LEAGUE LINES %



MADDIE'S STORY: FROM HOMELESS TO HAPPY ENDING Family finds perfect new member at the League

t. Washington's Stanbery Park covers some
125 acres, with extensive hiking trail systems,
streams and woodlands. It's a jewel in the city's
park system, but not the best place for a dog lost
in February, when the ground is matted and cold,
the leaves are off the underbrush, and there's no shelter
to be had.

That's where Madea found herself. A Mastiff mix, she was running loose in the area last February, undernourished, underweight and abandoned.

"Skin and bones," is the way League for Animal Welfare trainer Donna Moore described the lost pup, when at last they were able to capture her—with the assistance of the SPCA's trap big enough to accommodate a Mastiff's large frame.

Donna had been out in the area, on the hunt for another running dog, when she heard that there was a second—Madea. She was scooped up at night, in the SPCA crate, and as Donna says, "she was pretty beat up." With her face scarred and ribs showing, Madea weighed in at about half the average Mastiff weight of 120-170 pounds.

The light tan girl with the dusky eyes and the home-cropped ears made her way to the League, where she got the medical attention she so desperately needed, and found the family who would become her home. "There she was."

UPCOMING EVENTS: DECEMBER 2019 - FEBRUARY 2020

SATURDAY

DECEMBER 07 JANUARY 04 FEBRUARY 01

WHEN

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

Adoption Event

WHERE

Petco Hyde Park 3880 S. Paxton Ave. Cincinnati, OH 45209

SUNDAY

DECEMBER 08 JANUARY 12 FEBRUARY 09

WHEN

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

Adoption Event

WHERE

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

SATURDAY

JANUARY 25 FEBRUARY 22

WHEN

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

Adoption Event

WHERE

Pet Supplies Plus 11345 Montgomery Rd. Cincinnati, OH 45249

SATURDAY

FEBRUARY 15

WHEN

10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

My Furry Valentine

WHERE

Sharonville Convention Center 11355 Chester Rd. Cincinnati, OH 45246

MyFurryValentine.com





Harbor

3 years old

This gorgeous calico loves to curl up in any soft spot she can find. Harbor is an independent gal who, when the mood strikes, will purr with delight if you scratch under her chin.



Leo

6 years old

For more than 2 years, Leo has been waiting for his forever home. He's laid-back and loves to just be with people. Leo does well with kids, but he needs a home with no cats or other small animals.

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

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 autumn@LFAW.org.

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Monday 12-7 Tuesday 12-5 Wednesday 12-7 Thursday CLOSED Friday 11-5 Saturday 11-5 Sunday 12-5

League for Animal Welfare 4193 Taylor Road • Batavia, OH 45103 513-735-2299 • LFAW.org

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NEWS



Special collaboration

When news broke this Fall about 111 poodles being rescued from a hoarding situation in Warren County, help came in many forms. Ensuring these dogs received proper care was a massive undertaking, and the League's medical team jumped at the chance to help. Our vet, vet tech and vet assistant volunteered their time to provide medical care on our mobile veterinary clinic, including neuter surgeries, dental exams and tooth extractions. It's amazing what can be accomplished by partnering with other animal welfare organizations to achieve a common goal!

Solving Litter Box Issues

here may be only one thing worse than a dirty litter box, and that's a clean one.

"Say what!? What could possibly be wrong with an

unused, pristine clean litter box?" you exclaim.

Well, if suddenly Fluffy's ignoring her litter box and seeking to relieve herself in your potted plants or behind the corner sofa, it could be the sign that something serious is going on. So people owned by cats need to pay attention.



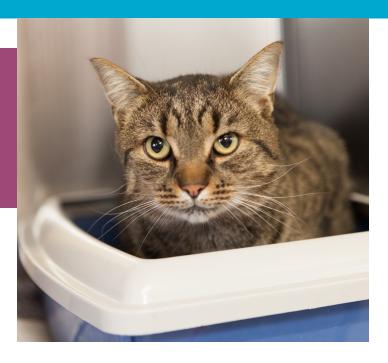
According to League veterinarian Dr. Emily Eilers, cats have various ways of telling you that something is wrong, and inappropriate bathroom habits are among the most common.

"Cats are very good at hiding pain because in the wild, cats who demonstrate discomfort often become prey

to other animals" who sense this weakness, Dr. Eilers explains. But there are indicators other than avoiding the litter box or, conversely, staying in it longer than usual, that careful cat owners should watch out for. These include either eating or drinking more or less than normal, lethargy, howling and basically any aberrant behavior demonstrated.

