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Michael and Lenora Borchardt Help Expand Spay/Neuter Efforts in Gaston County *Gift from couple establishes Lenora Borchardt Spay Neuter Center in Gastonia*

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GASTONIA – As the proud owners of four adopted dogs from the Animal League of Gaston County, Michael and Lenora Borchardt understand the importance of the organization. It made it an easy decision to donate toward the expansion and relocation of an existing spay neuter clinic to downtown Gastonia.

The Lenora Borchardt Spay Neuter Center will hold its dedication at 6 p.m. Friday, June 23. **Media are invited to attend** (details below). The larger, more-prominent facility replaces the small but popular Gaston Low-Cost Spay/Neuter Clinic, which recently celebrated its 30,000th surgery. The gift from the Borchardts was in support of the couple's belief in rescue and adoption for all family pets.

“We established the Michael and Lenora Borchardt Family Foundation at Foundation For The Carolinas in 2007 to facilitate our family's philanthropy and have used it to support the Animal League of Gaston County and their efforts to provide low-cost spay and neuter services,” Lenora said. “We are honored to provide the lead gift to expand and permanently locate the clinic in downtown Gastonia, our home of many years. We partnered with our local community foundation to formalize this gift that will benefit not only the residents of Gastonia but the broader region for years to come.”

The Borchardts moved to Gastonia in 1972 and lived in the community for 30 years, moving to Charlotte in 2002. Lenora added that the clinic was originally supposed to be named after Michael, also, but he graciously withdrew his because he felt the name would be too long. FFTC helped negotiate the naming gift.

The Michael and Lenora Borchardt Family Foundation was established as a donor advised fund with FFTC's subsidiary, the Foundation for the Charlotte Jewish Community. FCJC is dedicated to raising and managing long-term charitable resources to sustain the quality of Jewish religion, life and culture by linking donors' philanthropic intent with the needs of the community.

The Borchardts credited Terry Kenny, executive director of the Spay/Neuter Clinic, for helping facilitate the gift and relocation.

“The Borchardts have been our rocks for more than 10 years, and for many years, they donated without any desire for recognition,” Kenny said. “Before they made their first donation, nearly all animals entering the shelter were euthanatized, there were hardly any rescues and all of the rescuers paid the vet fees out of their pockets. They changed the entire landscape of animal welfare in Gaston County.”

The Animal League of Gaston County works with organizations in York, Cleveland, Iredell, Union, Lincoln and Mecklenburg counties. The clinic has also received support from the George P. Patterson Family Fund at Foundation For The Carolinas.

The Lenora Borchardt Spay Neuter Clinic, located at 425 W. Franklin Blvd., will hold a drop-in at 5 p.m. on June 23 with the actual dedication beginning at 6.

NEWS RELEASE

About Foundation For The Carolinas

Foundation For The Carolinas is a nonprofit community foundation serving donors and a broad range of charitable purposes in North and South Carolina. With assets of \$2.1 billion, the Foundation encourages and makes possible philanthropic giving by individuals of all means to benefit their communities. Visit www.ffc.org.

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