

# Our Best Friends



## Hypothermic cat beats the odds

### Frozen feline makes remarkable recovery at OHS

A nearly lifeless kitten that arrived at the OHS frozen and barely alive is now happy, warm and healthy in her new adoptive home, thanks to some life-saving technology and quick-thinking staff.

Early in December, an OHS agent rescued the year-old orange tabby — nicknamed Popsicle — from a neighbourhood in Riverside South. She was rushed back to the shelter, where an initial examination revealed a nearly non-existent temperature. Reacting quickly to the potentially fatal situation at hand, a veterinary technician wrapped Popsicle in a Bair Hugger, a forced-air warming blanket designed to safely increase body temperature. The blanket proved to be a lifesaver as it slowly

warmed and restored the animal to consciousness.

During the first crucial hours of the cat's recovery, a veterinary technician came in after hours to monitor her temperature overnight. The day after her rescue, against all odds, Popsicle showed remarkable signs of improvement. And just 24 hours after her arrival, the plucky kitten was almost back to normal, though still underweight, hungry and timid.

Popsicle spent many weeks in an OHS foster home while she regained strength and battled urinary and respiratory infections. Slowly and surely, even Popsicle's purr became "unfrozen", and today the lucky kitten is friendly, playful and affectionate. Popsicle found her forever home just a few weeks ago, and her adoptive mother reports the cat likes nothing more than curling up on a warm bed for a nap.

Popsicle was just one of many animals that came to the OHS suffering the effects of the cold this winter. Luckily, her story has a happy ending thanks to some high-tech tools and low-tech kindness. We encourage you to read on inside these pages for more stories of how technology and donors like you are helping Ottawa's animals.



## Tools of the trade

### New surgical instruments allow OHS veterinarians to help more animals

The OHS recently purchased several new surgical instruments and medical equipment, allowing us to help more animals in our in-house clinic. The new tools include a wire-type bone saw and several different bone-cutting instruments. The implements may sound rudimentary, but they enable us to perform some complex orthopedic procedures on our premises rather than refer animals to local veterinary hospitals.

The most recent beneficiary of this purchase was Dylan, a tiny grey and white kitten brought to us with a severely injured leg. Not only was the leg fractured, it was missing most of its skin — an injury referred to as "degloving". The OHS veterinarian speculated that Dylan may have been taking shelter under the hood of a warm car and when the car's engine started, his leg became caught in the fan belt.

In spite of the obvious trauma he had endured, Dylan proved to be a sweet patient. However, the damage to Dylan's leg was so severe that it had to be amputated.

*Continued on Page 3....*

## CONTACT NUMBERS

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Emergency 613-725-1532  
Lost & Found 613-725-9998  
Fax 613-725-5674  
Dispatch/General Info ext. 221

### Departmental Extensions:

Adoptions ext. 258  
Lost & Found 223  
Fostering 255  
Investigations 224  
Administrative Assistant 233  
Executive Director 232  
Tax Receipts & Donations 252  
Special Events 333  
Community Events 263  
Finance 230  
Humane Education 235  
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Media 261

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## OHS NEWSLETTER

### Editor:

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volunteers & supporters

If you have a story idea or comment, please contact [editor@ottawahumane.ca](mailto:editor@ottawahumane.ca) via e-mail or by mail to the OHS Newsletter Editor. Submissions of pictures and articles are welcome; however, they may not necessarily be used. Articles may be edited for length and content.

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# FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DESK

## High-tech help

Okay — I admit it. I love technology. I especially love technology when it helps the OHS provide better, safer, and more efficient services for Ottawa's animals and for our community. Believe it or not, the OHS has become quite a technologically-advanced organization in the last five years. Luckily, over that same time period, the costs of obtaining those tools have become much more reasonable. Here are a few examples of how technology helps us help the animals.

Our Chameleon animal database tracks all of our animals and emergency calls, produces our adoption contracts, and even serves as a cash register in our store. And more importantly for me, the program produces statistics and trends, allowing for analysis, planning and intervention for emerging problems.

One of our more public faces, our website is a very valuable piece of technology, allowing our community quick access to our programs and services as well as animal welfare information. The very popular animals for adoption section is automatically updated and receives over a thousand hits a day and has greatly reduced the time an animal waits to be adopted.

