

CLEVELAND  
ANIMAL  
PROTECTIVE  
LEAGUE



# Pet Patter

March 2026

## Archie & George: A Tale of Two Huskies

A special announcement from  
our President & CEO - Pg. 2-3

Many adoption tales begin with the pet who preceded the one who is featured: that is, the one who taught the pet parents of the joy a furry family member could bring. So it was with Bodie. A handsome Husky, Bodie's family adopted him at the beginning of the 2020 quarantine. Bodie was an easy dog. His family bought a crate for him to stay in; he used it once or twice. He went boating with his family, and camping. When Patty went back to work at a daycare, Bodie got to come along. He wasn't a pet; he was part of the family. When he passed away in 2024, the family was devastated.

Through Bodie, Patty and her husband, Tim, had fallen in love with all things huskies. So, in late 2025, when they saw a two-year-old Husky on the APL's website, they went to meet him.

They walked through the shelter. The dog they were there to meet was not in his kennel. Then, Tim heard it—the distinctive howl. He said, "I hear a Husky!" and went off in search of the owner of that unique voice. He found Atlas.

It was almost like a movie. Tim looked at Atlas. Their eyes locked. It was love at first sight.

Atlas was a handsome guy. At eight years old, he was an older dog than they were looking for. They didn't want to face loss again so soon after losing Bodie. But Tim was smitten.

They later met the dog they originally came to see, but their minds returned to Atlas.

They learned that Atlas had come to the APL with his younger brother, Goku. Dogs who previously lived together and are attached to one another sometimes are called a "bonded pair," and the APL tries hard to have them adopted together.



Archie and George enjoying the snow in their new yard!

This can be a difficult task with larger dogs. Families often are not looking for two large dogs and rarely can take two home.

They met Archie's younger brother, Goku. He reminded Patty of Bodie. Patty and Tim spent time with them both in the play yard. Staff continued to reassure Patty and Tim that the dogs could be adopted separately.

When they saw how delighted the dogs were to be together in the play yard, wrestling, rolling, boxing, and play-fighting, that sealed it. Patty and Tim had enough space and love for them both. So, Atlas and Goku, renamed Archie and George, would remain together.

# A Special Message from Sharon Harvey

## Letter from the President & CEO

### A Heartfelt Announcement and an Exciting New Chapter

Every journey has a beginning, and mine started with a plain, brown street dog named Hugh, who changed my life forever. I couldn't have known then that one unexpected volunteer moment would result in a career change and leading an organization I love so deeply.

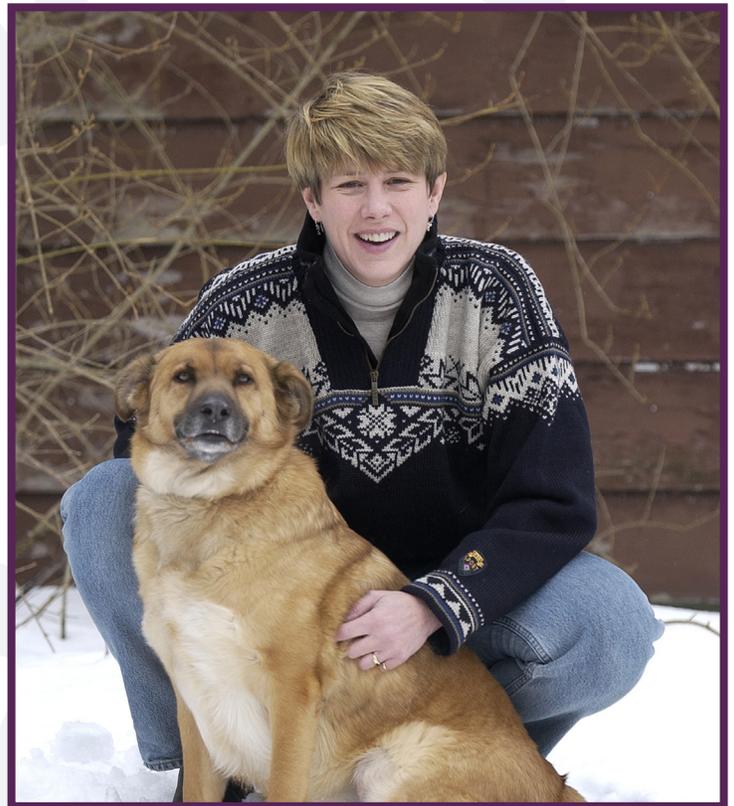
Now, after nearly two decades as CEO of the Cleveland APL, I will be retiring at the end of this year. This decision is both immensely personal and profoundly meaningful, as this organization, its team, and the people and animals it serves, have been central to my life's purpose for nearly two decades.

