LEAGUE LINES %



WINSTON'S STORY: A SWEET SENIOR FINDS HIS SAFE HAVEN A Match Made at the League

he AA Highway in Bracken County, KY isn't a very hospitable home for a dog. Traffic averages around 60 mph on the mainly rural, two-lane road, which is largely surrounded by forest. No one is quite sure how Winston ended up there, or how long he had been there, although his physical condition suggested it had been awhile.

Winston's luck turned one day last May. A good Samaritan spotted the gentle beagle mix with the white muzzle, scooped him up and brought him to the Bracken County Animal Shelter, where he could hope for a shot at a happy life. As an elderly dog, his odds for adoption were longer than most. But a few weeks later, Winston's luck still held: He was transported from the shelter to the League for Animal Welfare.

Looking for a special senior

Sandy Honsa-Schulz and her husband, Robert, are long-time supporters of the League. The Liberty Township couple has volunteered with cats, dogs and gardening, and over the years brought home no fewer than eight cats and three dogs to join their family. So it was a natural that when they were looking for a companion for their older Bassett/beagle mix Maddie, they looked to the League.

"One day we were looking at my newsfeed on Facebook, and we saw the story about Winston's 'freedom ride' from a shelter in Bracken County," Sandy says. "We wanted to meet him and see if he would be a good fit for our

UPCOMING EVENTS: MARCH 2019 - MAY 2019

SATURDAY, MARCH 2 SATURDAY, MARCH 9 SATURDAY, APRIL 6

WHEN

11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Adoption Event

WHERE

Wilmington World **Equestrian Center** 4095 OH 730 Wilmington, OH 45177

SATURDAY, MARCH 16

WHEN

1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.

Fasching Festival

WHERE

Fairview-Clifton German Language School 3684 Clifton Ave. Cincinnati, OH 45220

SUNDAY, MARCH 17

WHEN

2:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.

St. Puptrick's Day **Fundraiser**

WHERE

50 West Production Works 7605 Wooster Pike Cincinnati, OH 45227

SATURDAY, MARCH 23

WHEN

11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Mutt Madness

WHERE

Washington Park 1230 Elm Street Cincinnati, OH 45202

Please visit LFAW.org to see our calendar for monthly events at these pet stores

Bentley's Pet Stuff Cherry Grove 442 Ohio Pike Cincinnati, OH 45255

Petco Amelia 260 W. Main St. Amelia, OH 45102

Pet Supplies Plus 11345 Montgomery Rd. Cincinnati, Ŏh 45249

SATURDAY, APRIL 20

WHEN

9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Cincinnati Cat Club Show

WHERE

Butler County Fairgrounds 1715 Fairgrove Ave. Hamilton, OH 45011

SUNDAY, MAY 5

WHEN

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

Adoption Event

WHERE

Main St. Animal Hospital 106 E. Main St. Amelia, OH 45102

SATURDAY, MAY 11

WHEN

9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Adoption Event

WHERE

Covington Farmer's Market 124 E 3rd St. Covington, KY 41011

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 513-752-0292 or emailing autumn@LFAW.org.

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12:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. Monday 12:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. Tuesday 12:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. Wednesday Thursday Closed 11:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Friday-Saturday 12:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m

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Penelope EBOD 1/25/16

She is a very sweet, goofy girl. She will do best with older children and will need

daily exercise. Are you her someone special?



Fireball EDOB 4/13/16

Found as a stray, Fireball is quite reserved. He does respond to soft pets and seems to enjoy

the attention once he realizes you are friendly.

View all the cats and dogs available for adoption at LFAW.org/adopt

Protect Your Pets

Who doesn't love a good reunion story? We cry tears of joy when we see a Facebook post reuniting a lost pet with their family, and microchips are making these stories possible. When a pet has a microchip, the chances for a reunion doubles which is why the League microchips all animals prior to



adoption. Last Father's Day, a League adopter was reconnected with his lost dog when a Good Samaritan found him and had him scanned for a microchip. Make sure you update your pet's microchip information any time your contact information changes (see "Moving with Your Pet" article on page 3).

