

The Fairfax Chronicle

Dec. 9, 2004

An Independent Newspaper

Burke Pet Artist Donates Thousands of \$\$ to Charity

With donations amounting to \$11,167 at the end of October, [Pet Portraits by Deanna](#) has reached it's goal of raising \$10,000 for charitable causes. Since starting her business in the spring of 2001, pet portrait artist Deanna Lewis of Burke has been donating her custom pet portraits to various local and national charity auctions, catering both to human and animal causes alike. Deanna donated her first pet portrait at auction in September 2001. Reaching her \$10,000 goal by September has been extremely pleasing to the artist.

"I've always viewed my talent as a gift," says Deanna, "and it only seems natural to want to give back." Recipients of her donations are such organization as the Washington Humane Society, The Animal Welfare League of Alexandria, H.A.R.T. (Homeless Animal Rescue Team), So Others Might Eat, Shelter House, the PHILLIPS Program for Children with Learning Disabilities and the Mautner Project. Having reached her goal, Deanna says she is looking forward to continuing to raise more funds for worthy causes.

The native Kentuckian specialized in pencil on paper and oil on canvas and creates her pet portraits from favorite photographs taken by pet owners. *"Deanna's pet portraits have captured the essence of our cats Bubba, Shadow and Abby like our photos never could,"* says Dr. Mark and Mrs. Gail Waldman of Fairfax. While dogs and cats are her primary subjects, horses and other pets as well as humans, have been featured in here paintings and drawings. Deanna serves clients throughout the United States and Canada via her web site www.petportraitsforyou.com.

A resident of northern Virginia since the mid-eighties, Deanna is especially interested in advancing the interaction of the local pet rescue community. She has recently been the subject of local television and newspaper stories and hopes the attention attracted will help improve the conditions for homeless pets in our area.

This article can be found on-line at [The Chronicle Newspapers](#)