Twenty-five years ago, I was introduced to the field of animal welfare when I volunteered to train shelter dogs at Geauga Humane Society. Rather unexpectedly, that led to being asked to train Hugh to give an inaugural address at his inaugural ball! You see, he had been found by Geauga Humane Society's humane agent lying on the street critically injured and ill. After being nursed back to health by their team, he went on to win an election and become the Mayor of Rescue Village, the humane society's new shelter. Really! After spending time at the shelter and teaching Hugh tricks for his brilliant speech, I had found my passion. In 2003, I left an 18-year career at the Cleveland Clinic to become Rescue Village's executive director. Four years later, I received a call from a Cleveland APL board member suggesting that I throw my hat into the ring to lead the APL.

Together, we have built something truly special. From improving animal care and expanding critical programs, such as Humane Investigations and our Second Chance, Foster Care, and Volunteer programs, to launching new initiatives including Trap-Neuter-Return, the Animal Welfare Clinic, Animal Enrichment

& Wellbeing, the Community Pet Clinic, and project CARE with its pet food pantry, Peticaid, crisis safety net, and community wellness and vaccination services, the Cleveland APL is stronger than ever.

Through strong leadership, innovation, and legislative advocacy, our impact has been recognized at both the state and national levels.



Sharon Harvey with Hugh (Photo by Amy Sancetta)

**"Sharon's leadership has been nothing short of extraordinary," said Chris Anderson, Chairperson of the Cleveland Animal Protective League's Board of Directors. "Her vision, compassion, and unwavering dedication have shaped the APL into the strong, mission-driven organization it is today. We are deeply grateful for her nearly two decades of service and excited about the solid foundation she will leave behind — one that allows the APL to continue making a meaningful and positive impact on the animals and people in our community for years to come."**



Guided by a solid strategic direction and supported by a dedicated, compassionate team, the organization is well positioned for the future. That is why this feels like the right time, for both the organization and for me, to take this next step.

I am incredibly proud of what we have accomplished as a team and grateful for the trust and shared commitment that have guided our work. Your support and belief in our mission and vision have made all of this possible, and together we have saved and changed countless lives. I will look forward to cheering from the sidelines next year as the APL, with your critical continued support, continues to grow, evolve, and help even more animals and the people who love them.

But wait, I'm not clearing out my desk just yet! I will remain with the APL through the end of the year to continue to advance our strategic initiatives and support a smooth onboarding and handoff to our next president & CEO. Our Board has launched a thoughtful, thorough nationwide search and is fully committed to a leadership transition that preserves our mission and momentum.

Back to Hugh. Yes, I adopted that plain, brown dog who opened my eyes to this work. Truly, there was nothing plain about him, certainly not to me. Our bond was extraordinary. Sadly, Hugh and I only had two years together before he lost his battle with lymphoma. A portrait of him has hung across from my desk for my entire tenure at the APL; a daily reminder of why this work matters, how far we have come, and the importance of listening to your heart and finding your passion. Woven subtly into the pencil work are barely perceptible colors from the beautiful double rainbow that appeared at the end of my street the day after he died. This amazing journey started with Hugh, and when I leave my office that one last time, it will be with Hugh. I owe him and all of you so, so much.



Sharon standing with the portrait of Hugh

With gratitude for the past and optimism for the future,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sharon G. Harvey".

Sharon Harvey

P.S. We will provide updates on the search in future issues of Pet Patter.

## Visit the APL

Please visit [www.ClevelandAPL.org](http://www.ClevelandAPL.org). Hours may be subject to change.

### Adoption Hours:

Monday-Friday: 11:00 AM–6:00 PM  
Saturday: 10:00 AM–5:00 PM  
Sunday: 12:00 PM–4 PM

### Animal Resource Center Hours:

Monday–Saturday: 10:00 AM–5:30 PM  
Sunday–Closed

### Community Pet Clinic Hours:

Monday–Friday: 9:00 AM–5:30 PM  
Thursday: 11:00 AM–5:30 PM  
Saturday & Sunday: Closed

### Animal Intake Hours:

Monday–Wednesday: 9:00 AM–5:30 PM  
Thursday: 11:00 AM–5:30 PM  
Friday and Saturday 9:00 AM–5:30 PM  
Sunday: Closed

### Project CARE Hours:

Monday–Friday: 9 AM–5:30 PM  
Saturday and Sunday: Closed

### affoGATO Cat Cafe (Cat Lounge)

761 Starkweather Ave, Cleveland, OH 44113  
440-941-5130  
Visit [www.affogatocatcafe.com](http://www.affogatocatcafe.com)  
to make a reservation.



