

PRESS RELEASE

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Humane Society of Huron Valley Capital Campaign Kick-Off
“Unleash the Possibilities”

ANN ARBOR, Michigan— The Humane Society of Huron Valley (HSHV) is proud to announce the Kick-off of our Capital Campaign—Unleash the Possibilities. The kick-off event was held at the Michigan Theater on Tuesday, October 2, 2007, at 5:30pm.

With the success of this Campaign we will finally replace a dilapidated and overcrowded 56 year old shelter with a larger, state-of-the-art facility. The new animal shelter is being designed to be a true haven where both people and animals are nurtured, and compassion is instilled throughout the community.

“In our effort to keep our animals healthy and happy, this old building has become the enemy”, said Executive Director, Tanya Hilgendorf. “It has become virtually impossible to stop the spread of contagious disease. Abandoned and abused animals have already been through so much. Our shelter and its severe failings only add to their state of stress and fear.”

“We deal with a lot of sadness here, we want to create a healthy and joyous place for both people and pets”, said Hilgendorf. “This is not just about sheltering animals but setting a new direction for Washtenaw County as it relates to animal welfare. We want an animal care center in which all of the community can benefit and be proud.”

The proposed facility will have 3 times the space of our current shelter, will offer greatly improved care of our feline and canine residents, and emphasize community prevention services to address the root causes of abuse, abandonment, and overpopulation. Contributing to a “world-class” facility will be kitty condos, dog “living rooms”, a feral cat room, family interaction rooms, an expanded clinic for large scale spay/neutering, and a humane education center.

“As the chairperson for this capital campaign, and a township resident, I am excited to be on the ground floor of this endeavor,” said HSHV Capital Campaign Chairperson, Sharon Rothwell. “The need for a new shelter has been apparent for years and with the community all working together, the dream is becoming a reality.

Some of the goals for the new shelter include:

- designing a warm and welcoming center.
- providing noise reduction for our neighbors and the animals in our car.
- incorporating several “green” aspects so we can have a site that is more environmentally sound.

“Great strides have been made in animal sheltering,” said HSHV Board President, Bob Tetens. “Our current shelter holds us back at every turn. We want the Humane Society of Huron Valley to be a model of best practices in animal care, prevention services, and community education.”

The mission of HSHV is to support the loving, responsible care of all animals in our community by:

- Ensuring proper, nurturing care for the animals in our shelter.
- Placing all adoptable animals in loving homes.
- Reducing pet overpopulation.
- Stopping animal cruelty.

The Humane Society of Huron Valley is a completely independent 501(c)(3) non-profit organization serving all of Washtenaw County, and relies solely on the generosity and donations of businesses and individuals in our community to keep our doors open.

For more information, please contact the Humane Society of Huron Valley at (734) 662-5585, or visit www.hshv.org.

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