Safety is a primary concern at the OHS, particularly for our staff on the road rescuing animals in distress and investigating allegations of animal cruelty and neglect. Special cell phones with instant access to the dispatcher allow these staff to remain in easy contact in potentially dangerous circumstances. Mobile laptops allow Emergency Animal Protection Services (EAPS) agents and inspectors to look up animal and people records in our database without returning to the shelter, allowing the staff member to know in many cases if they are entering a potentially volatile situation.

Our vehicles are equipped with GPS technology, enabling our staff to find a location and the most direct route to get there, allowing a faster emergency response for animals in crisis.

For professional development, the advent of "webinars" — internet based workshops and training — allow all OHS staff inexpensive and often free access to world-class experts and trainers that would be otherwise cost-prohibitive.

Of course, connecting with our supporters and the community is an important part of our work. We have just passed the one-year anniversary of our e-bulletin, a virtual newsletter sent to all our supporters that have provided us email addresses. The e-bulletin is a fast and inexpensive way for the OHS to disseminate information about our work and about important animal welfare issues.

At the end of the day, all technologies are really just tools and we make careful investment choices about which ones can help the most animals..

No matter how advanced, these tools will never replace compassion and good animal care practices. Used effectively though, they are a valuable means to help the OHS help Ottawa's animals.



**Bruce Roney**  
Executive Director



# Online reunions

## Connecting worried families and lost pets over the internet

There are few situations more worrying than when a pet goes missing. While traditional search methods are sometimes effective, an online tool from the OHS can also reunite worried families with lost pets without the animal ever setting foot inside the shelter. That's what happened recently when two neighbours in the Fisher Glen area each visited the OHS website and created a happy ending for a lost dog.



**OHS lost and found staff use online descriptions and photos of missing or found animals to successfully reunite families.**

On a snowy afternoon in early January, Gary Curran returned home from an errand when he spotted a tiny white dog wandering amongst traffic. Curran scooped up the collarless dog and started a door-to-door search of his neighbourhood in hopes of locating an owner.

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### **An online tool from the OHS can reunite families with lost pets without the animal ever setting foot inside the shelter.**

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After failing to find anyone at home, Curran took the dog back to his house, where he busily set about making signs containing a description of the dog. He then visited his neighbours again, leaving signs on doors and even pasting one on the street's community mailbox.

Later that evening, with the signs drawing no response, Curran took the dog to his local veterinary clinic, where a technician scanned the animal for a microchip. When no chip was found,

Curran called the OHS, where a staff member asked him to fill out an online found report on the organization's website.

That same night, Ottawa resident Susan Novo noticed her family's seven-month-old Shih Tzu was missing when she returned home from work. Frantic with worry, Novo soon discovered that the day's high winds had blown open the family's fence, allowing the young dog — who

was briefly outside without his collar because of an impending visit to the groomer — to escape. After a search of her neighbourhood yielded no results, Novo and her husband turned to the OHS website for help. There they found and filled out an online lost report for the dog, listing distinguishing characteristics and contact information.

The next morning, an OHS staff member received both the lost and found reports and made an instant connection. She contacted both parties and put them in touch. By Thursday afternoon, Mushu was back home at the Novo house.

Novo says she's amazed at the efficiency of the service and was relieved that she and her children only had one night apart from the family pet. Curran says he too was impressed with the ease of the online reporting function.

Each year, the OHS reunites over a thousand lost animals with their owners. Now, thanks to the internet and the clever matching skills of our staff, some of those reunions will be only a mouse click away!



# Tools of the trade

.....Continued from Page 1

As the surgery was able to be performed in our clinic, Dylan did not have to be moved, and the same veterinarian was able to oversee his treatment from beginning to end. Also, the cost to the OHS was significantly less than if the surgery had been referred to a private veterinary hospital.

The purchase of these new instruments allows us to provide animals with continuity of care, decrease the wait time for surgery, and eliminate the need to transport an injured animal to an outside hospital. The decrease in cost will allow us to treat more animals requiring these types of surgeries in the future.

Dylan continues to recover from his surgery and a pesky eye infection in a caring foster home. His wounds are healing, and he's learning to move around on three legs. Luckily, his sweet disposition survived the surgery, and Dylan's foster parent tells us he is quickly turning into a playful little kitten once again.



