



The Scratching Post

Timmins & District Humane Society Monthly Newsletter

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ADOPTED!

These furry friends recently found their forever homes:

Little Foot

Banchee Yunny

Sage Ozzy

Nawmiss George

Tracy Anna

Sophie Timber

Chewy Lulu

Scooba Lotus

Chloe Bella

Little B Sencha

Kyara Mozart

Lemon Flora

Ansley Tommy

Sunny Brisco

Life on the end of a chain



One by one, they run to the end of their chain. Excited to see the new people approaching them. The people seem nice enough. They are smiling and talking to them in soft voices. The huskies howl from the end of their heavy chains, jumping up and down off their dog houses at their visitors. It's a common site and far too often thought of as the norm for the large, furry breed. The dogs seem happy. They jump and bark, their tails wag. But for many years, animal welfare organizations including the Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and affiliates have been trying to discourage the practice of leaving dogs tied outside 24/7.

Recently, seven beautiful huskies were voluntarily surrendered to TDHS after an investigation showed they required further care than what they were being provided with. Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals' Senior Inspector for the North Lynn Michaud recently described the psychological damage that these dogs endured because of the lifestyle they had:

"Dogs are hardwired to live in packs and being able to express normal behaviour, and they can't do that if they're tied up. They're only moving in the confines of that tethering," she said. "That's why officers refer to dogs left outside with little to no interaction as breathing lawn ornaments."

In addition to little to no training and socialization, the dogs also had several health concerns, including parasites and skin issues. They are currently being treated for these conditions and are available for adoption.

"We realize these dogs will be a challenge for even experienced dog owners," said Ontario SPCA Agent Chelsey Romain, adding that those interested should have pet experience and breed knowledge. "The huskies have been craving not just love and attention, but exercise and structure for so long; however, they have shown us that they have amazing potential to be great dogs."

"We just need people who are willing to give them a chance."

Those unable to adopt but who would like to contribute toward the ongoing care of the huskies can contact the shelter or may visit <http://tinyurl.com/nrfuhsz>.



COFFEE WAREHOUSE



VICKY
D'Amours Bakery

214 THIRD AVENUE (705) 531-3361

Adoption Update: A Home for Zoe!



For weeks, quirky little Zoe—you may recall her dangly tongue—would interact bashfully with TDHS visitors, quickly retreating to her safe place behind her foster mom's legs shortly after.

For those several weeks, Society Manager (also Zoe's foster mom) Alicia Santamaria would tell the story about the little stray Chihuahua, who despite a skin condition was looking for a special forever home.

Because of the skin issues Zoe was dealing with as well as her timid demeanor, Zoe waited 70 days before it was realized she had already found her forever home—with Alicia!

It didn't come as a surprise to those who

had witnessed their interactions daily. Zoe had clearly become attached to Alicia, and in the end, Alicia to Zoe.

"I swore up and down that Zoe would not be my second foster fail! Everyone around me kept telling me how obvious it was that Zoe had chosen me as her new mum. Still, I tried to resist Zoe's charms, but in the end, I succumbed to all her ridiculously lovable traits," said Alicia. "I have such a soft spot for the senior pets who find themselves at TDHS, away from the families they loved all along."

Happy again, Zoe shares a home with her playful poodle sisters Frida and Misty and her mischievous brother cat Banksy.

Glencore—Kidd Operations donates \$1,000



The Timmins and District Humane Society received a huge boost in funding thanks to Glencore—Kidd Operations and efforts of a TDHS volunteer. As an employee of Glencore and a tireless volunteer at TDHS, Dan Blanchard (left) entered Glencore's Community Engagement Recognition Program. With this program, Glencore will donate upward \$1,000 to a non-profit organization to compliment the volunteer contributions made to that same organization by the Glencore employee.

"Support like this helps us continue to do what we do," said TDHS Assistant Manager Krystle Fletcher. "We really appreciate Glencore—Kidd Operation's contribution and everything Dan does around the shelter." At TDHS, Dan takes on maintenance tasks, cleaning, and dog walking, amongst other things. "We won't soon forget how Dan thoughtfully whipped up a special holiday dinner for TDHS staff during the power outage on Christmas Eve! We are lucky to have such a stand-up guy around," said Shelter Manager Alicia Santamaria, TDHS encourages all volunteers to look into their own workplace initiatives since many companies offer similar widely-beneficial programs.

OSPCA: Providing care into their golden years

It's never easy watching a beloved pet get older—the once active pup or playful kitten slows down and visits to the veterinarian become more frequent.

Pets don't ask for a lot in life, and in return for their unconditional love, providing comfortable retirement years is the least pet owners can do.

Just like people, as animals age, there are a lot of changes to both mind and body. Owners of senior pets are asked to look out for both physical (having a difficult time walking) to psychological (suddenly urinating in the house) changes. Other changes may involve the pet's activity level, memory loss,



their level of anxiety and even aggression.

The most important thing to remember is to keep an eye on them. Annual check ups by a veterinarian can help identify issues that may need to be

addressed in order to help your pet ease into their golden years.

