

**PRESS RELEASE
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FIFTH ANNUAL DEFEND YOUR FRIEND 5K RUN /1 MILE FUN WALK

(Columbus, OH) – The fifth annual Defend Your Friend 5K Run/1K Fun Walk is Thursday, August 18 at Homestead Park in Hilliard. All proceeds from the event benefit the Capital Area Humane Society’s Animal Cruelty Investigations program.

All runners, walkers and friendly, socialized dogs are welcome to attend. Registration begins at 6 p.m. and the race starts at 7 p.m. The entry fee is \$30 (\$25 for Capital Area Humane Society members) per person with an option of adding on your dog for an additional \$5. The first 300 registrants and 75 dogs will receive an event t-shirt or bandana. The entry fee is the minimum amount required to participate. Participants can create teams with friends or co-workers and even create their own fundraising page online to help raise even more money to help support the Capital Area Humane Society’s Cruelty Investigations Department.

Participants can pre-register online at by visiting the Capital Area Humane Society website at www.cahs-pets.org and clicking on the Defend Your Friend link. Registrations will also be accepted on race day. Prizes will be awarded immediately following the race. Over the last three years, this event has raised more than \$38,500 to help fight animal cruelty in our community.

The event is sponsored by Samuel H. Shamansky Co., LPA (Leader of the Pack); The Buggy Family, Safe Auto, Whole Foods, Pet Butler, and Running Cat Creative Services (Front Runners); G&J Pepsi-Cola Bottling Co. of Columbus, Panera Bread and PetPeople (Pack Runners).

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. The Capital Area Humane Society is the lead agency in Franklin County investigating cases of animal cruelty, abuse and neglect. Our commissioned humane agents enforce all local laws pertaining to the care and treatment of animals as reported by members of the public and partner agencies including other law enforcement agencies, health departments, code enforcement and social service agencies. For more information about the Capital Area Humane Society, visit www.cahspets.org.

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