



Pulled from Dumpster, Breezy Nears Happy Ending, Thanks to You

Because of you, Ottawa Humane Society agents were there to answer Breezy's cries for help.



Breezy, just days after the attack

When Rescue and Investigation Services agents rushed her to the OHS, veterinarians were unsure she'd even survive the night. The merciless beating that landed her in the OHS critical care unit left Breezy with broken bones, a head injury and other wounds so serious that the brutality shocked the community and even veteran staff – how

could someone smash this young Labrador-shepherd cross so many times over the head with a shovel?

Thanks to the support of donors like you, we were able to provide Breezy with the care she needed to save her life. And as the days and weeks passed, her condition slowly improved. In November, she was well enough to be placed with an experienced OHS foster volunteer to continue her recovery in a home environment.

Breezy's attacker pleaded guilty Dec. 13. Justice for the dog is now in the

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hands of the courts. Thousands of supporters like you signed a petition asking the judge in the case to sentence her attacker to the maximum penalty allowed by law.

Breezy continues to recover from her injuries, though she still has some healing to finish before she will be ready for her forever home. She saw an eye specialist on Jan. 27 who recommended letting her eye heal a couple more months before reassessing. We'll be sure to keep you updated on her return to health and on her happy ending in a forever home!

Follow us on Twitter and "like" us on Facebook for more updates! 🐾





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 Lost & Found 613-725-9998
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 Dispatch/General Info ext. 221

Departmental Extensions

Adoption Centre ext. 258
 Lost & Found 223
 Fostering 255
 Investigations 224
 Administrative Assistant 233
 Executive Director 232
 Tax Receipts & Donations 252
 Community Events 263
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 Shelter Operations 226
 Volunteering 231
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 Media 261

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If you have a story idea or comment, please contact ohs@ottawahumane.ca via e-mail 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.

Newsletter articles may be reprinted with acknowledgement of source.

Charitable registration # 123264715 RR0001

From the Executive Director's Desk



Most child development professionals will tell us that, in order to develop into well-adjusted, happy adults, as children, we need at least one person who loves us unconditionally

while we are growing up. Fortunately, the majority of children receive this from one or both parents, grandparents, siblings and even extended family. Sadly though, not all children do receive unconditional love from even one person, and this can have devastating consequences for that child's future. Often that child grows up unable to provide unconditional love to his or her own children, and a terrible circle is created.

Recently, I met a woman who had grown up in foster care, or to be more accurate, a series of foster homes. She told me that a dog saved her life. Not from a burning building or a strong undertow, but just by being there, by giving – and receiving – the unconditional love she didn't get anywhere else. The dog was the one consistent thing in her life. The dog taught her how to love.

If you have ever been to Scotland, you likely have heard the story of Greyfriars Bobby, the Skye terrier who in 19th-century Edinburgh is thought to have spent 14 years guarding the grave of his owner until he died himself on Jan. 14, 1872. There are several monuments to Bobby in Edinburgh, the best-known stands at the entrance to the cemetery. A lesser-known one stands in the cemetery itself, erected on Bobby's grave by the Dog Aid Society of Scotland. The monument reads: "Greyfriars Bobby – Died

14th January 1872 – Aged 16 years – Let his loyalty and devotion be a lesson to us all."

Our own Brightening Lives Animal Visits Program – wherein volunteers bring dogs and a few cats to long-term care facilities, old-age homes, children's treatment centres, shelters for homeless women and others in need – is predicated on the therapeutic benefits of contact with the unconditional emotion brought and created by interaction with animals. I am told that some residents who are otherwise unable to communicate with anyone, communicate with our animal visitors. The animals don't judge. They don't recognize infirmity, age or physical and emotional scars.



Greyfriars Bobby

There is no point in getting into the anthropomorphic debate about whether dogs and other animals can actually love. The point is they *appear* to love us, or certainly show deep affection. Whether the source is genetically ingrained pack behaviour or something else really doesn't matter. What matters is how we *experience* it, and we experience it as love.

The work we do at the OHS, all of it only possible because of the loyalty and devotion of supporters like you, allows us to love them back, repaying their love with care and forever homes. And in those homes, they will offer *their* unconditional love to their new families and a new and beautiful circle results. 🐾

Bruce Roney
 Executive Director

Helping the Ottawa Humane Society to Help My Pets

By Kim Campbell,
Volunteer and donor

I've always loved animals and I've always adopted rescue animals. I've walked dogs at the OHS for almost 10 years, and six years ago I adopted my own, a doberman named Sweetie Pie. She has become a wonderful pet, and for anyone who has met her on our regular trips to the OHS, she's aptly named – far from the stereotypical scary warehouse guard dog you see in bad 80s movies. Since she can't possibly get enough love and attention at home, we are part of the OHS Brightening Lives program. I also foster kittens and cats. My own cats, Nutmeg and Pepper, also from the OHS, show my foster pets the ropes, like how to steal the dog's bed, drink from her water bowl, and how to submit to a full-body wash from Pepper's tongue.