Moving with Your Pet: Ease the transition

hough often exciting, moving can be a very stressful time in our lives. Finding a new home, selling a home, packing and unpacking our belongings, transferring school and medical records, and adjusting to new routines can make anyone feel out of sorts. But just imagine what this big change also means to your pet.

With some careful planning, you can reduce stress and provide a smoother transition to a new environment for both you and your pet. Every day, the League's adoption counselors provide adopters with helpful tips to aid pets in adjusting to their forever homes. Lead adoption counselor, Anne Springman, suggests these same recommendations help with your pet's transition from one home to another, as well as offers some additional words of advice.

Pre-Move Checklist

- Pack your pet's medications and enough food for a few days, in case anything gets misplaced in the move
- Update your pet's vaccinations, especially if you will board them anytime during the move
- Identify and document emergency veterinary services in your new neighborhood
- Research dog parks and day care services

Move-In Checklist

- Update microchip and purchase new identification tag immediately with your new address and phone number
- ☐ Purchase dog license, within 30 days of vour move
- □ Transfer your pet's medical records to your new vet; if moving far from your current home, ask your new neighbors for vet recommendations
- ☐ Familiarize yourself with county and state animal laws in your new area



Familiar items can help pets as they acclimate in their new space. "When possible, transport your pet's bed, crate, toys, food bowls, leashes, and collars in advance," Anne says. "These familiar items will provide comfort." Our pets thrive on routines whether it's when they eat, go for walks, or go to bed. Maintaining established routines in your new home can ease the transition for your pet.

Cats and dogs adapt to new environments differently. For your cat, start by limiting her space to a safe room where she can decompress while settling in. Food, water and a clean litter box should be available. Anne suggests spending time with your cat in the safe

room, "being careful not to invade

that space or expect her to respond as she did in your former home." Cats love boxes so consider adding an empty box as you

unpack, giving Fluffy a safe hiding place.

Dogs are pack animals, and as a member of your dog's pack, he will likely prefer to stay near you. Give him a leashed tour of your new home so he can investigate new smells and sounds with you by his side. Crates can provide

a safe, quiet, comfortable place for him during his adjustment period. Be sure

he has easy access to water.

Pet-proofing your new home is critical when moving.

Take precautions to prevent escape through an open door, window or fence when a dog or cat may feel stressed and frightened. You will want to provide ample opportunities for your dog to relieve himself outside. Anxiety and boredom can lead to destructive behavior so Anne recommends selecting "safe chew toys such as rubber and nylon bones during playtime. If anxiety continues, a vet

FAW.org League Lines 🦜 Spring 2019

MOVING WITH YOUR PET: continued from page 3

visit is always appropriate, but you may also want to consult with a reputable dog trainer."

Before hitting the road, make a plan for your pet's safe transport. Dogs and cats should be either belted in with a special restrainer or ride in a safe kennel attached or belted to the car seat or positioned safely on the floor of your vehicle. Remember to take all medicines and plenty of food, water and treats to complete the trip. For cats, take

a small litter pan, along with paper towels and wipes for any accidents in the car. Stop every 1-2 hours for dogs to stretch their legs. GPS collars may be advisable for cats or dogs who are flight risks.

Just like a newly-adopted animal, your pet will need time to make the adjustment in your new home. Remember, patience and understanding are essential. Don't rush your pet; he or she will adjust in his or her own time.

WINSTON'S STORY: continued from page 1

family (Maddie plus our three cats, Bella, Harley and Purrkins) ... they told us we had to wait until he had completed his health exams and treatments."



Love at first sight

When Winston arrived at the League in late May, his life on the road had taken a toll. Dehydrated and malnourished, he had an inflamed paw, a cyst on his leg, tapeworm and advanced dental disease. The staff at the League named him Valor, "because he had been through so much, yet he was such a kind and sweet dog," Sandy says.