# A Splash of Pimm

Magically Found. It's the name of a boutique Rebecca owns in Lakewood. It also accurately describes the tale of her kitty, Pimm.

Pimm's story, as we know it, begins on a hot, stormy July day in Cleveland, when the temperature reached 80°. A Good Samaritan found a tiny kitten lying in the middle of a six-lane road. The cat was still, weak, and panting. The Samaritan realized that tiny bump in the road was a living creature and rescued her from the road. That the Samaritan saw a very small object in the middle of a very large, busy road, recognized it as a kitten, and scooped her up, is nothing short of magical.

The Samaritan brought the kitten to the APL, where the staff named her Little Pudding Cup, likely hoping to introduce some sweetness into her life. Pudding Cup was small and young—she was estimated to be three months old and weighed just over three pounds. She was dehydrated and weak. The APL veterinary team discovered that she had a fractured pelvis, including two injured hips, one of which would require surgery. Staff noted early in her stay that she was a "very sweet girl."

Pudding Cup's surgery was successful. The medical staff decided that she would benefit from some time with a foster family. The search for the right foster placement began.

Foster families are a crucial part of animal rescue. They take in animals who are sick, injured, or stressed, give them lots of TLC, and prepare them for success in their new home. Then, at serious risk to their own hearts, the foster family gives up their foster "child" to their permanent home. Many then foster another pet.

Rebecca, a foster volunteer, loves cats, of course. She rescues cats (she rescued one of her own from an Ashtabula racetrack) and she's a terrific cat foster mom.



Pimm lounges with her sister Margo (Margarita)



Pimm snuggles up with Rebecca

Rebecca notes proudly that she "returned 13 of the 14 cats and kittens" she fostered. But then there was Little Pudding Cup.

The minute Rebecca looked into those golden eyes, she says, she knew that this kitten would be her first "foster fail," that is, the first foster cat she could not return. Pudding Cup, Rebecca says, "was perfect from the start."

Welcoming Pudding Cup to the family meant giving her a new name, to go with the adult beverage theme of the household, i.e., Fernet, Margarita, Cosmopolitan and Bellini. She was christened Pimm S. Cup, after the classic, summery cocktail. Perfect, given her arrival on the scene in July.

Pimm spent the first two weeks at Rebecca's house in her cat playpen, recovering from her surgery. She didn't move around too much but spent a fair amount of time sizing up the other cats.

After that, when she could get out and around a bit, she spent her time playing with a feather. The others watched her, but she ignored them. It turned out to be part of her strategy. She has patiently developed unique, positive relationships with each of her siblings. She enjoys tuna with her sister Margo (Margarita); she has found a good playmate in Belle (Bellini).

Mostly, though, Pimm loves Rebecca, and follows her wherever she goes. She is such a good girl, and loves being with Rebecca so much, that she is thinking about taking Pimm to the boutique in the spring, to see if she might enjoy "working" there. If Rebecca is there Pimm is likely to be quite content.

Pimm, with her amazing rescue story, should be the perfect shop cat for Magically Found. Stop by the boutique to meet her, and perhaps she'll tell you more about her Happily Ever After!

# Crisis Safety Net: A Safe Place Until Home

Life can change in an instant—and when it does, the Cleveland APL Crisis Safety Net Program is there to ensure that pets don't become another loss during an already overwhelming time.

Tasha knows this all too well. Despite working hard every day, an unexpected turn left her without a home. Friends were able to offer her a temporary place to stay, but they couldn't accommodate her beloved cat, Skye. Facing homelessness while trying to rebuild stability with the help of her case workers, Tasha was heartbroken at the thought of losing Skye. Through the Crisis Safety Net Program, Skye was placed in a loving foster home for two months, where she was safe, cared for, and cherished. When Tasha was finally back on her feet, the two were reunited—proof that with support, perseverance, and compassion, families can stay whole even through life's toughest moments.



Tasha and her cat, Skye, on reunification day!