Through the foster program, I've seen firsthand the comprehensive care that the OHS provides, with enthusiasm and compassion. Ottawa is fortunate to have strong community support for our animal shelter – financially, and with volunteers and local media. Many shelters simply cannot invest the veterinary care, the medications, the surgeries and the behavioural training that makes many animals adoptable.



Sweetie Pie, Nutmeg and Pepper

The OHS has a huge mandate, and sometimes it seems as if people expect everything, at any cost, for all animals – even though all these services are not taxpayer-funded. I have high expectations, too – but I know that they come at a cost. I feel strongly that one needs to put their money where their mouth is – so that's what I'm doing, while ensuring my pets are looked after via the Pet Stewardship Program and an additional bequest to the OHS in my will. My pets are part of my family, and after all the love and happiness they bring, the least I can do is take care of my family and support a great organization at the same time.

For more information on leaving a gift to the animals at the OHS in your will or for more details about the Pet Stewardship Program, please call Greg Beck, Manager: Legacy Giving at 613-725-3166 ext. 268 or email gregb@ottawahumane.ca.

"The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated."

—Mohandas Gandhi



Make a Gift of Love to Tomorrow's Animals

A legacy gift in your will provides a brighter future for the lost, abandoned, injured and neglected animals in our community. For more information please contact Greg Beck, Manager: Legacy Giving at 613-725-3166 ext 268, email to legacy@ottawahumane.ca or visit www.ottawahumane.ca.



"Animals are such agreeable friends – they ask no questions, they pass no criticisms"

—George Eliot



Members of the OHS 1888 Legacy Society



OHS 1888 Legacy Society member and OHS volunteer extraordinaire, Isobel Hughes, locates her name on the wall.



OHS staff and OHS president of the board of directors prepare to unveil the OHS 1888 Legacy Society Donor Wall.

Community Kudos

Thank you to the following for fundraising for the animals!

- “The Pound” team at Tracy Arnett Realty
- Aidan C
- Alex S-T
- Andrew King, Local Artist and Tweeter
- Anne, Vincenzo and Talia
- Arabella C
- Cathy and her colleagues at the Walmart: Kanata Centrum
- Dominique K
- Emma B
- Evan R
- Faith B
- Geneviève L
- Hana and Amber
- Henry Larsen Elementary School
- Jennifer V
- Katherine H
- Kazmir D
- Lara and Kathryn
- Lola K
- Low Murchison Radnoff LLP
- Lydia Gagnon and Team F.I.D.O.
- Madison M
- Mavor-Elizabeth
- Meghan F, Kendra S and Alissa S
- Mya C
- NEXTMOD and Hunt Club Nissan
- Nina V
- Ottawa Art Expo
- Ottawa Homestuck Society
- PawParazzi Photo Content
- Peyton M
- Quinn M
- Rachel D, Megan C and Kailee R
- Rachel W
- Rhys C
- Sadie PS
- Scarlett T
- Sofia P
- Stittsville Craft Fair
- Stittsville teens who held a big bake sale! Justin P, Jasmine P, Caroline F, Shannon W, Rochelle M, and Jaidan S with dog Farley

Thank you to the organizations who supported the Ottawa Humane Society at the Pet Expo!

- Pet Psychic Charlotte Szivak
- Resting Paws
- Chew That
- Rollover
- Head Lites
- Ainsworth Pet Nutrition
- Natural Pet Foods
- Ottawa Vet Hospital
- The Dog Tailor
- Posh Puppies
- Taste of the Wild
- Shelagh MacDonald at Keller Williams Ottawa Realty
- Carling Animal Hospital
- Audrey Roy at Horizon Pet Nutrition



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Breezy Fundraisers

Thank you to our friends at Thimblecakes – they held fundraisers at their three locations to help Breezy and animals like her and they raised \$1,280! Thank you so much for your support!



Thank you to Kelly Brisson, Allan Gauthier, their dog Ryder, and everyone else who helped out with the Baking for Breezy fundraiser. An amazing \$2,650 was raised to help Breezy and animals like her. The baked goods



were delicious, the coffee (donated by Bridgehead) was wonderful, and the weather co-operated. Thank you for making a difference!

