#### Winter 2022 Winter 2022 SRA OWNANT SRA

# **Deadly Secrets**

You make miracles happen for Ottawa's animals. Found lost and alone, Redgy, a beautiful, five-year-old mastiff, had nowhere to go and was hiding two secrets that — without your support — could have been fatal.

Because you care, Redgy had somewhere safe to go in his time of need. When he arrived at the OHS, it was soon discovered that he had a tumor and there was a tick embedded in his skin.

Thanks to you, Redgy was able to receive surgery to remove the tumor, but the tick was still concerning. Redgy was tested for lyme disease and the result came back positive.

But Redgy had nothing to worry about, because he had you — an incredible hero and friend to the animals — looking out for him.

Redgy received the treatment for lyme disease he desperately needed. After his ordeal and fighting off not just one, but two life-threatening

aliments, he is on the road to recovery and will soon start the search for his forever family.

Thank you for making second chances possible for Redgy and other animals just like him in their darkest hours.





## Tiny Kitten, Big Problem

You make sure animals can live pain-free lives. You also make sure animals receive the care they need to heal, recover and enjoy their best quality of life.

You save animals like Wilbur, a sweet fivemonth-old kitten, who came to the OHS with an excruciating hernia.

We can only imagine how much pain Wilbur was in, but thanks to you, he was able to receive all the love and care he needed to fix his hernia and to rest and recover.

Thank you for making second chances possible for Wilbur and other animals just like him who need you.



245 WEST HUNT CLUB ROAD, OTTAWA ON K2E 1A6 WWW.OTTAWAHUMANE.CA

#### **Contact Numbers**

Main	613-725-3166
Fax	613-725-5674
Client Services/General In	nfo ext. 221

#### **Departmental Extensions**

Beparimental Extensions	
Adoption Centre	ext. 258
Lost & Found	223
Fostering	255
Administrative Assistant	297
President & CEO	232
Tax Receipts & Donations	299
Community Events	263
Outreach Programs	298
Humane Education	235
Shelter Operations	226
Volunteering	231
Legacy Giving	268
PAW Monthy Giving	254
Media	261

#### info@ottawahumane.ca www.ottawahumane.ca



Editor: Stephen Smith

#### **Contributors:** OHS staff, volunteers and supporters

If you have a story idea or comment, please contact ohs@ottawahumane.ca via email or by mail to the OHS Newsletter Editor. Submissions of pictures and articles are welcome; however, they may not necessarily be used. Articles may be edited for length and content.

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To lead Ottawa in building a humane and compassionate community for all animals.

### From the President and CEO's Desk

# Are Ontario's Animals Safe?

I wish we could say they were, but I know about too many situations across the province that would suggest they may not be.

When the Ontario SPCA abruptly announced it would no longer enforce the OSPCA Act, the provincial government scrambled to create new legislation. The result was the Provincial Animal Welfare Act, or "PAWS Act" It's a cute name, and on paper, the Act is strong as it lays the groundwork for a response to animal cruelty and neglect. However the issue with the legislation is who enforces it and how it is enforced.

Enforcement of the Act is now the responsibility of the Ministry of the Solicitor General. The system isn't working and it's failing animals.

You may have read about the case of the Rottweiler mix puppy, Bane, who was tortured and killed by his owner right here in Ottawa. Some of the details of the story were reported in the Ottawa Citizen. In short, the puppy was tortured to the point that neighbours recorded the sounds of Bane being beaten. The neighbours called 911, and police came to the scene three times, never intervening to save the puppy, and never calling provincial authorities. According to the report, neighbours later called the province themselves and were told that the province would send someone to investigate, but it could take a few weeks. A fourth call to police resulted in officers entering the apartment and finding the puppy dead. Bane's autopsy revealed that he died of trauma, internal bleeding and shock, possible drowning, or choking on vomit.



It's too easy to blame individuals for failing this puppy. The whole system has proven to be wholly inadequate. The provincial animal welfare service is available inconsistently and for limited hours. It's rarely immediately responsive. Emergencies and after-hours calls fall to the police. When the transition occurred, I was led to believe that the Ministry was to train police services on the legislation and how to implement it to protect animals. I don't believe this ever happened in a substantial way.

My colleagues across the province report other similar system failures. Since the Solicitor General took over responsibility for enforcement of their animal cruelty legislation, the province has demonstrated poor communication and cooperation with humane societies and SPCAs as partners, failures with the dispatch centre, and poor animal welfare and enforcement practices.

