

**MEDIA ALERT
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“Paws” to Honor Local Animal Heroes

(Columbus, OH) – Join the Capital Area Humane Society on Thursday, November 5 for **PAWS to Honor**, an event to honor local animal heroes and support homeless and abused animals in our community.

This event will celebrate the incredible support provided to the entire Central Ohio animal welfare community by **Senator Jim Hughes**, Ohio Senate, and **Marcia Perry Rhoades**, BarkPark.

“One of our core attitudes at the Humane Society is to strengthen our community’s capacity to help animals,” said Rachel D.K. Finney, Executive Director of the Capital Area Humane Society. “This year’s honorees truly embrace the vision of a strong community rallied around pets in need. Central Ohio is so fortunate to have them both.”

Join the honorees for hors d’oeuvres (provided by Basi Italia, CBC Restaurant, Milestone 229 and Westies) and wine (provided by Vanguardwines) from 6:00-8:00pm at the Capital Area Humane Society, located at 3015 Scioto-Darby Executive Court in Hilliard. Tickets may be purchased for \$35 at the door or in advance at www.caahs-pets.org.

About the honorees:

Senator Jim Hughes is serving his second term in the Ohio Senate, representing the 16th district, which encompasses a portion of Franklin County. He is currently the Chairman of the Senate Standing Committee on Financial Institutions. Senator Hughes is also a member of the Criminal Justice Committee, Finance Committee, Insurance Committee, Civil Justice Committee, State and Local Government Committee, Rules and Reference Committee, and the Finance Higher Ed Subcommittee.

Senator Hughes is the co-sponsor of the current SB 215 (allowing individuals to rescue pets and children in danger in unattended vehicles with immunity from civil liability) and SB 195 (prohibiting sexual contact with animals).

Hughes' service in the Ohio General Assembly has allowed him to put his legal experience to work for the benefit of all Ohioans, helping pass a number of crime initiatives to crack down on

offenders and keep families safe. Hughes worked to keep school children safe by sponsoring legislation that requires community and chartered public schools to adopt school safety plans and conduct a safety drill on a yearly basis. During the 129th General Assembly, he was the primary sponsor of Senate Bill 130, which established licensing requirements and standards of care for certain high volume breeders. In addition, he championed Senate Bill 2, known as the Common Sense Initiative, which improved the landscape of jobs by helping to eliminate unnecessary red tape and regulations for small businesses in Ohio.

Senator Hughes continues to practice law as an attorney and partner at Isaac Wiles. He earned his Juris Doctorate at Capital University School of Law after completing undergraduate degrees in business administration and transportation and logistics from The Ohio State University. He and his wife Susan live in Clintonville, and their daughter Kaela attends Wittenberg University.

Marcia Perry Rhoades has been an animal welfare advocate for over 25 years. She has volunteered for a long list of rescues and shelters and has personally fostered over 100 dogs. Her proudest achievement, however, was the founding of Bark Park. Not only was BarkPark the first dog park in Ohio, but it was also the first private non-profit dog park in the United States. BarkPark has raised 1½ million dollars for animal welfare organizations and pet programs.

For the last 10 years Marcia's monthly newsletter, the BarkPark Bulletin, has been sent to central Ohio animal lovers. This newsletter promotes monthly animal welfare events in Central Ohio. Marcia continues to volunteer for numerous organizations. She and her husband, Lennie, currently reside on 27 acres in SW Delaware County with their dog, Bob.

The Capital Area Humane Society, a non-profit animal welfare organization founded in 1883, provides programs and services for animals and people in Central Ohio. It is our mission to fight animal cruelty, help animals in need and advocate for their well-being. More than 90 percent of our funding is provided by donations and fees for services, we are not a government agency and we do not receive operating support from national organizations. For more information about the Capital Area Humane Society, visit www.cahs-pets.org.

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