

Annual Top Dog Awards Ceremony Hosted by Auditor Kovack

For Immediate Release

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Medina County Auditor Michael Kovack kicked off the dog licensing season yesterday by awarding Dog Tag #1 to Bentley, owned by Tarah Roller. Tarah won the Auditor's 15th Annual Top Dog Contest, open to all 4th grade students in the county.

Tarah, a student at Waite Elementary School in Medina, told how Bentley was rescued from the streets as a puppy and how he is a very loving dog. Besides dog tag #1, Tarah won prizes donated by Bil-Jac Foods, Northland Dairy Queen, Medina Skateland, Pet Supplies Plus, Medina AMF Lanes and Forgotten Animal Shelter. A record 400+ entries were received for the contest this year.

Auditor Kovack said, "This contest has become an annual tradition that my staff and I all look forward to with great excitement. The students did especially terrific essays this year, making the judging very difficult." Four other students received awards and their dogs received dog tags 2-5. Those students are:

Second Place:	Sean Wiblin	St. Mark Lutheran School, Brunswick
Third Place:	Noel Snider	Buckeye Intermediate, Litchfield
Fourth Place:	Gus Wilson	St. Francis Xavier, Medina
Fifth Place:	Braden Gerspacher	Franklin Elementary, Wadsworth

Dog licenses are now on sale at the auditor's office, at locations throughout the county and online until January 31st, 2010. During this time, all dog licenses must be renewed or new tags purchased. The cost is \$12 and all proceeds go to the Medina County Animal Shelter. Licensing your dog is a state law and fines are levied for untagged dogs. A dog tag is also a pet's best chance of being reunited with his family should he get lost. For a list of locations or to order online go to www.medinacountyauditor.org and click on Pets.