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ADOPT-A-SHELTER-CAT MONTH A SUCCESS,
BUT HUMANE SOCIETY OF HURON VALLEY
STILL PLEADS FOR HELP

Ann Arbor, MI. The Humane Society of Huron Valley's celebration of "Adopt-a-Shelter-Cat" month in June was a tremendous success, but the need for adopters is still great. The month was celebrated with discounts, giveaways and "Ask the Cat Lady," on Tuesday, June 20th. The event was a cat adoption open house with area cat expert Kitty Zimmer of the Zimmer Foundation.

In the month of June, HSHV adopted out a total of 181 cats and kittens, compared to 97 in May. But there are still many, many more animals that need homes. HSHV is running another adoption special – if you adopt one cat or kitten, you can adopt a second companion cat or kitten for ½ off the already low regular adoption fee.

Each spring and summer, HSHV is inundated with animals, especially kittens and cats. This season is no exception. Lack of spaying and neutering and pets abandoned by students leaving town are factors leading to more animals than our shelter can accommodate. Even the bunny population has exploded.

"We do the best we can to care for these animals, but we are in a decaying, 55-year-old shelter," said Tanya Hilgendorf, Executive Director. "Space is limited as are other resources. There are many dangers to having an overcrowded facility that are beyond our control. Animals get stressed and sick, and could become unadoptable."

"We are fortunate that we are part of such a compassionate, animal-loving community that makes adoption its first option," Hilgendorf continued. "But we want to encourage those that might be ready for a new family member to come and adopt one of the 100 or more beautiful homeless animals that are here on any given day."

The overcrowding also serves as a strong reminder of the importance of spaying and neutering. Pet overpopulation continues to be a serious issue. Nationally, each year approximately 6 to 10 million animals are euthanized for lack of homes.

Each cat adoption costs only \$85 for kittens 6 months old and younger and \$50 for adult cats. The adoption fee includes spay/neuter, vaccinations, de-worming, a feline leukemia test, microchip ID, care and training information, and a 4-lb bag of cat food. Costs for adopting other animals are also low and include similar services.

The mission of the Humane Society of Huron Valley is to find loving homes for every adoptable pet and prevent cruelty to animals. We are open to the public from noon until 6:00 pm, seven days a week and are located at 3100 Cherry Hill Road in Ann Arbor. The full-service HSHV Veterinary Clinic is open 8:00 am until 6:00 pm, Monday through Friday. For more information, call (734) 662-5585 or visit www.hshv.org.

Photos:

Kitty_Zimmer.jpg – caption: Kitty Zimmer of the Zimmer Foundation speaks at the June 20 “Ask the Cat Lady” event.

Adopter.jpg – caption: Katherine West adopted a kitten in June, pictured with her new kitten, Julia

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