

Hotel Jerome goes to the dogs

K-9 Karnival set for pets and their humans

Aspen Times staff report

There'll be plenty of fur wearers milling about Sunday in the Hotel Jerome ballroom.

The historic Aspen hotel is hosting what may become an annual gathering for dogs and dog owners — the K-9 Karnival Adoption Fair.

Dogs and their owners are invited to stop by from 2-5 p.m.

"All dogs are welcome, as long as they are well-behaved and leashed," clarified Seth Sachson, director of the Aspen Animal Shelter.

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director of the Aspen Animal Shelter

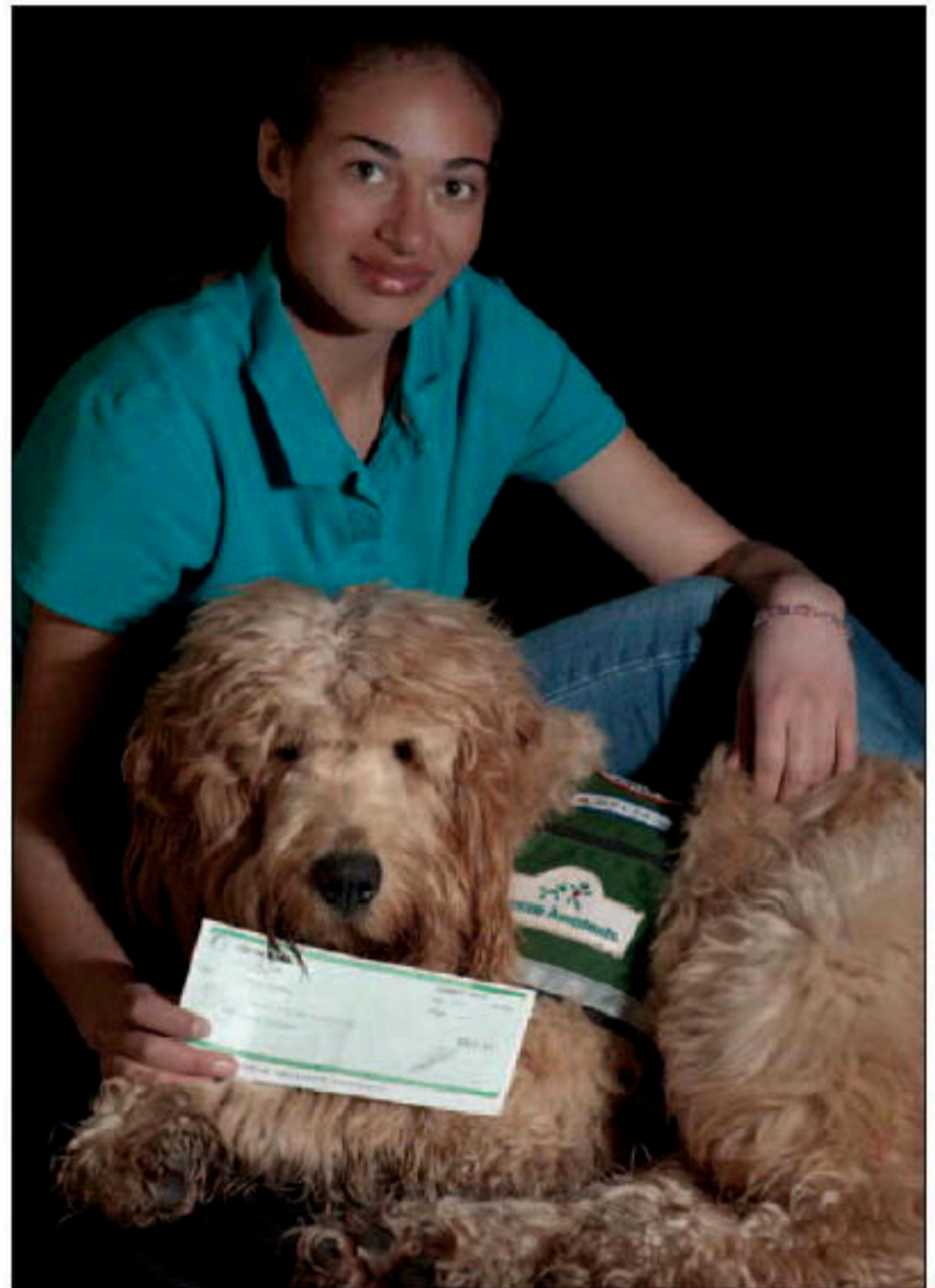
Four area rescue groups will be represented — C.A.R.E. (Colorado Animal Rescue), the Aspen Animal Shelter, the Rifle Animal Shelter and A.R.F. (Animal Rescue Foundation) — each bringing some of the pooches they have up for adoption.

In addition, there will be booths featuring dog trainers, pet shops, veterinarians, service dogs, search-and-rescue dogs and more. Participating pet shops will donate 20 percent of the proceeds from any sales that take place at the event to the area animal-rescue groups. Donations will also be accepted.

Refreshments will be served to both two- and four-legged attendees. Visiting dogs can sample fresh-baked doggy d'oeuvres prepared by the hotel's executive chef, Robert McClanahan.

And, the hotel will give away a free night's stay for human and canine guests every 30 minutes during the fair.

The Jerome, a pet-friendly hotel, came up with the event, according to Sachson. Friends of the Aspen Animal



Courtesy photo

Aspenite Channing Seideman and her service dog Georgie will be at Sunday's K-9 Karnival trying to raise funds to help another valley local receive a service dog through Canine Assistants.

Shelter jumped on board to help organize it with the goal of educating, enlightening and entertaining the public.

"The bottom line here is to create exposure for homeless dogs at the shelters," Sachson said.

Other expected highlights include music from local singer/songwriter Dan Sheridan. Expect to hear one of his best-known songs, "Dog Food," a touching ode to man's best friend.

In addition, face painters will be on hand to add dog- or cat-like features to little human faces.