



# The Scratching Post

## ADOPTED!

These furry friends found their forever homes recently:

Blue Presto

Sassy Arya

Jamie Sansa

Tash Leo

Chucky Ty

Carrie Regan

Dopey Marvel

Beijing Burma

Fluffy Finn

Orange Peel

Bashful Grumpy

Georgia

Snow White

Zeppelin

Copper Grant

Bella Frogger

Natla Happy

Madison

Scratch

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## Welcome!



## The ins and outs of the Timmins Humane Society

The Timmins and District Humane Society plays a number of roles in the Timmins area. In addition to being an adoption centre, finding homes for the animals in its care, the Society is also an affiliate of the Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. Two agents and one senior inspector work out of the Society to investigate cases of animal cruelty and neglect in the area North of Temagami.

In 2005, the Society took over the pound contract for the city and the shelter on Mahoney Road was built, which now houses strays from the city of

Timmins. Lastly the Society acts as a place for unwanted pets or those owners can no longer care for. These animals, just as those unclaimed by owners and those brought in from cruelty situations, are vaccinated, spayed/neutered, their behaviour tested and then are put up for adoption.

As a non-profit organization, the only government assistance received is for OSPCA Agent training, none goes toward animal care. Everything provided to the animals, including every day care, emergency surgeries

and medications and vaccines comes from the generosity of those who donate. Throughout the year, several fundraisers are held in varying capacities to ensure the staff and volunteers are able to continue to do what they do.

In 2014 alone, more than 1,130 animals were cared for either as strays, surrenders or through cruelty investigations. This includes 665 cats and 466 dogs, which is why we need your help.

**We hope you enjoy the first edition of**

**The Scratching Post.**

## Kitten waits 2 years to find forever home



Clark came to the Timmins & District Humane Society in November 2010 as a six-week-old kitten, along with his brother Beans and his mom, Achilles. Unfortunately, Clark was forced to grow up in the shelter, shy and timid as he waited for someone

special to look past his reserved personality and see his potential to be a loving fur-friend. That time came in November 2012, when shelter veterinary technician Christina Dobbyn decided to finally give Clark his forever home. Now a member of a 4

cat pack, Christina says the shy, little man has flourished and has really come out of his shell. "He just loves to be around people," she said. "He was the first cat I adopted from the shelter and I couldn't be happier that he is now a part of my family."

## Dog loses limb, gains new lease on life

Marvel is just the most recent special case to come into the shelter. Part of a 42 dog rescue from a Northwestern First Nation reserve, Marvel and his friend Kenora came to Timmins, infested with lice. Marvel also showed signs of an injury to his front leg that caused a painful deformity due to it being unable to grow properly. After a complete medical workup and discussion with specialists, it

was decided that the best option for Marvel would be a leg amputation. True to a dog's resilience and strength, the sweet husky mix was up and about the very next day learning to navigate the world on three legs. We are so pleased to announce that Marvel recently found his forever home! Kenora is still waiting for a family to step forward; please spread the word!



## Pet tips—If you're cold, so are they



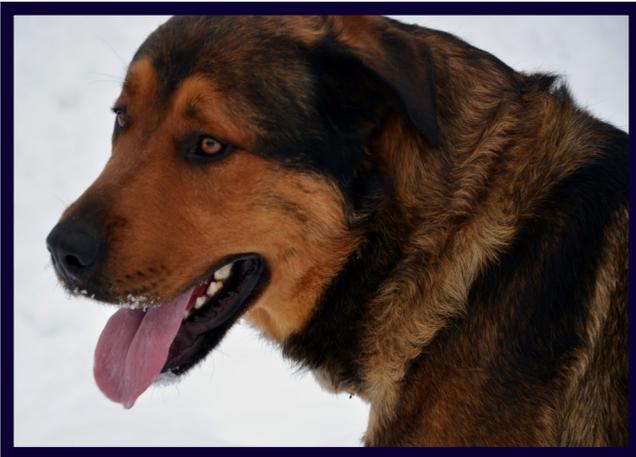
As winter cements its place in the region, pet owners are asked to ensure their furry friends are not kept outdoors for long periods of time. Prolonged exposure to the cold can cause frostbite and hypothermia. Under the Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, all animals that primarily live outside need to be provided with proper shelter. The OSPCA also recommends the following: Dog houses should be finished with a

weatherproof material or non-leaded paint, bedding material should be included. Straw, never blankets, is recommended, a burlap/canvas outside flap should be used in winter months, dog houses must be weatherproof and insulated, the size and design of the shelter must be appropriate and adequate for the dog. More information on pet weather safety can be found at [www.ontariospca.ca](http://www.ontariospca.ca).

