# LEAGUE LINES %



Choose No-Kill. Choose the League.



The Holser family knew they wanted to adopt a new puppy, but they weren't in a hurry. The family of five, including their dog and cat, was settling into a new home in Milford, and planned to install a fence around their yard first. They also had a specific characteristic in mind.

"I wanted to adopt a deaf dog, because I knew they would be a great fit with our family," says Amanda Holser. "And so many deaf dogs are not adopted because people don't understand how to raise them."

Her rationale was simple. Her 12-year-old daughter Emily is deaf, and Amanda and one of her sons are hard of hearing. For a family that uses sign language to communicate at home, a deaf dog would be a perfect addition.

# Along Comes Snowball

Last January, taking advantage of a day off school, Amanda and Emily decided to check out the League. "We used to go to a shelter in Sharonville and socialize with some of the animals, so we thought we would find a place locally to do

the same," Amanda says. "When we got there, we had no intention of adopting a dog."

For Snowball, the timing could

# In This Issue

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# PRESIDENT'S LETTER

For those who have been to the League lately, you know that it is a very busy place! Here are just a few things that you may have seen along with a few highlights from this issue of *League Lines*:

 We have seen an increase in medical cases with incoming animals to the League. The League does not shy away from these animals and welcomes them so that we can provide the levels of care that they need. In this issue, you will see a heartwarming story of a deaf dog that found the perfect home.

"We encourage you to check out the our new website:

LFAW.org"

- One of the unique programs that the League offers is our bottle-feeding program for newborn kittens and puppies who find themselves without a mother and cannot survive on their own. This program exists because of the dedication of a unique group of volunteers who go above and beyond to save these animals and give them a chance at life. Meet one of those selfless volunteers in this issue.
- You may have noticed our new website! We are delighted

with the new site and encourage you to check it out at LFAW.org.

In the coming months we have many exciting initiatives including the inaugural Pet Jam on September 30th. Check out the back page for more details on this fun, pet-friendly event!

Enjoy this issue of League Lines and come out to the shelter for a visit



Barb Casciani, President

where you will witness firsthand our dedicated staff and volunteers saving animals from the life they were dealt and giving them the life they deserve.

For the animals,

Barb

Barb Casciani President, Board of Directors

# About Us

The League for Animal Welfare is a 501[c][3] organization. Our mission is to reduce the number of homeless cats and dogs in Greater Cincinnati by providing a compassionate no-kill animal shelter and programs that promote responsible pet care. For your privacy, the League does not sell, rent, lend or exchange its mailing lists. Please notify us if you do not wish to receive future mailings and/or fundraising communications designed to support the League for Animal Welfare by calling 513-735-2299 or emailing davina@LFAW.org.

On the Cover: Snowball finds a new forever home.

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# Hours of Operation:

 Monday-Tuesday
 11:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

 Wednesday
 12:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.

 Thursday
 Closed

 Friday-Saturday
 11:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

 Sunday
 12:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

# **3...2...1...launch website!**

We are pleased to announce, after months of hard work and dedication, the launch of our brand new website!
Our online presence is newer, sleeker, user friendly and comprehensive—it's entirely new (except the URL that is... we're still LFAW.org).

Our goal with this new website is to improve the user experience and allow for a quick, easy way to locate information. Interested in volunteering? A rotating carousel on the homepage presents that portal to you. Want to know more about donations? The homepage takes you you there as well. Want info on our history and leadership? The About page is accessible right next to our homepage logo. Need to plan your month and want to catch an Event? Top of page menu will take you there.

As an organization on the move, with new annual fundraisers like Pet Jam and new undertakings and initiatives, like the Mobile Veterinary Clinic, we put a premium on providing a web presence that allows for easily accessible information to our valued supporters, volunteers and adopters—past, present and future.

# What You Need To Know About Declawing

n England, declawing is termed "inhumane" and "unnecessary mutilation." In many European countries it is illegal. But it's still a common and widespread practice in the US. Why do people have their cats declawed in the first place, and what kind of implications does this have for the cats themselves?

Many cat owners have struggled with whether nor not to declaw their cat. Some think there is no other choice than to have it done to save their furniture. Others tried one or two things to train the cat but it didn't work. Sometimes, it's simply because they have always had declawed cats, or another established cat is declawed and they want to "be fair". Many people report that they are happier with their cats after declawing, because it makes the cats "better pets." Unfortunately, just as many people have discovered—too late—that declawing frequently leads to far worse problems than it solves.

