



**2444 South Walnut Street
Bloomington, IN 47401**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 3, 2012

MEDIA CONTACT:

Melissa Kusturin, Executive Director

812-349-1349/Melissa@petsaliveindiana.org

Love-a-Bull Pit Bulls Fixed for FREE at Pets Alive

BLOOMINGTON, IN – In celebration of National Spay/Neuter month this February, Pets Alive is offering a “Love-a-Bull” promotion, sponsored by the Animal Farm Foundation, and will spay or neuter Pit Bulls (mixes included) for free. This promotion is occurring at the same time as their “Beat the Heat” promotion, sponsored by PetSmart Charities, that reduces the fee for female cats to just \$20. These promotions are designed to raise awareness of spay/neuter as the solution to pet overpopulation and encourage more south central Indiana residents to have their pets altered.

“The term ‘Pit Bull’ is used to describe American Pit Bull Terriers, American Staffordshire Terriers, and Staffordshire Bull Terriers,” says Melissa Kusturin, Executive Director of Pets Alive. “These dogs tend to have large litters, sometimes 14-16. And as shelters know, there are just not enough homes - regardless of breed. This can lead to the dogs being given away to the first taker without regard to the future of the pet. The American Pit Bull Terrier was once a highly respected breed and is now a far too familiar face at local shelters. Large litters and overbreeding have led to a negative perception of a perfectly “love-a-bull” breed.”

Pets that have been spayed or neutered lead longer and healthier lives and face of little risk of certain reproductive cancers. They are less likely to be injured in fights or in automobile accidents while roaming to seek out a mate. And ultimately, a spayed or neutered pet is the answer to pet overpopulation and unnecessary euthanasia.

The promotion is based on availability with a goal of 100 surgeries. Transportation options may exist for those living outside of Monroe County. The rabies vaccine, required by Indiana state law, is only \$10 for Pit Bulls participating in the promotion. Please visit www.petsaliveindiana.org or call 812-349-1349 for more information or to schedule an appointment. Pets Alive is also planning specials on male cats in the near future. Check their Facebook page or website for more information.

About Pets Alive

Since opening the nonprofit spay/neuter clinic doors in 2005, Pets Alive has completed over 53,000 spay and neuter surgeries. By serving animal shelters, rescue groups, and individuals in 16 counties in south central Indiana, Pets Alive is able to directly reduce the number of cats and dogs being born and possibly entering the shelter or facing a life on their own. Pets Alive also offers affordable vaccination clinics and flea, tick and heartworm preventive. Pets Alive relies on funding from individuals, businesses, and grants to subsidize surgery fees. Visit petsaliveindiana.org for more information.

About Animal Farm Foundation

Animal Farm Foundation, Inc is a nonprofit that has been rescuing and re-homing animals, as well as making grants to other humane organizations, since the mid-1980's. Located in Dutchess County, New York, they currently dedicate their resources to securing equal treatment and opportunity for pit bull dogs. They also provide consulting services for sheltering professionals on dog evaluation, training, enrichment, adoption strategies, public relations and communications. For more information, visit animalfarmfoundation.org.

About PetSmart Charities

Established in 1994, PetSmart Charities, Inc. is an independent, nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization that creates and supports programs that save the lives of homeless pets, raise awareness of companion animal welfare issues and promote healthy relationships between people and pets. The largest funder of animal-welfare efforts in North America, PetSmart Charities has provided \$134 million in grants and programs benefiting animal-welfare organizations and has helped save the lives of nearly 5 million pets through its in-store adoption program. To learn more about how PetSmart Charities is working toward its vision of a lifelong, loving home for every pet, visit petsmartcharities.org.

###