You’re the Boss, Applesauce!

APL adopters know that a perfect look doesn’t necessarily mean a perfect pet. While we can all appreciate a well-groomed dog or fluffy kitten, we know that animals whose appearance reflects the rough road they’ve traveled often make the best family members. They may be the piece that fits perfectly into the family puzzle.

Applesauce certainly did not look like a kitten on a greeting card when she first arrived at our doors. She was just a few weeks old when a Good Samaritan brought her to the APL. Underweight, bedraggled, and sick with an upper respiratory infection, the tiny kitten was laying in the driveway of her rescuer, apparently abandoned by her mom. The intake staff noted problems with her eyes as well. With such a difficult start, she was desperately in need of a second chance. Fortunately for Applesauce, she was in the right place.

Many of the animals with special needs who come to the APL benefit from the Cleveland APL’s Second Chance Program. That program, funded solely by donations, is used to provide special medical care for injured and ill animals. Through the Second Chance Program, thousands of animals have received high-quality, extensive medical care, giving them a second chance to find a loving home.

Applesauce, it was decided, would get her medical care through the Second Chance Program.

Good fortune intervened for Applesauce in another way in the APL’s Intake Department. Taylor, an experienced feline foster mom, happened to be at the APL, in that very department, when Applesauce arrived.

Taylor had fostered and then adopted APL cats Jasper and then Juliet. They were “foster fails,” an affectionate term used when the foster parent who has been caring for a cat or dog realizes that their foster “child” already has found its forever home—and adopts that cat or dog as their own.

Foster parents give their charges the time, attention, and care that is hard to provide in a busy shelter, then return the dog or cat to the APL to find their new, permanent home. Taylor is a loving, experienced cat owner, with a soft spot for cats with special needs. Taylor, we knew, would be the perfect foster mom for Applesauce. As “Saucy’s” foster mom, Taylor would be responsible for bringing her foster child to her medical appointments, giving her any required medication, making sure she was gaining weight, and giving Applesauce lots of care and love. Applesauce went home with Taylor right away.

The APL veterinary staff immediately began treating

Continued on page 5
Ozzy’s Homage

Letter from the President and CEO

Over the years, anyone who has visited our administrative offices probably was "interviewed" by my cat and office manager, Ozzy. I hired ... er, adopted ... him in October 2008. Fourteen years and four days later, it was time to say a final, heartbreaking goodbye to my little buddy. The "Ozzy and Sharon" era had come to an end. He was ready to rest.

A Good Samaritan brought Ozzy and another cat to the APL after finding them abandoned in the hallway of an apartment building. I met Oz after closing one night. I was standing next to his cage while chatting with a staff member and he did that thing a lot of cats do. He reached through his cage and bopped me ... over and over ... to remind me that he was there. Poof, he had my heart, but I couldn’t take him home because my dogs were not cat friendly.

After a sleepless night of obsessing over Ozzy, I called our Director of Operations and clearly instructed her to tell me that adopting him as an office cat was a bad idea. He was a gorgeous, young, highly adoptable guy who could easily be placed in a "normal" home. However, we desperately needed cage space for cats, and it just so happened that we already had another special cat named Kobe living in our offices. He had been returned multiple times for various infractions but was as perfect as could be when with us, so he stayed. A couple of hours later a litter box, food bowl, water bowl, and Ozzy appeared in my office. Our D.O. was not fired for insubordination, Kobe had a buddy, and Ozzy was mine!

Whoever coined the phrase large and in charge undoubtedly knew Ozzy. His management style could be described as intermittently intolerant—and that’s being kind. Randomly, Oz would pick a victim and deny them access to the administrative area or post himself outside and take hostages. Accordingly, he had a rather large personnel file but always managed to charm his way out of serious trouble. Truth be told, he should have been written up for taking excessively long breaks on the warm Xerox machine. The copies of his butt certainly would have served as hard evidence of the violation.

