



The Scratching Post

Timmins & District Humane Society Monthly Newsletter

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May 2015

ADOPTED!
These furry friends recently found their forever homes:

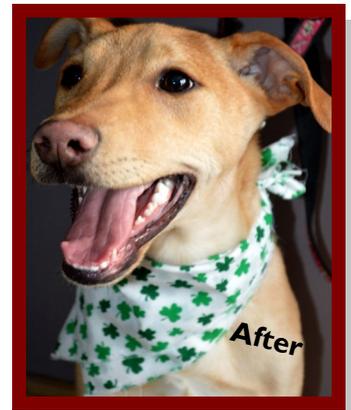
- Nikita Tigger
- Roxy Virgo
- Leo Micha
- Harley Jersey
- Blondie Taz
- Zeus Sega
- Biff Duffie
- Huko Keoni
- Malibu Dallas
- Rufio Roxy
- Cashew Jake
- Sumo Scoobs
- Shy Monster
- Mai Sansa
- Squeeks Marcus
- Bailey Easton
- Glacier Ember
- Sky

Tucker's Happy Ending

Now watching Tucker bounce around the shelter's reception area, no one would suspect what the young pup has had to endure. At the beginning of the year, this little boy was brought into TDHS because his owner was unable to afford his urgent medical care. Upon arrival, poor Tucker was cold, dehydrated, thin and was vomiting a great deal. His bum was raw and sore due to bouts of diarrhea. Tucker was ultimately diagnosed with severe gastroenteritis and staff were not sure he was even going to survive. However, after several days of intensive care on-site, including intravenous antibiotics, little Tuck slowly began to recover.

Recently, Tucker was adopted by a great family and now goes by Rudy! Stories like Rudy's are often told when pet owners don't realize the true expense involved in caring for

a family pet. People finding themselves in an emergency situation involving pets and finances are asked to contact TDHS immediately.



Help for Dottie

Dog found with severe dental neglect



Dottie, prior to her surgery

TDHS continues to look for any information regarding sweet, little Dottie.

Dottie came into TDHS as a stray at the beginning of April in need of immediate veterinary care due to severe dental neglect. She soon underwent extensive dental surgery, which included the removal of several teeth due to severe tooth decay.

Today Dottie is recovering from her ordeal well; however, TDHS and the Ontario S.P.C.A. are continuing to look for any information regarding Dottie's owners. While some information has been obtained, her owners have yet to be located. Please contact the shelter at (705) 264-1816 or 310-SPCA with any information. All calls are anonymous.

Check out our Facebook page for more info on



TABBY TUESDAY!!



COFFEE WAREHOUSE



VICKY **D'Amours Bakery**

214 THIRD AVENUE (705) 531-3361

Out of the Wild



When Binx, came into the shelter in the summer of 2014, he was a typical tiny kitten found in the wilderness of Northern Ontario. He was scared, unsure of people, and ready to defend himself at any given moment.

It took a long time for Binx to discover that the world around him wasn't as scary as it once was. Even today, at one year of age, this boy remains weary of the things outside of his comfort zone. Binx represents the countless kittens that are not only found abandoned and forced to find ways to survive on their own, but also those who are

never found.

With extremely high cat populations in communities across the province, numerous litters are born every year, only with many of them being dropped off into the nearest wooded area when homes cannot be found.

Binx came from a colony, with many before him having walked the same path, eventually finding homes. Recently, both a male and female from the area were spayed and neutered allowing for far less of these feral babies being seen at the shelter.

A different kind of forever home

As the City of Timmins dog pound and an affiliate of the Ontario SPCA, we don't always have the youngest, sweetest, most adoptable animals come into our care.

Sometimes, the animals we meet are very special in their own unique way!

Over the years there have been a handful of cats and dogs who have especially stolen the hearts of staff—so much so, they have become part of our little family.

Big Zeus was the first official “shelter dog” having come to the shelter in the fall of 2008. For about a year, the 134 lbs Husky roamed the shelter, eagerly greeting everyone who walked through the doors.

“He was such a social butterfly,” remembers OSCPA Senior Inspector Lynn Michaud, who was manager of the shelter at the time. “He was a big bear with a big heart.”

At 7-years-old, combined with his enormous size and numerous health issues, which included Cushing's Disease and arthritis, staff knew it would have been



difficult to find him a forever home, but they say his will to live was too great to let him go.

Instead, he spent the last year of his life enjoying all the love of the staff and shelter visitors he could get.

On his last day, all the staff surrounded him to say their goodbyes.

“He was a constant ray of sunshine,” Lynn said. “He had all these health issues, but he never showed it and never let his disabilities affect him.”

Besides Zeus, other animals such as Prince, Millie, Costello, Mango and most recently Daphne have come to call the shelter home. Some came from deplorable conditions, others were simply unwanted by previous owners. But whatever the circumstance, each one found a different kind of forever home, becoming a mascot, greeter and most of all, beloved pet of all those who work at the shelter.

“It may not be a traditional home environment,” said shelter manager Christine Bradshaw, “but they are part of our family and they are very much loved.”

Keep dogs secure in truck

A family is heading out to the bush, ready for a weekend of relaxing in Mother Nature's backyard. The truck is packed with supplies and family members, all that's missing is the family dog who takes his place in the box of the truck. It's a practice very common in Northern Ontario, not just on back roads, but through the city, too. Dogs may be enjoying the wind through their fur, but perhaps without realizing it, these pet owners are putting their beloved furry family member at risk. The Ontario SPCA Act RSO ch. o.36 makes it an offence to cause or permit an

animal to be in distress or to fail to comply with the prescribed Standards of Care. In addition, the Ontario Regular 60/09, Standards of Care, subsection 2. (4) states “every animal must be transported in a manner that ensures its physical safety and general welfare.”