Thank you to Krista Baggs and the staff at the Works – they raised \$2,201 for Breezy and animals like her at their “Burgers for Breezy” event!



Thank you to Al of Allan J’s Fine Dine Mobile Cuisine food trucks – he collected change for Breezy and has so far raised almost \$300 for Breezy and animals like her! 🐾

Cool Kids



Thank you to Olivia M and friends: they celebrated Olivia’s birthday by collecting items for the animals in lieu of birthday presents.



A big thank you to Kayla B.: she put out coin boxes to help Breezy and animals like her, and raised an amazing \$421!

You're Changing the Future for the Animals with Humane Education

Your support is helping change the future for Ottawa's animals.

This year, the OHS launched its on-site Humane Education Field Trip Program to help teach the next generation about responsible pet ownership and compassion for animals. The program is for Grade 2 classes in Ottawa and incorporates curriculum expectations from the Grade 2 unit, Understanding Life Systems: Growth and Changes in Animals.

Visiting classes will be provided with an informative presentation in the OHS's Education Centre followed by a hands-on experience with temperament-tested companion animals. Students will then



Changing the future for animals with humane education

receive a behind-the-scenes tour of the shelter and have the opportunity to view a surgery in the OHS clinic. Next, students are guided through a creative and educational

animal welfare activity that involves giving back to the animals. The field trip ends with more animal interaction and games.

The program introduces students to the similarities between animals and humans, the physical and emotional needs of animals, as well as the importance of protecting animals and the role of the OHS in the community.

Learn more about the program by contacting the Co-ordinator: Humane Education at 613-725-3166 ext. 235 or by email at humaneeducation@ottawahumane.ca. 🐾

Adopter Letter: Baby Cat Becomes Part of a Family

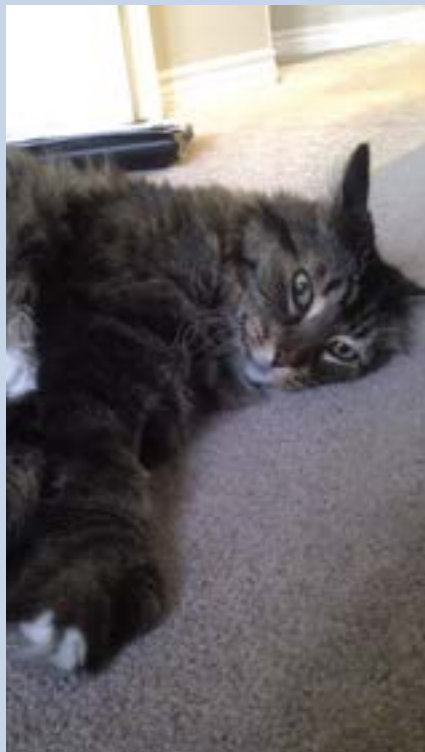
It takes a long time to get as sweet as Baby Cat. Senior pets sure make wonderful companions. Here's a letter from Baby Cat's new forever family:

Baby Cat asked that we send you all a note to let you know that he took all of about one minute to settle into his forever home. He has adjusted remarkably well, considering his elderly age! He is affectionate, playful, loving and very social.

Baby Cat knows his name and comes running when you call him and he acts more like he's six rather than his 13 wise years. We are just loving him up and are sooo happy we were able to bring him home.

More elderly pets should be considered for adoption.

Thanks for all you do. 🐾



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Court updates

New Charges

Mr. Donald FOX was charged Nov. 8 with permitting distress, failing to comply with the standards of care for failing to provide adequate and appropriate medical attention in connection with a husky-type dog. He first appeared in court on Jan. 23.

Mr. Daniel KENNEDY was charged Dec. 12 after allegedly throwing a rabbit to its death off a balcony. His first appearance in court was Jan. 30.

Mr. Jonathan LALONDE was charged Sept. 23 with permitting distress and failing to provide adequate standards of care for a horse and a bull in his care. He appeared in court Jan. 9.

Mr. Trevor MIAZGA was charged Oct. 1 by police after witnesses said he choked and hit his dog while taking it for a walk. He appeared in court Jan. 29.

Mr. Mario MIREAULT was charged Nov. 8 with permitting distress and failing to provide adequate care after a pit bull in his care was found with a broken leg. He appeared in court Jan. 9.

Mr. Dave NICHOLSON was charged Nov. 8 with permitting distress and failing to comply with the standards of care after allegedly allowing his pit bull, named Parker, to suffer for six months with medical problems before being surrendered to the OHS for euthanasia. He first appeared in court Jan. 30.

Ms. Andrea NOEL was charged with four counts of failing to provide adequate food and water for four Pomeranian dogs that were found dead in her care. She first appeared in court Jan. 15.

