



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

VOICES FOR ANIMALS AND THE CHARLOTTESVILLE-ALBEMARLE SPCA
PARTNER WITH THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES
TO PROMOTE WORLD SPAY DAY

Local Citizens Urged to Spay or Neuter Pets and Community Cats

Charlottesville, VA: February 2013 – Voices for Animals and the Charlottesville-Albemarle SPCA will participate in World Spay Day, an international campaign of The Humane Society of the United States and Humane Society International, to promote the life-saving benefits of spay/neuter, when they sponsor 120 free spay/neuter surgeries for community cats at the Charlottesville-Albemarle SPCA clinic during the month of February.

“Spay/neuter saves pets' lives while lessening the burden on animal shelters and taxpayers,” says Voices for Animals’ Julie Falconer. “We are inviting community members to sponsor the spay or neuter of at least one animal—their own, a friend or family member's, a shelter animal awaiting adoption, or a community cat—in honor of World Spay Day 2013,” says the SPCA’s Director of Business Affairs, Beth McPhee.

Since Spay Day's inception in 1995, it is conservatively estimated that participants have spayed or neutered more than 1 million animals. Because of the efforts of Spay Day participants like Voices for Animals, the Charlottesville-Albemarle SPCA, and other spay/neuter programs, the number of homeless cats and dogs euthanized in the U.S. has fallen from approximately 13.5 million in 1973 to fewer than 4 million currently.

Since 1997, Voices for Animals has sterilized and vaccinated nearly 10,000 community cats in Central Virginia, thousands of them with the Charlottesville-Albemarle SPCA’s assistance. Community cats are the wild offspring of unsterilized domesticated cats. Targeted spay/neuter programs around the country have successfully stabilized and reduced feral cat numbers in their communities—benefitting the cats, animal shelters, and the community as a whole.

Since adopting their No Kill mission in 2005, the Charlottesville-Albemarle SPCA has spayed or neutered more than 40,000 animals. Two years ago, the SPCA began an aggressive spay/neuter program targeting community cats in an effort to reduce the number of stray kittens and cats entering the SPCA. For the first year ever, in 2012, the SPCA recorded an intake reduction of more than 350 cats and kittens.

Contacts:

Julie Falconer
Board Member
Voices for Animals
434-825-4340
info@voicesforanimals.org

Lisa Lane
Director of Marketing and Development
Charlottesville-Albemarle SPCA
434-964-3305
llane@caspca.org