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**Overpopulation and Bad Economy Causing a Crisis at the
Humane Society of Huron Valley**

(Ann Arbor) – The Humane Society of Huron Valley (HSHV) is literally bursting at the seams with kittens, puppies, cats and dogs of all ages and sizes. Cage space at HSHV is nonexistent and we want people to remember to make adoption their first option if they are ready for a pet.

“This time every year we always see a huge increase in the number of kittens coming into the shelter and this year is no exception,” said Tanya Hilgendorf, HSHV Executive Director. “Unfortunately, we have also seen an overall increase in the number of other animal as well. The foreclosure crisis in Michigan coupled with job losses has caused a crisis for people and pets alike. We are committed to saving the lives of every healthy and treatable animal that comes into our care, but we need the community to help us achieve this goal.”

HSHV took in 133 pets in one week from June 26 through July 5, 2009 and the animal intake numbers since the beginning of the year are averaging about 120 companion animals each week.

“We helped 90 pets get adopted last week and while that was great, you can do the math and see why our shelter remains full,” said Renee Benell, HSHV Adoptions Coordinator. “We are unable to keep up with overpopulation because people do not get their animals spayed and neutered. Also, Michigan’s bad economy is adding to the misery. We just don’t have the space or the staffing to care for so many animals and holding too many animals puts the entire shelter at risk of a disease outbreak. We don’t want folks to adopt animals that they are not prepared to care for, but for those families ready to give a new animal a loving home, we need you to come out now.”

In order to quickly find homes for the pets, HSHV has ***reduced adoption prices*** and is holding special adoption days.

- **AOGO – Adopt One Get One! (*until further notice*)**
Adopt any kitten or cat and get the second one FREE. (The FREE feline must have the same adoption price)
- **FREE Feline Fridays (*until further notice*)**
Any cat over 7 months old is eligible for a FREE adoption on Fridays. HSHV adoption requirements apply.
- **3rd Annual Kittypalooza – Noon to 5 PM on Sunday, July 19, 2009**
Over 200 kittens! Fun for the whole family including, crafts, pet clothes, bake sale, face painting, FREE lunch, and much more!

The Humane Society of Huron Valley (HSHV) is an independent 501(c)(3) non-profit organization serving all of Washtenaw County and beyond, and relies solely on donations from businesses and individuals to support our community programs. The mission of HSHV is to promote responsible and compassionate care of all animals in our community. For more information, call (734) 662-5585 or visit www.hshv.org.

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