

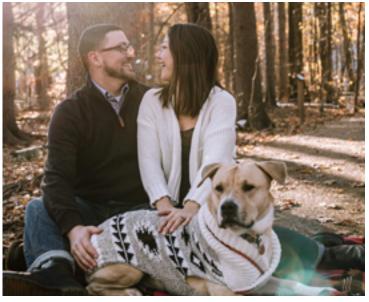
Redman: A Good Boy Becomes the Best Man

Redman (aka Red) was surrendered to the APL by his owners because he wasn't feeling well, and his owners were unable to care for him. As part of the usual intake procedure, an APL staff member took a photograph of Redman. His face said it all: He looked sick and scared and sad. He got the medical attention he needed, and plenty of belly rubs, too, and then he was ready to find his new home. He had nearly a month to think about his ideal home, and he knew exactly what he wanted. He explained it in his APL personal ad, which he helped to write: "Now, I'm feeling fit as a fiddle and ready to meet my new family! I am a big dopey guy, but I've got a heart of gold. Are you looking for a new adventure buddy? I hope so, because I'd love to start a new adventure with you! Meet me today!"

Dawn did just that. She came to the APL on the very day that Red posted his ad. She was looking for a dog to fill the hole in her heart left by the death of her 12-year-old Shih-Tzu, Snuggles. There were lots of puppies at the APL that day, but it was big, grown-up Red—a two-year-old



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Red posing in Melanie and Tyler's enegement photos.

lab/terrier mix—who put his face up to the front of the kennel and licked Dawn, touching not only her face, but her heart as well. Dawn adopted him that day.

When they got home, Red met Dawn's daughter, Melanie, and they quickly became best friends. When Dawn had to work several days in a row, Melanie offered to babysit Red. She worked with him every day, teaching him to respond to directions like "heel," "stay," "leave it," and even "whisper"! Melanie turned out to be the adventure buddy Red had been looking for. She works at a specialty pet store, where her fiancé, Tyler, brings him to visit Melanie. More importantly, Melanie and Tyler take him on long walks in the Metroparks where he loves watching the deer. He gets antlers to chew on (from the pet specialty store, not the park!) He loves his stuffed animals, chasing

Left: Even the snow can't stop Red from enjoying his walks!

Bennie's Blurb

Letter from the President and CEO

It's finally happening! The excitement in the air is palpable! The construction fence is up and the renovation of our facility is under way. We've raised more than 75% of the total cost of the project, leaving about \$3 million to go. Later in this issue, my good buddy Indiana Bones will share some of the changes that will be taking place during this phase of construction. He's such a great ambassador and a pretty darned good writer for someone who doesn't have thumbs!

One of the major improvements in our expansion and renovation project will be giving a proper home to our lifesaving Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) program—FINALLY! When we started the program back in 2008, we had nowhere to put it, so we got creative and commandeered a garage bay that wasn't being used. Since then, it has served as the check-in, check-out, and cat holding area for the program. It was VERY grassroots-y, but it was better than not having a program at all, so we made do. Now, 12 years, more than 50,000 TNR surgeries, and a steadily decreasing number of stray kittens coming into the APL, it's well beyond time to bid a fond farewell to this program's grassroots-y beginnings and give these fabulous cat advocates and caretakers—and the cats they bring to us for help—a more comfortable and less stressful experience.

Interestingly, just before the holidays, an opinion column was published in the Sun Press and cleveland.com that decried TNR as an effective strategy for reducing free-roaming cat populations. Instead, the author called for the trapping, killing, and eradication of community cats for the protection of birds, wildlife, and public health. It was yet another one of those, "Here we go again," moments.

The cat vs. bird debate has raged for years and, like any issue fraught with complexity and emotion, it's likely to rage for many more. Free-roaming cats are not the only threat to birds. Loss of natural habitat, climate change, collision with manmade structures, and pesticides all present significant risk. Representing cats as the sole source of the problem and their eradication as a quick fix is incredibly simplistic and flawed reasoning. Simply stated, there is no single solution that will tick all of the boxes—100% effective, simple, quick, and humane.

For decades, feral and stray cats were rounded up and euthanized without achieving a measurable decrease in the number of cats on the streets, entering shelters, or of neighborhood complaints. These eradication methods were expensive, often inhumane, emotionally grueling for the people involved, unpopular, and ineffective. Since trapping and killing cats already has been tried and failed, wouldn't trying it again and expecting a different outcome fit Einstein's definition of insanity?

