A SURVIVOR’S STORY
A fighting spirit, a loving heart

It was a routine trip to a shelter in Kentucky on an ordinary April afternoon. A volunteer was picking up dogs for transport back to the League when she spotted a calico cat unable to move her back legs lying in a nearby field.

The volunteer gently scooped the kitty up and transported her back to the League, where it was discovered that she’d been shot in the back, and had a BB lodged in her spine.

A Dire Evaluation
League vet, Dr. Denise Bevins, examined Gam the next day. “I did reach out to a local specialist about her condition, and was reminded that most cats who have been subjected to a spinal cord injury generally do not regain bladder function, or the ability to walk,” she says. The League gave the go-ahead for Gam’s treatment—understanding that if she couldn’t walk or use a litter box on her own, her odds of being adopted weren’t good.

“I have a very hard time euthanizing animals—especially a very young cat—without at least trying,” Dr. Bevins says. “But the League is a very special place. I know that I would not have been given

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The League continues to be a busy place as we care for and enrich the lives of the animals in our shelter as well as improve the lives of animals in our community. In this issue, you will read about how we recently expanded our community by bringing dogs and cats into the League from Florida in advance of Hurricane Irma (p. 5). These animals were already in shelters, and their rescue freed up space for animals displaced during the storm allowing them to be reunited with our families. Come to the shelter and visit some of these special cats and dogs who are still waiting to find their forever home (p. 11)!

One of the things that makes the League truly unique is our ability and willingness to help animals who have special needs or health issues that need to be addressed before they can be adopted. Without us, they may not get the second chance that they deserve. Let me introduce you to one such special cat named Gam. She came to the League from a rural Kentucky shelter with a life-threatening injury. Her will to live, combined with the extraordinary care that she received from League staff and volunteers, enabled Gam to fully recover. Read Gam’s amazing story on the cover!

Mother Nature served up a beautiful Fall day for our inaugural Pet Jam event (p. 8). We were thrilled with the turnout and the valuable feedback that we received from guests and other participants (bands, vendors, volunteers). Seeing so many four-legged friends join in the festivities truly warmed our hearts. We are looking to make this an annual event and we will be working to make it even better next year. If you couldn’t attend this year, we certainly hope you’ll join us next Fall!

For the animals,

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 autumn@LFAW.org.

On the Cover: Gam is a survivor.

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League for Animal Welfare
4193 Taylor Road • Batavia, OH 45103
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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.

Winter Care For Feral Cats

The Humane Society of the United States estimates that there are tens of millions of feral cats in United States. These cats often live in colonies, and while they may be resourceful, they need help to survive the winter. Almost anything can be turned into a shelter for a feral cat as long as it offers safe refuge from the cold. From the simple to the fancy, you can buy or even make your own. From plywood, Styrofoam, the thrifty storage bin and even flower pots, there are a variety of plans for inexpensive cat shelters available online. It should be large enough to house several felines, but small enough to trap cats’ body heat to warm the inside. If the shelter is too large, it will be difficult for cats to keep the space warm. Straw is a good insulating material to use, it can absorb more moisture and is less prone to mold or rot. Whatever you end up making, make sure it’s dry and well-insulated and remember to raise it off the ground to preserve heat.

There are hundreds of resources online, so go googling for a trip through the world of inexpensive DIY feral cat shelters before the winter winds really kick in!
Doggy Daycare: Do or Don’t?

It’s a weekday. You hit the alarm and get ready, as usual. Your dog knows what’s going on. You put on your coat. Grab your keys. Maybe your dog turns his or her back to you. Maybe yours is one that moves around as you move around, staring directly at your face until you close the door and lock it. Maybe you are (unfortunate enough) to have a glass door and you can see your little buddy gaze, forlorn and longingly, as you drive off to work.

Work is a fact of life. But our dogs having to stay home alone for hours at a time doesn’t have to be. All those lonely hours can make for a very lonely dog and bored dogs can be prone to excessive barking, disobedience and stress.

So what’s a busy person to do? One alternative to leaving your dog at home during the day is to enroll him or her in doggy daycare. Doggy daycare provides an opportunity for your dog to improve on many key skills. Like what, you ask?

