@kcwa.org.

CRYcket tournament: The 11th CRY (Child Relief and You) cricket tournament for children will be held at the Ahmadi Hockey Grounds on Friday, Nov 7 starting at 6:30. The one day tournament, called "CRYcket 2008", is now a very popular annual family event where 24 teams play 30 softball games in two age categories while spectators, parents, relatives and well-wishers enjoy a carnival atmosphere.

Twelve teams each are set to participate in the Under 12 and Under 14 divisions initially in four groups in round robin fashion leading to four winners who will clash in the playoffs. As usual two grounds will be used and the games will be played simultaneously in the senior and junior divisions. The event is hosted by the Friends of CRY Club (FOCC), Kuwait supported by the Ahmadi Cricket and Hockey Committees. The last day for receipt of entries is Oct 30, 2008. The game format will be seven over a side with batsmen requiring to retire at the personal score of 18. Unlimited substitution will be allowed and

teams have been encouraged to turn up in coloured kits to add to the picturesque Ahmadi setting. Apart from the winners' trophies, medals and certificates will be given to each player.

Since 2005, CRYcket has received recognition from the Kuwait Cricket Association (KCA) as a valuable grassroots activity which augers well for the development of cricket in Kuwait. Experienced umpires will control the games assisted by official scorers. The teams will play in recognition of a much felt need among less fortunate children in the subcontinent and will carry the message of compassion towards them. They will spread awareness of the work done by CRY, an international organization, that believes that every child is entitled to basic rights of survival, protection, development and participation. To add to the spirit of celebration of childhood there will be delicious snacks and drinks available throughout the day, while drawing and essay competitions, bingo, raffle draws and ROLLO, the popular cricket spectator game will keep you excited every minute. 'Buy for CRY' a stall of used books, videos, CDs, toys and household effects will give you a quick bargain.

at promoting contemporary art.

A spokeswoman for the competition acknowledges there was some consternation among the judges when they realized Cholla was of the equine species.

"We have to admit that we did not expect the application of a horse," Arte Laguna spokeswoman Cristina Del Favero said in response to an e-mail inquiry by The Associated Press.

"At first we were very perplexed, but we subsequently looked for more information about Cholla on the Web and the jury decided to accept his application by considering his prestige in the USA."

While Cholla was not eligible to win any cash prizes, "he obtained a special mention," Del Favero said.

Viviana Siviero, president of the four-member jury, said she at first was suspicious of Cholla's entry.

"All of us knew that Cholla is a horse. When the organization informed me about that, I was at first doubtful and incredulous," Siviero said, adding she researched Cholla to ensure his authenticity. "Sincerely, some of the jurors were per-

plexed or even angry. Some others were amused about it."

In selecting his work as an honorable mention, Siviero said, the jury "did not value ... his gesture nor his chromatic choice, since it has to be considered the result of casualty."

Cholla's acceptance in the juried show prompted interest from another gallery in Venice, Italy, where a solo exhibit of Cholla artwork is being planned for next spring.

Rosalba Giorcelli, curator at Giudecca 795 Art Gallery, said she and her associate were curious, after seeing Cholla's work, why he was not eligible for a special award in the upcoming Arte Laguna.

"We could not understand until we browsed the Web and found out he was ... a horse!" she said in an e-mail. "The more we were learning about Cholla, the more we were thrilled and excited about offering a solo exhibit."

Renee Chambers, Cholla's owner and assistant, says his international acclaim proves his artistic talents.

"Yes, it's a novelty that a horse can paint," she said. "But it's not about novelty anymore. It's about his validation as an artist."

Cholla's painting career began by accident, Chambers said. He'd follow her around when she'd paint the corral each year, and one day her husband quipped, "You should get that horse to paint the fence."

Chambers instead tacked a piece of paper to a railing, bought some watercolors, mixed them up, and handed a brush to Cholla, who gripped it in his teeth and stroked the paper.