When done properly, TNR offers the following:

- The humane reduction and eventual elimination of cat colonies through attrition;
- With the elimination of colonies, reduced predation and public health concerns;
- A reduction in cats carrying disease as cats that have been through a TNR program are more likely to be vaccinated. In contrast, trap and kill efforts create a vacuum that allows there to be a constantly multiplying supply of unvaccinated animals; and
- Many nuisance behaviors are reduced through sterilization.



The Cleveland APL wholeheartedly agrees that there should be fewer cats on the street—it's a hard life out there—but the commitment to a humane method for reducing free-roaming cat populations and a desire to protect birds should not be mutually exclusive. Unadoptable, healthy cats who never choose a life on the streets but are there because of our human failings should not arbitrarily be killed because they exist. Period. Personally, I love cats and I love birds. I won't place more value on the life of one over the other. If we are to live in a humane society, they both should matter.

The Cleveland Animal Protective League (APL) is a passionate advocate for humane and effective community cat management through TNR. We will continue to support the lifesaving efforts of our hard-working, caring, community cat trappers and caregivers through our TNR surgery program—and we can't wait to welcome them into its new spaces!

I hope you will consider joining us in Unleashing the Dream for the animals the Cleveland APL serves. If you're interested in learning more about our Unleash the Dream capital campaign, please call Judy Hunter at 216.344.1353 or email jhunter@clevelandapl.org. You can help us to make their dreams come true.

Indy's Corner

A Letter from Our Capital Campaign Spokesdog

Dear Fur-iends and Sup-paw-ters,

WOW! In Aunt Sharon's letter, she shared that the Cleveland APL has officially broken ground on its big renovation project. It's so exciting to see the changes every day!

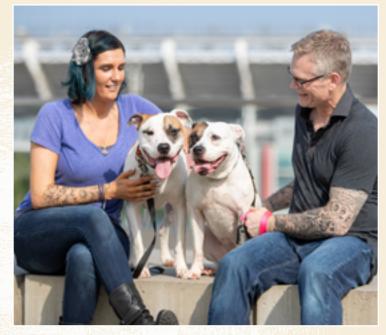
The people who are doing the construction call each new part of the project "phases." In Phase 1, they carved out this really big hill behind the APL and made it into a parking lot for the staff and volunteers. That means clients and other visitors will have enough space to park close to the building when they come to use our expanded or new programs. Everyone at the APL is really excited about the new parking lot. Personally, I don't get it. To me, the best part of a car is getting to ride in it—why would you need to park it? Silly humans.

Now we're doing Phase 2. My friends tell me this is when we will see real changes inside the APL. First, there will be a new garage that has been designed so it can double as an emergency shelter for when the APL team has to rescue large numbers of animals at one time. Then, the new clinic can be built in what used to be the old garages—and that new clinic means a lot to me.

In my last letter, I shared that when I came to the Cleveland APL, I was severely injured. Their clinic staff made me feel a lot better, even in the very small space



Check out this new parking lot for staff and volunteers!



As APL Alums, Indiana Bones and his sister, Lorna, can't wait to see what comes next for the Cleveland APL!

they work in. With their new and improved clinic, the APL will be even better at helping animals like me. There will be a big treatment area, an X-ray room, separate recovery areas for cats and dogs so us dogs won't make the cats nervous, and so much more.

This next thing may not sound like much to you, but for my friends at the APL and their animals, this is a big deal! There will be a new centralized feeding and laundry area with industrial-sized machines. The people there are constantly doing laundry to make sure everyone has a soft blanket to lay on. With the bigger machines, they'll be able to spend more time with animals and less time on silly laundry!

The biggest temporary change right now because of the construction is for the Trap-Neuter-Return Program, project CARE and the Animal Admissions teams. They're all working from the front of the building next to Adoptions while the construction team works on the back of the building. That means everyone who visits us for any reason will need to park in the lot at the front of the building. It's only until September. I guess it's a good thing they finished that parking lot thingy after all!

So, even though things are a little bit crazy right now, we're all very excited that Phase 2 is happening! I'll be sure to keep you up to date as I learn more!

Woofing sincerely,

Indiana Bones



Thank you to our Corporate Champions!

A portion of the proceeds at Calvetta Brothers Floor Show is donated to support the animals at the Cleveland APL.

Community News

Pucks and Paws SAVE THE DATE

It's back again! The Cleveland Monsters invite all four-legged friends and their "people" to the 12th Annual Pucks & Paws event at Rocket Mortgage Fieldhouse on Sunday, March 29, 2020. The Monsters will be playing the Lehigh Valley Phantoms, and faceoff is at 3 p.m.