After a couple of weeks of health treatments and dental procedures, Winston was ready to meet potential adopters. "We went to the League the first day he was available for adoption," Sandy says. "We brought Maddie with us so they could meet each other. Winston was still recovering from some dental work, so we met him in the puppy room. Our visit with him went very well. He was very sweet, gentle, and happy. He and Maddie got along well. He sat with my husband and went to sleep. Then we went for a short walk outside with him, and he and Maddie did the 'hound thing'—noses to the ground, sniffing everything in their path."

It was love at first sight, Sandy says, but there were a few details to consider before they could seal the deal and bring Winston home. Because he had been an outdoor dog, Winston was not housebroken, and he was not trained for crates or obedience commands. As an older gentleman—they estimate Winston was about 10 when he was adopted—he was more likely to develop health issues.

The League staff worked with Sandy and Robert to find a house

training program that was right for Winston—in his case, belly bands came to the rescue—and on crate training. Eligible for the "Young at Heart" portion of the League's None Left Behind program, Winston's expenses – veterinary care for special needs, medications and other care requirements related to his advanced age – are covered by the League.

"As long-time volunteers and supporters of the League, we know that the staff and volunteers are so loving and kind to all the animals," Sandy says. "We certainly saw that with the way they treated Winston, and his response to them, and their willingness to help us make an adoption work well."

Settling into the comforts of home

After the better part of a year with Sandy, Robert, Maddie and the kitties, Winston has settled into his new home. He loves visits to the local dog park, Wiggly Field, special treats like baby carrots and peanut butter KONGs, and the simple pleasure of regular meals.

"He really enjoys eating, and quickly learned that the kitchen is the awesome place where food is found," Sandy says. "He and Maddie have treats throughout the day—if I forget, he will give me 'the look'," Sandy says.

"He just takes each day as it comes, and is thrilled to do typical things like going for a walk, having his ears rubbed, taking a nap, riding in the car...I think that if the Westminster Dog Show made a new group called The Shopping Group, he and Maddie would be the winners. They love going with me to the store and running errands!"

As for the simple pleasures of adopting a senior dog, Sandy says it's a special kind of joy: "We are honored to give a senior pet a safe and loving home for the rest of his life ... we look at each day as a blessing with them. We love knowing that their last years will be happy and comfortable, and that they will never be hungry again. We love having special moments each day with them, and seeing them be themselves, without a care in the world."

League Lines 📕 Spring 2019 League for Animal Welfare

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Rose Marie Abbott Birgitta Kindel Terry Trepel Susan Wilkinson Beth Wilkinson

