



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
FEBRUARY 24, 2015

CONTACT:
LAURA VINROE
MEDIA COORDINATOR
LVINROE@HUMANEPA.ORG
717-393-6551 EXT. 239

Humane Veterinary Hospitals Lancaster Achieves National Accreditation

Lancaster, PA—Humane Veterinary Hospitals Lancaster has achieved the highest level of veterinary excellence following a thorough evaluation by the American Animal Hospital Association (AAHA). Humane Veterinary Hospitals Lancaster earned AAHA accreditation after a rigorous review of the hospital's practice protocols, medical equipment, facility and client service. "I'm so very proud of the veterinary team for their months of hard work to gain this accreditation," Dr. Neumann, Veterinarian for Humane Veterinary Hospitals Lancaster said, "It is truly a great accomplishment, and we are very happy to have the AAHA stamp of approval next to our name."

Unlike human hospitals, not all animal hospitals are required to be accredited.

Accredited hospitals are the only hospitals that choose to be evaluated on approximately 900 quality standards that go above and beyond basic state regulations, ranging from patient care and pain management to staff training and advanced diagnostic services. AAHA-accredited hospitals are recognized among the finest in the industry, and are consistently at the forefront of advanced veterinary medicine. AAHA standards are continuously reviewed and updated to keep accredited practices on the cutting edge of veterinary excellence.

"AAHA accreditation is HUGE," Humane Pennsylvania President and CEO Karel Minor stated, "Only about 12 percent of 33,000 animal hospitals in the United States have attained the accreditation and according to AAHA, our hospital is only the 15th non-profit to do so."

To maintain accredited status, Humane Veterinary Hospitals Lancaster must continue to be evaluated regularly by AAHA. Humane Veterinary Hospitals, with offices in Lancaster and Reading, is a division of Humane Pennsylvania. Formed to help ensure pet owners have ready access to high-quality veterinary care, which has been shown to decrease the likelihood of an animal ever entering an animal shelter, Humane Veterinary Hospitals also provides over \$700,000 in care value to sheltered animals and at-risk animals in the community each year.

"Our goal wasn't to merely have veterinarians and a veterinary practice, it was to have *the best* veterinary practice," said Minor, "This national accreditation is a statement to the community that our veterinarians not only do good work for animals, they do it as well as any practice in the region."

Humane Veterinary Hospitals Lancaster is open to the general public and accepting new patients. Pet owners look for AAHA-accredited hospitals because they value their pet's health and trust the consistent, expert care provided by the entire health care team. At Humane Veterinary Hospitals Lancaster, pet owners can expect to receive top notch client amenities and the highest quality care from a well-trained, professional veterinary team. The hospital has expanded their services and now boasts state-of-the-art digital radiology, dental and surgical suites. In addition to serving the

general public, the veterinary hospital also serves the Humane League of Lancaster County's animals, adopters and pet owners in financial need.

Humane Veterinary Hospitals Lancaster located at 2195 Lincoln Highway East in Lancaster can be reached at (717) 826-9762 or lancaster@hvhospitals.org. For more information, visit www.hvhospitals.org.

At the same time that Humane Veterinary Hospitals Lancaster earned AAHA accreditation, Humane Pennsylvania, the hospital's parent organization, recently acquired a new building in Reading, Pennsylvania. The new building will act as the Humane Pennsylvania's headquarters and will also be the future home to Humane Veterinary Hospitals Reading, allowing for the expansion of needed veterinary services to the Reading community. In the coming year, Humane Veterinary Hospitals Reading will complete renovations and begin the process to become AAHA accredited. It will be the first veterinary hospital in the City of Reading to earn this high level of veterinary excellence.

Humane Veterinary Hospitals Lancaster is a 501(c)3 organization. The non-profit is a part of Humane Pennsylvania, the largest network of animal welfare facilities in Pennsylvania. To learn more about Humane Pennsylvania and its services, please visit www.humanepa.org. For more information about AAHA accreditation, visit aaha.org/petowner.

###