Under the Ontario SPCA Act, owners are required by law to provide adequate medical care to their pets. Often people will say they are allowing their pet to die peacefully at home or simply feel that it's natural for older pets to get sick.

"There is no excuse to let an animal go without proper care," says Lynn Michaud, Senior Inspector, Ontario SPCA. "If you are having difficulty providing appropriate care, contact your local Ontario SPCA or humane society to discuss what options are available."

Looking for forever homes...

ARMANI

Armani is a sweet boy who has had an obvious rough go at life. He came in as a stray found in Matheson, suffering from several wounds and severely matted fur. After a lot of TLC, Armani has physically recovered from his injuries, but he is still adapting to the new world he has found himself in. He would benefit greatly from a loving, forever home that would ensure that he would never have to suffer again. Come meet Armani and see if you're the family he's been waiting for.

SPONSOR ME!

Visit the link below to find out how you can help Armani and others like him.

<http://tinyurl.com/nrfuhsz>



KILO

Hello, world! Kilo is my name and I'm ready to find a new home. I'm a crazy dude with lots of love to offer! The staff kept telling me that I need to learn manners, so off I went to a foster home where TDHS volunteers diligently work to train me to be the very best boy I can be! I'm a happy-go-lucky meatball who aims to please, which makes training a piece of cake! Still, my new owners must have dog experience, and I should probably go to a home with older children, if any. I absolutely need a family willing to put time aside to continue my training and to bring me for long walks. I absolutely cannot wait to meet you!

SPONSOR ME!

Visit the link below to find out how you can help Kilo and others like him.

<http://tinyurl.com/nrfuhsz>

Be My Hero: Dentals



Former resident Zing shows off his pearly whites! Visit <http://tinyurl.com/nrfuhsz> to help donate toward the cost of dental surgery for animals at TDHS.

Dental surgeries are common occurrences at the Timmins and District Humane Society. The scenario may be as simple as an animal who came in as a stray requiring a quick cleaning. A more serious case may involve an animal brought in through a cruelty investigation requiring damaged teeth removed and infection cleared up.

In any case, ensuring that animals—both cats and dogs—have clean, strong teeth is vital to the maintenance of good health. Poor dental health can lead to serious health issues which includes damage to vital organs.

On average, a cat dental will cost TDHS approximately \$250 while a dog dental costs about \$350. In order to perform these procedures, TDHS relies on the generosity of the people who donate.

As a non-profit organization, TDHS does not receive any government funding for animal care and adoption fees rarely cover the medical expenses absorbed by the shelter.

Please visit <http://tinyurl.com/nrfuhsz> to donate and don't forget to indicate which cause you'd like to donate toward!

How you can help!

Happy Tails: Cassie's Happy Ending



terrier pup was on her way to her second chance and her forever home!

Now known as Cassie, she recently celebrated her first anniversary in her new home and her fur-mama sent the shelter an update on how the pooch was doing.

She stated that Cassie is 100% part of their family and has become quite a princess!

"I always come for lunch at noon and she just knows what time it is, and she sits by the door and waits," said Joanna. "When she hears the garage door she gets so excited; it is priceless."

Admitting to spoiling their little girl, Joanna went on to say that she not only sleeps on the couch, but on a pillow on the couch.

"We love her as much as she loves us," she said. "I just want to thank you for her and for the excellent job you guys do helping these poor animals."

The staff were so happy to hear about Cassie's happy ending and encourage all adopters to send in their successful adoption stories to adoptions@timminshumanesociety.ca.

"The happy endings are why we do what we do," said Shelter Assistant Manager / Adoption Worker Krystle Fletcher. "It's always great to hear how TDHS animals are thriving in their new homes!"

How to donate:
The Society is always in need of the following

- items:
- Clean blankets, sheets, towels
- Industrial garbage bags
- Paper towels
- Dish soap
- Laundry detergent
- Bleach
- Canned pet food (cat and dog)
- Kong dog toys
- Cat/dog treats
- Monetary donations

How to adopt:
Viewing hours are Monday-Friday from 10 a.m. to Noon and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Visit the shelter or our website to fill out the application and start the adoption process!

How to volunteer:
Volunteering means everything from helping clean and walking dogs to hanging out with cats and helping out at fundraising events.

Contact our Volunteer Coordinator at 705-264-1816 to learn how you can get involved!

Contact Us:
620 Mahoney Rd.
Timmins, ON
P4R 0H6
Phone: 705-264-1816
Fax: 705-264-3870

Just over a year ago, a sweet little dog by the name of Marley came through the doors at TDHS. She was being surrendered by her previous owners, who had to move and could no longer keep her. Just a few days later, this little

Volunteer dog walkers — Time to shine!

The spring—when the sun beats regularly, birds sing soundly, and snow melts finally—is considered to be a TDHS dog walker's time to shine. And guess what... there's no better time to start!

We invite everyone interested in walking to come on out. Offering love, cuddles, and playtime to a shelter dog; it's a great feeling! So put your toe to pavement and join us and our pooches at TDHS. Those interested in joining our team of volunteer dog walkers may get in touch with us by dialing

705-264-1816 or by emailing volunteers@timminshumanesociety.ca. We guarantee that our dogs will have a blast and so will you!



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