June 22, 2011

**Farmingville, NY** - On July 16, the Town of Brookhaven Animal Shelter and Adoption Center will celebrate peace, love and paws at the 1st Annual Woofstock. The event will be held from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm on the grounds of the Animal Shelter located at 300 Horseblock Road in Brookhaven. Attendees are encouraged to bring blankets or chairs for a groovy day of live music provided by Act 1 Entertainment. There will also be vendors, food, refreshments and free adoptions.

"Dori and her staff do such unbelievable work and this is just another example of how successful they have been in making the public more aware of the plight of our shelter animals that are looking for homes," said Supervisor Lesko. "This is going to be such a fun event for everyone, animals included and I expect many of the animals will be adopted."

Councilwoman Jane Bonner said, "There are so many animals at the shelter that need the love of a family and a happy home and this event is a great opportunity for residents to meet their next best friend. I thank Dori and her staff for their dedication and the all the work they do on behalf of our furry friends."

"We are looking forward to a wonderful family fun day and many pet adoptions", said Dori Scofield, Director of the Animal Shelter and Adoption Center. "This is just another great event we are having to make the public aware of all the great animals we have here looking for their forever homes."

The Brookhaven Animal Shelter has been very progressive in launching programs that will increase adoption rates and pet retention and find homes for the many Pit Bulls and Pit Mixes in the Animal Shelter. The Brookhaven Bully Alliance (BBA), which was announced earlier this year, encourages other animal rescues to adopt Pit Bulls from the Brookhaven animal shelter and find loving homes for them. Every shelter dog that enters the BBA program is professionally evaluated, spayed or neutered, vaccinated and micro-chipped. $250 goes to each participating organization for the care of the animal.

The Brookhaven Animal Shelter has also recently introduced "Spay it Forward", a program that offers incentives to get animals spayed and neutered. This new program is presently concentrating on the ever-growing Pit Bull population in our township. For every Pit Bull that a resident gets spayed or neutered, the owner will receive a voucher to help another needy Pit Bull to receive the same services. The goal of this program is to help curb over-population and increase education and awareness about adopting Pit Bulls. The Animal Shelter is also providing free micro-chipping, vaccines, heartworm testing, and collars for anyone who gets their Pit Bull spayed or neutered.

Pit Bulls and Pit Mixes make up 95% of the approximately 200 dogs at the Brookhaven Animal Shelter.

The Town does not use taxpayer dollars to fund Spay it Forward or the Brookhaven Bully Alliance- the funds to pay participating organizations are provided by the Help the Animals Fund. The Help the Animals Fund is currently accepting donations and will be sponsoring various fundraising events to support this program and others. Residents who would like to sponsor one of the shelter's Pit Bulls can donate by visiting www.brookhaven.org/animalshelter and clicking the Help the Animals Fund link.

The Animal Shelter is located at 300 Horseblock Road in Brookhaven, NY and is open from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Monday through Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, and 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Sunday. For more information on the Brookhaven Animal Shelter, visit www.brookhaven.org/animalshelter.