Let’s explore:

**Dog Socialization**
We all need friends! And your dog is no exception. Dogs are social animals by nature. They need to be around other dogs in order to learn how to act. Being properly socialized, they learn what’s appropriate to do and not do, how to introduce themselves to the new and how to play nicely with others. If you can, start the socialization training as soon as possible—it’ll make your dog confident and increase your ability to take your dog on adventures with you.

**Human Interaction**
In the care of trained dog personnel, dogs are able to continue interacting with people while their owner is away. Having the opportunity to be in constant contact with new people is a great benefit of doggy daycare.

**Exercise**
You know what your dog is like when you come home from work—let’s play! After a long day, sometimes that may not be the first thing on your mind. But exercise is critical for a healthy and happy dog, and he’ll get it at doggy daycare. Most daycares have scheduled activities throughout the day to keep your dog stimulated. Chase, fetch, indoor, outdoor... all that running and playing and playing will take care your dog’s energy and might buy you a few precious moments to decompress when you get home. Maybe even a few relaxing moments scratching your favorite pet.

**Training**
Maybe your pup needs a bit more training. Some doggy daycares are able to supplement the training you do at home with additional lessons during the day. Continual reinforcement of behavior training can help your dog retain what they are taught. There are even daycares that will teach your dog new tricks!

**Peace of Mind**
Last, but not least, on our list: doggy daycares can give you peace of mind knowing that your dog is on the receiving end of lots of well-deserved and well-needed attention during your working hours. From interaction with people to socializing with other dogs, you can be sure that there is never a dull moment for your lovable pup.

There are lots of options when it comes to doggy daycare, thanks to its popularity and an expanding
DOGGY DAYCARE: Do or Don’t?: continued from page 3

market. Even if you’re nervous about leaving your dog with strangers, remember that they are professionals, they’re animal lovers and if that doesn’t assuage your fears, most daycares have live cams so you can see what your dog is up to anytime. And it’s not as expensive as you may think. This expanded market has brought rates down and some even offer membership [which means even more discounts]. Do a little research and ask around for referrals to the best doggy daycare in town. The League dog trainer, Donna, is an excellent resource [and proponent!] of doggy daycare.

Whether you’re dropping your dog off at doggy daycare every day, just once or twice a week (or month) or just on the odd occasion, there are plenty of reasons why your pup will thrive in this environment. And you won’t start your work day feeling guilty!

GAM: A Survivor’s Story: continued from page 1

steroid and antibiotic injections, she began a series of laser therapy and Electro-acupuncture treatments to help her body recover. One week later, Gam stood by herself for the first time since coming to the shelter. But she still had miles to go before she healed.

“Gam is a Lover”
In the beginning, it was tough for Dr. Bevins and League adoption counselors to get a read on Gam’s personality. In addition to health, an outgoing, loving personality is an important part of finding an adoptive home. “For the first few days, I really wasn’t sure about her,” Dr. Bevins says. “She was very quiet, and would shy away from us.”

But as Gam’s body began to heal, so did her spirit. “Her personality came out,” says Dr. Bevins. “She is one of the sweetest cats I’ve ever met! We all fell in love with her. All she wanted was to be petted and close to people.”

By May 1, Gam was able to stand and walk on her own. Adoption counselor Stephanie Garrett was watching—and hoping—as day by day Gam made progress. “Even as she healed, I still wasn’t sure if she would make it in a home because she wasn’t able to use a litter box,” she says. “But then she got even better, and was able to make it in and out of a litter box! She is a survivor, and through it all she was super sweet.”

Who Adopted Who?
There may have been serendipity in play the day Déva Burnett came to the League, where she had adopted her cat Tinker the year before. An occupational therapist, Déva works with disabled people and has a big heart for those facing physical challenges.

Gam—a petite, friendly girl with a striking calico coat—caught Déva’s eye as she looked for a companion for Tinker. By this time, Gam was nearly 100 percent healed. Her left rear leg was not completely back, but she was walking and playing like a normal cat.

“She was beautiful, but that wasn’t why I chose her,” Déva says. “I was in the room with a few other cats, and she came right up to me, jumped up in my lap, and snuggled for probably 20 minutes.”

“I really bonded with her,” she says. “I work with people with disabilities, so I guess it’s just my nature. I slept on it overnight, and I knew she was the one.”