Before you make the decision to declaw your cat, there are some important facts you should know.

It is serious surgery and more importantly, not one that is medically necessary. Your cat's claw is not a toenail.

A rose has thorns,
A cat has claws,
Certainly both are worth the risk.





Declawing, which is rightly described as "de-toeing" when the same procedure is done to chickens, is the amputation of each front toe at the first joint (hind foot declaws are not commonly done but would be equivalent). Physical recovery takes a few weeks, but even after the surgical wounds have healed, there are other long-term physical and psychological effects.

Declawing can also cause behavioral issues – the most common being not using the litter box properly. This is probably because after being declawed, the cat's front feet are sore and using the litter box causes pain. Therefore, they stop using the litter box and there is no more pain. This becomes a habit even after they are healed.

In addition, your cat may feel more vulnerable without his or her primary means of defense. This can cause the cat to be more fearful and to act out based on that fear. While the cat will not be able to scratch you, he or she can certainly bite and use the back claws which are just as painful and can be just as damaging, if not more.

# If not declawing, then what?

Scratching is a normal behavior of cats. It conditions the claws, serves as a visual and scent territorial marker, allows the cat to defend itself, and provides healthy muscle engagement through stretching. In many cases, a cat can be trained to scratch only appropriate surfaces. Most cat lovers know that veterinarians do not recommend declawing because of its painful effect on the animals. Some still feel that declawing is the only way they can manage their pets' scratching habits. However, a cat's excessive or inappropriate scratching behavior can become destructive or cause injury to people in the home. There are numerous training and management options that can help redirect scratching appropriately:

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# WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT DECLAWING: continued from page 3

- Providing appropriate scratching surfaces, such as dedicated posts and boards that are tall enough to encourage full stretching. What constitutes an attractive surface or location varies by cat, so don't be afraid to get creative!
- Scenting with catnip may help too.
- Frequent nail trims every 1 to 2 weeks
- Nail caps replaced every 4 to 6 weeks
- Positive reinforcement training, beginning with kitten kindergarten if available
- Pheromone sprays and/or plug-ins
- Discourage use of inappropriate surfaces by attaching sticky tape or tinfoil &



# **HEARING WITH THE HEART: Snowball's Story** continued from page 1

not have been more perfect. As a puppy, she had come to the League on a transport with her sibling just before Christmas. Diagnosed with ringworm, she was treated with a regimen of anti-fungal creams, sulfur baths and medication. The condition also required her to be isolated, which meant no socialization and no playing with volunteers or other pups.

"It was pretty hard on her," says adoption counselor Maddie Davis. "We were worried that she wouldn't be adoptable because she had so little contact and socialization." To complicate her situation further—as sometimes happens with pure white dogs—Snowball was deaf.

# "Like It Was Meant to Be"

Maddie met the Holsers when they arrived at the League on that January day, and walked them back to meet the dogs. "I saw this little all-white dog," Amanda says. "I knew that many times all-white dogs are deaf, so I asked about it. She looked a little surprised but told me that yes, she was deaf." Amanda signed the news to her daughter.

"They got so excited!" Maddie says. "That little girl's eyes just lit up. Seeing her meet that puppy was just the cutest."

From there, it was an easy adoption for Maddie. She left the pair to get to know Snowball, and when she came back, the puppy was asleep in Emily's arms. "We both knew that this was the dog for us, and there was no way we were leaving without her," Amanda says. "She was perfect for our family." And just that day, Snowball's culture for ringworm had come back negative, which meant she was finally available for adoption.

### **Evee Comes Home**

Now nine months old, Snowball has grown to 40 pounds of playful pup of undetermined breed. "We were told she is an Aussie mix, but our vet says she looks like a Husky mix," Amanda says with a laugh. "Almost everyone we meet has an opinion on what breed she is."

Her soft coat is still all-white, and with one blue and one black eye, she has a distinctive look. She also has a new name—Evee, after the Pokemon character (with a slight spelling change). "She's a total lap dog," Amanda says. Evee spends her days napping and chasing bugs in the Holser's newly-fenced-in backyard. "It is the funniest thing to see her running and jumping up in the air trying to catch a butterfly. She loves it when I chase her in the yard, too."

Initially shy—possibly because of her lack of early socialization—Evee has become loving and outgoing with people and other dogs. And she is learning sign language. "So far, Evee knows 'sit,' 'come here,' 'stay,' 'water,' 'food/ eat' and 'good job'," Amanda says, adding with a smile, "she doesn't always listen, though."