Reputation

"He's been painting ever since," she said.

If art, like beauty, is in the eye of the beholder, then Cholla — named after a species of cacti found in the desert southwest — certainly has a following and a growing reputation.

John Yimin, an art lover and critic, wrote on his Web site, www.outsiderart.info: "The brush stroke Cholla uses to get his vision down on paper ... the watercolor's dance ... and especially the fascinating completion of the works ... Cholla clearly grabs me and holds me as I watch him paint with the fire of Pollock and fixed gaze of Resnick."

Diving is generously sponsored by CLS Financial Services and Securities Ltd.

PABAK 20th Conference: The Philippine Amateur Basketball Association (PABAK) — Kuwait announcing the opening for the 20th Conference which will start on Nov 8, 2008 at the Hawally Disabled Club.

The following categories are now open for registration:

1) Open (only for Filipinos); 2) 5'10 and under; 3) Veterans (for 40's and above only); 4) Inter-Company (for bonafide staff for every company only); 5) Inter-medical (only for registered nurses, medtech, dental technicians, X-ray tech, lab tech, dentist, doctors in any nationality. For more details call the following C.P. numbers: 66686954, 99520787, 07015485, 66714286, 66578035 & 5729779 or visit Hawally Disabled Club every Friday with your line-ups.

Nov 28

2nd National Aerobics Marathon: Under the Patronage of HE Mario Roter,

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Cholla the painting horse nuzzles his owner Renee Chambers as she holds his latest painting at her ranch in Reno, Nev., Oct 1. Cholla's paintings were set to be exhibited in Italy from Oct 18-Nov 2. (AP)

Nevada horse chosen to exhibit artwork in Italy

Reno 'artist' to make int'l debut

RENO, Nevada, Oct 27, (AP): His artwork has been described as having the "fire of Pollock" and the "fixed gaze of Resnick."

Now, a Reno artist will be making his international debut, having been invited to exhibit his work in a juried art competition in Italy.

He won't be going abroad, however, to bask in the aura of great Italian masters. Instead, this artist will remain at home, contemplating his next masterpiece while gnawing on his paintbrushes — between mouthfuls of hay.

Cholla is a mustang-quarter horse mix whose paintings have been featured in art exhibits from San Francisco to New York and now overseas.

His creation, "The Big Red Buck," was selected for exhibit in the 3rd International Art Prize Arte Laguna, Oct. 18-Nov. 2, Mogliano Veneto, Italy.

More than 3,000 paintings, sculptures and photographs were entered in this year's competition. In painting, there were 1,770 from artists around the world. The international contest is organized by the Italian cultural association MoCA in collaboration with Arte Laguna and is aimed

at promoting contemporary art. A spokeswoman for the competition acknowledges there was some consternation among the judges when they realized Cholla was of the equine species.

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For adoption: Rocker is a cute 9-month Maltese. He is extremely friendly, playful, loves to be petted. Well trained, very smart and understanding. Gets attached to family members very fast and is very loving. Microchip has been inserted on his neck; he can be traced if lost. Rocker has been vaccinated also. Please contact us for adoption 97270533/97606653

click

Theater & Music

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Call to classical music lovers: Are you a lover of music? Would you like to promote the traditional Indian classical music in Kuwait? If your answer is in the affirmative, please write for more details to music_karnatic@yahoo.com. In that is, music underscore karnatic) with your contact details or call 7978286.

Sports

APOKAA open for registration: APOKAA-153 would like to inform all table tennis enthusiasts that they are now accepting membership and open for registration. For details please call Bro Noel Candolesas 97242832, Bro Robin Dayao 67078401 and Bro Rudy Coronado 66443642.

Nov 7

KCWA Cup 2008: Kuwait Canara Welfare Association (KCWA) is pleased to announce KCWA Cup 2008 – Volleyball (for men), throw ball (for ladies) and cricket (for men) tournament for the year 2008.

The volleyball and throw ball tournament