



The Scratching Post

Timmins & District Humane Society Monthly Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 7

July 2015

ADOPTED!

These furry friends recently found their forever homes:

Milo Canuk

Flame

Nugget Dexter

Charlie Brown

Davis Sully

Lloyd

Meya Whiskey

White Paw

Cannoli Habs

Miracle

Merle Alex

Charly

Minnow Joe

Cassidy

14th Annual Wag-A-Tail-A-Thon



During a recent visit, Zeus clumsily bounces around the shelter, happily greeting all who cross his path. It's a sight that puts a smile on the faces of TDHS staff, having seen the dramatic change in the oversized great dane.

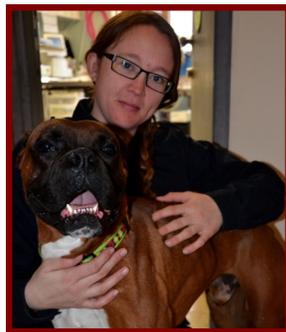
Zeus represents what a happy, healthy dog should look like, but even more so, he represents the thousands of animals TDHS has been able to help thanks to the generosity of the communities it serves. Work is already underway for this year's largest

fundraiser, TDHS' 14th Annual Wag-A-Tail-A-Thon. While organizers are working hard to put together fun, exciting events for the special day, individuals and groups have already started their fundraising efforts. An online fundraising website has been set up to allow people the ease and convenience of donating at the click of a button.

"Online fundraising is so helpful because it allows us to reach a wider audience," said assistant manager Alicia Santamaria, adding that there will also be items on the site for auction. "We have a high number of followers on social media so the support we get online is outstanding!"

Building upon last year's very successful event, this year organizers have a goal of raising \$20,000. While it's an ambitious amount, the group is confident that with community support this goal can be met.

"It is very important to note that all funds raised from our Wag-A-Tail-A-Thon remain in the Timmins area and will be used to provide vet care, food, supplies and medication to the stray, abandoned, neglected and abused animals in the area," said Alicia. To get involved, either as a donor or a fundraiser, visit www.timminshumanesociety.myevent.com. We are also looking for volunteers to assist the day of the event. If interested in helping out, call 264-1816.



Bon Voyage Christine!!

The staff, volunteers, and animals of TDHS would like to wish a heartfelt farewell to long-time staff member Christine Bradshaw as she embarks on a new journey on Canada's west coast!

Christine has worked at TDHS since 2007, having filled most roles at one time or another. Her hard work and dedication to the animals will not soon be forgotten. She will certainly be missed.

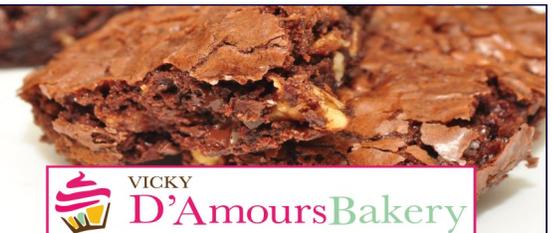
Please join us in wishing Christine good luck and well wishes! We would also like to take this opportunity to wish Alicia Santamaria all the best in her new role as TDHS manager!

DON'T FORGET YOUR PET

HOT CARS CAN KILL.



COFFEE WAREHOUSE



VICKY D'Amours Bakery

214 THIRD AVENUE (705) 531-3361

Marvel makes superhero recovery



Six months ago, Marvel, the young husky, surprised us all with his phenomenal determination and resilience as he began to navigate the world on three legs instead of four. Having been rescued from a Northwestern reservation, Marvel was brought to TDHS with lice, fleas, and an injury to a front paw that left no option except amputation. From the day that Marvel clumsily took his first step, which was quickly followed by his first run and jump, the staff knew that Marvel would live up to his superhero name! In addition to his initial surgery to remove the leg, Marvel underwent a second surgery that

was required to remove even more of his bone to be sure that Marvel would go on to lead the most normal and comfortable life possible. Steady and happy throughout it all, Marvel's tail was in constant motion during every follow up visit. Marvel is truly an inspiration. "Being able to rid Marvel of the pain he suffered for so long was an honour for us," said TDHS manager Christine Bradshaw. "He has been such a sweet boy from day one and nothing he has been through has changed that." These days, Marvel can be found walking Gillies Lake with his forever family, enjoying life, and still wagging that little tail of his.