The APL has always been the beneficiary of the dog tickets, and again this year we will also receive a portion of the "human" tickets that are bought through this special offer. In order for the APL to receive the additional fundraised portion of the human tickets, please download the flyer on our website, mention the APL when you order your tickets over the phone, or use the pass code "apl" when purchasing online to buy your tickets to this fun event for you and your pooch! Visit www.ClevelandAPL.org for more details.

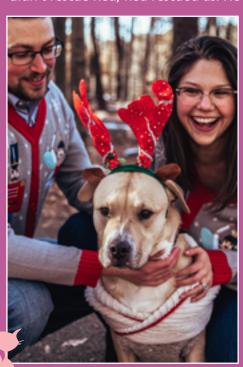




Photo by: Arlee Reus

Redman continued from page 1

squirrels, and sometimes just chilling with Melanie. And Dawn doesn't seem to mind sharing Red. She agrees with Melanie: "We didn't rescue Red; Red rescued us. He is our saving grace."



Red is a very good boy. That sad look in his intake photo is a thing of the past. He views the world with a big smile now. He got the adventure buddy he had asked for. He even posed in Melanie and Tyler's engagement photos, looking very dapper in his sweater. In August 2020, he'll take on a new role: best man at Melanie and Tyler's wedding. From good boy to best man. Congratulations Dawn, Red, Melanie and Tyler. We know you'll all live Happily Ever After!

Red happily donned a sweater and antiers for his family.

SAVE THE DATE

Fur Ball 2020—Saturday, November 7, 2020 Cleveland APL's Annual Gala

As you plan for your year, consider joining us for this sensationally casual event that will be held Saturday, November 7, 2020, at 5:30 p.m. at the InterContinental Hotel Cleveland. Enjoy wonderful food stations, fabulous live and silent auction items and a surprise guest appearance from a VIP (Very Important Pooch)! Proceeds from this event benefit the Cleveland APL's Second Chance Program.

There are many opportunities to participate by either purchasing tickets, becoming a corporate sponsor, or donating an item or service for our live or silent auctions. To learn more about the event and the ways you can get involved, please call 216-377-1628.



Guests purchase raffle poker chips at last year's Fur Ball—Pawvana Nights.

Photo by: Jan Farruggia

Offsite Adoptions

For dates and times, visit our website at www.ClevelandAPL.org.

Shelter Adoption Center Hours

Monday - Friday 11 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday Noon to 4 p.m. Phone Number: 216-771-4616

Animal Surrender Hours (Intake)

Monday - Friday 11 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sunday Closed
Phone Number: 216-771-8825

affoGATO Cat Café Hours

Wednesday - Sunday 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Phone Number: 440-941-5130

Another Happy Tale

Savannah: She Sees With Her Heart

Savannah was one of eight cats—one adult and seven tiny kittens—who were sick and undernourished when their tale began. The APL's Humane Investigation officers, who investigate cases of animal cruelty and neglect, seized the cats and brought them to the APL just in time; they all were in urgent need of medical care.

The veterinary staff examined them, and found that while each had different needs, they all were very sick. Savannah, who was just over a month old, had an eye condition called conjunctivitis, an upper respiratory infection, parasites, and was underweight. She weighed just over a pound.

There was a time not so long ago when animals with all their issues combined might have been euthanized. As a nonprofit shelter with a limited budget, the APL is challenged by the cost of providing care for thousands of sick, injured and special-needs animals every year. Fortunately, the Second Chance Program, funded solely by donations, allows the APL to provide more animals every year with the surgery, medications and therapy—sometimes advanced—necessary to give them a chance not only to survive, but to heal and start a new, healthy life. Because of donors and the Second Chance Program, Savannah and the other kitties were able to get the care they needed and their second chance.

The APL then called upon one more resource to help with the little kittens—foster parents. Foster parents are often unsung heroes in the tales of animal rescue and adoptions. Many of the thousands of animals who make their way through the APL's doors each year spend time in the homes of foster families, getting medical care, gaining weight, even learning to navigate without a limb or tail! Two



Savannah and her siblings all pose for a photo in their foster home.



Savannah now knows every part of her home and enjoys exploring like a normal cat.

foster parents volunteered to take the seven kittens into their care.

Savannah and three of the other kittens went to live with a very special foster mom, Katie. Katie was one of the APL's Volunteers of the Year in 2017. She has fostered approximately 150 animals, mostly cats and kittens. Savannah was in the best hands.