PET TRIBUTES

IN HONOR OF

ΑJ

Walter & Lorraine Hodge

Arlo Sojka

Ann Sojka

Bella

Amy Watts

Brody

Charity Bonapfel

Chloe

Nancy Hodges

Clem

Sandra & David Grau

Cleo Grace

Rebecca Herbst

Dandy

Elaine & Kent Frazier

Diesel and Nikita

Sharon Herrick

Erin

Karol Kennedy & John DeJager

Georgie Girl and Tommy Boy

Sharon Herrick

Gizmo

Debbie & Thomas Schafer

Guinness

Patrick Ngo

Harp and Seymour

Seth Runyan

Julian & Lennon

Savannah Poynter

Lucy

Phillip & Rosemary Barnett

Kata

Meghan Kaskoun & Melinda Tarter

Madea

Kate Lippelman-Zwick Buzz Sanders

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Donna Kabakoff

Romeo and Ariel

Evelyn Finegan Rudy Biersack

Rudy Biersack

Amy Biersack Rugor and Willie

Chris Ware

Sassy

Richard Dumont

Smilie

Letitia Wilson

Tony

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Angel

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Jen Hawkins

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Park Plaza Animal Hospital

Bluebell

Brandy Reed

Boots

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Ed & Dorothy Boyd

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Chelsie, Fritzy and Skippy

Sharon & Louis Schwartz

Cindy Gibson

Park Plaza Animal Hospital

Cisco

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Kazzandra Tarnowsky

Connor

Michael & Robyn Ross

Dolly

Linda Kline

Dude

Robert Broderick

Eliza

Sue Hyde

Tracy A. Luddeke

Sue Schellhous

Ellie

Randi Sandlin

Fletch and Marcy

Penny Kee & Barry Congrove

Fred Horne

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Linda Kline

Gizmo, Dexter and Scooter

Jim & Joyce Lambert

Gladys Eades Betty Daugherty

Ronda Reeves

Grayson

Thelma Pryse

Gretchen Ellen Wittekind

Henry

Jerri Nickell

Jack

Marilyn & Matt Goodrich Sue Hyde Sue Schellhous Myra Schiff

Kathy Steele

Jake and Lucy

Michele & Joseph Cilurzo

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Diann Cox & Don Aren

Keltie and Kurry

Norman & Barbara Thompson

Kenny

Randi Sandlin

Keta

Karen Hensley Kit Kat Quehl

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Don Clark

Leo Klooster

Park Plaza Animal Hospital

Libby

Beth Harker Li'l Bit

Deborah Ulrich

ily

Joan & Dennis Long

Loki

Alison Bloomer
Louise, Django, and Layla

Kevin Foster

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Park Plaza Animal Hospital **Wilson**

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Thomas Lucas

Donor Profile:Q&A with Danielle Seurkamp

As a Hope 365 donor, Danielle Seurkamp's monthly comitment gives hope to all the homeless animals who find their way to the League for Animal Welfare. Her gifts of treasure and time as a volunteer give her a first-hand look into the wonderful work taking place every day in our shelter. Learn a little more about her experience with the League.



What role have pets played in your life?

My pets are an enduring source of happiness in my life. I have loved animals since I was kid and even career-shadowed with a Veterinarian when I was in 10th grade. I got my cat, Biscuit, the very first day I moved into my own apartment and my second cat. Tinv. six months later. Within a few months of having my own house and yard,

our dog, Otis, joined the family. I can't imagine living in a home without pets.

How did you first hear about the League?

I actually found the League on the internet when I was searching for a no-kill shelter to support through volunteering. The League isn't too far from where we live in Loveland and once I came in for the training, I could guickly see how much good was being done.

Why did you choose to support the League?

What I appreciate about the League is that the focus is always on finding forever homes for animals, not only to improve that animal's life, but to make room for another animal who is suffering. I am in awe of the amount of attention that is paid, especially to the animals who need to recover from abuse or improve behavioral issues. I remember working with a dog who had been so mistreated, she cowered and urinated the first time we tried to take her out. A few weeks later, she was happily bounding around. If you hadn't seen her before, you'd never know she had suffered. It was truly incredible.



How do you feel when you make a gift to the League?

I love that there are so many ways to help, from exercising and visiting with the animals, to working at an adoption event, to donating supplies and money. Recently, I haven't gotten to visit with the animals at the shelter as often as I like, but I feel good knowing that I am supporting the League with a consistent monthly donation. As my husband will tell you. I immediately cry at the first sign of a hurt animal even if it's in a movie. To know that what I do helps in even a small way to improve the lives of animals brings me so much joy.



If your pets could talk, what do you think they would tell you?

They would tell me to focus on the good stuff - eating, playing, going outside, cuddling, and taking naps. Animals are great for bringing

you into the present moment. As I see it, that's one of their greatest gifts to people. 📸



Learn more about becoming a monthly donor at bit.ly/Hope365 🦀

LFAW.org League Lines **L** Spring 2019



n 1949, a University of Cincinnati professor named Victor Coles, supported by his wife, Gertrude, decided something needed to be done to help the area's many homeless and forgotten animals. There were far too many locked in cages at the local "pound," waiting for adoption or, more likely, an early death.

To Victor Coles' mind, this was wrong. There needed to be another answer. And so were sown the seeds of Greater Cincinnati's original no-kill animal shelter -- the League for Animal Welfare.

