



HUMANE SOCIETY OF KENT COUNTY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – July 8, 2009

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HUMANE SOCIETY TREATING ABUSED CAT THAT WAS SET ON FIRE

(Grand Rapids, Mich. – July 8, 2009) --- The Humane Society of Kent County is seeking information regarding a shocking case of animal cruelty. Distraught owners of a 1 ½ year old cat brought him to the Humane Society of Kent County on July 3, when they discovered that someone had soaked him with an accelerant and lit him on fire. The incident took place somewhere around Turner Ave NW, between Ann and Leonard streets.

The cat, who was named Hadley by Humane Society staff, suffers from third degree burns over his ears, neck, back and legs. His whiskers and eyelashes are also burnt.

“Hadley is in stable, but serious condition and will remain in intensive care at the Humane Society for several weeks as his injuries and infection are treated,” said Dr. Wendy Swift, Veterinary Medical Director at the Humane Society. “It will take many months and hundreds of dollars for medication and bandages for this kitty to recover from this act of cruelty.”

A reward is being offered for any information leading to the conviction of the abuser. Individuals can call the Humane Society of Kent County at (616) 791-8218 or they can leave an anonymous tip or information by calling (616) 453-8900 extension 302.

“As a community, we have to take animal cruelty and abuse seriously. Cruelty toward animals is often committed by someone who is also being cruel or violent toward humans,” said Karen Terpstra, Executive Director at the Humane Society.

Community members and individuals can help with Hadley’s recovery by making a contribution to the Humane Society of Kent County’s cruelty fund. To make a donation individuals can call (616) 791-8222.

Founded in 1883, the Humane Society of Kent County is a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting the humane treatment and responsible care of animals in West Michigan through education, example, placement and protection. For more information please visit www.hskc.org or call (616) 453-8900.

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