Katie, as you might guess, loves being a foster mom. She has two cats of her own, and still takes home litters of kittens, sometimes with their moms. She manages the traffic carefully, keeping the fosters separate, offering them care, attention and a safe start. And she has a special spot in her heart for cats with special needs.

In Katie's care, Savannah continued to get her medication, and slowly began to recover from her rough start. Very gradually she became less sickly and gained weight. Unfortunately, her eyes could not be saved. She had surgery to remove them. Slowly, with lots of love and attention from Katie, Savannah and the other three kittens grew. Remember Katie's soft spot for kitties with special needs? When it came time to return the kittens to the APL to find their furever homes, only three went back.

Yes, Katie decided to adopt Savannah. Katie gradually opened her house to this spunky kitten, room by room. Savannah learned to negotiate the stairs she could not see. She didn't like being blocked out of rooms and insisted on pushing forward into as-yet-unexplored spaces. She learned the halls and rooms, stairways and doorways, and even explored the basement. And she became completely attached to her older cat siblings, romping with them, sure of herself and her position in the family.

Savannah now is living her best life, and it shows. Healthy now, her fur is shiny and luxurious. She loves her mouse and crinkle toys and hides from her siblings in her crinkle tunnel. She also has found her favorite place to relax, wrapped around Katie's neck!

The other six kittens and their mom? They all found their furever homes, too. Thank you APL staff, volunteers, adopters and especially Katie, for this very, very happy tale.

Thank you to the 2019 Cage Sponsors!

We are so grateful for the support from the following friends who showed their commitment to our animals by sponsoring a cage in 2019.

Cat Cage Sponsors

Anonymous
Jerry & Vera Bednarski
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Small Mammals Cage Sponsors

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Save the Date

WKYC and the Cleveland APL Present:

The 9th Annual Fur-Get-Me-Not Telethon

The Ninth Annual Fur-Get-Me-Not Telethon will be broadcast on WKYC Channel 3 live from the Cleveland APL on Thursday, April 2, from 5:00 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. This event will bring together the community and inspire viewers to help the more than 13,000 animals that will come through the Cleveland APL's doors this year.

Tune in on April 2, and see vignettes that will showcase the diverse and meaningful work the APL does to rescue, heal, nurture, adopt, and advocate for animals in need. All funds raised during the telethon will benefit the Cleveland APL.





WKYC Studio's Joe Cronauer and Clevleand APL's Sharon Harvey share the story of Phoenix, one of the many featured animals at last year's Telethon.

Thank you to Our Friends at Meijer!

Thank you for your support this holiday season and for helping our long-term, senior and special needs animals, like Cornucopia (pictured), find homes for the holidays!





Photo by: Stan Lindholm

Other Ways to Give

Many generous individuals choose to donate to the Cleveland APL in lieu of giving gifts for birthdays, weddings, anniversaries, Bat Mitzvahs, Bar Mitzvahs, etc. Their thoughtfulness is a wonderful tribute to their love for animals. Call 216-344-1353 if you would like to learn more about how your celebration can help the APL's homeless animals.

In addition, many individuals choose to give through a workplace giving program.

The Cleveland Animal Protective League is a member of Greater Cleveland Community Shares. Community Shares supports local nonprofit organizations working for long-term, sustainable solutions to build a stronger Cleveland. Learn more about Community Shares at www.communityshares.org, and please consider supporting the APL through workplace giving.

Federal employees also have the opportunity to give to the APL through the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC). The mission of the CFC is to promote and support philanthropy through a program that is employee focused, cost-efficient, and effective in providing all federal employees the opportunity to improve the quality of life for all.

The Cleveland APL Combined Federal Campaign Number is 29857.

The Cleveland APL's Tax ID number is 34-0714644.



To Make a Donation to the APL:

Visit us at www.ClevelandAPL.org or mail your check to the Cleveland Animal Protective League, Attention Development Office,1729 Willey Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio 44113. (Tax ID: 34-0714644)

Volunteer at the APL

Share your love of animals and become a Cleveland Animal Protective League volunteer. Check our website at www.ClevelandAPL.org for dates of upcoming volunteer sessions.

