

Pet Talk



SPRING ISSUE 2018



FLURRY

The story of Flurry, a curious kitten and his recovery

NO ANIMALS IN THE CENTRE?

How the Capacity for Care (C4C) model has reduced the average stay

2017 HIGHLIGHTS

Image highlights from KWHS and SPHS

DONOR PROFILE

John Fielding

John begins his introduction with his education, “50 years in the school of hard knocks and still not graduated.” Formal training aside, John is a gentleman of many accomplishments. In addition to his successful career as a Branch Manager for Assante in the Financial Planning industry, John is also a skilled hockey coach, referee, and actor. Following a series of appearances on-stage with community theatres in Galt, Elmira, and Elora, John ventured into the world of film with a role in Working Reel Productions, “One Small Act”. From there, he moved to a feature role in the web mini-series, “Transmission I” and “Transmission II”.



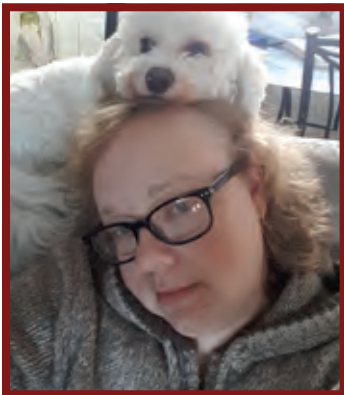
John Fielding, Donor and Kate Phillips, AWASCO Board Member.

Professionally, John’s role as a financial planner connects him with a variety of individuals, including budding philanthropists. As John explained, “To me, it’s the people and dreams behind the figures that matter most.” Following a tour of the Animal Welfare Centre and its new Animal Hospital in 2014, John was able to secure significant donations for the KWHS. Additionally, he has sponsored the Giving Tuesday initiative, offering to match all donations to a total of \$5000 in each year.

As he contemplates retirement, John is also contemplating joining the volunteer team at KWHS. From donor to advocate to volunteer, John’s support for the pets in our care continues to grow.

CUPCAKE DAY

Jolene Knott



Creating a sweet future for an unowned pet came naturally to one Cupcake Day baker. Jolene Knott was already volunteering for several events when the first Cupcake Day came along. As luck would have it, that was also Jolene’s birthday so it seemed instinctive that she would share the spotlight with the pets at KWHS. Jolene approached the role of baker with the same enthusiasm and gusto she used to master other tasks. As she put it, “A great boxed cake mix, some cupcake cups, and everyone in the office is happy to donate.”

While Cupcake Day is a national event, hosted by SPCAs and Humane Societies coast to coast, the local initiative has caught fire. Since raising less than \$30,000 in 2014, the residents of Stratford-Perth and Waterloo Region have more than increased their efforts. Cupcake Day revenue last year topped \$52,000 – that’s 1,485 animal care days!

This year, National Cupcake day falls on Monday February 26th but we encourage all bakers, buyers, and sellers to start early. For 2018, our goal is to provide 1,750 animal care days. You can join the event at www.sphumane.com or www.kwhumane.com.

NO ANIMALS IN THE CENTRE? It means we're doing our job!



The Kitchener-Waterloo and Stratford-Perth Humane Societies continue to help the animals in our communities. We are the leader in animal welfare in our communities focusing on the responsible treatment of animals through education, compliance, advocacy, and care.

In December our number of animals in-house was down and people were asking “where are the animals?” Our answer – “in loving homes where they should be”.

Caring for the homeless, abandoned and abused animals in our community is a huge responsibility. To work to that responsibility, we operate on the Capacity for Care (C4C) model to provide the best care and services for all animals (and people) in the community. Capacity for Care is a management model that creates conditions to provide shelter animals with five essential freedoms, improving the welfare of individual animals.

The five freedoms include:

- Freedom from hunger and thirst
By ready access to fresh water and a diet to maintain full health and vigor
- Freedom from discomfort
By providing an appropriate environment including shelter and a comfortable resting area
- Freedom from pain, injury or disease
By prevention and rapid diagnosis and treatment
- Freedom to express normal behaviour
By providing sufficient space, proper facilities and company of the animal's own kind
- Freedom from fear and distress
By ensuring conditions and treatment which avoid mental suffering

By operating on the C4C model, we have been able to shorten the length of time that animals are in our care. Some animals require more extensive medical treatment than others and some just take longer for people to see how great they are, but all animals available for adoption have seen vets, are spayed/neutered and are up to date on their shots. The average stay before the C4C model was 49 days – now, its 6.8 days.

