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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Cat Depot Hosts “Puppy Mills: From Iowa to Florida”
Presentation Reveals the Hidden Cost of Pet Store Puppies**

Sarasota, FL. – October 3, 2013 – Cat Depot will host “*Puppy Mills: From Iowa to Florida*” on Friday, October 11 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., 2542 17th Street, Sarasota, FL. The powerful and informative presentation is about commercial breeding facilities, also known as puppy mills, which put profit before animal welfare. Dogs at these mills are kept in deplorable conditions often resulting in sick puppies being sold to unaware consumers. Florida is one of the largest markets for puppies bred in puppy mills, with hundreds of puppies being shipped to Florida annually. Information will also be provided about the agencies and current laws affecting this industry, as well as how the public can address this animal welfare and consumer protection issue.

The presentation will be conducted by Mary LaHay, President and Founder of Iowa Friends of Companion Animals. Iowa Friends of Companion Animals is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to research and education on the issue of puppy mills. For more info., visit <http://www.iafriends.org/> or <https://facebook.com/iowaVotersforCompanionAnimals>

The presentation is free and open to the public. Location: Cat Depot Education and Activity Center, 2542 17th Street, Sarasota, FL 34234

Cat Depot, a nonprofit, 501(c)3 no-kill, free-roaming facility, is recognized for its commitment to helping homeless, abandoned and injured animals. Open seven days a week, Cat Depot’s mission is to save lives, find loving homes, and provide the resources and education to improve the destiny of homeless cats. Cat Depot is where compassion meets commitment.

Cat Depot supports more than 130 cats and kittens on any given day. Shop in our Cat Depot Supply and Gift Store specializing in cat supplies and unique gifts. Open Monday through Friday 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., Saturday and Sunday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Handicap accessible. Cat Depot is located at 2542 17th Street, Sarasota, Fla. 34234. For more information, go to www.catdepot.org, or call 941.366.2404.