**Dylan came to the OHS with a severely damaged front leg. Dylan's leg had to be amputated, but thanks to some new equipment in the OHS clinic, he was able to be treated in-house and received consistent veterinary care throughout his ordeal.**

# Clickable companions

## How the OHS website helps find animals new homes

We get many compliments about the descriptions and pictures of animals available for adoption on our website. If you're a frequent visitor to [www.ottawahumane.ca](http://www.ottawahumane.ca), you'll know that the profiles change regularly as animals come into the shelter or find new homes.

So how are we able to keep so current? It's all thanks to a successful combination of creative staff and intelligent technology.

Here are some answers to the frequently asked questions about the adoption section of the OHS website.

### Who takes the photos of the animals for adoption?

Many people do! Every animal that comes into the shelter has its picture taken upon admission. If the animal requires grooming or medical care, adoption centre staff or volunteers retake the photos before the animal is made available for adoption. This way we retain 'before and after' images of our animal models!

We also rely on volunteer photographers for their expertise. If you're interested in giving your time to take pictures of our animals and have some photography experience, please contact our Volunteer Manager at 613-725-3166 ext. 231 or e-mail [christinew@ottawahumane.ca](mailto:christinew@ottawahumane.ca).

### Who writes the descriptions for the animals?

Either the behaviour department or adoption centre staff write the animal profiles, using information from internal assessments and observations on the animal, or anecdotes from foster parents and previous owners.

### Who does the updating?

Our website is updated electronically using a shelter database called Chameleon. This software application

integrates all of our day-to-day operations, including photos and profiles.

### So how does information go from Chameleon to the website?

The process includes Pet Harbor, a not-for-profit system that connects the general public to animal shelters, SPCAs, and humane societies throughout North America. Pet Harbor is designed and maintained by the creators of Chameleon and the two programs work together.

By imbedding Pet Harbor code into our website, we're able to easily profile the animals without manually making changes each time an animal becomes available for adoption, or finds a new home.

OHS animals will soon be seen on local Dogbook and Catbook applications on Facebook using this same technology.

### How often is the website updated?

Adoption information is updated five times daily, beginning at 10 a.m. each day, then once every two hours, seven days a week. This automatic system saves hours of staff time that would otherwise be devoted to uploading information to the web, meaning more time for the animals in our care! 🐾



Lance was one of the animals profiled on the OHS website. Thanks to a great picture and descriptive profile, it wasn't long before Lance found a new home.



## OHS Humane Education Resource Kits for sale

Are you a teacher, or do you have school-aged children? Our Humane Education resource kits are a great way to teach children the tenets of responsible animal ownership and provide valuable information like dog-bite prevention and the issue of cosmetic testing on animals. The kit includes material from our highly-regarded school program,

along with a corresponding video and activity sheets.

The kits are a wonderful tool for teaching kindness and problem-solving skills to students in JK to Grade 8.

The kits sell for \$150 plus GST.

To order your copy, please contact the OHS Humane Education Coordinator at 613-725-3166 ext. 235 or e-mail [taran@ottawahumane.ca](mailto:taran@ottawahumane.ca)

# A promise to the animals

## How leaving a legacy gift can help the animals of tomorrow

For Tom and Lieselot Scales, a life without animals is a life not worth living. Over the years, the pair have shared their lives with dogs, cats, rabbits, mice and even a tortoise. That history of caring for animals will now carry on in the future, as the Scales have left a gift in their will to benefit the Ottawa Humane Society. Their decision will help homeless, abandoned, injured and neglected animals in our community for years to come.

The cat-owning couple, both originally from Europe, say the choice to make a gift to the animals was an easy one.

“We know that people don’t often think about leaving gifts to animals,” explains Lieselot, “but we think of it as a duty. We’re leaving a gift for a group in our society that can’t speak for themselves.”

The Scales currently share their home with Sam, a nine-year-old cat adopted from the OHS. Sam spends his days sunning himself in the window of the Scales’ high-rise apartment building, providing non-stop companionship and enjoyment to the retired pair.

“Sam wakes us up in the morning and he keeps us going,” says Lieselot. “He’s a complete joy and I would feel completely lost without him.”

Sam even adds some unseen benefits as well. “We certainly don’t have high blood pressure and we don’t take pills,”

jokes Tom. “I think that’s all down to Sam.”

As longtime supporters of the OHS, the Scales say that legacy giving was something they’d always thought about doing. It wasn’t until a letter arrived in the mail explaining OHS gift options that they decided to formalize the process.