Making it even more difficult, such symptoms can develop slowly over time, or they can come on suddenly. And they can indicate any of a number of underlying conditions, including urinary tract infections (UTIs), bladder stones, diabetes or cancer.

"If you've had a cat for a long time, you can usually tell pretty quickly if something is wrong, so the best advice is not to wait -- get him or her to the vet immediately," Dr. Filers advises.



Potential Non-medical Factors

It's not always a sign of health issues that can cause Fluffy to stop using the litter box. Here are some other underlying factors that could be the cause:

- The Smelly Litter Box -- Everybody knows that cats can be finicky, so it's important to scoop the litter box every day, or several times a day if you have multiple cats. A deep cleaning every few weeks also is in order because the feline sense of smell is much stronger than ours, so a box that seems "clean enough" to you might still smell disgusting to your cat(s).
- The Hard-to-Reach Litter Box -- If your cat has to search for the litter box or it's too hard to access, he or she may just decide that it's easier to go elsewhere. A box should be in a relatively active area of the house, someplace close to where the people are (and close to a disposal can), but away from areas where there can be loud noises or vibrations, such as a washing machine's spin cycle. Try placing the box in a nearby hallway, bathroom, or office where your cat can have some privacy, along with peace and quiet.
- Changes in the Type of Litter -- There's a wide selection of litter types out there, but not all will work for every cat. Some clay litters, for example, or those made from corn cobs or recycled newspaper, may not feel good on paws. Generally, kittens learn early on from mom what type of litter they prefer, so changing whatever they're used to may be at the root of any litter box problems you're experiencing.
- The Box-Hogging Bully -- Peeing outside the litter box happens more frequently in households with multiple cats, especially if one tends to be a bully who prevents another cat from getting to the box. If that happens to

Continues on page 4

SOLVING LITTER BOX ISSUES: continued from page 3



you, an easy solution may be to get multiple litter boxes. Or for a particularly timid cat, give her a litter box in a space that other cats can't easily access. Also be aware that some cats may instinctively avoid covered boxes that prevent them from seeing if another cat is approaching.

• The Stress Spray -- Cats feeling stress or anxiety may resort to spraying because the smell of his/her own urine to mark their territory makes them feel safer. Figuring out and removing causes of stress should resolve this problem.

MADDIE'S STORY: continued from page 1

Debbie Comer and her husband Ed were looking to adopt a companion for Pippin, their Blue Heeler mix, when they came to the League and met Madea. Their older pup had passed away, and Pippin was longing for companionship. They wanted to adopt a rescue dog, but not necessarily a puppy.

"I noticed a large dog in the back kennel with weird ears," says Debbie. "There she was, sitting on top of her elevated bed, just staring at us. We found one of the League employees and asked why she was unavailable due to a medical condition. That is when we found out how special she was."

Madea wasn't quite ready to go home. She had weight to gain, and needed veterinary clearance because she still had stitches from spaying and mastitis. But that didn't stop Debbie and Ed. They were introduced in one of the League's meeting rooms and at first, "she was a little timid, and didn't want to make eye contact," Debbie says. "But we sat on the floor, and soon she came to us...she was very sweet, and I fell in love."

Passing the Pippin test

Beyond her healing, Madea had another hurdle to overcome before going home with the Comers: She had to pass muster with Pippin.

"We were looking for a big dog...but I needed a dog who would not be too aggressive with Pip," Debbie says. "During the meet and greet, we stayed inside while they took Pippin out in the parking lot to meet Madea. They sniffed, and then about a minute later, Madea fell in love. Pippin thought she was fantastic—tails wagging."

A home to call her own

It was a day of happy tears when Madea—with her new name, Madison—left the League for her new home. "Everyone was crying," Debbie remembers. "Every worker

and volunteer wanted to say goodbye, and they all ended up crying... but we were assured they were happy tears."



Today, Maddie's

days consist of playing with Pippin, and with her favorite toys: Puppy Kong Bear, Nylabones, and her own unstuffed Lambchop. "Madison became so attached to Pippin that she wouldn't go outside unless he went first," Debbie says. "At times he would run out and I would call him back, 'Pippin, come get your sister!' so she would go out...her and Pippin play and run all through the yard, and even the house. We had to remove our coffee table!" Says Debbie: "I describe Maddie as an 85-pound lap dog. She wants attention all of the time—she is just a happy girl."