The Harris family heading home to reunify with Acie

For the Harris family, crisis arrived in a different form. When their daughter was diagnosed with a severe illness, their lives shifted overnight. Months of hospitalization in Columbus became their new reality, and every ounce of energy went into her fight for recovery. Amid this medical emergency, they faced another painful question: What would happen to Acie, their beloved dog? Unable to care for him but unwilling to surrender him, they turned to the Crisis Safety Net Program for help.

For 90 days, Acie stayed with a foster family who ensured he received constant love, care, and comfort. While Acie was safe, the Harris family could focus on their daughter's treatment. When the long-awaited news finally came that the bone marrow transplant was a success, the family's journey toward healing included one more powerful reunion. When Acie bounded back into their arms, it was more than a homecoming—it was a symbol of resilience, hope, and the strength of community support.

The Cleveland APL Crisis Safety Net Program was created to provide a temporary haven for pets when their owners are facing serious hardships, including homelessness, domestic violence, or hospitalization. Serving Cuyahoga County, the program offers crisis foster care for up to 90 days, allowing pet owners to access critical services without having to permanently surrender their animals. Participants must be working with a case manager, and dedicated foster volunteers provide loving care with the understanding that pets will be reunited with their families once the crisis has passed.



Sweet Acie comfy at his foster home as his human sister recovered

Because of the Crisis Safety Net Program, people like Tasha and the Harris family can weather life's storms knowing their pets are safe, loved, and waiting for them. It's a safety net built on compassion—one that keeps families together when they need it most.

**For more information, visit  
[clevelandapl.org/crisis-safety-net](http://clevelandapl.org/crisis-safety-net)**

## Special Events

# Cleveland Guardians Bark in the Park 2026

The Cleveland APL will be joining the Cleveland Guardians at Progressive Field again in 2026 for Bark in the Park! During the 2025 season, the Guardians hosted four Bark in the Park games, inviting dogs and their owners to Progressive Field, and donated \$5 of every dog ticket purchased to the APL. Tickets quickly sold out with more than \$5,500 donated to the APL.

We are grateful for our continued partnership with the Cleveland Guardians and can't wait to join the Guardians at this season's Bark in the Park games. Game days this season are April 27th, May 26th, June 29th, and September 14th. Check out [www.ClevelandAPL.org](http://www.ClevelandAPL.org) for information on the event and how you can purchase tickets.



Dogs and their humans enjoying the game in the 2025 season!

# Enter Your Animal Friend(s) in the 2027 APL Pet Calendar Contest!



Your adorable furry, feathered, or scaly friend has star material, and they deserve to shine for the world to see. Don't miss the chance to enter them in our annual Cleveland APL pet calendar contest! To enter the contest, visit our website at [www.ClevelandAPL.org](http://www.ClevelandAPL.org) or call 216-377-1628 for more information. Remember to enter before Friday, July 25th, for the chance to make your pet a star! Every photo entered will get a place in our 2027 calendar.

Also, look for the calendar contest voting again this year on our website in August!

Photo: Bisous on the front cover of the 2026 Pet Calendar!

# Thank You, Ken Ganley Auto Group!

During the 2025 holiday season, our friends at the Ken Ganley Auto Group helped our community see that while you can't buy love, you can adopt it! From November 17–22nd, they helped us host the Fur-riendsgiving adoption event with adoption fees waived for adult dogs! During that week, 18 dogs were adopted into lovin homes!

From December 15-20th, the adoption fees for all adult cats and dogs were waived thanks to a generous donation from the Ken Ganley Auto Group, which sponsored our "Love Actually" adoption event, inspired by the beloved holiday film. Over the course of these six days, 17 Dogs and 99 cats were adopted! That's 116 animals who had found loving homes. We're thankful for the continued support of the Ken Ganley Auto Group in our adoption efforts and for all the caring adopters who found room in their hearts and homes for these wonderful animals.



One of our adopters and her perfect match!



# Opportunities to Give

## Ways to Support

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 choose to give through a workplace giving program. Federal employees also can give to the APL through the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC). The Cleveland APL's Combined Federal Campaign number is 29857. The Cleveland APL's Tax ID number is 34-0714644.