Ozzy’s grooming routine was not, well, routine. He also never met a container into which he couldn’t stuff his increasingly ample self. The intersection of those traits left a trail of hairy remnants in any unsecured box, silent auction basket, bin, or whatever. When Ozzy was put on a strict, prescription diet, eating lunch became a battle of will and exercise in evasive maneuvers, especially when cauliflower was involved. He absolutely loved belly rubs.

Ozzy was deeply devoted to the people he loved and, in turn, had many moms and dads who watched over him, cared for him, enjoyed his antics, took him on "field trips" to the adoption lobby after closing, and loved him unconditionally. I’m personally and deeply grateful to everyone at the APL who became his family. He was such a constant in our APL world. It’s hard to fathom that he’s gone and impossible to capture everything here that Ozzy meant to all of us—to me. Maybe that’s because I’m still trying to protect my own broken heart.

The journey with Ozzy from abandoned youngster to beloved senior was rich with laughter, love, and at least one valuable lesson. Home can be many different things. While every home might not fit neatly into what some define as a “normal” home, wherever that may be, should always be where there’s love. Ozzy was home with us and loved by many, but deep down, he knew I was his mom and adored him. What a treasured gift that was.

Safe travels, Buddy. You’re missed every single day. P.S. I’ll burn your personnel file. I promise.

Sharon Harvey
and Bennie

A Letter from Our Capital Campaign Spokesdog

Hi Furriends,

It’s hard to believe that this is my final letter to you as the Unleash the Dream Campaign Spokesdog, but if I do say so myself, I think I did a great job keeping you up to date with the construction project. Since my first story, a lot of things changed—construction, a pandemic, supply chain delays, and so much more—but it’s thanks to you that the animals that come to the Cleveland APL in the future will be able to get better care than ever before!

In August, I got to visit the Cleveland APL with my mom for its official ribbon cutting ceremony. It was a wonderful event where donors, key community members, legislators, volunteers, and staff members gathered to celebrate the amazing renovation they all had a part in completing. And Aunt Sharon showed me the largest pair of scissors that I’ve ever seen! More than 80 people came to the official ribbon-cutting ceremony to celebrate the completion of construction at the APL. I even got to meet Bryan Shaw, pitcher for our Cleveland Guardians! He gave me lots of scratches and belly rubs.

My Aunt Sharon, the APL’s Board Chair, Kathy Tamman, Cleveland Councilman Kerry McCormack, and Ohio Representatives Michael Skindell and Juanita Brent gave speeches to commemorate this wonderful occasion. After the speeches, anyone who had not seen the inside of the building was given the chance to take a tour.

In the last issue of Pet Patter, I was able to show you some of the big changes around the Cleveland APL, but the most important change isn’t the building. It’s the services the facility will allow my friends to provide for animals in Cleveland. Now, not only is the APL a state-of-the-art animal shelter, but it’s also a resource center for pets and pet owners in the community. Now, the APL can expand existing programs for animals, add new critical programs, and better meet the needs of pet owners and animals in need. They will be able to offer more advanced medical care for the shelter animals and offer qualifying pet owners access to veterinary care for their pets in the new, low-cost Community Pet Clinic. The recent APL ad campaign puts it perfectly; the APL is more than a shelter. And that’s all thanks to you!

If you haven’t visited the Cleveland APL, I truly hope you can stop by and see just how great it is. But, if you can’t come in person, don’t worry, a virtual tour will be available soon!

More than anything, I hope you remember just how important your belief in the Cleveland APL’s mission has been in helping them Unleash the Dream! Animals in Northeast Ohio are so lucky to have my friends at the APL and friends like you on their side! Thank you for helping us Unleash the Dream!

While I really loved being the campaign’s spokesdog, it’s time to sign off and get back to playing, snacking, and napping!

Here’s to a wonderful holiday season with your two-legged and four-legged family members!

Pawsitively,

Thankful,

Indiana Bones

Indy’s Corner

Cutting the ribbon! Look at the size of those scissors!