Says Maddie of Evee's match with her new family: "How cool is that, to be able to share something like that with your pet?" &

# Meet your perfect match

Our adoption counselors are trained to help potential adopters find the best pet for their home. Come see us when you're ready to add a new furry family member!

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# Volunteer Profile:

Q&A with Volunteer Karen Randall

# Do you have any pets of your own?

We adopted our first dog Yoshi from the League about 6 years ago. She was so scared of everything. It took many months for her to be comfortable with us. To say she was anti-social is an understatement. Donna (League's animal trainer) worked hard with her and helped us with her. If you met her today, you would never know. Two years ago, we decided she needed a friend. So we adopted another dog, Riley. Eventually we ended up adopting a total of 3 dogs (Yoshi, Riley and Honey) and 3 cats (Luna, Nightmare and Margaret). My daughter Hailey always jokes that we are the League's best customers.



# What is your role at the League?

After we got Yoshi, we took the volunteer classes to help socialize both dogs and cats. Soon we would be fostering and bottle feeding. I've done it before but not through the League.



# What is it about volunteering that keeps you coming back?

I can't describe how meaningful it is. I have had Crohn's Disease for about 12 years. It's very aggressive and I haven't found a medicine that works. It's so easy to get depressed about that and all the complications from the disease. When I foster it helps me focus on something way bigger. The puppies and kittens

always make me smile. When you bottle feed them and watch them grow the feeling is indescribable. The love you give them comes back to you tenfold. Watching them grow



# "The love you give them comes back to you tenfold."

and become strong, knowing you gave them a chance to survive. It's such a wonderful feeling.



# For people who have considered volunteering—but haven't yet—what would you tell them about volunteering?

The League is always there supporting me if I need anything to help me, help them. It's very apparent how much the League cares for their animals. I always tell people how rewarding it

is to volunteer there. Whether you go there for 5 minutes petting a cat or an hour walking dogs it makes a huge difference for these animals.

Make a difference!

Contact Carrie Leary at 513-735-2299 or carrie@LFAW. org to learn more about becoming a volunteer.

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# IT'S TIME TO RENEW KROGER REWARDS!

id you know last year, League supporters helped raised over \$6,400 through Kroger's Community Rewards program? You can support League dogs and cats by simply shopping at Kroger. How easy is that?

To get started, sign up with your Plus Card and select the League as the organization you wish to support. Once you're enrolled, you'll earn rewards for the League every time you shop and use your Plus Card! And if you're already supporting the League through Kroger Rewards, you must renew this designation each year

With every necessity you grab at Kroger, you can help the League dogs and cats!

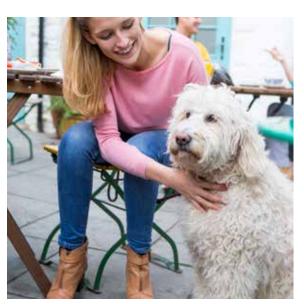
Sign up or renew today!



# ON THE LEGISLATIVE HORIZON

f you've ever traveled in Europe, you've seen them everywhere. Pups and people sitting together on cafe patios. They are one of the most common -- and envied -- features of European dining al fresco. Here in the States, not so much. But there's an Ohio state senator from Liberty Township who wants to change all of that.

Sen. Bill Coley recently introduced a bill in the Ohio State Senate that would allow restaurants to welcome dogs onto their outdoor patios so long as local health department standards for cleanliness and food safety are met. A comparable bill has been introduced in the Ohio House by Rep. Laura Lanese of Grove City.

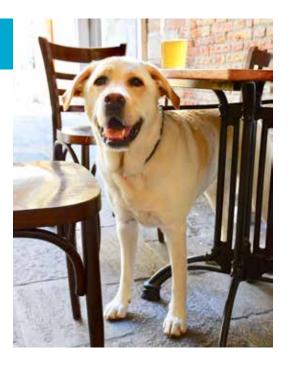


Currently, pets are not permitted on restaurant patios or inside any establishment that sells food. The only exception

is service dogs, and these same rules also apply in Kentucky and many other states around the country.

According to an article in the Cincinnati Enquirer (August 22, p.5A), Coley frequently brings his two sheep dogs with him to restaurants and hotels while on vacation, and sees no reason why that same level of acceptance cannot be enjoyed here at home.

