FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Pet Appreciation Day & Walk to Benefit Homeless Animals Raised Nearly $15,000 for Suncoast Humane Society

Pet Appreciation Day and Walk to Benefit Homeless Animals was a great success for Suncoast Humane Society and more importantly, for the homeless animals that they serve each day! With over 100 registered walkers, many walking with their pets, the event raised nearly $15,000 for the local organization. The event was held right next to their Englewood adoption center, at Ann Dever Memorial Park on Saturday, November 12, 2016.

Special individual and team awards were presented after the walk. The Top Dog Fundraiser was Mary Anderson, who raised $1,760.00 for Suncoast Humane Society. The top team trophies were presented to the Suncoast Humane Society Volunteers for the most funds raised ($2,210) and most pledges received (43 total). Annie Alfieri received the Top Dog Fundraiser trophy for Suncoast Humane Society employees after raising $400 to help the animals that she helps to care for daily. Finally, the Englewood Girl Scouts team was recognized for collecting and donating the most amount of food (82lbs).

After the walk, the celebration began with a performance from local blues musician Steve Arvey, demonstrations from Peace River K9 Search & Rescue as well as Central Florida Dog & Disc Club, featuring champion Frisbee dog trainer Gary Duke. Many local businesses were featured in the vendor village and delicious food was served up by local favorites, Triple B BBQ, Sunny Days Ice Cream and Croz’s Surfshack.
A special thank you to the event sponsors: Bayshore Painting Contractors, Inc., Tropical Breeze Realty, DEX Imaging, Affordable Golf Cars, Gulf Coast Hardware, Green Lion Realty, Florida Weekly, Harbor Style Magazine, WENG, The New Barker, Serbin Printing and Englewood Bank and Trust for supporting this event.

Suncoast Humane Society has been serving animals and people since 1971. Founded as Englewood Animal Aid Society, the organization’s services and programs were soon challenged to meet the demands placed on them by the pet over-population crises. Expansions to their facility in Englewood during the 1980s and 1990s helped the Society to more effectively provide for a growing service area. To reflect the changes, the organization became Suncoast Humane Society. Today their service area includes Charlotte County, most of Sarasota County, and the Boca Grande portion of Lee County, a total of over 450 square miles.

Visit their adoptable pets and learn more about Suncoast Humane Society online at www.humane.org, in person at 6781 San Casa Drive, Englewood, FL 34224 or at one of our many community events!

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All photos submitted by Suncoast Humane Society and taken by Donna Valenti of Donna Valenti Photography
Suncoast Humane Society’s Pet Therapy team members getting ready to walk

There were lots of friends to be made at Pet Appreciation Day, hosted by Suncoast Humane Society.
Englewood Girl Scouts collected 82 pounds of food for Suncoast Humane Society’s Pet Food Pantry before the walk to earn the team award for most pounds of food collected.

Just one of the teams from Peace River K9 Search and Rescue who gave a demonstration for those who attended Pet Appreciation Day and Walk to Benefit Homeless Animals to benefit Suncoast Humane Society.
Central Florida Disc Dogs gave two demonstrations of their gravity defying talents for the crowd at Pet Appreciation Day and Walk to Benefit Homeless Animals on November 12, 2016.