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## **Holistic Pet Night To Showcase Doga, Reiki, Massage, Acupuncture, Chiropractic Treatment for Animals**

### *First Annual Pampered Pet Expo to Spotlight Holistic Health Options*

ORLANDO, Fla., (July 23, 2008) – Pet lovers across Central Florida who want to learn holistic approaches to pet care will find what they seek at Holistic Pet Night on Friday, August 8, 2008 from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Orlando/Orange County Convention Center.

The event marks the opening night of the first annual Pampered Pet Expo, a three-day retail consumer event featuring exhibits, educational presentations and pet-related entertainment at the Convention Center from August 8-10. Expo attendees will have an opportunity to be entertained and educated while shopping for the trendiest products and services for their pets -- all under one roof.

As one of the most unique aspects of the Expo, Holistic Pet Night features presentations and demonstrations regarding chiropractic, acupuncture, massage, holistic health, animal communication, Reiki, and doggie yoga from a variety of animal experts and behaviorists.

Known as Doga, the latter practice is a yoga experience during which both dogs and humans practice poses, perform breathing exercises and share bonding time. Suzi Teitelman, a Jacksonville Beach, Fla., yoga instructor and former director of yoga for Crunch Fitness in New York, will explain Doga and share some poses that an individual and his or her dogi (a dog that practices yoga) can try at home.

Teitelman coined the term "Doga" after discovering that her adopted Cocker Spaniel, Coali, loved trying different yoga poses with her. She incorporates massage, light stretches, relaxing and bonding in her Doga poses. In addition to having a howling good time, Teitelman says dogis sleep better and are stronger than their couch-potato counterparts — and are often better behaved!

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In addition to Doga, massage is a great way to bond with a pet while increasing its circulation, enhancing flexibility and improving metabolic efficiency. Massage also provides an opportunity to perform an ongoing assessment of a pet and to be aware of changes in the skin or body structure. So says licensed massage therapist and certified dog and equine massage provider Jedidiah Stone. He will present safe pet massage techniques to try at home to help not only heal animals but also bond them with people.

Another presenter at Holistic Pet Night, Beth Ferris, DVM, of Coastal Animal Hospital Wellness Center in Palm Bay, Fla., will address "Is Chiropractic Right for Your Pet?" According to Ferris, chiropractic is a natural, drug-free option to an animal's total health care. It can decrease pain and add quality to a pet's performance, movement, and well being by restoring normal range of motion to the joints. Chiropractic care can be helpful for animals having problems involving the joints, muscles and nerves and can provide an alternative method of care that often complements traditional care.

Also speaking at Holistic Pet Night is Albert Nunez, DVM, owner of Animal Hospital of Baldwin Park and Animal Hospital of Lake Mary, who will discuss acupuncture and other holistic treatment alternatives for animals. A graduate of the Chi Institute of Veterinary Medicine, Nunez practices integrative veterinary medicine that combines cutting-edge surgery, internal medicine, endoscopy and laser ultrasound, as well as acupuncture, herbal medicine, energy medicine and natural diets for dogs, cats and exotics.

Another veterinarian from Animal Hospital of Baldwin Park and Animal Hospital of Lake Mary, Beth Carson, DVM, will demonstrate Tuina, a Chinese medical therapy similar to massage and chiropractic techniques to increase the flow of a pet's Qi. Dr. Carson has had extensive training in all areas of Traditional Chinese Veterinary Medicine (TCVM) and is certified in both acupuncture and tui-na (Chinese medical manipulation). Dr. Carson enjoys practicing integrative medicine, combining the best of

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both Western and Eastern medical modalities, to benefit the patient. Her areas of interest include arthritis and chronic pain management in geriatric patients, skin problems, allergies, behavioral issues, as well as cancer therapy.

While these various presentations are under way, Central Florida's premier pet communicator and therapist Colleen Gordon of Healing for Pets in Orlando will be on the Expo floor giving pet readings using animal communication techniques.

Pampered Pet Expo partners helping to bring Holistic Pet Night to Central Florida include Collier Subaru, Mastro Subaru, and Orlando Subaru; Petco; Pet Planet Magazine; Lake Howell Animal Clinic; Petfinder.com; MIX 105.1 and Sunny 105.9.

The Pampered Pet Expo is being held in the West Building, Hall WC of the Orlando/Orange County Convention Center. Hours for the event are from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Friday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Saturday, and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday.

Daily adult admission is \$10 in advance and \$12 at the door. Children ages 4 to 12 are admitted for \$5 in advance and at the door, and children ages 3 and younger are free. Parking at the Convention Center is \$6 per car. Tickets may be purchased at the door or in advance by visiting [www.PamperedPetExpo.com](http://www.PamperedPetExpo.com) or by calling 800-852-4085.

Due to the indoor location, the public is asked not to bring their pets to the Pampered Pet Expo; but service animals are welcome to attend.

For additional information regarding Holistic Pet Night at the First Annual Pampered Pet Expo, visit [www.PamperedPetExpo.com](http://www.PamperedPetExpo.com) or call 800-852-4085.

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