Dr. Allison Lash, Medical Director, gives donors a tour of the clinic.

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Thankful,

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Indiana Bones

Cutting the ribbon! Look at the size of those scissors!

Dr. Allison Lash, Medical Director, gives donors a tour of the clinic.
Laura and Tim decided immediately that they would take Cash home. Cash, a favorite of staff and volunteers, had to pass through a crowd of well-wishers before he could leave that day.

Cash's good life began that day. Laura and Tim happily describe the life that Cash enjoys now.

Cash isn’t a dog-park dog. He prefers being at home with Laura and Tim. He does have one tiny dog friend, though, Watson, with whom he socializes a bit. He warns other dogs away from his home and his family with three warning woofs.

Cash is a talker. Laura reports, perhaps he’s telling stories of his past adventures? He loves breakfast food, and on the weekends gets his own scrambled eggs with a bit of bacon, made especially for him. Cash’s arthritis affects his mobility, but, as they would do for any other family member, Tim and Laura thoughtfully address his issues with rugs and carpet to cover the hardwood floors. Cash even has his own memory foam bed, and every night between 8:45 and 9:15 p.m., he puts down his chew bone and puts himself to bed.

Cash gets lots of toys, some of which he tears up, like any dog. His favorite game lately, though, involves his special dinosaur toy—dinosaur keep-away. When Cash is chewing on his toy dinosaur, Tim sneaks up and pulls it away. Cash responds by taking it back. And so it goes, back and forth, until Cash puts his paw on it, laying claim to the toy.

As much as he likes dinosaur keep-away, Laura and Tim agree that Cash’s favorite thing in the world is cuddling, especially cuddling with Tim. Every night, just before his self-determined bedtime, Cash lays down with Tim on Cash’s ultra-comfortable bed, and Tim strokes and pets Cash until Cash gets sleepy. This is what Cash was yearning for all along.

Thank you, Laura and Tim, for giving this gentle giant his long-awaited happily ever after. You can follow Cash on Instagram at check_into_cash.

Another Happy Tale

Happy Tale Applesauce

...continued from page 1

Applesauce’s URI and began to strategize about Applesauce’s other health issues. Applesauce had arrived with serious problems in both of her eyes; it’s unclear whether she could see when she was brought in. Though the veterinary staff tried to save them, first one eye, and then the other was removed, for her long-term health and comfort. Applesauce bounced back from her eye surgeries quickly. Taylor reported that within hours, “she was back to being a crazy playful kitten.”

Great veterinary care, a loving foster mom, and a resilient spirit all helped Applesauce heal quickly. Jasper and Juliet bonded well with Applesauce, too. That settled it, and Taylor officially adopted Applesauce.

Saucy’s life has turned out to be quite bright. She loves her brother and her sister; Juliet grooms her while Jasper plays with her. She occasionally “zooms” through the house, avoiding obstacles with a kind of kitty radar. Of course, she takes breaks to bask in the sun.

Applesauce has dozens of toys to keep her entertained. She especially likes the noisy, crinkly ones. She gets plenty of her favorite treat—chicken baby food. And, most of all, she does lots of cuddling with her mom.

The change in Applesauce from the day she first came to the APL is stunning. And it has been documented by Taylor. In addition to being a fabulous cat mom, Taylor is a talented photographer, and takes lovely photos of one of her favorite models, Applesauce.

Congratulations, Applesauce, on your picture-perfect life!
More than 430 guests helped us to raise more than $290,000 to benefit the APL’s Second Chance Program during the Cleveland Animal Protective League’s annual gala, which was held both in-person and virtually on Saturday, November 5! This year our host, Monica Robins from WKYC; our President & CEO, Sharon Harvey; and our auctioneer, Karolyn Isenhart, welcomed guests back to the InterContinental Hotel for the most tail-wagging event of the year.

