

For Immediate Release
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Animal Shelters in over 20 Cities Partner with Pierce Brosnan to Launch “Operation Save-A-Pet Katrina”

Press conference to be held in Sherwood, OR to promote local pet adoption to make room in shelters for more Katrina rescued pets and local animals in need, and to announce kickoff of PSA and internet campaign featuring Pierce Brosnan. Local, adoptable dogs & cats from several organizations will attend.

PRESS CONFERENCE INFORMATION

DATE/TIME: Tuesday, Feb. 28, 10:30 A.M.

LOCATION: Cat ADOPTION Team, 14175 SW Galbreath Drive, Sherwood (across from the Sherwood DMV, parking available on-site)

SHERWOOD, OR (Tuesday, February 28, 2006) - A major publicity effort is being kicked off on Tuesday in Sherwood as a last-ditch effort to save thousands of pets made homeless by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Actor Pierce Brosnan appears in a public service announcement released today, promoting a national pet adoption effort in order to make room in shelters for pets still being rescued from the destruction in the Gulf.

The effort, called “Operation Save-A-Pet Katrina” (OperationSaveAPetKatrina.com), is being launched in over 20 cities, spearheaded locally by the Cat ADOPTION Team, and is sponsored by Best Friends Animal Society and 1-800-Save-A-Pet.com. "Tens of thousands of family pets left homeless by Katrina and Rita are facing hunger, still wandering near their destroyed homes, and have no one to feed or care for them," says Kris Otteman, DVM and CAT Board Member. "A crucial link in the rescue chain has broken because we have few places around the country left to send these pets, so we need people to adopt any pet from their local shelter to help make more space." The public is being directed to pet adoption websites such as www.1-800-Save-A-Pet.com and www.OperationSaveAPetKatrina.com to promote pet adoption so the rescue efforts can continue.

“The Cat ADOPTION Team has taken in 51 cats from the disaster struck areas so far and has expanded its shelter capacity as not to jeopardize taking in local animals in need,” Otteman stressed. “Oregonians have been great to respond with adoptions, volunteer hours and donations.” “On top of Katrina animals in need, there is still a crisis in our own backyard that we cannot turn our back on. In the Portland Metro area alone, 5,000 to 10,000 cats and kittens are still being euthanized due to a lack of available homes and the continued need for pets to be altered,” says Celeste Crimi, Best Friends representative. “If you want to make a difference today, please consider adopting an animal from one of your local animal shelters.”

Media will be provided with B-roll and the Brosnan PSA at the event, and can download B-roll and print-quality stills of Katrina animal rescue, as well as the Brosnan PSA at www.1-800-Save-A-Pet.com/media.

The Cat Adoption Team (CAT) is the Pacific Northwest’s largest and fastest growing non-profit, no-kill cat shelter with its own on-site veterinary hospital. CAT finds lifetime homes for the community’s abandoned, neglected and injured cats and kittens. CAT not only partners with the community but with local county shelters, other rescue groups and veterinary offices to take in cats that might otherwise be euthanized due to medical problems or space constraints. CAT, a 501(c)(3) publicly-supported charity, saves more than 2,500 lives per year and relies heavily on the support of the public and generous volunteers.

CAT is located at 14175 SW Galbreath Drive in Sherwood, just off Tualatin-Sherwood Highway Road. For directions and more information, call 503-925-8903 or visit CAT’s website at www.catadoptionteam.org.

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