This past December, people saw a lack of animals in our adoption area and there's a reason for that. With our C4C model, the animals that came in were examined and treated promptly and those that passed the stray period were made available as soon as they were determined to be healthy enough to be adopted. In fact the number of animals that went out of the Centre was more than the number of animals we received! That's a Success!

Kitchener-Waterloo and Stratford-Perth Humane Societies – December 2017

Animal	# Received	Adopted	Return to Owner
Cats	101	151	12
Dogs	44	31	14
Small Animals	7	10	0

We'll always have animals in our Shelters – that's just reality. However, while you may not see them in the front ready for adoption, they're being cared for behind the scenes and for the most part they're being adopted out quickly.

“In 2017 more than 2,800 domestic animals came into our care and 90% found their forever homes and/or were returned to their homes. In most cases their time of stay was less than a week – that is amazing! That is what it is all about,” stated Kathrin Delutis, Executive Director of AWASCO.

KWHS & SPHS 2017 Highlights



Cupcake Day



KWHS Wiggle Waggle Walkathon



KWHS Surf Dogs



SPHS Unique Boutique



SPHS Best In Show

Behind the Scenes



When you see our Animal Protection officers, what do you see? We see people genuinely concerned for the welfare of animals – people who are dedicated to helping animals in the most difficult of circumstances.

Meet Vivian

Vivian is our Inspector and Animal Protection Manager. Choosing a career in the Animal Welfare sector was a natural fit for Vivian as her love of animals knows no bounds. Growing up, she was that neighborhood child who brought home every stray and her school would call her to the office whenever there was an animal that needed a home. Her dedication to animals continues here at AWASCO managing the Animal Protection team serving the Kitchener-Waterloo and Stratford-Perth Humane Societies.

“I love it here. I see our officers as ambassadors in the community. While we enforce the city by-laws, we’re also educating people and helping the community and its animals. That’s a big responsibility and we have a good team here.”

In her 30th year in the Animal Welfare Sector, Vivian comes to us from the Welland and

District Humane Society and before that, the Hamilton-Burlington SPCA. When she stepped in on a part-time basis to help out our team in July of 2017, we knew we had a gem. Taking on the full-time position of Manager in December 2017, Vivian has already made an impact here.

“Animal Protection is a key service we provide at AWASCO and we are very fortunate to have Vivian share her expertise in this area with us,” says Kathrin Delutis, Executive Director of AWASCO.

When not working with the animals here, Vivian spends time with her 5-yr old Yorkie – Harley – the love of her life!

At AWASCO, we are proud of our dedicated staff and we are thrilled to now count Vivian among them!

OUR COVER STORY

FLURRY



It is a well-known fact that kittens are, by nature, curious. Curiosity did not kill this little kitten but it did cause him pain and discomfort. Flurry, was brought to our centre in late December. He had somehow managed to stick his head through the large open space in a plastic cold drink lid. No doubt it was the wiggling to free himself that caused more harm. By the time he came to us, the lid had become imbedded around his neck and under his front leg.

Once the lid was removed, the vet team was able to assess his wounds; there was just one deep wound under his right armpit that extended up across his neck and towards the left side. After one week of daily bandage changes and antibiotics, Flurry was scheduled for surgery. It took twenty stitches to close the cut.

Another three weeks passed before the stitches were removed. Flurry's skin has healed quite well and he has been placed with a foster volunteer to continue his recuperation. Regular check-ups with our vet team have indicated that Flurry continues to improve; however he won't be ready for a permanent home for several weeks yet.

Thanks to a Good Samaritan who did not pass by, Flurry now has a chance to live his life free from danger. Thanks to a generous community, we have the funds to provide care for homeless pets that come to us.

“To FOSTER an animal is a GIFT and an act of KINDNESS.” anonymous



It's that time of year when we are looking for foster families who would enjoy having a houseguest ... or two ... or three.

KW and SPHS have a great fostering program.

To learn more about how you can become a foster parent for either of these locations, please visit our websites at:

www.kwhumane.com

www.sphumane.com

Or Contact Stephanie at:
stephanie.schamber@awasco.ca

Follow us on Facebook and Twitter and join the conversation!



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