The system failed a puppy named Bane and it's failing other animals in Ontario.

Bruce Roney

Bruce Roney President & CEO

# **Healing Bodies and Minds**

Not every animal shows their struggle on the surface. A broken bone, a wounded paw or a sickness like an upper respiratory infection are easy to spot, but some challenges are harder to see and understand. But you still make second chances possible for these animals — animals like Taylor.

Taylor was found all alone with no one to care for him. He was understandably terrified and had a hard time trusting people. We'll never know what Taylor went through before he came to the OHS, but we do know how you rewrote his story and gave him the happily ever after he so desperately deserved.

Because of you, Taylor was able to receive intensive one-on-one support to help him build good behaviours and learn to live with a person. It was a long and slow road to help Taylor learn to trust again, but you made it possible.

Thanks to you, Taylor gained the confidence he needed to be a person's companion and found his perfect forever home.

Thank you for saving animals like Taylor who need support that goes beyond healing their bodies.



# **Supporting Those Who Support Animals**

Your steadfast support not only saves animals at the OHS, but you also ensure animals in the community can receive the care they need. Last year, we launched the OHS Emergency Partner Support program to help our partners in need with modest financial grants. Thanks to you, more than 2,800 animals, from dogs and cats, to rabbits, wild birds and even farm



Through October's applications, 13 partners will be benefitting from the program. The grants will support purchasing medical equipment for a mobile care unit, veterinary services for companion animals, training and so much more!

Our vision for the

animals received care through the program.

The OHS Emergency Partner Support Program is set to continue helping thousands of animals in the community. Because of the program's success, we reopened applications in October 2021 for local partners to receive additional support. OHS Emergency Partner Support Program is to build a community animal welfare network that can ensure a safety net for every animal in our community.

All of this is only possible because of you. You are investing in building a caring and compassionate community for all animals.

# Friends for Life

Judy Creighton first enrolled into the OHS Pet Stewardship Program in 2013. This program allows pet owners to make provisions in their will to have their pets cared for by the OHS and find their pet a new, loving home if the owner is suddenly no longer able to care for their pet.



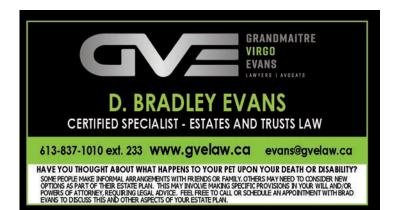
Judy has rescued many cats throughout her

life, giving her pets a warm, safe place to call home. As she plans for the future, she wants to ensure her beautiful cat, Amber, will receive the same loving care that Judy herself has provided throughout Amber's life.

"I want my pets to go to a good home if anything were to happen to me. Knowing that Amber will continue receiving the same love and care that she's had with me definitely gives me some peace of mind."

"I think that some people may not have friends or family that can look after their pets when they're gone, and having the reassurance that their pet would be given a good home is one less thing to worry about. They become such a big part of our lives, and it's important that we think of what happens to them when we aren't able to look after them anymore."

"This is such a great program. I really think more people should look at getting involved. It's a very easy way to make



sure our animals continue to get the care they deserve, while supporting other animals that are in need!"

Not only has Judy enrolled in the Pet Stewardship Program, but she also has been a longtime supporter of Ottawa's animals, giving even more of



herself to ensure the animals get the support they need.

Thank you, Judy, for your compassion, generosity, and consideration for the future of your cat, Amber, and the welfare of other animals. To learn more about the Pet Stewardship Program, please visit ottawahumane.ca/legacy, or contact Joshua Delves at 613-725-3166 ext.268 or at joshuad@ottawahumane.ca.



# **Programming YOU Make Possible**

Because of the public health crisis, we had to suspend many of our programs. Designed to support Ottawa's animals and their owners, these programs are only possible because of you. As the public health crisis evolves, programs have been returning steadily and cautiously.

We welcomed our first group of dog training students back into the Education Centre in October 2021, and we have had many more students since. The demand for dog training support is at an all-time high as these classes quickly sold out.

We have resumed our Pet First Aid courses in a digital format!

Educational webinars and the Pet Care Crest program for Scouts/Guides groups continue to be delivered virtually, and are more popular than ever.