In-person attendees had a great time and enjoyed “paws-ing” at the many food stations as well as bidding on fabulous items in our live and silent auctions, while virtual guests were able to bid on auction items and enjoy our Fur Ball program from the comfort of their own home. All guests also learned about some very special animals whose lives were saved because of the medical care and expertise the Second Chance Program allows us to provide.

Peaches, a 3-year-old Pit Bull who came to the APL emaciated, with masses on her chest and leg, decreased muscle mass in her right hip, and an ill-defined femur head, was the night’s VIP (Very Important Pooch). After receiving a Femoral Head Ostectomy, and months of regular water therapy and massage therapy, Peaches was able to walk again! Thanks to generous donors to the Second Chance Program, we were able to provide Peaches with the medical care she needed to make her happily-ever-after possible. Also featured in videos at the event were Chi Chi, a one-year-old cat whose intestines had herniated into her chest and needed a specialty surgery; Dior, a 2-year-old Pit Bull who was attacked by another dog and in need of months of extensive medical care; and Lego, a five-month-old kitten who arrived with a broken femur and a dislocated hip and needed multiple surgeries while in our care.

A committed group of APL volunteers works on the gala all year long. Committee chairs Ashleigh Gomez, Jeff Eisenberg, Angela DeMuesy, Katie Zehr, Barbara Reitzloff, Sabah Shat, Ginny Rux, and Janet Smith donated their time to this event. Without their hard work, and the hard work of the many other volunteers who helped during the gala, Fur Ball would not be possible!

Save the date and join us again next year for Fur Ball 2023—Saturday, November 4, at the InterContinental Hotel Cleveland and virtually!
Lucie—Love in a Large Size

Most of the animals who become guests of the APL come from the greater Cleveland area. Occasionally, though, we can show a gal—or guy—from out of town a little Lake Erie hospitality. Through our animal transfer program, we accept animals from shelters into the Cleveland APL to help them get adopted. Sometimes an animal may languish in another shelter because that shelter has too many animals of that specific breed. Other shelters may have less foot traffic than the APL. Still other times, the transfer of animals helps those other shelters manage their population. For example, when Hurricane Ian hit southern Florida in late September 2022, the APL accepted some of the cats already in shelters in that area to make room for the lost pets owners would be searching for in their neighborhood shelter.

Lucie, then known as Judy, came to the Cleveland APL on a Sunday in April 2022. When she arrived, Judy was understandably a bit tense and fearful. She spent her first few days at the APL getting a medical exam and treatment for an ear infection. Four days later, on Thursday, she appeared on the APL website. Aubrey was at the APL before, visiting the website periodically, looking for that special dog with whom to share her home. Aubrey thought Judy could be the one. On Friday, Aubrey was at the APL before, and noticed the difference between Lucie in her intake photos and Lucie in her at-home photos now—she’s gone away when you try to take her photo. Still, you can’t help but notice the difference between Lucie in her intake photos and Lucie in her at-home photos now—she’s gone from looking tense and tentative to looking at ease and smiling widely.

Lucie leaves her toy options, preparing to pull them all out once again.

The APL staff introduced Aubrey to Judy, and Aubrey was certain this sweet, shy girl belonged with her. Though other people were waiting to meet Judy, Aubrey went home with Aubrey that day.

In addition to a new home, Judy got a new name—Lucie. Like any dog, especially a shelter dog, adjusting to a new home took a bit of time. Aubrey expected this and was not surprised when, initially, Lucie was somewhat timid. Not knowing how Lucie came to be at the original shelter, it’s hard to speculate what might have caused her fears. Fortunately, because Lucie lives in the moment, neither she nor Aubrey focused on that. Aubrey wisely responded to Lucie perfectly, giving her time to adjust. In return for her patience, Lucie became Aubrey’s shadow, following her everywhere.

Just six months later, Aubrey reports that Lucie is loving her life. Lucie goes on car rides and golf cart rides and joins Aubrey for long walks around the lake near their home. No longer timid, she has made some animal friends. And, according to Aubrey, Lucie “is spoiled rotten with toys and loves to pull every single one out of her bin so she has plenty of options to play with during the day.” Still sweet and gentle, Lucie looks forward to her monthly bark box which brings new playthings, playthings that she usually grooms rather than de-stuffing.