Gam—with her new name ‘Snickers’—has settled into a happy, contented routine in her new home in Batavia with Déva and Tinker. While Déva’s at work, the two nap, play, groom each other and get into a little bit of mischief. “When I come home, they’re excited, but I can tell they’ve had each other for company all day. There are toys all over—I find them tucked in my bed!”

Déva adds: “Snickers is a wonderful addition to the family and exactly what I wanted for Tinker. I really wanted to spoil her with love and attention, and give her a chance at the life she deserved.” 😊
VOLUNTEER CORNER:
American Modern Insurance

Last month, American Modern Insurance chose to partner with the League for a day of volunteering and corporate team-building. American Modern organizer Patricia Gilkison chose the League because of a love of animals and was impressed with the League’s clean facility and passionate staff and volunteers. “I wanted to give back and to show off the League to some of my friends and coworkers,” said Patty.

In their volunteer group, there was one young man who had never actually been around puppies or dogs! He had never walked a dog or played with one outside. Gilkison not only wanted to help with League needs, but wanted others to have the experience of being around animals.

The group from American Modern enjoyed working with everyone so much, they are already talking about doing it next year! Thank you, Patty and the team from American Modern Insurance! 🐾

LEAGUE SAVES HURRICANE IRMA PETS

In September, Volunteer Manager Carrie Leary and a team of volunteers from the League answered a call to help Gainesville animals effected by Hurricane Irma. The timing was perfect, as the team went south far enough ahead of the storm to miss the serious weather. Helping these animals had a double-impact: The League helps them find a forever home and animals displaced when the storm hit will be reunited with their families after Irma’s impact.

Our team was one of the many rescue groups from across the nation that dedicated hard work and time. Those rescued animals are now lucky League animals, safe and sound from the storm and ready to be adopted into a loving local family. The League is proud to have the ability to help those so desperately in need while maintaining business as usual at our facility. Of all the rescue efforts Carrie witnessed, Carrie remembers the traffic. But not how you might think: “the only traffic we saw was cherry pickers and semis loaded with supplies. At the rest stops, people were camped out, because there was really nowhere else to go. They ALL had their pets with them!”

Interested in meeting a League hurricane pet? See some of the featured animals in the special Hurricane edition of the Adopt Me section of this newsletter or stop by! 🐾

*L-R* Daniel Clifton and Chelsea Bower, Gainesville Pet Rescue, and League transport team, Bruce Walters, Carrie Leary, Leah Marks and Mike Callihan
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 (1) ballot (to be voted on by members at the Annual Meeting on January 18, 2018).

- Since all nominations had to be made prior to October 31, write-in votes cannot be accepted.
- Ballots must be signed if they are mailed in.

Please mark your selections with an “X” in the appropriate boxes. There are four (4) positions to be filled. You are voting for four (4) persons. Except as otherwise noted, each Board member will serve a term of four (4) years.

☐ Joyce Blersch  ☐ Elizabeth Grapa
☐ Christina Cullis  ☐ Jon Parker

All mail-in ballots must be received by January 15, 2018 to be valid. Votes sent via email will not be accepted. If you attend the Annual Meeting, there will be ballots available at the door.

Mail ballots to:
LFAW Ballot
c/o League for Animal Welfare
4193 Taylor Road
Batavia, OH 45103

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 ballots to be signed. (Votes will be kept confidential.)

Signed: ________________________________

Printed Name: ________________________________

The 2018 Annual Meeting will be held at the League on Thursday, January 18, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.
The League for Animal Welfare gratefully acknowledges the following donors who made gifts between August 1, 2017 and October 31, 2017.

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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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Diann Cox & Don Aren
Varejao Kuhr
Park Plaza Animal Hospital
Winnie
Angela Allen
Zoe Callicoat
Park Plaza Animal Hospital
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. 🐾