Thanks to you, compassion and animal welfare are returning to Ottawa's classrooms! In November, our Humane Education school presentations relaunched in a new virtual format. You make emergency pet food available to pet owners in need throughout the city. In October, the OHS announced a new partnership with the Ottawa Food Bank (OFB) where their clients can access pet food at the same time as their regular food pick-up.

All of this is only possible for one reason: YOU. Without your support, these programs would not be available for our community's pet owners. Thank you so much for making a difference for Ottawa's animals.

And that's not all, throughout early spring you can expect to see more programs return:

- Birthday parties for children;
- PD day camps and March break camp;
- Tours of the OHS;
- Youth volunteering;
- A NEW youth pet sitting course;
- Mobile Spay/Neuter Service; and,
- Microchip clinics.

To learn more about upcoming programs, email programs@ ottawahumane.ca or call us at 613-725-3166 ext. 298.







### **Community Kudos**

Since the start of the public health crisis, the OHS faced many challenges including the ability to safely host public events. But that didn't stop our community from creating safe alternatives to support the animals.

#### **Madison**

This cool cat donated her allowance to help the animals in need. Thank you, Madison, for being a fantastic member of our community.

#### **BitHeads Inc.**

As a thank you for an OHS presentation, this generous group made a donation to support the animals in their community. Thank you for making a difference!

#### Marc

A big thank you to Marc for donating to celebrate your birthday! You make a difference for Ottawa's homeless animals!

#### **Everly**

Everly raked lawns to raise money for the animals. Thank you so much for all your hard work!

We are so grateful to be part of such an amazing community. Thank you all for your heart-warming support!

To see other OHS heroes, visit ottawahumane.ca/communitykudos.

Snorri Pup This amazing dog sends letters to friends all over t

letters to friends all over the world! To celebrate reaching 4,000 followers, he donated to help Ottawa's animals. Thank you for being so generous!

## Plan for Your Pet's Future

Learn more about Pet Stewardship ottawahumane.ca/stewardship



## It's a hard question: What if my pet outlives me?

## **Temporary Homes for Animals in Need**

You ensure that Ottawa's animals have somewhere safe to go in their time of need and that they can receive tender love and care while they stay in the shelter. But some animals do not adjust well to life at the OHS — the strange noises, smells, the constant comings and goings of animals and people can be stressful for some animals.

Thanks to you, these animals can stay with OHS foster volunteers who also provide a temporary home for animals recovering from surgery, who need one-on-one attention to improve their behaviour, or who just need a quiet, home environment while they wait to find their forever home.

In 2021, you gave 814 animals temporary homes with loving foster



volunteers. Your support provided the meals, supplies, toys, medication and training that makes this program possible.

Thank you for making incredible care a reality for Ottawa's homeless animals.



## Two Kittens YOU Saved

Flower and Daisy, two sweet kittens who were only weeks old, arrived at the OHS in need of tender care.

Flower had an awful wound on her paw that was so



Flower came to the OHS with a badly wounded leg.

bad she could barely place any weight on her leg. Because of you, Flower received surgery to repair her wound and had somewhere safe to rest and recover. After resting and recovering, Flower will soon return to scampering around like a happy kitten should.

continued on page 8

### **Become a PAW Monthly Donor!**

Animals like Zebel are counting on you to provide them with a new start at life and get them into loving forever homes.

Zebel is just one of the many animals in the care of the Ottawa Humane Society. This sweet six-month-old kitten arrived with a horrible burn on his leg. Thanks to PAW monthly donors, Zebel had somewhere safe to heal and recover.

Will you help Zebel and other animals just like him by becoming a PAW monthly donor?



## ottawahumane.ca/paw 613-725-3166 ext. 254



#### TWO KITTENS...continued from page 7

Before arriving at the OHS, Daisy had suffered head and spinal trauma that kept her from using her front legs properly. She spent time in the OHS critical care unit where she was treated with medication and closely monitored to ensure she was recovering. With this care and attention, Daisy was able to walk on her front legs again.



Daisy had suffered trauma to her head and spine.

Because of you, Flower and Daisy had somewhere to go in their time of need and received the care they desperately needed. Thank you for giving these kittens a future!



#### In this issue

Deadly Secrets	1
Tiny Kitten, Big Problem	1
From the President and CEO's Desk	2
Healing Bodies and Minds	3
Supporting Those Who Support Animals	3
Friends for Life	4
Programming YOU Make Possible	5
Community Kudos	6
Temporary Homes for Animals in Need	7
Two Kittens YOU Saved	7

