FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THIS MAY NOT BE YOUR PET’S FAVORITE HOLIDAY

4th of July celebrations can be very dangerous for our pets. They can frighten some of them enough to cause them to run away. It is said that more pets run away or are lost on this day than any other day of the year. Often dogs far away from the fireworks can feel the vibration and hear the noises from the explosions. It is not uncommon for many animals to end up in animal shelters the next day. Believe me, there are far worse things that can happen to a lost, frightened pet.

The following are a few pointers for pet owners during the celebrations:

- Keep your pets indoors while fireworks are being displayed in your area.
- Have your pet micro-chipped for proper identification. Also for double protection, make sure they are wearing collar and tags, in case of an escape.
- If you shoot off fireworks, do not do so around animals. Animals can sustain serious burns from fireworks.
- Keep a TV or radio going in your home to drown out the explosive noises.
- Even if you are convinced your pet will do fine at a firework display, do not take them.
- Never approach someone else’s pet during a fireworks display. A normally friendly animal can snap when scared.
- Exercise your dog well before the display, so that they will sleep well.
- For pets with extreme anxiety, check with your veterinarian about tranquilizers.
- If your pet does become lost or you happen upon a lost pet, contact your local animal control and don’t forget to file a lost/found report at Suncoast Humane Society.
For more information, please call Suncoast Humane Society at 941-474-7884 or visit our website www.humane.org.

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, Sarasota County, Boca Grande and beyond.

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