How and where the League began operating, who was involved and how it grew over the years are details now lost in the dusty annals of time. Somewhere along the way, photos, scrapbooks and documents chronicling the founding of the League and its earliest days were discarded, most probably during a purge to reclaim every square foot of useable shelter space.

So although there is much about the League's beginnings that we don't know, there is one thing of which we are quite sure — the shelter that stands today on 21 wooded acres in Batavia is the hard-won realization of Professor Coles' long-ago vision.

Of the League's more recent decades, we fortunately can rely on the recollections of long-time volunteers such as Joyce Blersch, who began working with the League in the early '80s.

The accompanying newspaper photo from that period shows the League's first shelter on Heitman Lane near Eastgate. According to the photo's cutline, the Heitman facility at that

point was more than 30 years old, meaning it had been operating as a shelter there since sometime in the 1950s.

It was a small frame house with adjoining kennels and out buildings, and Joyce recalls as many as 100 cats and 25 dogs being housed there at one time. From those humble beginnings, the League grew into a regional leader in the no-kill movement — sheltering, training, educating and advocating.

The League moved into the current shelter at 4193 Taylor Road in 1999, but it was not a transition without controversy. Joyce remembers that it took nearly a decade to find and secure the current

property after at least five other failed attempts. While people might love animals and support the cause, too many objected to the idea of an animal shelter in their neighborhood.



"We found this place, with airplanes flying overhead and we figured, who could complain?" Joyce recalls. And so the land was purchased with considerable help from people near and far who had learned through the media about the League's troubles finding a site to relocate.

"People heard about this poor shelter that was being treated so badly...and the money started pouring in." As a result, when the new shelter opened, it was able to do so without a mortgage and to begin operating debt free.

A Mobile Veterinary Clinic (MVC) purchased in 2015 took League services to a new level, providing veterinary care for League animals and taking spay/neuter and pet wellness into more underserved rural areas.

As the League turns 70, a new era of growth and expansion is on the horizon. After a successful capital campaign that raised more than \$1.2 million, groundbreaking for a permanent onsite veterinary clinic is scheduled for March 29.

It will be constructed as a wing connected off of the current shelter lobby. Included will be surgical suites, exam rooms, separate animal intake and isolation areas to prevent the spread of contagions, rooms for newborns, and holding areas for animals ready to move into the shelter. In addition to League animals, the clinic eventually will provide veterinary care for other shelters, rescues, adopters and

community animals.

When the new clinic opens its doors in late summer, it will mark the beginning of yet another new chapter in the League's long, proud history — a history that began with a dream and changed the face of animal care in Greater Cincinnati forevermore.





Volunteer Corner:

olunteers are at the heart of the League for Animal Welfare. They provide loving care and attention to the animals, preparing them for life in a forever home. While the ways in which our volunteers help may vary, they all have a deep love for animals, first and foremost.

When Denise Hollis finally decided to retire after 45 years in nursing, this Withamsville resident looked around for something else that ignited her passion for caring for others. She soon discovered her new calling at the League.

"It was so easy to get involved here," she said. "Everyone was so warm and welcoming, but still very professional." And like

virtually every first-time visitor to the shelter, she was amazed at how clean and odor-free it was, and how well the animals were taken care of.

It was enough to draw her in, and eventually to begin working with the League's more difficult (read: hard to place) cats.

"The easy ones you know are going to get homes, so I've been drawn to the more challenging ones," she explained. "Maybe it's my nursing background."

Denise found her biggest challenge to date when she

met Arbee, a grey and white girl with beautiful green eyes that sadly radiated distrust of humans.

"She likes to bite" Denise said in a simple, matter-of-fact tone. "You just walk into the room and she bites your legs." So in addition to boxes of Band-Aids, Denise brings with her a good deal of patience, sitting for hours with Arbee, stroking her, teaching her to trust and helping her heal from whatever trauma she may have experienced in the past.

"I just know there's a friendly cat in there and I want to help her bring it out," Denise said. Her fondest hope is for Arbee to find a home with an adopter who looks deep into those gorgeous green eyes and sees the friendly, loving cat that's been hiding there all along.