Settling into the comforts of home

Since her introduction as the newest member of the McGraw's Sycamore Township home, Mai Tai has wasted no time settling in. She prefers lap time, cuddles and petting, and her own brand of adventure. "Even without teeth, she has managed to slobber all over and bring us four chipmunks that managed to get in our crawl space, so we could release them back outside," Danette says. "Now that the live rodents are eradicated, she has to focus on her stuffed mice and crinkle toys.

"She totally has become part of the family, and although we know we won't have her as long as we would like, we are grateful for every day we have," Danette says. "We feel sorry for those that didn't consider her because of her age, because she makes us laugh every day, and brings so much joy. We adore her."

League Lines - Winter 2020 League for Animal Welfare

Gifts Made in Support

The League for Animal Welfare gratefully acknowledges the following donors who made gifts between August 1, 2019 and October 31, 2019.

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Although great care is taken in gathering of this information, we know that errors or omissions inadvertently occur. For this, we apologize. We ask that you inform the League of needed corrections to our data by calling 513-735-2299.

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Board Elections





Debbie Bates

Sarah Langley



According to the League's Code of Regulations, only Regular Members for two (2) consecutive months are entitled to vote. A Regular Member can cast only one ballot at the Annual Meeting in January. Since all nominations had to be made prior to October 31, write-in votes cannot be accepted.

There are six positions to be filled. Except as otherwise noted, each Board member will serve a term of three years.



You may mail your ballot or drop it off at our shelter no later than January 15, 2020. Votes sent via email will not be accepted. Ballots will also be available at the Annual Meeting. Mail/drop off your ballot at the League for Animal Welfare, 4193 Taylor Road, Batavia, OH 45103.







Jamie Lindemann







Annie DeSimio

Gauravi Shah

In order to keep track of those who vote by mail, and those who cast their votes in person, it is necessary for mail-in/drop-off ballots to be signed. Votes will be kept confidential.

Debbie Bates is the Materials and Production Schedule Manager with the Kraft Heinz Company. She has been involved with the League for 14 years and has served as the board treasurer for the last 5 years and serves on the

finance committee. She lives in Batavia.

Signed: _____

Diann Cox is a retired healthcare strategist. She has more than 17 years of League involvement, including 12 years on the board, serving as vice president and secretary, chairing Wine & Whiskers and coordinating the League's bottle-feeding program. She lives in Anderson Township.

Annie DeSimio is a staff attorney with Legal Aid of the Bluegrass and serves on the League's finance committee. She joined the board in 2018 and lives in East Walnut Hills.

Sarah Langley is a Brand Manager of Family Care Upstream Innovation with P&G. She joined the League board in 2018 and serves on the League marketing committee and as co-chair of Wine & Whiskers. She lives in Hyde Park.

Jamie Lindemann is a certified public accountant and Tax Manager at BDO. She joined the League board in 2015, serves on the finance committee and served on the "More Than a Shelter" capital campaign cabinet. She lives in the West End.

Printed Name:

Gauravi Shah is an Engineer and Improviser who recently moved to Cincinnati from Toronto, Canada. She joined the board earlier this year and is excited to help out and make a difference. She lives in Downtown Cincinnati.

> The 2020 Annual Meeting will be held at the League on Thursday, January 16 at 7:00 pm.

League Lines 1 Winter 2020





KIPPY'S KORNER

Thank you for your support!

Nearly 200 people attended a ribbon-cutting ceremony at the new Sis & Dick Miller Wellness Clinic on October 5. It was the perfect way to culminate the League's 70th year of helping homeless animals!

Thanks to the incredible support of animal lovers in our community, the League raised \$1.34 million through the "More Than a Shelter" Capital

Campaign. The new clinic will improve the veterinary care for the animals in our shelter as well as offer medical services to other shelters, rescue groups, and ultimately the community at large (grand opening planned for this Spring).

Special thanks to the campaign steering

committee, chaired by former League board president, Carol Sanger; honorary chairs Sara & Michelle Vance Waddell; Nick & Nina Clooney; Christopher & Sheila DeSimio; David & Pamela Ginsburg; Marilyn Scripps; and Paul Toti

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he cats in our shelter benefit from the love and attention they get from our volunteers. Some socialize, read or play with the cats, some give them nail trims, and some teach other volunteers about new enrichment opportunities. Volunteering at the League is easy and flexible! Once you've completed orientation (call 513-735-2299 to schedule), you can spend time with the cats on any of the 6 days a week the shelter is open.



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