# Looking for forever homes...

## WIGGLE BEAR

Our sweet Wiggle Bear! It still shocks the staff that this beautiful girl has yet to find her forever home. Wiggle Bear came to the shelter with her two sisters when they were just a few months old. In just a few more weeks, she will reach her one year anniversary with us. Wiggle Bear is the last of her siblings to find a family of her own. This girl is sweet and loving and can most often be found curled up with one of her feline friends. She loves attention, whether it comes from another cat or a person, yet she remains one of the shelter's longest residents. It would mean the world to see her find a family she can call her own, forever.



## THUNDER

As strong and booming as his name implies. This handsome fellow came into TDHS several weeks ago and continues to wait patiently for his forever home. Taking Thunder into your heart and home is no small feat. At 100-plus pounds, he's a big boy that seems to think he's a fraction of his actual size. His forever home is one that is ready to take on the 105 lb puppy, while guiding him through the ins and outs of being a gentle giant. But with all his size comes a heart equally big. Thunder has proven time and time again that despite what a dog goes through in life, they recognize kindness and a loving touch and are more than willing to move forward from a painful past to find a home that will love them forever. If you're looking for a loving companion and a best friend forever, your search is over! Come meet Thunder today!

## Holiday fundraisers net \$10,000 for animal care

It has truly been the spirit of giving! In the past month, the TDHS has hosted several fundraising initiatives that has helped raised \$10,463.00 toward animal care.

Between the Holiday Home Tours, the Santa Paws Pet Photos and a Christmas Bake Sale,, the generosity has been overwhelming, said assistant manager/volunteer co-ordinator Alicia Santamaria.

"As a non-profit organization we, and the animals we care for, depend on the generosity of the public," she said. "Through these events people have truly helped us save lives." A big thank you goes out to all staff and volunteers who helped out as well as local businesses Unforgettables, Catails Gift & Décor, Lemongrass and Perfect Settings who participated in this year's Home Tours as well as Lynn Pizzale of To Have and to

Hold Belly casting for supplying paw print ornaments at our pet pictures events. Thank you to all who supported us!



## How you can help!

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)
- Pet toys
- Cat/dog treats

**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!

## Staff Profile—Alicia Santamaria



Born and raised in puppy from the North Bay Humane Society. Timmins, Alicia is Misty, a poodle/terrier came into the pleased to now be Humane Society this October at 14 yrs of back in her hometown age and was a dog that Alicia immediately working as the new knew she needed to take home. Her first Assistant Manager at true “foster fail” (a term that those in the the TDHS. She’ll be field all know so well!) assuming the title of It wasn't until Alicia started working at the Shelter Manager this Timmins shelter that she really came to coming spring. understand the incredibly high number of animals in our city and surrounding areas who need our help due to being orphaned, abused or neglected. Alicia encourages any animal lovers out there to volunteer, adopt, sponsor, or donate. While they can't come out and say it, the animals need your help!

Prior to her two years working at the TDHS, Alicia volunteered at the Sudbury and District Branch of the OSPCA for two years. Alicia has two pets of her own: Frida & Misty, both poodle crosses. Frida was adopted as a

## Volunteer Spotlight

What started out as a way to get community service hours for school became a family affair for Joey Roy Philbert, Brigette Ray and her children Ryan and Faith. With Ryan needing to complete volunteer hours, the family turned to the Timmins & District Humane Society because of their love of animals. “It’s a great way to teach the importance of giving back to the community,” Brigette said. Since they began volunteering about a year ago, they have spent time caring for puppies and ensuring the cats and kittens are happy and healthy. “One of our favourite



memories was assembling of the animals in the a cat tree and watching Society’s care, but they’ve the cats enjoy it,” said also added to their own Brigette. “We love family. It only took a few volunteering at the TDHS visits for them to open because of all the great their home to Minou, now memories we now have.” named Jolly, so their cat Not only has this family Squeaky would have a spent countless hours friend to play with. dedicated to the welfare **Thanks for all you do!**

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