Lucie, despite her beauty, is still a bit camera shy, and turns away when you try to take her photo. Still, you can’t help but notice the difference between Lucie in her intake photos and Lucie in her at-home photos now—she’s gone from looking tense and tentative to looking at ease and smiling widely.

Lucie loves being Aubrey’s cuddly shadow. Aubrey notes, “She is the happiest girl and will snuggle you every chance she gets.” She adds, “Thank you for allowing us to bring her into our lives. She makes us smile and laugh every single day and we can’t imagine our life without her.” Thank you, Aubrey, for giving Lucie her very happy happily-ever-after.

Left to right: Volunteers of the Year Kaley Turner, Shirley Toth, Aubrey, and Suzanne Zupan at the volunteer celebration.

Barbara Reitzloff, APL Volunteer, assisted in the writing of this issue’s happy tales.

For 30 years, Medical Mutual has recognized seniors who selflessly volunteer their time and talents to help others. During the Cleveland Outstanding Senior Volunteer Awards luncheon on October 20, 2022, Medical Mutual honored individuals, and the APL was honored in each way. Among those honored was APL Volunteer Ben Brouhard.

Ben is a wonderful part of the APL’s volunteer team, and was awarded APL Volunteer of the Year in 2016 and Hall of Fame Volunteer of the Year in 2020. This Medical Mutual award is just another way to celebrate the amazing work Ben does to help our team and our animals!

Ben says that the APL has become his happy place. Helping animals and spending time with people from different backgrounds who share a common goal has enriched his life more than he can express. And to anyone interested in becoming a volunteer at the APL, Ben has one thing to say, “The APL is a very welcoming place. Even if you find it a little intimidating to get started, if you like animals—just go for it! You never know what you might find that you enjoy!”

If you’re interested in joining our team of volunteers, visit our website at www.clevelandapl.org/volunteer today!

Interested in helping the animals at the Cleveland APL from your own home? Or are you interested in helping the animals at the Cleveland APL in our shelter or at events? Check out our website at www.ClevelandAPL.org for more information and to submit an online volunteer or foster volunteer application.

Dec 2022 December 2022 Adopt - Protect - Love

Volunteer at the APL

Share your love of animals and become a Cleveland Animal Protective League volunteer.

Volunteer at the Cleveland Animal Protective League

Cleveland Animal Protective League

1729 Valley Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44113

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Thank you for joining the Dick Goddard APL Telethon.

The eighth annual Dick Goddard APL Telethon aired on Fox 8 on Thursday, September 15. This fantastic event was hosted by Fox 8 personalities and animal lovers Todd Meany, Natalie Herbrick, and Kenny Crumpton.

The following tribute gifts were received between June 22 and September 22.