Could that perfect home be Denise's? Unfortunately, husband Rick's allergies make that impossible. But the good news is that there will always be cats like Arbee waiting for Denise at the League.

Like so many others, Dave Hopper found his volunteer calling the League by accident. Having lived and worked in the Fairfax area for years, he admits he had heard of the League but really knew nothing about it.



All of that changed in October 2017 when, with winter approaching, the League got a call about two dogs that had been living around an RV park on the river in New Richmond.

It was a typical Cincinnati story of who knows whom, connecting community dots and two-degrees of separation that eventually brought Dave to the shelter to meet the rescued dogs, named Raven and Pop Tart. He made a small donation and went on his way.

The following summer, after receiving the wrong cat food for his diabetic cat, Dave brought it, along with a cage and other items, out to the League to donate.

"Looking around, I thought this place is really nice, and so clean," Dave said, echoing countless other first impressions. "It's the people who make it so special — the staff and the sheer number of volunteers who all have one thing in common: they really care about the animals."

Within little more than a week, Dave went through the League's dog orientation program and began volunteering. He soon gravitated to dogs that required special handling, exhibiting issues ranging from extreme skittishness around people to outright fear aggression.

His greatest joy was having a dog transition from cowering in a corner to sitting in his lap. Sometimes it took just one visit. Other times it would take months of consistent, dedicated work to make that first breakthrough.

"I told Donna [Moore, the League's trainer], 'Give me the difficult ones, I don't care if I get bitten. I can deal with that," Dave said. "I just want the chance to get through to them and to give them a chance to live a better life than they've had."

Dave's volunteering doesn't start and stop at the shelter's door either. When a dog named Impala, with whom he had worked for months, finally got adopted only to escape and go missing, Dave joined Donna and others in a lengthy search for the frightened girl.

For Dave, that meant using a day of hard-earned vacation. It also meant "crawling through people's backyards with a red light flashlight at 5 a.m.," hoping no one called the police! (Good news: no one did and Impala eventually surrendered on her own.) So many others have been helped to find a new life because of Dave and volunteers like him who go the extra mile, donating their time and treasure to the cause. And like Dave, they all call the day one of their special League dogs gets adopted "the happiest and saddest day of my life."

LFAW.org League Lines 1 Spring 2019

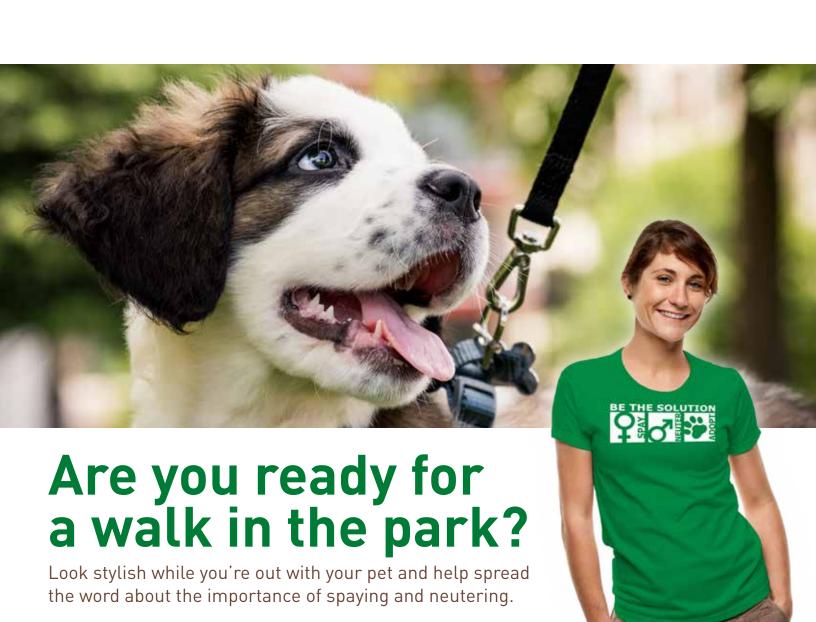


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