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Strut Your Mutt, AWS' Largest Fundraiser in 22nd Year

WEST KENNEBUNK, Maine – August 29, 2016 – Strut Your Mutt, now in its 22nd year, remains the single largest fundraiser for the Animal Welfare Society. This year's event will be held on Sunday, September 11th on Mother's Beach in Kennebunk. The event covers a two-mile walk along the beach, and is attended by more than 250 people and their four-footed companions. Walkers are encouraged to collect pledges from friends, family and co-workers.

Again underwritten by Kennebunk Savings, the event raises a significant amount of funding needed to cover medical care of pets in need. Hundreds of thousands of dollars are spent annual on veterinary-related expenses for AWS pets awaiting adoption and pets in need in the community.

The annual fundraiser brings in more than \$70,000 toward medical expenses, and walkers have a great time participating. "Activities, including dog games and contests, vendor booths, kids' activities and a live band, really make the walk a festive event," said Kerrie Leclair, Director of Development at the shelter and one of the event organizers. "One of the best parts about the walk is seeing so many very loved pets having a great time on the beach," she said. Activities, day-of registrations and event check in kicks off at 9am and the walk steps off at 11am.

Other headlining sponsors of this year's event include IDEXX and Dr. Stephen Askin, the shelter's Chief Veterinarian.

For more information, or to get involved, visit the Animal Welfare Society's web site at www.animalwelfaresociety.org. Walkers can even create their own fundraising web pages. Registration fees begin at \$25 and include a t-shirt and goody bag.

About The Animal Welfare Society

The Animal Welfare Society exists to provide humane shelter and care to animals temporarily in need of housing, and to further the cause of responsible animal adoption and ownership through education and public awareness. The society actively promotes kindness, the elimination of cruelty and neglect to all animals, and the lifelong commitment of people to their pets. For more information please visit www.animalwelfaresociety.org.

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