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**“We know that people don’t often think of leaving gifts to the animals, but we think of it as a duty.”**

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Lieselot says signing up for the legacy giving program and having the will altered was an easy procedure, adding that having the paperwork sorted out puts her mind at ease.

“We’re pleased because we know it’s done,” she says. “We won’t be leaving an empty promise to the animals.”

The Scales’ gift will go to help the 11,000 animals that come through the doors of the Ottawa Humane Society each and every year.

For more information on leaving your own legacy gift to the animals, please contact Monique Archambault at 613-725-3166 ext. 268, or e-mail [moniquea@ottawahumane.ca](mailto:moniquea@ottawahumane.ca).



**Tom and Lieselot Scales, with their adopted cat Sam, say a concern for the future welfare of animals in our community prompted them to leave a gift in their will through the OHS legacy giving program.**



## Don't Forget



### Remember your pet when planning your estate

The Ottawa Humane Society has established our Pet Stewardship Program to take the worry out of your pet's future. This program was created to ensure that your pet is cared for in a loving home in the event of your death or inability to provide care to your best friend.

Call Monique

**613-725-3166**

ext **268**



Ottawa Humane Society

[www.ottawahumane.ca](http://www.ottawahumane.ca)

## Chip your pet!

OHS monthly microchip clinics are held Sundays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Make an appointment by calling 613-725-3166 ext. 221, or e-mailing [microchip@ottawahumane.ca](mailto:microchip@ottawahumane.ca)

April 20	Aug. 17
May 25	Sept. 21
June 22	Oct. 19
July 20	Nov. 16

Cost is \$45, incl. GST



**While high-tech solutions are wonderful, sometimes low-tech is the only answer. When staff realized stray cats became stressed by looking at cages of other cats across the room, they came up with a solution of hanging a shower curtain divider. Now the cats can look at plastic fish instead of each other, and they're more relaxed — though no doubt their appetite for a fish supper has increased!**

## FurBall fun for the animals!

### Sold out event a record breaking fundraiser for the OHS

The Ottawa Humane Society held its fourth annual FurBall on Saturday March 29, 2008 at the National Gallery of Canada. The sold out event raised \$119,000! We would like to thank all of the over 300 attendees and the generous sponsors who helped make this evening a successful one for the animals in our care.

The event was again hosted by honorary chair Mrs. Laureen Harper and featured the entertainment of Deborah Davis and her band Segue to Jazz. Guests enjoyed a visit from the Brightening Lives animals and their companions,

who paraded through the dining and dance areas, garnering applause and pats along the way.

Special appreciation to Christina Gillies and

Elizabeth Aucoin who played major roles and put in countless hours planning this special event along with other members of the organizing committee. Thank you as well to emcees Sandy Sharkey from Bob-FM and the Honourable Jim Watson who enthusiastically helped raise money for the animals via our live auction.



**FurBall guests enjoyed a visit from some of the Brightening Lives animals and their volunteer companions.**



## Answering frequently asked questions about the Ontario SPCA and the OHS

### What is the OSPCA?

The OSPCA stands for the Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. Under the OSPCA Act, the OSPCA is empowered to investigate animal cruelty in Ontario. It is made up of affiliates and branches.

### What is the difference between affiliates and branches of the OSPCA?

Affiliates (like the OHS) are independent humane societies with their own boards of directors, staff, budgets, etc. Branches report to the OSPCA directly, have OSPCA staff and are given a budget directly by the OSPCA. Branches generally have community advisory boards.

### How is the Ottawa Humane Society (OHS) associated with the OSPCA?

The OHS is an affiliated member of the OSPCA. The OHS pays annual dues of \$3,000 and has voting rights as a member. Currently, the OHS Executive Director sits on the OSPCA board as its first vice-president. As one of the largest affiliated members, the OHS has generally had a board member nominated and elected to the OSPCA board.

### What does the OSPCA do in Ottawa and for the OHS?

The OSPCA provides basic training and accreditation for our animal cruelty inspectors and agents, and is available as a resource for information about animal cruelty investigations. As well, the

OHS relies on the OSPCA to address province-wide issues with the provincial government.

### Does the OSPCA fund the OHS?

No, neither the OSPCA nor the provincial government fund the OHS. Other than the basic training for OHS investigation staff, all other expenses related to investigations of animal cruelty, including salaries, vehicles, care of animals in the case of removals, etc. are borne by the OHS and our donors. The OSPCA provides no animal sheltering or care in Ottawa.

