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Trains F,V,1,Path to 23rd St.



Fauna

redefining pets

PRESENTS

Dr Irene Pepperberg of The Alex Foundation

Located at 256 W. 87th, btwn
Bway & West End Ave.

FRIDAY MAY 7th at 6pm

\$75.00 per seat

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and litter box — made him “extremely uncomfortable,” Carr said. “I had no idea what to do.”

Honesty first

It's no surprise that urbanites tend to develop intimate relationships with their animals, more so than people living elsewhere. According to pet and relationship guru Sheryl Matthys, this is due to the fact that city dwellers often share small spaces with their pets.

However, not everyone you meet is going to adore Fido or Fifi.

When it comes to dating, animal owners should be up front with partners about pets, Matthys said.

“That doesn't mean [droning] on about them — that would even scare off an animal lover,” she said, but she advises people to mention their pet and how much time they spend with it.

Getting to know Fido

So what should you do if



Making an effort to introduce your pet to a squeamish love interest is crucial, experts say.

a love interest can't stomach being around your pet?

Making an effort to introduce partners to your pet is key, said Matthys, who recommended pointing out the joys of being pet owner. Often, a person's ambivalence stems from lack of exposure to animals, she said.

To break through that ambivalence, set up some alone time between your pet and your date. If it's a dog, let your partner walk him around the block or feed him by hand.

“Let your dog be the one to work the miracle,” Matthys said.

Compromise is key

In her new book, “Leashes and Lovers: What Your Dog Can Teach You About Love, Life, and Happiness,” Matthys stresses the importance of compromise.

Concessions can include no longer letting your pet sleep in your bed or taking sole responsibility for the animal.

In Carr's case, she moved the cats to her dad's house in Pennsylvania.

“Living together in a new home was enough of a step,” she said.

“I miss them dearly, but it's working out for everyone.”

■ PET PICK OF THE WEEK: DOOG TIDY BAGS

As New Yorkers we're all about Australian pet product company DOOG (Dog Owners Outdoor Gear, which manufactures why-didn't-I-think-of-that products designed to make dog owners' lives easier. While we love the brand's foldable water bowl and pet-walking utility belts, our favorite product has to be the pocket-sized packs of “tidy bags” to pick up after your pooch. The biodegradable bags are strawberry-scented to neutralize odors and come equipped with handles for tying and tossing. \$9.99 for three packs of 20 at Amazon.com

(PERRIE SAMOTIN)



'Adoptapalooza' to hit Washington Sq. Park

The first-ever NYC “Adoptapalooza” pet adoption celebration will take place on May 22 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Washington Square Park. The event will feature free activities and more than 100 adoptable cats and dogs from two Alliance Participating Organizations. For more information, visit animalalliancencyc.org.

Mya to host 'Tour for Life' finale in Times Sq.

R&B singer Mya will join the North Shore Animal League America next Tuesday in Times Square, on Broadway between 45th and 46th streets, to celebrate the 10th anniversary of Tour For Life, the world's largest mobile pet adoption event. The festivities kick off at noon and will feature adoptable cats and dogs.

To list a NYC pet event, email psamotin@am-ny.com.

