



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SPAY DAY Celebrates 16 Years with Hundreds of Events Taking Place Nationwide

Discounted or free spay/neuter services and educational events among the happenings throughout the month of February

WASHINGTON (Feb. 23, 2010) — The Humane Society of the United States, in partnership with the Humane Society Veterinary Medical Association, is proud to celebrate the 16th observation of Spay Day, which falls on Tuesday, Feb. 23, 2010. Spay Day is The HSUS's annual campaign designed to highlight the importance of saving animal lives by spaying or neutering. On Spay Day and throughout the month of February, The HSUS brings together hundreds of spay/neuter events to create a wave of spay/neuter activity and awareness across the country.

More than 600 events are scheduled to take place this year in 49 states, the District of Columbia, American Samoa and Puerto Rico. Local animal shelters, spay/neuter clinics, veterinary practices, and others will be hosting events in their communities, providing much-needed services to families with pets and educating their communities about the importance of spaying and neutering. In addition, newspapers nationwide will carry a special Spay Day-themed MUTTS™ comic strip by creator and HSUS board member Patrick McDonnell. To find an event near you, and for more information, visit humanesociety.org/spayday.

Between 3 million and 4 million cats, dogs, kittens, and puppies are destroyed in the U.S. each year. Spay Day shines a spotlight on spay/neuter as a means of reducing the number of pets who must be euthanized. “Spaying and neutering are the only permanent, 100-percent effective methods of birth control for our pets,” says Wayne Pacelle, president and CEO of The HSUS. “The death of millions of pets each year is a tragedy—but one that can be solved. By spaying or neutering your pet, you can be an important part of the solution.”

Here's a sampling of some Spay Day 2010 events:

- In Lake Charles, La., The Animal Angels–SNAP partnership, which offers low-cost spay/neuter services to the Gulf Coast community will have its new facility's grand opening on Spay Day. For more information, click [here](#).

- CARE of South Bend, Ind., celebrates Spay Day by offering vouchers for discounted spaying and neutering to local pet owners at participating veterinary clinics, and by hosting fundraisers at local restaurants. To learn more click [here](#).
- The Central Missouri Humane Society is hosting a “Spay-ghetti” Dinner and Silent Auction. All of the proceeds will go for free spay/neuter vouchers for low-income pet owners in the Columbia, Mo., area. Find out more by clicking [here](#).

"It is so exciting to be celebrating the 16th annual Spay Day," said legendary performer Doris Day, the founder of Spay Day. "As in previous years, my foundation has issued a special grant to enable animal guardians in regions that can benefit from the extra help to have their animals spayed or neutered. We're proud of this program and so gratified by the number of lives and taxpayer dollars that have been saved over the years."

Spay Day also takes place internationally, with 81 groups in 41 countries participating this year. To learn more, click [here](#).

Spay Day 2010 is being sponsored by Trimline Veterinary Recovery Collars, which is offering special deals and free samples to Spay Day participants. Spay Day 2010 is also supported by PETS 911.

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Media Contact: Andrew Sovonick, 301-721-6463, asovonick@humanesociety.org

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The Humane Society of the United States is the nation's largest animal protection organization—backed by 11 million Americans, or one of every 28. For more than a half-century, The HSUS has been fighting for the protection of all animals through advocacy, education, and hands-on programs. Celebrating animals and confronting cruelty—on the web at humanesociety.org.

The Humane Society of the United States
2100 L Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20037
humanesociety.org
Celebrating Animals, Confronting Cruelty