Transporting animals in an open and unsecured manner (i.e. loose in the back of a pick-up truck) significantly increases the chance of injury. Such injury could result from flying debris, small stones, sand and other dirt that could potentially cause injury to animals' eyes, nose and other

body parts. There's also the worrisome possibility of the dog being ejected from the vehicle and potentially causing severe injury or even death.

“Not only is it illegal, it's irresponsible,” said OSCPA Senior Inspector Lynn Michaud. “Accidents are never planned and in an instant your animal can suffer severe harm or even death.”

If a dog must be transported in the back of a truck, the appropriate method is to place the dog in a proper-sized kennel and to then secure the kennel to the vehicle.

Any questions may be directed to TDHS.

Looking for forever homes...

SHAW

As one of the shelter's longest current residents, Shaw is ready to pack his catnip and head into the heart and home of a forever family. How this handsome boy is still available remains a mystery to shelter staff. With his expressive eyes and outgoing personality, Shaw is looking for a companion that is a good listener as he spends most days having feline conversations with the staff.

Definitely of the happy-go-lucky variety, Shaw would do well in a home with other cats as he gets along with them well; however, he would do best without any dogs as he seems to prefer they are not around. Having been here so long, Shaw is eager to find a fur-ever family that he can call his own. Come meet Shaw and see what all the fuss is about!



WHITE PAW

White Paw is still waiting to find his forever home! White Paw is a special kind of boy who came to the shelter back in March after having lived his life without ever having a real home. When he first arrived, the scars of his past were not only evident on his body, but his soul. He was scared and unsure of the very new surroundings. Today, he's a very sweet boy who has come a very long way; however, he will require a VERY special forever home. He does well in a home environment, getting along well with other dogs as well as cats, but he LOVES to spend time running outside. He is still learning manners and has some quirks that he may never get over, but those quirks are what make him who he is! If you're looking for a forever friend who is full of energy, spunk and unconditional love, come meet White Paw!



Community ROCKS: Pet Valu – Hollinger Court



Photo courtesy of Moose FM Timmins

We love when local businesses go the extra mile to assist TDHS animals, and we can quite easily say that Pet Valu in the Hollinger Court is one of our biggest community supporters! The knowledgeable store owners and staff at Pet Valu help TDHS year-round in a number of ways, from showcasing our adoptable cats and small animals to providing us with donated items. Did you know that Pet Valu also supports local animals by selling City of Timmins dog and cat licenses? They do! April was Pet Valu's Pet Appreciation Month. During the month, Pet Valu staff enthusiastically showcased a number of TDHS adoptable cats and bunny, graciously accepted donated items on TDHS' behalf, and raised money for our shelter through their buy-a-paw campaign. Furthermore, on the weekend of April 18 - 19, Pet Valu hosted their Pet Adoption Weekend. TDHS volunteers were invited to the store to inform the public about all of our wonderful adoptable animals! We even brought several of our furry friends to meet and greet Timmins animal lovers! Thank you, Pet Valu Hollinger Court. What would our animals do without you!?

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—Christine Bradshaw



In more than 8 years at TDHS, Christine Bradshaw has pretty much seen it all.

In 2007, she walked into the shelter as a part-time animal

control officer – in just a matter of weeks, she will say goodbye as the shelter manager.

Since it all began, Christine has filled nearly every position within the organization, having been an OSPCA Cruelty Agent shortly after she started, before becoming assistant manager and finally manager a couple of years ago.

“I didn’t know what to expect all those years ago,” she said. “It has certainly been an interesting experience and definitely an eye opener.”

Over the years, Christine has added to her furry family, adopting Kia (an old black lab mix who was considered a difficult adoption) to join little brother Hunter.

But anyone will tell you that while she may have resisted the

temptation of filling her home with furry friends permanently, more than a fair share have recovered in her home, have learned to trust with her help, or even just got to spend a few nights away from the shelter and in a home because of Christine. There was even a time when abandoned baby ducks found temporary sanctuary in her care!

But in just a few short weeks, Christine will be leaving TDHS for the sunny skies and picturesque views of the Canadian west coast. Some may follow in Christine’s footsteps, but it will take a lot to fill her shoes!

Thanks for so many years of hard work, Christine! We all wish you the best of luck in everything the future holds.

Volunteer Spotlight—CTRC Day Program

You can see the smiling faces, but also hear the soothing purrs. Walking through TDHS on a Wednesday, anyone can see the mutual benefit that comes from the Cochrane-Temiskaming

Resource Centre’s Day Program. Every Wednesday, Janet, Eric, Elana and Joey come to TDHS with their social worker Alexis to take part in the Cat Enrichment Program. Some enjoy the aspect of playing with rambunctious kittens while others prefer the quiet calmness of the older cats.

“This cat program has been specially designed around our clients,” said Alexis, adding that it was Eric who got the ball rolling with his interest in animals and desire to spend time with them.

The members spend their time playing with the cats, petting them, brushing them as well as learning how to properly hold them so they feel secure in a person’s arms.

“My favourite part is petting them,” said Janet, who lost her own cat Oscar, and who looks forward to a little cat therapy



CTRC Day Program members Janet, Alexis, Eric, Elana & Joey

again. “It’s therapy for me and for them at the same time.”

There are multiple benefits for all involved said Alexis, which include providing a happy and calming effect for the CTRC clients. The cats receive some love and affection, and they also open up to human contact and become comfortable in this type of

environment, which quickens the adoption process for them.

Following their time at the shelter, the members go back to the centre and write stories about the animals.

“They love this program,” said Alexis. “The best part of this program are the smiles.”

THANKS, GANG!

www.timminshumanesociety.ca

www.facebook.com/TimminsHumaneSociety

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