

## **MASSACHUSETTS VETERINARIANS TO CELEBRATE PUBLIC SERVICE!**

(Marlborough, MA) - The MVMA will host a premier gala event celebrating the 2011 Distinguished Service Award Honoree, three Merit Award recipients, and veterinarians throughout the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. This year's celebration is focusing on public service and the care of our animals in times of emergency, danger and abuse.

As the MVMA's premier social event of the year, the dinner is also a fundraiser for the MVMA Charities, Inc.

Honorees this year are:

Distinguished Service Award: David J. Schwarz, D.V.M.

Merit Award Recipients:

- Roderick J. Fraser, Jr., Commissioner, Boston Fire Department
- Kelly M. Kemp, Esquire, Assistant District Attorney, Berkshire County
- Leona J. Pease, Animal Control Office, Shrewsbury, MA

This is an exciting time for the Association and the Charity as we are honoring Dr. David Schwarz for over 35 years of dedication and service to veterinary medicine in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Dr. Schwarz has owned and operated the Ashland Animal Hospital for 35 years. David has always believed in the importance of community involvement and committed himself to this belief. When his children were young, he was on the School Board, coached baseball and counts being baseball commissioner as one of his proudest lifetime achievements! He was also on the board of the Community Harvest Project for 25 years, served as President of the MVMA, currently sits on the Board of the MVMA Charities, Inc. and the New England Veterinary Medical Association (NEVMA), and is President of the State of Massachusetts Animal Response Team (SMART). As President of SMART, David travels throughout the state to collaborate with organizations, cities and towns as they work toward planning a timely and effective response to emergencies involving animals. In 2010, David received the Richard Stein Award from the Animal Control Officers Association of Massachusetts (ACOAM). He is being honored by the MVMA this year for his many great works and diverse contributions to our state's veterinary community.

The MVMA Celebrate Veterinarians! Gala will take place Saturday, March 31, 2012, 6:00 – 11:00 pm at the Newton Marriott Hotel located at 2345 Commonwealth Avenue in Newton, MA.

This event is made possible by our sponsors: Harbor Wealth Strategies, VCA Specialty Hospitals, Curry Printing, Angell Animal Medical Center, Iams, Especially for Pets, VPI Pet Insurance, Wellness Natural Pet Food, Antech, VESCONe, The MNE Group and Vetcision.

To purchase tickets or for more information, please call the MVMA office at 508-460-9333 or visit [www.massvet.org](http://www.massvet.org). Donations may be directed to the MVMA Charities, Inc., 163 Lakeside Avenue, Marlborough, MA 01752.