



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Bark Avenue Foundation Celebrates World Spay Day on February 24**

*Community Event featuring FREE Spay/Neuter at Superior Grocers Supermarket in La Mirada*

**Studio City, CA (February 20, 2017)** – [Bark Avenue Foundation](#) (BAF) is celebrating World Spay Day on Friday, February 24, 2017, as part of Spay/Neuter Awareness Month. This community event will provide free spay/neuter and low-cost vaccinations for dogs and cats. Thanks to a partnership between the Department of Animal Care and Control (DACC) and SPAY4LA, the community event will help combat pet overpopulation in La Mirada and Whittier by providing free spay and neuter services to its residents in zip codes 90602, 90603, 90604, 90605, 90606, 90638.

“We are thrilled to be working with DACC and SPAY4LA during Spay/Neuter Awareness Month on this initiative to combat pet overpopulation in the Los Angeles area,” said Bark Avenue Foundation Founder Melanie Pozez.

The “World Spay Day” event will take place from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Superior Grocers located at 12721 Valley View, La Mirada, CA 90638. The morning will kick off with a press conference at 8 a.m. with the County of LA’s Fourth District Animal Welfare Deputy, Lauren Yokomizo, Rhonda Wall, Rhonda Wall (Store Director, Superior Grocers), Steven Latham (ShelterMe), and Jonathan Chavez (Michelson Found Animals Foundation) will speak to the community about the importance of spaying/neutering and responsible pet ownership.

Pet owners who sterilize their dog or cat at the event will also receive free pet food, donated by [Pet Food Express](#), a collar, leash, and pet ID tag.

Bark Avenue Foundation hosts mobile spay/neuter clinics throughout Los Angeles County providing low-cost and free services to pet owners. “The cost of fixing a pet is prohibitive for many pet owners resulting in accidental litters and animals surrendered to municipal shelters,” said Pozez. “The current situation for pets in Los Angeles is dire and can only be truly addressed through spay/neuter efforts and education which is why Bark Avenue Foundation focuses on providing this much-needed service to the community.”

Pet owners are recommended to make an appointment for their pet’s spay/neuter on World Spay Day by contacting 323.553.2349 or [ayuda@barkavenuefoundation.org](mailto:ayuda@barkavenuefoundation.org).

### **Why You Should Spay/Neuter Your Pet**

- Prevention of unplanned and unwanted litters of puppies and kittens.
- Protect your pet from serious health problems later in life such as uterine infections, breast cancer, and testicular cancer ([American Veterinary Medical Association](#)).
- Altered pets are less likely to mark their territory, wander and become lost, and are less likely to bite or become aggressive.

### **About Bark Avenue Foundation**

*Bark Avenue Foundation's mission is to empower pet owners and local communities to reduce abandoned animal populations through spay/neuter, pet retention and reclamation, and humane education. Since 2004, Bark Avenue Foundation has spayed/neutered over 30,000 pets throughout Los Angeles and the surrounding area. For more information about our life-saving programs, please visit [www.barkavenuefoundation.org](http://www.barkavenuefoundation.org) or via social media at [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#).*

### **About ShelterMe**

*[ShelterMe](#) is an inspiring series that celebrates shelter pets with positive and uplifting stories. The project also includes a website – ShelterMe.com – which enables anyone to create and share profiles of shelter pets to help increase adoptions. ShelterMe works closely with other animal welfare organizations to implement effective spay-neuter and humane education programs in communities and progressive initiatives at animal shelters. Follow ShelterMeTV on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#).*

### **About SPAY4LA**

*Spay4LA is a mobile spay and neuter clinic which is co-operated by the [Coalition for Pets and Public Safety](#) and the [Michelson Found Animals Foundation](#). SPAY4LA is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization whose mission is to substantially reduce animal shelter intake and euthanasia by providing free, high-quality, spay/neuter services to underserved residents of Los Angeles. Through funding from the Department of Animal Care and Control and Los Angeles Animal Services, SPAY4LA is able to provide free spay/neuter to select residents of Los Angeles City and County residents. For more information, to book an appointment, or to donate please call 1-(888) SPAY-4-LA or visit [www.1888spay4la.org](http://www.1888spay4la.org).*

### **About Superior Grocers**

*Superior Grocers is an independent supermarket chain serving Southern California since 1981. It operates 45 stores offering a wide assortment of grocery, produce, frozen foods, general merchandise along with full service meat, hot foods and bakery departments. The company's philosophy has always been to offer shoppers the highest quality products at the lowest prices along with exceptional customer service. Superior Grocers is a strong community partner and continually supports community programs that help bring a positive impact to its customers, including education and health awareness efforts. For more information about Superior Grocers, please visit [www.superiorgrocers.com](http://www.superiorgrocers.com).*

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