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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**NEW YORK ARTIST JUDITH GWYN BROWN  
CREATES FINE ART PORTRAITS OF PETS FOR CHARITY**

*Portion of proceeds go to P.A.W.S. of the Vineyard to help island's needy animals*

NEW YORK, NY (July 27, 2011) – The “dog days of summer” take on a whole new meaning as renowned New York artist Judith Gwyn Brown is now offering a portion of the proceeds of her commissioned pet portraits to P.A.W.S. of the Vineyard, the all-volunteer, not-for-profit Pet Adoption and Welfare Service of Martha’s Vineyard, Massachusetts.

Not only do pet owners have an opportunity to have for their own a beautiful portrait of the creature they love that also is a work of fine art, they’ll be helping dogs and cats in need. For more than two decades, P.A.W.S. also has co-offered, along with SPAY, an Island-wide spay/neuter program with local veterinarians; proceeds from Brown’s pet portraits can be designated to provide coupons to Martha’s Vineyard pet owners to help alleviate the ever-rising cost of spaying or neutering.

Although dogs and cats are the most popular subjects for Brown’s portraits, horses, birds, rabbits, gerbils and even iguanas can be immortalized. Brown’s pet paintings can be commissioned in sizes from about 8 inches by 10 inches up to 36 inches by 48 inches; prices range from \$650 to \$3,800. Brown can work from a favorite photograph or will come to the pet’s home for a personal sitting with the artist.

“I’ve always been an animal lover, and AnnaBell Washburn, the founder of P.A.W.S. of the Vineyard, is a dear friend,” said Brown. “I felt this would be a win-win for caring, compassionate people to come together to support a good cause, and for the family pet to be remembered in a special way with an oil or watercolor painting that relatives would be proud to hang on the wall for generations.”

Brown has illustrated more than 40 books and also is a portrait painter. Her work is in the collections of The Boston Public Library, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, The Morgan Library and private collections throughout the country, including those of author Mary Higgins Clark and actress Julie Andrews. She created the charming logo for P.A.W.S. of the Vineyard pro bono.

Examples of Brown's pet portraits can be seen at [www.judithgwynbrownstudio.com](http://www.judithgwynbrownstudio.com). To commission a painting of a dog, cat, horse or other animal, please visit the web site or call (917) 825-0557.

*About Judith Gwyn Brown*

Judith Gwyn Brown is a distinguished artist and illustrator. She has illustrated more than 40 books, publishing with Harper, Doubleday, Atheneum, Scribner, Houghton Mifflin and Random House, etc. and has written and illustrated six books for children. The New York Public Library has presented her work in a one-person show. Her work also is represented in the permanent collections of many prominent universities, libraries and New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art, as well as the private collections of Author Mary Higgins Clark and Actress Julie Andrews, among others. Brown studied at Manhattan's High School of Music and Art, Parsons The New School for Design, and The Cooper Union. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Fine Arts from New York University and has been listed in *Who's Who of American Art and Contemporary Authors*. Please visit [www.judithgwynbrownstudio.com](http://www.judithgwynbrownstudio.com) for an artist's statement and more information.

*About P.A.W.S. of the Vineyard*

When P.A.W.S. of the Vineyard first founded its all-volunteer, not-for-profit organization, it stated that the initials stood for the PET ADOPTION AND WELFARE SERVICE of Martha's Vineyard. Now, as the organization enters its 27th year of providing a lifeline to the needy animals of the Island, PROVIDING ANIMALS WITH SECURITY has become what P.A.W.S. of the Vineyard is really about. P.A.W.S. believes in the sanctity and dignity of all life, and they try to be there as the companion animals' defender. For more information or to make a donation, please contact P.A.W.S. of the Vineyard, P.O. Box 1636, Edgartown, MA 02539 or email [pawsofvineyard@yahoo.com](mailto:pawsofvineyard@yahoo.com).

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