

FROM THE FRONT

Cookbook project aims to raise funds

■ **Pets & People Alliance selling 'Doggone Good Recipes'**

By **FLORI MEEKS**
CHRONICLE CORRESPONDENT

Pets & People Alliance has always been about helping animals in need.

When it was Pasadena Pet Adoption, it focused on finding new families for homeless animals.

Since adopting its new name nearly two years ago, the organization has focused on raising funds for humane projects in Pasadena and the Greater Clear Lake area.

The group wants to continue to work quietly behind the scenes to save and improve animals' lives.

"I find the people involved are really dedicated and interested in improving the situation of animals in our community," said **Wayne Holt**, who has been active with the group for about 10 years.

Its efforts have provided veterinarian care for shelter dogs and cats and helped area families spay and neuter their pets.

In one case, the alliance was able to provide care for an injured shelter dog slated for euthanasia. After recovering, the dog was adopted.

The nonprofit organization now is striving to raise money through sales of its book, *Doggone Good Recipes & Ins-Purr-Rational Stories*, \$20.

The book is a collection of recipes and reflections from the alliance's membership, displayed with photos of their beloved pets.

"These aren't just pets; they're family members," Holt said. "These people (the book contributors) wanted to share their stories."

Some of the stories are hu-

morous, Holt said, and many touch the heartstrings.

"There's a lot in it that people who are animal lovers will relate with," said Holt, who contributed photos of his cat, Andy, for the project.

The recipes are worth checking out, too, he said. The group made some finger food and desserts from the book for a city Thanksgiving event. The food was a hit.

Members **Beverly Helms** and **Maye Atkins** devoted a great deal of time to getting the *Doggone Good Recipes* project under way. Teena Miller later joined the efforts to help with layout and composition, as well as book assembly.

The alliance previously had not had a major fundraiser, said Helms, who has been with the organization from the beginning. She had seen other groups publish cookbooks and was confident the alliance could do the same.

"Everybody has recipes, even if they don't cook," Helms said. "Then we could incorporate the stories, the cute stories. We already hear the sad stories."

One of the first anecdotes selected for the book is the story of an area boy with autism and the dog matched with him through Pasadena Animal Control and Adoption.

The boy's first dog had died and his mom wanted the new dog in his life to be a good match. It was.

"They went out of their way to find a dog for the boy," said Helms, who has six cats. "It was just such a heart-warming story."

The alliance also supports the city's dog park, Paws in the Park, 5274 Burke Road, which opened last year and needs trees.

For more information, or to purchase the cookbook, visit www.petsandpeoplealliance.com.



PIN LIM: FOR THE CHRONICLE

Chau's Tailor and Alterations

Prior to opening Chau's Tailor, La Porte residents Huy Huynh and his wife Chau co-owned and operated an alterations business in Oklahoma City. The couple, who married in 1993, relocated to La Porte three years ago, and recently celebrated the opening of their new business.

Chau, who was born in Vietnam, began the art of sewing and custom-tailoring at 17. In 1991, she immigrated to the United States, and found work at an exclusive couture salon in Oklahoma, where she continued to work her magic with fabrics. But her dream was to own a business of her own, and with the recent opening of Chau's Tailor, that American Dream came true.

ULTIMATE BUSINESS OF THE WEEK

ADDRESS: 9606 Spencer Highway, Suite F, La Porte

PHONE NUMBER: 832-474-5954

WEB SITE: www.chautailor.com

OWNERS: Chau and Huy Huynh

WHAT THEY OFFER: The full-service custom tailoring shop for men and women performs delicate alterations, such as bridal, pageant and prom wear, custom-fit and tailored garments, such as business suits and other business attire; custom draperies; and basic alteration and repair work. They also offer custom fashion designs, flag and banner appliqué, and carry designs by Danny Nguyen Couture

HOURS: 9 a.m.-6:30 p.m. Monday through Friday; 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday

WHY SHOULD YOU GO: Great customer service and attention to detail regardless of how big or small the job

**AT MONSTER, WE FIND
TALENT WHEREVER
IT LIVES. TURNS OUT,
NOW IT LIVES RIGHT HERE:
CHRON.COM/JOBS**

Whether you're looking to hire or looking for a job, we've got good news. The Houston Chronicle is now partnered with Monster. The result is a new site experience with more jobs for seekers and more candidates for employers. And most importantly, there's access to our precision matching technology to bring the two together.



To find your next job or next hire, visit chron.com/jobs