## Community Events

*Thanks to the generosity and efforts of our community partners, supporters, and volunteers, more than \$32,800 was raised this quarter to support the Cleveland Animal Protective League and the animals in our care through community fundraisers, donation drives, and special events. The supporters listed below represent just a portion of the community members who made this impact possible.*

**Cleveland Guardians Baseball Company** donated over \$1,500

**JACK Cleveland Casino** donated over \$17,000 through their Change for Charity program

**Sweet Designs Chocolatier Inc.** raised over \$3,000

**Falls & Co.** raised over \$600

**Great Lakes Publishing** raised over \$400

**Lutheran Hospital** raised over \$450

**Meijer Fairfax Market** selected Cleveland APL as their 2025 Meijer Team Gives recipient and donated \$5,000

**Bowtie Hound Productions** and their patrons donated over \$350

**Crowne Plaza Cleveland** hosted Santa Paws and donated \$1,100

**Scott Roger** organized the King Diamond Xmas Benefit and raised \$1,000

**Kendra Scott** hosted a percentage-of-sales event benefiting the APL

**A New HoriZen** donated \$263 plus \$60 in in-kind cat food from their kitten/puppy yoga

*Every gift, large or small, helps animals in need. Looking for ways to get involved by hosting your own Community Event? Please contact Cristy Aul, Events Manager, at (216) 377-1628, or visit [www.ClevelandAPL.org](http://www.ClevelandAPL.org) to learn more and complete a Community Event Application.*

## Other Ways to Give

The Cleveland Animal Protective League's programs and services are made possible through donations from caring people like you. Here are just a few of the ways you can give to the Cleveland APL, allowing us to continue our life-saving work, while receiving tax benefits as well.

- You can make a stock gift to the Cleveland APL. Here is the information you will need to gift stock:

Raymond James

DTC Participant #725

For further credit to: Animal Protective League a/c #8855Y413

- Your investment in a donor-advised fund provides an immediate tax benefit for you, and that means your donations go even further to help the causes closest to your heart.
- If you have an IRA and are over 70½ years old, you can reduce your taxable income by directly transferring your required minimum distribution to a qualified charity such as the Cleveland APL.

For more information about any of these giving options, please call Judy Hunter, Vice President of Philanthropy and Communications, at 216-344-1353.

## Thank You for Your Support in 2025!

We are so grateful to all of our supporters and partners! Our 2025 Cage Sponsors and Tribute & Memorial gifts at \$100 and above are now listed on our website. We are sincerely grateful for your continued support! Visit [www.ClevelandAPL.org](http://www.ClevelandAPL.org) to view the listings.



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



## Happy Tale Cont.

### Archie & George Continued...

When they came to pick up the dogs the next day, George spotted Archie in the lobby and wouldn't leave him even long enough for a quick, pre-car-ride walk. He wasn't to be separated from his brother again.

Now Archie and George are living their best life. It is clear, Patty says, that they were well taken care of by their previous owner. The boys are healthy, strong, and rambunctious. George is a bit more playful; he likes a spirited game of tug. Archie is more mellow, often content to watch George enjoying himself. The boys get along with Patty and Tim's children and grandchildren and have established a truce with the family cats. They enjoy home-cooked meals, and romps in the snow. All in all, they are very good, very happy boys.

The hole left in Patty and Tim's hearts by the loss of Bodie was so large, it took two huskies to fill it. And their generosity let the two brothers stay together, having the times of their lives. Thank you, Patty and Tim, for giving Archie and George their dream come true. You can see their smiling faces and follow their adventures on Facebook, at [www.facebook.com/Archie and George](http://www.facebook.com/Archie and George).



The dynamic duo, Archie and George!

## Make A Difference, Become a Cage Sponsor

At the Cleveland Animal Protective League, healthy, friendly animals stay with us as long as it takes to find a loving home, receiving the care they need and deserve. With your one-year, renewable cage sponsorship, you help provide a safe, temporary haven for these animals. Each sponsorship is recognized with a plaque, which can honor a loved one or promote your business.

### Dog Cage Sponsorship



Duke Ellington was with us  
7 months and 22 days.  
Adopted!

**One Year: \$1,800**  
Monthly (12x a year): \$150

### Cat Cage Sponsorship



Hugo was with us  
2 months and 18 days.  
Adopted!

**One Year: \$1,500**  
Monthly (12x a year): \$125

### Small Mammal Cage Sponsorship



Meyers was with us  
1 month and 19 days.  
Adopted!

**One Year: \$1,300**  
Monthly (12x a year): \$108.33



Scan QR Code

## Interested in becoming a cage sponsor or renewing your current one?

Visit [clevelandapl.org/sponsor-a-cage](http://clevelandapl.org/sponsor-a-cage) or  
contact Hannah MacIntyre, Annual Fund and Database Manager,  
at 216-255-5024 or [hmacintyre@clevelandapl.org](mailto:hmacintyre@clevelandapl.org) for more information.