Cat enclosures offer a breath of fresh air

When people think about cats in shelters, the image of caged animals often comes to mind. But TDHS sets itself apart from many standard shelters all thanks to our location and space which allows our cats to enjoy a little bit of nature within specially-made kitty enclosures.

Thanks in large part to volunteers Helen Renaud and Ross Moore—who have played integral roles in creating and maintaining these enclosures—the resident cats at TDHS enjoy the fresh breeze of spring, the warm summer sun and the crisp fall air. All three cat rooms at TDHS allow our cats to walk in the grass while safely socializing with their feline friends. The enclosures not only include a roofed section to keep cats dry and in the shade, but they also have several beds, tree limbs and other fun items on which to perch.

Cat enclosures are not only beneficial for animal shelters, they are also a wonderful idea for pet owners who want to offer their own cats a safe alternative that doesn't go against

City of Timmins cat by-laws.



Shaw and Alex enjoy a warm summer day!



Don't Shop! Adopt!



With more than 75 animals in its care, TDHS is reaching out to potential adopters!

While summer is traditionally a slower time in terms of adoptions, this year's numbers are already showing an all-time low.

"It can be difficult to adopt throughout the summer because a lot of families travel," said adoption worker Krystle Fletcher. But what people must realize is that there can be benefits to a summer adoption as well. Summer vacation may mean that someone will be home more to help the new pet adjust. In the case of a new canine friend, it could also mean house training in a warmer climate!



Lately, staff have seen only a handful of dogs and even fewer cats leave with their adoptive families. Many dogs have been transferred to southern Ontario shelters in recent weeks due to spending so much

time in Timmins with little to no interest shown.

Unfortunately, with every city facing the same cat over-population issues, the same cannot always be done for cats. With limited space, once at capacity (approximately 50 cats), there is simply no place to put the additional 30-40 cats that come in every single month. So if your family is looking to add a furry friend, please don't shop, adopt! Adopting not only saves the life you take home but also the animal who takes that one's place within the shelter. Come visit the dozens of animals at TDHS, all with amazing qualities they'd love to share with their forever family.

Looking for forever homes...

Christian

Christian is one of TDHS' long-time residents, having come into the shelter near the beginning of 2015. He's also one of the many tabby cats who currently calls the shelter home. While he hasn't been with us as long as some, it is known that Christian spent nearly one year roaming the streets of Timmins prior to coming into the shelter. This 2-years-old's frostbitten ears are proof that it hasn't always been easy for this handsome boy. Come meet Christian and show him that the harsher side of life is behind him and that all that awaits is a loving forever family to call his own!

SPONSOR ME

Visit the link below to find out how you can help Christian.

<http://tinyurl.com/nrfuhsz>



Walter

In his short life, 8-month-old Walter has had quite a journey. Originally living on a Northwestern, Ontario reserve, he was recently rescued by the Northern Ontario Animal Welfare Society before being transferred to TDHS along with his brother Jacob. The more timid of the two, Walter will require a very special home that will help him become more comfortable with new surroundings and people. Come meet Walter and show him that life with a loving family is nothing to be scared of.

SPONSOR ME

Visit the link below to find out how you can help Walter.