Mr. Michael ROBIDAS was charged with causing an animal to be in distress and failing to comply with the standards of care after a witness reported seeing Robidas beating his husky. Robidas first appeared in court Dec. 19.

Mr. Dylan WILCOX was charged Nov. 8 after a witness reported seeing him beating his black Labrador retriever. He has been charged with causing an animal to be in distress. He first appeared in court Jan. 16.

Completed Cases

Mr. Gregory ARMSTRONG pleaded guilty to causing unnecessary pain, suffering or injury to an animal. He killed a mother and baby raccoon after trapping the adult on June 10 in a humane live trap. He was sentenced to 60 days in jail.

Mr. Daniel BURHOE pleaded guilty in October in connection with failing to provide medical care to his Boston terrier whose eye was so injured that OHS vets had to remove

it. He received two years probation, a five-year prohibition on animal ownership, was also ordered to pay restitution to the OHS.

Mr. Jesse DUHAIME was charged with breach of a court order after having been found to be living with his girlfriend and her two dogs. Mr. Duhaime is under a 10-year prohibition ending in 2019, during which time he cannot own, care for or live with any animals. He was given a suspended sentence and 18 months of probation. Duhaime's prohibition order was amended to allow him to live with an animal with the owner's consent.

Mr. Steven HELFER pleaded guilty on Dec. 13 to beating Breezy the Labrador-shepherd cross with a shovel and a rake. He is set to be sentenced early this year.

Ms. Sarah JONES pleaded guilty in November to neglect for not seeking medical treatment in time to save her sick dog. She was sentenced to two years of probation.

Mr. Mark MANN was charged Oct. 17 with permitting distress and failing to comply with the standards of care after allegedly leaving his two dogs locked in an abandoned house without food or water for several days after moving away. He first appeared in court Dec. 12 and pled guilty.

He received two years probation.

Mr. Andre MCEWAN pleaded guilty in October to leaving his dog in a hot car last summer. He was sentenced to a \$200 fine and one year of probation.

Mr. Andre MILLAR pleaded guilty in November after being charged for leaving his dog in a hot car last summer. He was sentenced to one year of probation.

Mr. Bassey OKOKON pleaded guilty in November to causing unnecessary pain and injury to an animal after he became mad at his roommate's cat for scratching the furniture, picked up the cat and threw it against a wall. A judge sentenced Okokon to a suspended sentence and a year of probation. Okokon was ordered to do community service, to not be around animals during the probation period, and was ordered to pay a victim surcharge.

Although legally mandated to enforce the animal cruelty provisions of the Criminal Code of Canada and the Ontario SPCA Act, the OHS does not receive any government funding or funding from any animal welfare group and relies on donations to perform this essential work.

FurBall: Come Celebrate our Diamond Anniversary!

Join us on April 5 at the Trillium Ballroom of the Ottawa Convention Centre with Honorary Chair Mrs. Laureen Harper, as we celebrate our diamond anniversary marking 10 years of the Ottawa Humane Society FurBall.

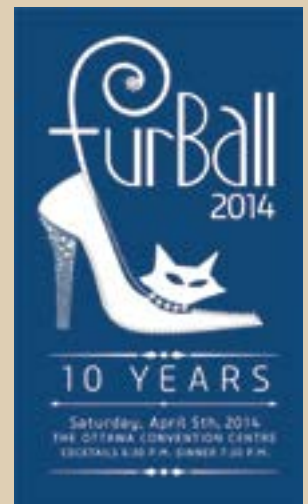
It will be a feast for the senses with song, food and wine from around the world in support animals in the care of the OHS.

Featuring Mezzo-Soprano Wallis Giunta and dancers from the Arthur Murray School of Dance

Don't miss out on one of Ottawa's must-attend events. This event is always a sell-out so purchase your tickets today.

Tickets are \$300 each. Charitable receipts will be issued at \$150 per ticket and can be purchased online at www.ottawahumane.ca/furball

If you are interested in becoming a sponsor or you would like to inquire about securing a corporate table, please contact Kelly Bélair, Manager: Events, 613-725-3166 ext. 263 or furball@ottawahumane.ca 🐾



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 613-725-3166 ext. 254

Event Calendar



Bingo: **Sundays, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.**, at the Overbrook Bingo Palace, 1150 Lola, Ottawa



My Furry Valentine open house – **Feb. 15, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.**



Warm Hearts Raffle Draw – **March 14**



FurBall – **April 5** at the Trillium Ballroom of the Ottawa Convention Centre



OHS Easter open house – **April 13 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.**



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