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SOBIESKI 6-YEAR-OLD RAISES FUNDS FOR SAFE HAVEN PET SANCTUARY, RECOGNIZED AS SHOPKO’S KICK-OFF KID AT LAMBEAU FIELD
Cat toys are donated to the shelter and sold to support the sanctuary

GREEN BAY, Wis. – The Green Bay Packers and Shopko recently named Sobieski 6-year-old, Octavia Burkhart, as the “Kick-Off Kid” for the Packers’ home game on Sunday, Sept. 30 against the Buffalo Bills. Shopko’s “Kids Making a Difference” program honors young local leaders during the NFL season, and because of Octavia’s commitment to improving her community, she received the honor to retrieve the kicking tee from the field.

With a love for cats and the help of her mom’s sewing skills, Octavia had an idea of how to support Safe Haven Pet Sanctuary in Green Bay—create and sell cat toys. In just the first month of selling the cat toys, she raised over $190 for Safe Haven.

“I really love cats and wanted to help them,” said Octavia. “I hope to help all animals someday.”

Octavia thoughtfully selects patterns and sews toys for the cats then donates them to the sanctuary or sells them at her mom’s farmers’ market booth.

“We are proud that Octavia, at such a young age, took the initiative to help her local animal shelter,” said Russ Steinhorst, Shopko CEO. “The Packers’ partnership allows us to show appreciation to kids, like Octavia, who are positively impacting their community, and we’re grateful for the opportunity.”

In addition to the once-in-a-lifetime experience of serving as a Kick-Off Kid, Octavia received:
- Four tickets to the Packers game
- “Kids Making a Difference” story feature and photo on the back cover of the Packers game day program
- Feature on Tundra Vision screen in Lambeau Field
- Story and photo feature on shopko.com

For more information about Shopko’s Kid-Off Kids, visit shopko.com/kidsmakingadiference. Follow Shopko at facebook.com/shopko.

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About Shopko
Shopko is owned by an affiliate of Sun Capital Partners, Inc., a leading private investment firm focused on leverage buyouts, equity, debt and other investments in market-leading companies.

Founded in 1962 and headquartered in Green Bay, Wisconsin, Shopko Stores Operating Co., LLC is a $3 billion retailer that operates more than 370 stores in 26 states throughout the Central, Western and Pacific Northwest regions. Retail formats include 126 Shopko stores, providing quality name-brand merchandise, great values, pharmacy and optical services in small to mid-sized cities; five Shopko Express Rx stores, a convenient neighborhood drugstore concept; six Shopko Pharmacy locations; one Shopko Optical location and 234 Shopko Hometown stores, a smaller concept store developed to meet the needs of smaller communities. For more information, visit www.shopko.com.

Images available for media use here.
Shopko_Octavia1.jpg: Octavia Burkhart was named a Shopko Kick-Off Kid for creating and selling cat toys for the Safe Haven Pet Sanctuary in Green Bay and received the honor of retrieving the kicking tee from the field.
Shopko_Octavia2.jpg: Six-year-old Shopko Kick-Off Kid Octavia Burkhart retrieves the kicking tee from the field at the Sept. 30 Green Bay Packers home game against the Buffalo Bills.

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