"Why should a health department get to be onerous and say, 'No, no. Nowhere in my jurisdiction, in my fiefdom shall there be a dog.' What the heck?" Coley asked. Now it will be up to the state legislature to answer those questions when both the house and senate bills are considered later this year.



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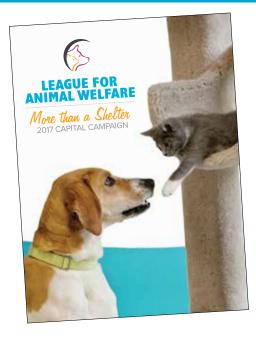
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# More than a Shelter 2017 CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

This \$1.5M campaign will fund a major building addition that will significantly address the numerous needs that are beyond the capacity of our current structure.







- Add a Permanent Veterinary Clinic at the League which will free our Mobile Veterinary Clinic to take to the road. Now we can serve the unmet needs of pets in outlying rural counties on a regular basis, providing spay & neutering, low-cost wellness care, vaccines, x-rays, dental cleanings, over-the-counter and prescription medications for those who can't afford to take their pets to a private veterinarian. In addition, our onsite medical care will also be able to expand.
- Create a dedicated Animal Training and Enrichment space which is essential to ensuring that a dog or cat of any age has the basic socialization skills required to fit comfortably into a new family and promote responsible pet parenting and successful adoptions.
- Provide a Designated Intake and Holding area away from the shelter population for for rescue animals. Intake and holding of rescue animals will advance the League's no-kill mission by increasing shelter capacity. This will allow us to save healthy, adoptable animals facing euthanasia due to over-crowded conditions in many public shelters.

HONORARY CAMPAIGN CHAIRS Sara and Michelle Vance Waddell

STEERING COMMITTEE Nick & Nina Clooney Christopher & Sheila DeSimio David & Pamela Ginsberg Marilyn Scripps Paula Toti & Tim Smith

### CAMPAIGN CABINET

Carol Sanger, Chair Jon Parker, Vice Chair Barb Casciani Diann Cox Bruce Gack Marilyn Goodrich Jamie Lindemann

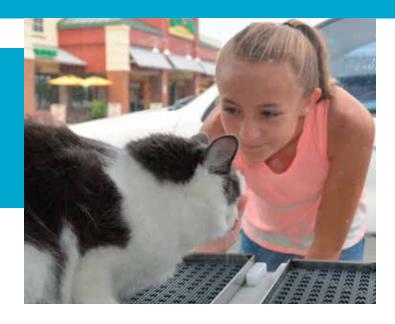
The League for Animal Welfare provides a need to the community and receives no government funding. It relies solely on the generosity of caring and committed people like you.

With your help, our dog and cat friends receive the love and nurturing, the needed care and physical attention, and the advocacy that will provide them a forever home. The League is more than a shelter.

LFAW.org League Lines 🐍 Fall 2017

# Calendar of Events

Come visit us at one of our off-site events. Meet cats and dogs looking for their forever home at one of our adoption events. Help raise funds for the League's mission. And enjoy live music, food and drink at the first ever Pet Jam fundraiser! 📸



# WED **27** SEP

12:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.

# **Adoption Event**

# **WHERE**

Petco

260 West Main Street Amelia, OH 45102

12:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.

# **Adoption Event**

# WHERE

Pet Supplies Plus 11345 Montgomery Rd. Cincinnati, OH 45249

## **WHEN**

 $11:00_{a.m.-}10:00_{p.m.}$   $12:00_{p.m.-}3:00_{p.m.}$ 

## **Dine & Donate**

# WHERE

Raising Cane's in front of Hobby Lobby 826 Eastgate North Drive Cincinnati, OH 45245

# **Adoption Event**

## **WHERE**

Petco 260 West Main Street Amelia OH 45102

# **WHEN**

12:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.

# **Adoption Event**

# WHERE

Shaw Farms 1737 OH-131 Milford, OH 45150

# SUN **15**

# **WHEN**

8:30<sub>a.m.-</sub>12:00<sub>p.m.</sub>

# **Paw Joggers Run Fundraiser**

## **WHERE**

Sharon Woods Park 11450 Lebanon Rd. Sharonville, OH 45241

# **SIGN UP AT**

pawjoggersrescuerun.com

# **WHEN**

12:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.

# **Adoption Event**

# WHERE

Burger Farms 7849 Main St. (Route 32) Cincinnati. OH 45244

# SAT 30 SEP

## **PET JAM**

The League's newest fundraiser, a family- and pet-friendly music fest.

