

Owners remember pets lost

Colorado State University's Pet Hospice program hosts memorial

BY HALLIE WOODS
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The last nine months of Norton's life were full of catheters and IV tubes.

Norton, a shepherd mix, was diagnosed with a terminal renal disease that left his family distraught about how to care for him.

The family turned to the Colorado State University Pet Hospice program, an in-home service that provides care for animals diagnosed with a terminal illness.

"It was a long process in our case," Craig Hartsough, Norton's dad, said at a memorial service Sunday hosted by CSU's Pet Hospice program.

"We would go for a while and we would get really drained and start questioning ourselves," he said.

For nine months, Norton's family got information, help with Norton's care and grief counseling.

"They would come over and spend time with us. We would talk and they would talk," said Karen Sellins, Norton's mom.

The memorial service brought together several



Sara Loven/The Coloradoan

Brooke James, left, and Katie Christopher, far right, both CSU students and workers for the Colorado State University Pet Hospice program, console Marsha Carfield, center, who grieves for the loss of her pet dog Sunday during a memorial service at the Veterinary Teaching Hospital.

'When they have been with you and faithful for so many years, it's nice to honor the gift that they gave you.'

The Rev. Peggy Christiansen, director of the Gellar Center for Spiritual Development

families who have lost pets in the past four years.

"When they have been with you and faithful for so many years, it's nice to honor the gift that they gave you," said the Rev. Peggy Christiansen, director of the Gellar Center for

Spiritual Development, who led the memorial service.

Run by CSU vet students who volunteer their time, the hospice program helps families deal with the difficult time of knowing their beloved pet will

soon die.

"For some of our clients, losing a pet is just as hard as losing a member of the family," said Katie Kennedy, a CSU vet student and a team manager at the pet hospice. "And for some it's the only connection to someone they have already lost."

Kennedy said that a special connection is often formed between the volunteer, the pet and the family.

"Some families request that the case manager be at the euthanasia," Kennedy said. "Animals always pull at your heart strings."

Caddoo next principal at Cache La Poudre

BY TAYLOUR NELSON
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Cache La Poudre Junior High School will see a familiar face leading the school this fall.

Skip Caddoo, CLP Junior High's current assistant principal, will be the school's principal next year.

Caddoo, assistant principal for four years, said he's ready for the increased

ed," he said. "It's a good place to be and I'm excited to be a part of it."

He said he has started to be involved in hiring staff for next year and working out the schedule as well as the 2008-09 budget.

Caddoo will become principal as Poudre School District's junior high schools get ready for a major transition in fall 2009 from a seventh through

attended Colorado State University where he majored in forestry. After some time working in Vail, he returned to CSU to pursue a master's degree in educational leadership and a secondary science teacher certification.

Caddoo taught science for 12 years at Leshar Junior High, then was assistant principal at Turner Middle School in Berthoud for a

things better," he said. "I think we can always improve and I want to have that as a goal."

Collaboration is an important part of running a school, Caddoo said.

"We need all levels of people to collaborate and gather the best ideas and interests of all those involved," he said. "We all have the same goal in mind, which is student

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