

Pet Talk



WINTER ISSUE 2018



ANIMAL HOARDING

Sometimes you can have too many pets.

SPHS BEST IN SHOW

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ENRICH YOUR LIFE

Adopting a senior cat will enrich your life with the company of a devoted pet who will never forget your kindness.

Animal Hoarding

SOMETIMES YOU CAN HAVE TOO MANY PETS

As the leader in animal welfare in our communities, the Humane Society is committed to assisting pet owners who struggle with pet issues. Not too long ago, we received a call from a pet owner who recognized that the home situation had escalated from one of too many cats to a hoarding situation. He agreed to surrender more than thirty cats – twenty came to our centre in late September. These pets ranged in age from a few months old to nine years. Their personalities were equally varied – some were extremely shy, others less so, and a few exhibited aggression.



Animal hoarding involves keeping a higher-than-usual number of animals as domestic pets without having the ability to properly house or care for them. Hoarders are deeply attached to their pets and find it extremely difficult to let the pets go. Consequences of hoarding are long-lasting and continue to affect the animals even after they have been rescued and provided with better care.

Malnourishment

Typically, in hoarding situations, pets do not receive sufficient food and water. This leads to increased susceptibility to disease, and the hoarded animals are often in advanced stages of sickness. As with human malnourishment, lack of proper nutrients in pets hinders the healthy development of their bodies.

Overcrowding

Lack of appropriate living space is often accompanied by an unchecked spread of disease among the pets. As well, in hoarding situations where more than one

species is confined to the same living space, animals can pose a danger to one another due to inter-species aggression.

Socialization

Cats, and pets in general, that come from hoarding situations, do not get touched, massaged, cuddled or exercised regularly. As a result, these pets do not readily accept nor easily tolerate tactile contact from humans. This anti-social behaviour presents its own challenges and requires a significant investment of time from the Humane Society staff and our volunteers.

Neglect

Hoarders, unable to recognize the deteriorating health conditions of their animals and scared they will be forced to give up custody, often refuse to take their animals to veterinarians. As a result, diseases are left untreated and allowed to become more severe.

Lasting Effects

The effects of hoarding on the health and socialization of the animals involved are significant and lasting, taking heavy tolls on both their physical and psychological well-being.

Of the twenty cats surrendered in September, most have been given a second chance in a new home. We continue to work on socializing the others. While hoarding situations stretch our resources – both financial and human – we willingly invest into giving these pets a future.

November was National Philanthropy Month. We extend sincere appreciation to our donors, funders, and partners who make it possible for us to care for all pets in need.

KWHS SIGNATURE EVENT **Homeward Bound**



Ross and Bonnie

On the morning of September 11th, 2001 the United States shut down its airspace, leaving dozens of planes and thousands of passengers “stranded in mid-air”. Without hesitating, the tiny airport in Gander Newfoundland opened its runways, taking in 38 wide-body planes on transatlantic flights.

Bonnie Harris, the manager of Gander’s SPCA shelter, shared her experiences of those five days with an audience of animal lovers. KWHS signature event, Homeward Bound, was a sold out affair, raising much needed funds for the Centre’s animal care hospital. In 2017, more than 3200 surgeries were performed by the staff veterinarians. Without community support, pets in need of surgery or treatment of wounds would not receive the immediate attention they need.



Cindy and Bonnie

Cindy Cherry also joined the event to share her positive experience of adopting a dog from the KWHS. An amazing night all round.

SPHS BEST IN SHOW GALA **Celebrated 10 Years**



Mary O'Rourke demonstrates a live auction item

Collectors’ Items on Auction at annual Fundraising Event

On November 21st, the Best In Show Gala celebrated 10 years of raising funds for the SPHS.

Held at the Best Western Plus, Arden Park Hotel and featuring animated hosting by Eddie Matthews and Nancy Culliton, the Best In Show event raised funds for the Stratford Perth Humane Society. The SPHS thanks key sponsors Woodcock Brothers Transport and Chocolate Barr’s for their ongoing support.

For this 10th anniversary, the Best In Show committee collected an amazing array of auction items for both the live and silent auctions. The Rockhound Raffle, generously supported by Swanson’s Jewellers, was back this year as was the jewellery raffle.

All monies raised at this event go to supporting the animals. Each year, the SPHS receives close to 1000 companion animals – dogs, cats, rabbits, birds, and small pets of all descriptions. With an on-site veterinary and full-time medical staff, the SPHS is able to provide immediate care to pets in need.

Thank you to the Stratford and Perth County community for all your support and for making the 2018 Best In Show Gala another great success!

END OF YEAR

Donor Campaign

Winding down 2018 means thinking about New Year's resolutions. Please consider making a donation to the pets in our care one of your resolutions.

