



Barbecue Open House Benefits Special Needs Animals

- *Dearborn Councilman Robert Abraham and family host Hope's Heroes evening*
- *Event is in memory of family's dog that was killed in a fire in 2009*

DEARBORN, MI. July 11, 2016— The memory of a beloved family pet is the inspiration for a special annual fundraiser hosted by the Abraham family of Dearborn. The family is opening their home to the public on **July 25** to help support the Friends for Animals of Metro Detroit's (FAMD) Hope's Heroes program for special needs animals.

All are welcome to attend the sixth annual Abraham's Open House and Barbecue, which will be held from 5 to 9 p.m. on Saturday, July 25 at 510 Crescent Drive, Dearborn. City of Dearborn Firefighters and Police Department are sponsors of the gathering.

The Open House is in memory of the Abraham family's beloved Labrador retriever, Dublin, who was tragically killed in a 2009 house fire.

"This celebration is a way for our family to honor Dublin and simultaneously help the Friends for Animals of Metro Detroit, which benefits so many in our community," commented Councilman Abraham. "We are especially honored to have the continued support from the Dearborn firefighters, who were on the spot when we needed them personally and to help recognize Pet Fire Safety Day, which takes place on July 15."

In its first four years, the Abraham's Open House has raised more than \$47,000, directly benefiting shelter animals who require extra special hope.

Delicious barbecue fare will be served by [Smokey Rhodes BBQ](#) and [Park Place Caterers](#). Parking is in a residential neighborhood with arrangements available for special needs guests.

Friends for Animals of Metro Detroit helps care for thousands of rescued animals annually, as they prepare to become adoptable pet family members. Sometimes animals with severe injuries or special needs arrive at the Shelter and require extra resources. The Hope's Heroes program is designed specifically to help care for animals that require extraordinary measures to give them a second chance.

"This Open House is a key fundraising event for our special needs animals," said Elaine Greene, executive director, FAMD. "We are very grateful to the Abraham family and the Dearborn fire and police departments for their continued support of Hope's Heroes."

Contributions of \$50 per person are suggested, with all donations welcome. If unable to attend, donations can also be made online at

<https://www.metrodetroitanimals.org/event/abrahams-open-house-for-hopes-heroes-2/>

About FAMD

After 22 years of nurturing more than 47,300 animals, the Friends for Animals of Metro Detroit have embarked on the "Raise the Woof" public phase of their "Building a Home with Heart" capital campaign to construct a new Animal Adoption & Education Center. FAMD is located at 2661 Greenfield Road, Dearborn and can be found online at metrodetroitanimals.org.

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