<http://tinyurl.com/nrfuhsz>

CommunityROCKS: TDHS at the Downtown Urban Park



Photo courtesy of TimminsToday.com

In 2014, TDHS made several new appearances at local events in an effort to bring more awareness to both animal welfare and the animals in our

care. One that proved to be very beneficial was the participation in the Downtown Timmins BIA Urban Park. The event provided the opportunity to not only showcase the animals available for adoption in a more central location, but also to show the public exactly what TDHS does and how members of the community can become involved. TDHS is very excited to once again be participating in this venture, beginning July 3 and continuing every Friday throughout the months of July and August!

"Last year's event was such a success for us," said OSPCA Agent Chelsey Romain, "It only made sense to return this year and try to build on that. "We're very grateful for the support of the Downtown BIA."

This year promises a lot more cuddly kittens, a showcase of adult cats that are desperately looking for forever homes, as well as the return of last year's very popular puppy kissing booth!

"This isn't just a great opportunity for the animals but also for us to get information out to the public," Chelsey said, adding that a major topic will be the "No Hot Pets" campaign, aimed at educating people about the dangers of leaving pets in hot vehicles.

TDHS Staff and volunteers will be on hand every Friday along with some furry friends up for adoption beginning around 10 a.m. They will have plenty of information on ways to volunteer, donate and adopt.

We hope to see you there!

How you can help!

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

Staff Profile— Christina Dobbyn



Joining the TDHS staff as a veterinary technician in 2012, Christina Dobbyn is now a central figure in the day-to-day operations at TDHS.

She's the one who ensures the animals are receiving the medical care they need, who patiently explains illness and injury to foster parents, and who is at the vet's right hand during all spay/neuter clinics.

Having graduated from Northern College's veterinary technician program in 2010, Christina got her start working with wildlife, including raccoons, black bears, and white-tail deer, before switching to shelter medicine.

"Wildlife has always been a huge part of my life and that experience let me help animals that don't always get a helping hand from humans," Christina said. "However, now working in this environment, I'm often able to

provide a second chance to animals very close to death."

While the cases she has come across seem endless, there are a few that stand out above all others. "I'll always have a soft spot for the large breed dogs who have spent their entire lives on the end of a chain," said Christina. "There's just something about their spirit. You can sense that all they want is the love and devotion they were deprived of for so long."

Until the right dog walks through the doors, Christina often shares her home with foster dogs in need of extra care—along with her own four cats, three of which have been adopted from TDHS.

Thanks, Christina, for all that you do! TDHS is proud to have you.

Volunteer Spotlight—Anthony & Tracy Santamaria

This month, TDHS acknowledges volunteers Anthony & Tracy Santamaria for all that they do!

In 2014, this charitable duo decided that they wanted

to begin helping animals within their community.

To date, Anthony & Tracy have opened their home to foster several dogs with unique qualities. Canines that they fostered include Rambo and Taco (Side note: Taco was adopted by volunteers James and Isobella, featured in our June issue)! These dogs required socialization, routines, and comfort that we knew Anthony & Tracy could provide.

Anthony's charitable efforts were also recognized by Kidd Operations. As a Kidd employee, Anthony's community volunteer hours translated into a \$1,000 grant awarded to TDHS by Kidd Operations as part of their Community Engagement Recognition Program. Pictured above, Anthony presents this cheque to TDHS' Danielle LeBlanc!

"We're both very strong supporters of animals in general and in pet adoption. It's been an eye-opener. Now that we see just how many animals go through TDHS, we'll only be adopting our pets from now on," Tracy mentioned. Anthony & Tracy have two dogs of their own, Boomer (a morkie) and Bo (a senior miniature poodle, adopted from the Sudbury SPCA). Roxie, pictured with Tracy below, is currently in foster care at the Santamaria residence. Those interested in Roxie's adoption may contact the shelter at 705-264-1816.

Thank you, Anthony & Tracy, for your tremendous efforts in animal welfare! Words cannot express all that you do for our special-needs shelter animals.



www.timminshumanesociety.ca

www.facebook.com/TimminsHumaneSociety

Email: newsletter@timminshumanesociety.ca to subscribe!