# WHEN

2:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m.

### WHERE

932 O'Bannonville Road Loveland, OH 45140

# **01** DFC

# **HOLIDAY PARTY**

More details coming this fall!

# WHEN

6:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m.

# **WHERE**

10681 Loveland Madeira Rd, Loveland, OH 45140

# Ice Cream Social:

A Delicious Success!

n Saturday, July 15, the League welcomed adopters back for an old-fashioned ice cream social—complete with soft-serve ice cream and cotton candy, snow cones and, not to be forgotten, frozen treats for our favorite furry friends. And League staff and volunteers bubbled over with joy at this chance to reconnect with the special people who opened their hearts and homes to animals in need—human and animal, alike!

League alums Koco and Alexa showed off their skills during a dog agility demonstration with their owners, Susan Lichholt and Michelle Martin-Hisnay. Kids enjoyed face painting by professional make-up artist Bethany Alis. Add in the astounding tricks from the amazing roaming magician Keith Moeller and the ever-popular "musical towels" game with League animal trainer Donna, and you've got a recipe for a day to remember!

Special thanks to photographer Alyssa Morrow for capturing the happy occasion, and to Gold Medal Products for donating the delicious ice cream.











\_FAW.org League Lines 🛴 Fall 2017

# **VOLUNTEER CORNER:** Flexible Opportunities

t was Winston Churchill who said, "We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give."

When Sandra Hassman had retired from giving of herself as a teacher, she decided to give of herself as a volunteer. She had been friends with volunteer Joyce Blersch for over 20 years and had always heard Joyce speak fondly of the League. So, thanks to Joyce, Sandra headed right to the shelter!

Since her first event 2.5 years ago working with Carrie Leary, Sandra has worked adoption events for the shelter. "Those events are a great way for us to introduce the League to people, socialize the dogs and get donations," she says. "I'm amazed at how many people have adopted from us and they love to show you pictures and want to know if we recognize their pet. This was one aspect of the events that surprised me!"

For people who have considered volunteering at the League, Sandra shares

her experiences and points out the flexibility and opportunities doing

everything from transporting adoptees to maintaining the gardens. "I have a great fondness for dogs and cats and how well they are treated keeps me coming back, says Sandra. "Plus I have made lots of new friends as a bonus!"

Sandra can be found at various adoption events and also playing with her "royal dog", a Pembroke Welsh Corgi named Chelsea. (Earlier this year, Chelsea overcame an immune system disorder. Yay, Chelsea!)



The League is no ordinary shelter; the staff and volunteers truly love the animals and rejoice at every adoption!"
~Sandra Hassman

# SHELTER SHOUT OUTS

ur generous community gives hope to homeless cats and dogs. The League for Animal Welfare is grateful for the following initiatives during the second quarter of 2017:

- Community Shares' workplace giving campaigns raised more than \$2,600
- Portrait sessions with League volunteer and professional photographer Alyssa Morrow raised \$400
- The League received \$350 through the Flying Pig Marathon's Piggest Raffle
- Patrons at Roney's in Milford and Everything Bagels in Eastgate donated more than \$150 in League collection jars
- Nielsen employees donated materials, supplies and labor to construct a new shed when our old one was damaged during a storm
- League-loving Kroger shoppers raised more than \$1,500 through the Kroger Rewards program

We appreciate all those in our community who help support the League's mission.  $\ensuremath{\text{\$}}\xspace$ 



Corporate volunteers from Nielsen spent 3 days to construct a new storage shed

# **Get creative!**

If you have a fun idea to raise funds for the League, please contact Davina Prebble at davina@LFAW.org or 513-735-2299 x217. ❖

League Lines 4 Fall 2017 League for Animal Welfare



# **Jacks** EDOB 8/2012

Our sweet boy Jacks is pretty shy and timid at first. He's had some tough experiences and likes to size up new situations. So he takes a little while to warm up to new things...especially other dogs. Jacks is a wonderful dog with so much potential. He just needs a human who will work with him on his socialization or someone who will love him the way he is. Are you a patient person with time and love to spare? Jacks is your guy.



# **Hoops** EDOB 7/2016

Hoops came to the League from a shelter in Kentucky. She is very sweet. Hoops is under socialized so she is wary of every noise, movement, and new person. A beagle mix, Hoops is very alert and explores her surroundings before agreeing to meet a new person. She will do best in a home with

patient owners who will give her the time she needs to gain confidence while at the same time creating some guidelines for her to follow. Hoops will also benefit in a home where there is already another dog. This girl will, in time, become a content and happy pet. Apprehension at every new experience will be a thing of the past.

