

GENTLE GIANT RECEIVES PROCLAMATION; IMMORTALIZED IN BRONZE

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Ed Hogan, chairman of the Hogan Family Foundation, and Vicki Murphy, Casa Pacifica director of development, surround Archie, a 185-pound Newfoundland that serves as mascot and therapy dog at Casa Pacifica. Hogan holds a photo of a bronze statue of Archie that he donated as a fundraising device for Casa Pacifica. Murphy is holding the Ventura County Board of Supervisors proclamation, announcing "Archie Day."

(Ventura, CA) The Ventura County Board of Supervisors Tuesday honored a 185-pound Newfoundland dog by proclaiming "Archie Day". The huge, cuddly therapy dog is the beloved mascot at Casa Pacifica Center for Children and Families in Camarillo, where abused, neglected, and at-risk children receive needed care and attention.

District 3 Supervisor Kathy Long, who introduced the proclamation in the County Chambers, noted that Archie was becoming famous nationwide for his love of children and the positive influence he provides for disadvantaged children at Casa Pacifica. She said the dog has been featured on national television and has become an icon for Casa Pacifica. Long also mentioned Archie has his own line of greetings cards and clothing to help raise funds for the children's programs.

During the ceremony, it was also announced that the Hogan Family Foundation in Newbury Park had commissioned a bronze sculpture as a tribute to Archie. The 4-foot-high, 300-pound piece of art is being unveiled for the first time at the Casa Pacifica Angels Wine & Food Festival at California State University Channel Islands campus in Camarillo Sunday, June 7 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Ed Hogan, chairman of the Hogan Family Foundation and Casa Pacifica board member, said, "Archie is a symbol of hope for these less fortunate children. The children adore him and he has made a very positive imprint on them; memories they will carry with them for a lifetime. Moreover, Archie is a terrific fundraiser."

The statue of Archie also features three children—two boys and a girl—representing the children at Casa Pacifica. In the piece, Archie sports his trademarked bib that has the words "Feed Archie" inscribed on it to encourage people to drop donations into his large, open mouth.

Hogan, says, "We commissioned this sculpture to recognize Archie's exceptional contributions to the children at Casa Pacifica and to create a lasting tribute to this gentle giant who means so very much to his young, impressionable charges. Our hope is that everyone who sees Archie in person and through this sculpture will give generously to help fund the extraordinary work done at Casa Pacifica"

Following the Casa Pacifica Angels Wine & Food Festival this weekend, the Archie statue will be prominently displayed at the Hogan Family Foundation's Gardens of the World in Thousand Oaks that sees over 50,000 visitors annually. During the year, however, the artwork will be periodically moved throughout Ventura County to further aid in fundraising for Casa Pacifica.

In addition to the Gardens of the World that provides free, public tours, summer jazz concerts, and educational presentations, the Hogan Family Foundation operates its Rancho St. Francis program two facilities near its headquarters in Newbury Park. The ranches are used for the rehabilitation of abused and neglected horses and dogs and to provide specialized support for disadvantaged children, including many from Casa Pacifica.

For more information on current programs operated by the Hogan Family Foundation, go online at www.hoganfoundation.org. For volunteer opportunities in your community, visit www.volunteermatch.com.