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ARL Marks Spay Waggin' Milestone, Expands Partnership with Zoo New England

Franklin Park Zoo now a pick-up location for ARL's Keep Pets S.A.F.E. program

On Wednesday, November 8, the Animal Rescue League of Boston's (ARL) <u>Spay Waggin'</u> will be making its monthly visit to the Franklin Park Zoo, and will mark a major milestone, as the Spay Waggin' will complete its 75,000 spay/neuter surgery, this as the organization's partnership with Zoo New England continues to grow, with the zoo now becoming a pick-up location for ARL's <u>Keep Pets S.A.F.E.</u> program.

ARL and the Franklin Park Zoo invite members of the media to learn more about the Spay Waggin' milestone and the importance of this expanding community partnership to increase services to pet owners in need in the Metro Boston community.

Media Availability When: Thursday, November 30, 8:30 a.m. Where: Franklin Park Zoo (Zebra Entrance), 1 Franklin Park Road, Boston Interview Opportunities: ARL and Franklin Park Zoo staff

The partnership between ARL and Zoo New England began in 2021, with the Spay Waggin' making monthly visits to offer local pet owners low-cost spay/neuter services. Additionally, the

Spay Waggin' has also hosted a number of subsidized clinics at the zoo throughout this special partnership, and most recently the zoo was a designated drop-off location for ARL's Keep Pets F.E.D. pet food drive, to allow ARL to keep up with the steady demand from pet owners who receive pet food and supplies from ARL's Keep Pets S.A.F.E. (Serving Animals Facing Emergencies) program.

This partnership is a fantastic example of bringing services directly where they're needed. Over 800 spay/neuter surgeries have been performed at the zoo since 2021, with more than 30 percent of clients coming from within a couple of miles of the Franklin Park area.

Spay Waggin' Milestone

While the benefits of spaying or neutering our pets are numerous, it can be cost-prohibitive for many pet owners. Since initially hitting the road in 2000, ARL's Spay Waggin' has been an essential resource for pet owners, offering low-cost, high-quality spay/neuter services to the South Shore, South Coast and Cape Cod and the Islands.

In addition to Boston, the Spay Waggin' has rotating stops in Brockton, Falmouth, New Bedford, Kingston, North Dartmouth, Taunton, and Wareham.

Along with the spay/neuter surgery, the Spay Waggin' offers pets a brief veterinary exam, rabies and distemper vaccines, flea, ear mite and intestinal parasite treatments, nail trim, and pets can even be microchipped for an additional cost.

The Spay Waggin' is an appointment-only service, and encourage those looking to utilize the service to call 877-590-SPAY (7729), or log onto arlboston.org/services/spay-waggin for more information and scheduling.

ABOUT THE ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE OF BOSTON:

The Animal Rescue League of Boston (ARL) is an unwavering champion for animals in need, committed to keeping them safe and healthy in habitats and homes. Founded in 1899, ARL provides high-quality veterinary care, adoption, and rescue services; while also confronting the root causes of animal cruelty and neglect through innovative community programs, police investigations, and public advocacy. In 2022, ARL served 20,601 animals throughout Massachusetts. ARL is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization. The Animal Rescue League of Boston does not receive government grants or public funding and relies on the generosity of our supporters to help animals in need. For more information please visit us online at arlboston.org; and be sure to follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

ABOUT ZOO NEW ENGLAND:

Zoo New England manages Franklin Park Zoo in Boston and Stone Zoo in Stoneham. Both are accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA). Zoo New England's mission is to inspire people to protect and sustain the natural world for future generations by creating fun and engaging experiences that integrate wildlife and conservation programs, research, and education.

Follow us on social media: Facebook and TikTok: @franklinparkzoo; Twitter and Instagram: @zoonewengland.