Another Happy Tale

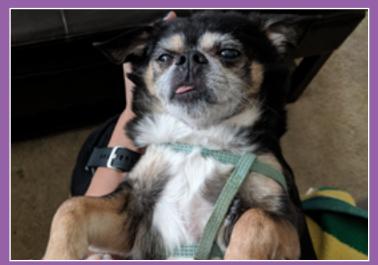
Turbo: A New Chapter for an Experienced Guy

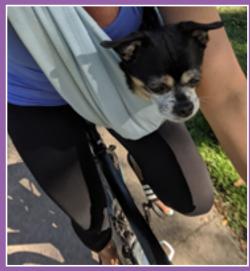
You can't tell a book by its cover.

When you first look at Turbo, formerly known as Chispo, you might just see his age, twelve, and his gray muzzle. You might notice his size, and the way he moves; he's small and his gait is sometimes that of an older dog. And you might hear him bark, since he's not always fond of strangers or small dogs. You might be tempted, then, to decide he's simply an elderly, not-too-sociable Chihuahua mix. Oh, but you'd be underestimating this tiny bit of canine perfection!

Joanna wasn't exactly looking for a dog when she saw Chispo on the APL website; she was actually looking for information about volunteering at the shelter. But Joanna and her husband are in the military; her husband was about to be deployed, so Joanna took a look at the adoptable dogs, thinking it would be nice for her to have a buddy at home while her husband was away. She went to the APL and met Chispo, who was sleeping soundly in his kennel. She learned that he had been surrendered when his owner went into a nursing home, and the family could no longer care for him. The family advised that he was something of a couch potato who did not like other small dogs. Joanna looked at that handsome little face and decided that he was the one. She brought her husband to meet him the next day, and they agreed—Chispo was coming home with them.

They decided he needed a new name to go with his new home. Partly in jest, they named him Turbo, thinking he would be anything but a speedy, energetic pup. And that





Turbo now loves getting out into the world wih his mom!

seemed to be true, at least initially. At first, he slept a great deal and was not terribly playful. Still, he was a cuddler, and good, if quiet, company for Joanna.

As time went on, though, Turbo got more comfortable, and his true personality began to shine. Initially he was barely able to walk a half-mile. However, his regular exercise with Joanna is strengthening his muscles; now most days he walks a mile or more. He even recently surprised Joanna by sprinting down the stairs! He loves walks and car rides and getting out into the world with Joanna. With his new name came other changed behaviors; he has made friends with other little dogs, and even stays with a neighbor and her Chihuahuas when Joanna is away. He also met a goat, and the two got along famously!

Turbo's world has expanded so much because of Joanna. Of course, his happiest times are spent with her. His favorite game is fetch, played with his bone that later becomes a post-play snack. And the belly rubs! Those are the best moments, spent laying in the arms of his favorite person in the world. You can see the blissful smile on his furry little face.

Joanna is delighted with the transformation she has seen. He is, she says, the cutest and best addition to her family. In early 2020, Turbo's world will grow bigger still, when he takes on the role of big brother; Joanna and her husband are expecting a baby. Turbo will no doubt take it all in stride, with wisdom and calm, and, of course, the occasional belly rub. Congratulations to all on this happy new beginning.

Left: Turbo is happiest when he gets to cuddle with his people.

Show Your Support

Purchase a set of Ohio Pet License Plates and help raise funds to spay and neuter pets adopted from qualifying agencies!

Visit www.petsohio.com for more information.



The Cleveland APL's animals are fed Hill's[®] Science Diet[®] pet food.

Making a Difference

Cleveland Animals Bar Crawl Swoops in for Their 7th Annual Crawl!

Join The Cleveland Animals Bar Crawl on Saturday, April 25, and combine Cleveland's passion for beer along with a desire for social justice. Visit select animal-themed bars in Cleveland and raise money for the Cleveland APL while doing it!

Purchase your official CABC t-shirt and get admission to the crawl, access to shuttles between bars and amazing drink specials brought to you by the sponsors of the Cleveland Animals Bar Crawl!

To buy your shirt and check out participating bars, visit www.ClevelandAnimalsBarCrawl.com.



Crawlers embrace their inner animals in support of the animals at the Cleveland APL.





Thank You So Much!

12 Bars of Charity

For donating \$10 for every shirt sold in support of the Cleveland APL for its bar crawl.

Madison Design Studio's Charity Ornament

For every ornament purchased, \$10 was donated to the Cleveland Animal Protective League to help fund our programs and services.

Meowmaste Cat Yoga

For hosting cat yoga at the APL every month, allowing yogis to practice in a room full of feline participants.

Gales Garden Center Westlake

For hosting our Offsite Adoptions team three times during the holiday season and donating money from the sales of Christmas ornaments to the Cleveland APL.