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Events</th>
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| SAT 02 DEC | **Adoption Event**  
WHERE: Bentley’s Pet Stuff-Eastgate  
4530 Eastgate Boulevard, Suite A-460, Cincinnati, OH 45245 |
| SAT 10 DEC | **Adoption Event**  
WHERE: Petco Amelia  
260 W Main St, Amelia, OH 45102 |
| FRI 15 DEC | **Dine & Donate**  
WHERE: City Barbeque Eastgate  
878 Eastgate N Dr, Cincinnati, OH 45245 |
| SAT 16 DEC | **Adoption Event**  
WHERE: Pet Supplies Plus – Harper’s Point  
11345 Montgomery Rd, Cincinnati, OH 45249 |
| SUN 14 JAN | **Adoption Event**  
WHERE: Bentley’s Pet Stuff-Eastgate  
4530 Eastgate Boulevard, Suite A-460, Cincinnati, OH 45245 |
| SAT 27 JAN | **Adoption Event**  
WHERE: Petco Amelia  
260 W Main St, Amelia, OH 45102 |
| SUN 10 FEB | **My Furry Valentine**  
My Furry Valentine Sharonville Convention Center  
11355 Chester Rd, Cincinnati, OH 45246 |
Pet Jam: Inaugural event a big success!

Fall really rolled out the red carpet for folks and their four-legged friends at the first-ever Pet Jam fundraiser on September 30, presented by Bounty and Charmin. Sunny skies and mild temps set the stage as the League welcomed more than 600 festival-goers to Grailville for a full day of music, food and fun! The event raised more than $15,000 to support the League’s important work.

“We are so grateful to everyone who helped us make it a success,” says Marilyn Goodrich, Executive Director of the League. “It’s our mission to create awareness in our community about the number of homeless cats and dogs and encourage responsible pet ownership. With the amazing attendance, and participation from musicians and vendors, Pet Jam 2017 helped us get there!”

With music on three stages—from acoustic to reggae to rock—there was something for everyone for local music fans. “Pet Jam was right up our alley,” says Dave Shields, guitarist for White Liger, which played the Cover Band Stage.

“We’re all pet lovers, and we thought it was a great way to help out the League.” Shields, who counts among his coterie of pets two dogs, goats and horses, says “the event really aligned with our values.”

Among the 16 bands playing, No Sorrow from Cincinnati’s west side took the Main Stage late in the afternoon. Nick Snow, whose folk-bluegrass fusion band played the main stage, added: “The venue was great…and the land was beautiful. Everybody involved was great to work with. We look forward to a second annual Pet Jam next year!”

A vendor village surrounded the main stage, offering goods from handmade soaps and health and wellness options to home improvement services and unique canine treats. Food trucks served up everything from roadhouse BBQ to vegetarian/vegan treats to artisan doughnuts. In the beer garden, there were plenty of tasty sips from local craft breweries to go around. And all day, adoptable cats and dogs from the League received their share of love and attention from festival attendees.

“The outpouring of help for a first-time event just blows my mind!,” says Carrie Leary, Volunteer Manager for the League. An army of more than 100 volunteers gave their time to make Pet Jam possible, manning everything from the admissions tent to trash collection.

Thanks to the bands who donated their time and talent: Boo Radley, Chakras, Circus Siren Orchestra, Devon Johnson and The Midnight Travelers, Encore Duo, Elementree Livity Project, Kumasi Project, Veronica Grim & The Heavy Hearts, Chris Lee Acoustic, The Millcreek Drifters, Nicholas Brehm, No Sorrow, RP Coltrane, Shifted Fate, The Verbs and White Liger.

Thanks to our sponsors:

Presenting Sponsors:

Adoption Van Sponsor: Hillside Small Animal Hospital
Family Zone Sponsor: Hug The World Foundation
Roadie Sponsors: MedVet and PNC Bank
Groupie Sponsors: Bentley’s Pet Stuff, Camp Bow Wow, Care Center, Deck Renewal Systems, Inc., DogWatch Hidden Fences, Lykins Energy Solutions, Sanger & Eby, and Withamsville Animal Hospital
BUY ONE, GIVE ONE:
Max and Neo Dog Gear

Have you heard of Max and Neo? If not, listen to this: named after the founder’s dogs, Max & Neo is an Arizona-based manufacturer of high quality dog products: collars, leashes, harnesses, beds and more. They’re savvy enough to produce this at a lower cost than retail. And they’re able to do all of this AND donate one of their products to animal rescues for every product sold. In fact, their mission is “to provide all dog rescues with dog leashes and collars so that rescues and their supporters can use their funds elsewhere which in turn will help more dogs every year.”

This year, we were a lucky recipient of Max & Neo’s generosity! We received one of 50 boxes they prepared and donated to shelters across the country. Max & Neo’s Live streamed each donation drop-off...and the League was first on their list and first on the Facebook stream! Did you see the video?