In Memory of Individual

- **Sheilla Johnson**
  Tom and Susan Saropis
- **Clara Annie Keck**
  Vicki, Jenny, Lisa, and Andy O’Raven
- **Susan P. Kersken**
  Rob and John
- **Judith Kilburn**
  Patricia A. Smith
- **John M. Kimmel**
  Diane Birtin
- **Marguerite S. Birtin**
  And Terry Birtin
- **Joseph Jr.**
  and Barbara Schubert
- **Alian and Maria Wilkinson
  Anthony and Allea Kline**
- **Joy and Joe Clark**
- **Dobby Kohn**
  and Carol Hatcher, Terri Oldham
- **Mary Ann Simon**
- **Kathleen Ann Lukas**
  Friends at West hills
- **Jan C. Lukies**
  Kate Lukies, K. W. Zeilin & Co. Inc.
- **Sandra L. Maeceri**
  Barbara Goodwin, Elsie Martin
- **John Muller**
  Mary Jane Wasker
- **Robert J. Milkewicz**
  Maryland North.
- **Vicki**
  and Tonight
- **Kevin R. O’Donohue**
  Rob Runyon, Uncle Ken and Aunt Debbie
- **Mike O’Strue**
  Vicki Lynn Ostrue
- **George Popovich**
  Bickie Lafferty-Smith
- **Anna Pusztiler**
  Paul Pusztiler
- **Danelle Sancuito Rice**
  Randy and Terri Schmidt, Sandra Joumass
- **Robine Runyon Rynan**
  Evelyn Straus
- **Frederick Schulze**
  Rev. Donald Kins
- **Richard William Seiple**
  Carolyn Lippit, Janet B. Lippit, and Kelly Lippit
- **Robine Seiple**
  Thomas and Dianne Bode
- **Steffi Stewart**
  Anonymous
- **Angie Sticht**
  Sandra Koelling
- **Lana Hemry**
  Karl and Sarah Kindle
- **Denise Stimson**
  Disciple
- **Amanda Vinius**
  Ben and Jackie Cassara
- **Susan Welnick**
  Faye
don’t know name
- **Kathy Wurth**
  Robert J. Murphy
- **Kerry Wurth**
  Ann and Jim Wurth

In Honor of Individual

- **Lory Baldwin**
  Jo Ann Eckert
- **Dave Brown**
  Gregory & Brenda Backnick
- **Barbara Baun’s Birthday**
  Linda and Andy Rattan
- **Carrie’s 50th Birthday**
  UCP Family Friends of Patricia Cermak, Matt Cermak, and Sandy Cermak
- **Sharon, Susan and John**
  Cermak
- **Stephanie Doerner and Richard**
  Levels Doerner Lockwood family
- **Dudley’s (Mama’s) Foster Family**
  Jeff and Linda Smith
- **Greg Greco**
  Helen and John Greco
- **Mary and Ken Hadley**
  Anonymous
- **Judy Herbst**
  Susan and Ken Herbst
- **Mary K. Herbst**
  Ken Herbst
- **Lisa Kirvinis**
  Sue & Mitch Franklin
- **Julia Lauritzen and Zach Angelloni**
  John Hayford
- **Janice and Carlos Levitt**
  Tamarisk
- **Matthew’s Tributes and Bobby’s**
  Robert “Bobby” Murphy, Mom, Dad and Robby Runney
- **Matthews’”**
  Host with the Most, Paul, and Debbie, Kevin O’Neill
- **Dave and Linda**
  O’Neill
- **Bob and Judy}
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. $150 per cage per month.*

**Cat Cage Sponsorship:** $1,500 per cage per year. $125 per cage per month.*

**Small Mammal Cage Sponsorship:** $1,300 per cage per year. $108.33 per cage per month.*

*Payment by automatic monthly credit card is required for monthly commitments. See below.

Please print all information.

Name ___________________________________________ Address ________________________________

City ___________________________ State ______ ZIP __________

Phone: Home ( ) ___________________________ Work ( ) ___________________________

Cell ( ) ___________________________ E-mail Address: ________________________________

☐ I am enclosing a check for $ __________________ made payable to the Cleveland APL.

☐ Please charge a one-time gift of $ ______________ to my ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ Discover ☐ American Express

☐ Please charge a monthly gift of $ ______________ to my ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ Discover ☐ American Express

By signing up for monthly credit card gifts, you authorize your cage sponsorship(s) to be automatically renewed each year until you cancel.

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

Have questions or need assistance? Please contact Trent Charles, Annual Fund Manager, at (216) 255-5024 or TCharles@ClevelandAPL.org.

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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 sponsors bring hope and comfort to our animals while they wait for their future mom or dad to adopt them and take them home—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 their own by providing all the care that is needed—and that they so rightfully deserve.

For cage sponsorship opportunities please see above.

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Intro was with us 16 months and 3 days. Adopted!

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

Lloyd was with us 4 months and 3 days. Adopted!