Shake Shack

For donating tips from their Yelp fundraiser.

Thanks to the generosity and efforts of everyone involved in these events, more than \$7,500 was raised to help the Cleveland APL and our animals.

We also appreciate the additional in-kind donations we have received from our friends and supporters.

Don't Miss the Chance to Feature Your Furry Friend(s) in the 2021 APL Pet Calendar Contest

If your adorable furry friend is star material, then don't miss the chance to feature them in the 2021 Cleveland APL pet calendar honoring our area's much-beloved pets! To enter the contest, visit our website at www.ClevelandAPL.org or call 216-377-1628 for more information. Remember to enter before Saturday, July 25, for the chance to make your furry friend a star!







Three of the winners in the Cleveland APL's 2020 calendar contest, now featured as the stars of May, June, and July respectively.

March 2020 Adopt · Protect · Love

Tributes

The following tribute gifts were received between October 2019 and December 2019.

A tribute gift of \$50 or more is recognized in Pet Patter.

Tribute donations are a very special way to remember and honor loved ones and pets. Notification will be sent to whomever you ask us to notify.

In Memory of Individual

Christine Ann Alberty James & Mary Cozad; Richard & Deborah Miller

Gary Assad Gail & Paul Rieglemayer & Diane & Dave DiRienzo

Theresa "Tess" Rose (Baranauskas) Bakale Lake Hospital Systems, Inc. Richard G. Baker Carolyn Bert

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Debra Pando Blaushild Gary, Sue & Elizabeth Stark

Theresa Bogdan Ms. Lucille M. Edmonds; Carrie L. Rentz

Linda Faye Bozak-DietzDewittville Fire Department **Virginia Brooks** Sapna, Jeff, Diya,
Mia & Ben

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Anne John & Tia Hart & Kids
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Kathleen Griffin's Birthday Jan Roller & Dave Abbott

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Angela Hocevar Barbara Brown Andrea Hogben Rick Chiricosta Carol Jones Ruth Fazekas Joseph's Anniversary Leslie Resnik

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All the Rescue Animals Steve & Misha Shamp

All Our Nine APL Cats Richard &

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CLEVELAND ANIMAL PROTECTIVE LEAGUE ANNUAL CAGE SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

() Yes, I would like to sponsor a cage at the Cleveland Animal Protective League. **Dog Cage Sponsorship:** □ \$1,800 per cage per year. **Cat Cage Sponsorship:** □ \$1,500 per cage per year. Small Mammal Cage Sponsorship: □ \$1,300 per cage per year. Please print all information. Name ______ Address ______ City ______ State ____ ZIP _____ Phone: Home () ______ Work () _____) _____ E-mail Address: ☐ I am enclosing a check for \$_____ made payable to the Cleveland APL. ☐ Please charge \$ ______ to my ☐Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ Discover ☐ American Express Account # _____ 3 Digit Security Code _____ Expiration Date _____ Name as it appears on credit card _____ Donor name to appear on plaque: _____ This sponsorship is in □ honor or □ memory of ______, who is a □ pet or □ person Pledge payment options are available. If interested, please call Judy Hunter, Director of Development, at 216-344-1353.

Become A Cage Sponsor! Until They Find Their New Home and Family...

The Cleveland Animal Protective League lovingly cares for thousands of homeless, injured and abused animals each year. For some, their cage at the APL, complete with a warm bed, toys, plenty of food and water, and lots of TLC, is the only "home" they have ever known. For others, it's a temporary home until they find the love of another family. For all of them, it's the reason they're getting a second chance. Our annual cage



Edgar was with us 8 months and 1 day. Adopted!

sponsors bring hope and comfort to our animals while they wait for their future mom or dad to adopt them and take them home—



Peter Pan was with us 3 months and 10 days. Adopted!

permanently. We ask that you help us to provide all of the care and love they need while they are with us by becoming a cage sponsor.

Your cage sponsorship will be recognized with a plaque on a cage in our cat, dog or small mammal areas. You may choose to make your cage sponsorship in honor or in memory of a special pet or person or you may choose to advertise your business. Cage sponsorships are renewable every year.

At the Cleveland Animal Protective League, healthy, friendly animals stay with us until they are adopted. We all know a cage in a shelter is not a permanent home, but with your cage sponsorship, we can make it a temporary home away from home until they have one of



Roxy was with us 4 months and 24 days. Adopted!

their own by providing all the care that is needed—and that they so rightfully deserve.

For cage sponsorship opportunities please see above.