Thanks to our donors, more than 2,500 animals find shelter at the Humane Society Animal Welfare Centres. On their behalf, we say "Thank You". Pets like Midnight, Moonlight, Chris, Angus, Nova and Moxie either found new homes or were returned to their grateful owners. Without financial support from our communities, these pets would face uncertain futures.

As we look to 2019, we know the need will grow – our waiting lists are seldom reduced to zero and although our TNR (Trap, Neuter, Release) programs have helped thousands of unowned felines, litters of kittens continue to arrive.

Our goal for this End of Year campaign is to raise \$10,000 for each of our Animal Welfare Centres. With the successful completion of a capital campaign, we were able to construct and open Gloria's Place in Stratford. However, the daily needs of our programs and services rely on your financial support. In Kitchener, maintenance of our facility – now close to thirty years old – requires funding which we struggle to find within our limited budget.

Would you be willing to make a special year-end donation of \$50, \$100 or whatever you can afford to help us meet our goal and support the pets in 2019?

Your support today ensures tomorrow's care for the pets in need.



Drake

ADOPTING A SENIOR CAT Enriches Your Life

Being mature doesn't make these cats old. You won't find them whiling away their days at card parties or sitting on park benches.



Adopting a senior cat will enrich your life with the company of a devoted pet who will never forget your kindness.

You will find them relaxing in their condos here at the Humane Society. With these cats, you know just what you are getting (and not getting).

- You will get a mature, calm and experienced companion.

You won't get a bundle of boundless energy that climbs your curtains or shreds your toilet paper.

- You will be getting a cat with a known personality. These pre-owned pets come with backgrounds.

You won't be getting a young kitten that may or may not settle in to your routine.

- You will be getting a pet that will shower you with love and appreciation. Studies have shown that older cats are extremely grateful to be given that second or third or fourth chance.

With general life expectancy of a cat being 15 to 18 years, these senior members of our adoptable pet parade still have lots of time left to keep you company.

And if you like card parties or sitting on park benches, these lovely pets would be happy to join you.



National CupCake Day

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 25 2019

Whoever said, “Coffee makes it possible to get out of bed. Cupcakes make it worthwhile” was obviously thinking about our National Cupcake Day. We are calling upon bakers and animal lovers alike to make our 2019 event a sweet success. It’s as easy as pie to raise funds and awareness for the animals in our care.

Plan now to make Cupcake Day part of your fundraising in 2019.

Your Cupcake Day can be held on any day in January or February. Funds raised by Cupcake Day remain in your community to support the pets cared for by the Humane Society.

Like our pets, Cupcake Days come in all shapes and sizes. You can bake cupcakes for sale at our Centres or one of our third-party sites. You can take orders from co-workers in advance. You can arrange a Cupcake Day party at your child’s school. Everyone loves a cupcake and Cupcake Day can put a smile on anyone’s face while making them feel good about helping the lost or abandoned pets.

You don’t have to be an expert chef to get involved, so go on – grab your apron and get baking! Email development@sphumane.com or development@kwhumane.com with your name and contact details to register as a Cupcake Host, and receive a poster, bookmarks and recipe ideas to get you started.



Save The Dates

KWHS Photos with Santa at Ren's Pets

December 1, 2, 8 & 9, 2018

KWHS Holiday Camp

January 2 – 4, 2019

National Cupcake Day

February 25, 2019

Holiday Hours

KITCHENER WATERLOO HUMANE SOCIETY

December 24, 2018

Open 9:00 am – 12:00 pm
Adoptions 9:30 am – 11:30 am

December 25 & 26, 2018

Closed to the Public

December 31, 2018

Open 9:00 am – 12:00 pm
Adoptions 9:30 am – 11:30 am

January 1, 2019

Closed to the Public

STRATFORD PERTH HUMANE SOCIETY

December 24, 2018

Open 10:00 am – 12:00 pm
Adoptions 10:00 am – 11:30 am

December 25 & 26, 2018

Closed to the Public

December 31, 2018

Open 10:00 am – 12:00 pm
Adoptions 10:00 am – 11:30 am

January 1, 2019

Closed to the Public

Follow us on Facebook and Twitter and join the conversation!



KITCHENER WATERLOO HUMANE SOCIETY

250 Riverbend Drive
Kitchener, ON N2B 2E9
519-745-5615
info@kwhumane.com

 [KitchenerWaterloo HumaneSociety](https://www.facebook.com/KitchenerWaterlooHumaneSociety)

 [@KWHumane](https://twitter.com/@KWHumane)

 [kwhumane](https://www.instagram.com/kwhumane)

www.kwhumane.com



STRATFORD PERTH HUMANE SOCIETY

125 Griffith Rd
Stratford, ON N5A 6S4
519-273-6600
info@sphumane.com

 [StratfordPerth HumaneSociety](https://www.facebook.com/StratfordPerthHumaneSociety)

 [@SPHumane](https://twitter.com/@SPHumane)

 [SPhumanesociety](https://www.instagram.com/SPhumanesociety)

www.sphumane.com