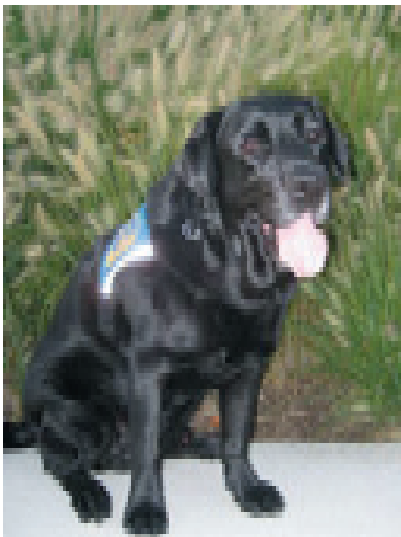


Canine Heroe Honored With AKC® Humane Fund Awards for Canine Excellence (ACE)

Service Dog: "Bingo," a Labrador Retriever owned by Konrad Feldmann of Liberty Township, OH

"Bingo" acts as a service dog for Konrad, who has cerebral palsy. Since being paired with Bingo, Konrad has experienced a far more inclusive and welcoming attitude in his school and community. Whether it's a walk in the neighborhood or attendance at a high school football game, the team elicits a multitude of greetings from the many new friends Konrad has met through his canine partner. The team has also facilitated a presentation in a special needs classroom and taken part in a ribbon cutting ceremony for an accessible playground. Konrad loves to share his Service dog with others.



OK Update: Licensing Deadline Extended to October 3

The Oklahoma State Board of Commercial Pet Breeders has extended its deadline for commercial pet breeder licensing to October 3, 2011.

Oklahoma law defines a commercial breeder as anyone who owns 11 or more intact female dogs or cats over the age of 6 months "for the use of breeding..."

For more information on Oklahoma's commercial breeder laws and regulations and to obtain licensing information, visit the Oklahoma State Board of Commercial Pet Breeders' web site at www.ok.gov/pet-breeders, or contact the board at (405) 286-3894.

AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB SNIFFS OUT TOP 5 DETECTION JOBS FOR DOGS

Humans aren't the only ones who work and deserve a break. From detecting bombs to saving people from wreckages, dogs do a number of jobs that put their noses to work.

To celebrate dogs this Labor Day and the New York City return of AKC Meet the Breeds® – the world's largest gathering of dogs and cats – the American Kennel Club (AKC®) names the top 5 detection jobs canines do and highlights some of the breeds that specialize in these tasks.

"Dogs go above and beyond each and every day, not only as beloved family pets, but as loyal members of the workforce," said AKC Meet the Breeds Spokesperson Gina Di-Nardo. "From alerting people to life threatening situations to helping others get a good night's sleep, the AKC is proud to honor dogs who help others excel at their jobs."

AKC's top five detection jobs for dogs include:

* Bed bug sniffing. Bed bugs became a major problem for businesses and homeowners over the past few years, so a new employee entered the workforce – the dog. With their excellent noses, exterminators and business owners enlisted the dog's incredible abilities to find where bed bugs were hiding so humans could get rid of them. Dogs are also vital for follow-up, to determine if an extermination method worked. Today, professional groups have established standards in bed bug-detector dog training, testing, and certification. Breeds that are commonly used in bed bug detection are Beagles, Labrador Retrievers, and Belgian Malinois, among others.

* Search and Rescue. From missing persons cases to natural disasters, dogs have been an integral part in finding people who are in dire situations. Search and rescue (SAR) dogs can either use a scent in the air or the scent of a specific object to find who they're looking for. They can be used in many dif-