Let’s hear it for Max & Neo!
Browse their products at maxandneo.com

Max and Neo Donation Status:
47,365 total items donated
812 dog rescues
donations valued at $712,475

SHELTER SHOUT OUTS:

Our generous community gives hope to homeless cats and dogs in so many ways. The League for Animal Welfare is grateful for the following initiatives during the third quarter of 2017:

• The Colorful Cupboard in Milford donated a portion of the fees collected for a “Paint Your Pet” class
• Several entrepreneurial youngsters raised more than $200 with their delicious sweet treats and lemonade
• In lieu of birthday gifts, young Marlise asked for donations of supplies to help the animals in our shelter
• Patrons at Roney’s in Milford, Everything Bagels in Eastgate and Country Fresh Farm Market donated more than $100 in League collection jars

We appreciate all those in our community who help support the League’s mission.

Get creative!
If you have a fun idea to raise funds for the League, please contact Autumn Lees at 513-735-2299 x217 or autumn@LFAW.org. 
Hurricane Jazz  EDOB 8/2012
Hurricane Jazz is just a knockout! She is gorgeous and is a real talker. You will never feel lonely because she will be right by your side to keep you company. She will be happiest in a home with no other cats. She is still adjusting to her surroundings but once she gets to know you will happily come up on your lap to be loved. She loves to be petted under her chin and around her head.

Jazz is in our None Left Behind program, which means waived adoption fee, no concerns over the cost of veterinary care, provisions for necessary medications, special diets and ongoing treatments or other special care requirements.

Hurricane Vivian  EDOB 9/2011
When you enter Vivian’s room, she may come running to greet you and she will be talking all the time. It’s apparent from your introduction…Vivian loves people. She will let you pet her as much as you would like. Vivian does not like to be picked up but be prepared as she may jump in your lap. She does not bother her roommates and would enjoy having a cat friend. She truly does not have a mean bone in her body. Her wishes are simple: to be loved and in return to love her family.

Hurricane Dalinda  EDOB 1/2012
Dalinda is a beautiful, long-haired cat. She’s an independent lady who likes to be petted – but not for so long that your hands will get tired! She also is selective with her meows and can be quite quiet. She is respectful of the other cats in her room. She sits in dignified repose, awaiting her family to take her home.

Hurricane Mary  EDOB 6/2011
Mary has quickly become a favorite among staff and volunteers. Mary is a big girl and we think she may be a mix of bull terrier and hound. She is quite beautiful and adores people. Mary seems to be housebroken…she never makes messes in her kennel. This pretty girl will enjoy a home where she can be the center of attention. She will want to participate in family activities and will be content to be an only pet.

Hurricane Leo  EDOB 9/2013
Leo is quite handsome, and we believe he is a mix of Hound and American Bulldog. Leo has a beautiful velvety-soft coat. In his kennel, he is very still and composed, but when in the play area, he has a blast! While he’s a friendly boy, he cannot go to a home with cats. He needs a home where his family is not gone for long periods of time and a fenced yard would be best. Come meet him and you’ll fall in love!

Hurricane Penelope  EDOB 1/2016
Penelope is a very sweet girl. She is a tad stand-offish but she’s been through a lot and is still adjusting to all the changes in her life. That said, she IS very friendly! Penelope will make a nice family pet and will do better with older children. Her front feet turn out a little oddly and longer walks or jogs may not be recommended. Penelope just needs a home where she will be well cared for and loved. She will show her appreciation for sure.

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.

Hurricane Irma was approaching Florida in September, the League trekked down to a shelter in Gainesville to help make space there by bringing pets to Ohio.
League for Animal Welfare

HOLIDAY GIFT GIVING GUIDE

Purchase League wear or a League coffee mug and support homeless cats and dogs!

League Wear

- Short-sleeve shirt ................. $12
- Short-sleeve women’s cut ....... $15
- Long-sleeve shirt ................. $15

($2 extra for sizes 2XL and larger. Plus 6.75% tax.)
All offerings are available in Forest Green.

League Coffee Mugs

- League Coffee Mug .............. $10

Items can be purchased at LFAW.org, at our front desk, or by calling 513-735-2299