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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Animals Have Feelings? You Bet!**

**Tacoma, WA, 2009** – In unprecedented numbers people are awakening to the fact that like us, animals experience emotions. Starting with the early research of Jane Goodall as she studied the interactions of chimpanzee families and witnessed their emotional responses—continuing with the pioneering work in interspecies communication by Penelope Smith in the early 1970s and more recently, the work of animal biologist Marc Bekoff and many telepathic animal communicators—we are coming to recognize the scope of animal emotions. During this era of heightened awareness, we are becoming more sensitively attuned to animals and their feelings. In her book, *Regal: An Intimate View of One Magnificent Feline*, Linda Fortune shares engaging episodes from Regal's life that illustrate her diversity of feelings. Learning from her feline teacher, Linda shares how she developed a special kind of "animal listening" that broadened her understanding and awakened her compassion as she cared for her cat, Regal.

Linda began writing Regal's, heartwarming true story as a method of coping with grief over the loss of her pet. It was then Linda became aware of a profound change in her awareness of and ability to listen to animals' thoughts and emotions. More than just a sweet cat story, *Regal: An Intimate View* raises awareness about the inner lives of our domestic animals and our true responsibilities in caring for them. The story of Regal and Linda, and the people and pets they encounter, points to new possibilities for relating to and caring for our animal friends with greater awareness and compassion.

Linda Fortune teaches "10 Practical Tips for Understanding Your Pet" that can help enhance pet/owner relationships and experience. Endorsed by animal welfare luminaries Marc Bekoff, Penelope Smith, and Dr. Monica Diedrich, *Regal: An Intimate View* points to new possibilities of understanding and insight where our animals' interior lives are concerned.

**Linda Fortune, Ed.D.**, served children and families for many years during her professional life as an elementary school counselor. She is now working to expand awareness about animals and their feelings through writing and speaking engagements, applying her knowledge of the healing art of Reiki, the soothing effects of meditation, and the practice of animal communication.