# **Harlan** EDOB 10/2015

Harlan gets lots of attention at the shelter. He came to us when he was surrendered to another shelter. League volunteers love to carry this little Maltese mix around. He does not mind because he delights in being the center of attention. Harlan is friendly but has a jealous streak. He can get a little

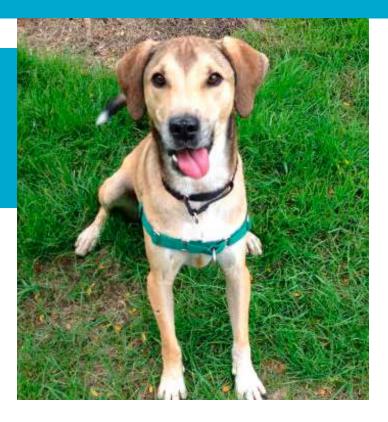


agitated around other dogs for that reason. He will do best in a home where his owner will give him attention but also allow him to gain some independence by working with him on leash walking, obedience commands and basic doggy manner. Maltese dogs are very smart and fast learners. Harlan longs to give and get attention...come and get it!



# **Mop** EDOB 4/2005

Mop lost her home because her owner was elderly and could no longer take care of her. She is a very talkative gal and has a lot to say to her visitors. She is used to a quiet home so she would be happiest in



a home with no children. She wants a new owner who has time for her...someone who has patience while she adjusts. She loves to have her chin scratched and to be petted. She will come up to sit by you on her terms. She would prefer you not to pick you up. She will be a wonderful companion to her new owner. P.S. You might want to put her on a diet.

## **Autumn** FDOB 2/2012

Autumn had a home until a member of the family became allergic to cats. She lived with other cats and children, so was accustomed to a busy house. But she's bewildered by her surroundings right now, and is a little shy because of it. However, she responds lovingly to a gentle touch.



Autumn craves attention and needs a forever home where she will be loved and cherished for her sweet personality.



## **Danni** FDOB 4/2015

Danni is a very pretty, very regal lady. She was found as a pregnant stray and brought to the League. She is independent, so she decides when she wants to be petted. She will then purr and purr and purr and

PURR! She does like people on her terms. Danni does not bother the other cats in her room...she's a bit of a lone wolf who is more than capable of entertaining herself. If you are looking for a very pretty cat who will cherish you, Danni is the one for you.



# 😝 For more information:

These animals may already be in their forever homes. but you can view the cats and dogs available for adoption at LFAW.org 🧇

LFAW.org League Lines 1 Fall 2017



4193 Taylor Road Batavia, Ohio 45103

P: 513.735.2299 F: 513.735.0474 E: info@lfaw.org W: LFAW.org

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SATURDAY September 30, 2017 2-10pm

Proudly presented by

GRAILVILLE 932 O'Bannonville Rd. • Loveland, OH 45140 FREE PARKING!

Chris Lee Acoustic • Chakras • Encore Duo Kumasi Project • Elementree Livity Project • Miss Jacque **Boo Radley • Veronica Grim & The Heavy Hearts** Circus Siren Orchestra • RP Coltrane • The Verbs • White Liger The Millcreek Drifters • Devon Johnson and The Midnight Travelers Nicholas Brehm The Absolute Beginners • No Sorrow



\$10/Adult • \$5/Kids ages 5-17 Kids under 5 & Pets\* are FREE! \*Well-behaved, leashed (NO retractable leads) and vaccinated pets are welcome to join in the fun too!

# **SHOPPING:**

Vendor Village featuring beauty, handmade goods, health and wellness, pet services and supplies, home improvement, and more!

BG's Grill • 50 West Brewing Co. • Pizza Hut Rhinegeist Brewery • Power Blendz Texas Roadhouse • SmokerEZ • Veg Head Queen City Brewery • Madtree Brewing **Fibonacci Brewing Company** 

Have fun at the Hug the World Foundation Family Zone & meet some of the League's adoptable cats and dogs!



OUR SPONSORS: BOUTH







Bentley's Pet Stuff, Camp Bow Wow, Care Center, Deck Renewal Systems, DogWatch Hidden Fences, Hillside Small Animal Hospital, Lykins Energy Solutions, MedVet, PNC Bank, Sanger & Eby, Withamsville Animal Hospital