

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Celebrate 42 Years of Animal Welfare at Yappy Hour, June 8th

Fun and Funds for Haywood Spay/Neuter

Haywood Spay/Neuter is proud to present their inaugural Yappy Hour fundraiser, Friday, June 8th at 5:30 pm at the Maggie Valley Club and Resort. Friends of dogs and cats will gather to support the important work of Haywood Spay/Neuter while enjoying exquisite hors d'oeuvres, taking part in dog/cat trivia, a wine pull, and a live auction with original art work by Margaret Roberts and golf and entertainment outings up for bid.

Haywood Spay/Neuter has been in existence in one form or another since the 1950's but was officially incorporated in 1976. Since 2003 over 23,000 dogs and cats have been through Haywood Spay/Neuters core program which provides low cost spay/neuter services so every pet owner can afford to fix their pet. In 2009 the organization seriously undertook Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) to help lower the county's free roaming cat population. The happy result is a downturn of unwanted cats ending up in the county shelter. The shelter's euthanasia rate for cats dropped from 75% in 2008 to 5% in 2017.

Nancye Buelow, Haywood Spay/Neuter board member and Yappy Hour chair states, "I am humbled by the outstanding work of this incredible organization and know that the community will want to support our efforts as they learn more about all the important work we do."

Event admission is \$50 with different levels of sponsorships: Top Dog for \$1,000; Meow Mad for \$750; Best in Show for \$500; and Purrfect Partner for \$250. Each sponsorship comes with the appropriate number of tickets and level of recognition.

Bonnie Grumka, treasurer of Haywood Spay Neuter said "This should be a fun time for all and a good way to help prevent the unplanned and unwanted litters of puppies and kittens ending up in the shelter or worse, homeless. With the new tax laws, we have no idea of how charitable contributions will continue to support animal welfare. Thus, the need for a fundraiser like Yappy Hour so Haywood Spay/Neuter can continue its mission of Serving the Community by Providing low cost Spay/Neuter Services and Animal Wellness Programs."

For those interested in Yappy Hour sponsorship, donating wine for the wine pull, purchasing admission tickets or more details about the work of Haywood Spay/Neuter, please contact Scarlett Heatherly at 828-452-1329 or stop by the office at 182 Richland Street in Waynesville, open Tuesday through Friday 11am to 5pm.