For more information about the OSPCA, visit their website at [www.ontariospca.ca](http://www.ontariospca.ca).



# Investigations in the 21st century

## How technology helps animals in need

The world of emergency animal rescues has changed over the years, even if the laws have not. One of the most significant changes is that the public is growing increasingly conscious of crimes against animals in our society. This is due in part to high-profile media stories and television programs that have helped move awareness of these issues out of the local domain to reach a much-

wider audience.

While technology is helping to publicize the plight of abused animals, it's also helping them get rescued. Over the past 20 years, with better access to computers and technology, local SPCAs have been able to build large databases of information regarding investigations into animal cruelty and neglect.

*Continued on Page 11.....*



**A GPS tracking system is just one of the tools that help OHS agents rescue animals faster.**

## COURT UPDATES

### **David Bullied and Jennifer Jones:**

Charged in September 2007 with wilfully causing unnecessary pain and suffering to their 15-year-old Shepherd/Akita mix dog and wilfully failing to provide adequate care for their dog. Both accused pled guilty on Feb. 1, 2008 and were given a conditional discharge whereby they cannot own any animals for three years.

**Frank Carwardine:** Charged in August 2007 with unlawfully killing his adult daughter's cat and wilfully causing unnecessary pain and suffering to the cat. Mr. Carwardine pled guilty to killing an animal without lawful excuse. He was handed a conditional discharge on Jan. 24, 2008 with a two-year probation whereby he must submit to anger and alcohol assessments and treatment if necessary, pay the Ottawa Humane Society \$500 and allow OHS investigators access to all his property and animals to ensure their well-being.

**Yves Levergneux:** Charged in June 2007 with wilfully causing pain and suffering to his Mastiff-type dog and wilfully failing to provide adequate care by leaving it to die in a hot truck. Mr. Levergneux pled guilty on Nov. 7, 2007 to failing to provide adequate care for his dog and was fined \$300.

**Doug and Ron Stinson:** Charged in June 2006 with two counts of animal cruelty after failing to provide adequate care for a dairy cow. On January 28, 2008 the charges against the Stinsons

were withdrawn following full compliance of orders imposed by the courts stipulating that Mr. Stinson obtain two satisfactory veterinary inspections of his farm in the previous six months, that he make a payment to charity (\$500), and that he perform 75 hours of community service with the local 4H club.

### **Pending Cases**

**Daniel Bordeau:** Charged in October 2007 with wilfully causing unnecessary pain and suffering to his cat and wilfully failing to provide suitable and adequate care of the cat by allegedly beating it to death with a broom handle. Trial set for Oct. 28, 2008.

**Mavis Doak:** Charged in March 2007 with wilfully causing pain and suffering to her five-year-old German Shepherd-type dog and wilfully failing to provide adequate care for the dog. Ms. Doak did not show up for her December court appearance and now faces a bench warrant for her arrest.

**Steve Gagnon:** Charged in June 2006 with wilfully causing pain and suffering to nine Husky/Shepherd-type puppies and wilfully failing to provide adequate and suitable care for the puppies. Next court appearance is June 30, 2008.

**Kumari Karunaratne:** Charged in October 2007 with two counts of animal cruelty after allegedly leaving her Husky-type dog in a car in 37°C weather in June 2007. Appeared in court Feb. 19, 2008.

**Rob Shears:** Charged in March 2007 with wilfully causing unnecessary pain and suffering to his four-month-old Pitbull-type dog and wilfully failing to provide adequate care for the dog. Trial set for Sept. 18, 2008.

### **Roger Trudel and Rachael Trudel:**

Charged in August 2007 with four counts of animal cruelty after allegedly tossing a five-week-old kitten from a moving vehicle. Appeared in court Feb. 21, 2008.

### **New Charges**

**Jake Levert:** Charged March 7, 2008 with two counts of animal cruelty after allegedly throwing a cat from a second storey window. The cat suffered a fractured leg from the fall and was surrendered to OHS the next day. First court appearance is April 16, 2008.

**Elizabeth Shaw and Jesse Duhaime:** Charged in December, 2007 with two counts of animal cruelty after the kitten was surrendered to the Ottawa Humane Society with head trauma and signs of strangulation. First appearance before the court was Jan. 22, 2008.

*Although legally mandated to enforce the animal cruelty provisions of the Criminal Code of Canada, the OHS does not receive any government funding, or funding from any animal welfare group, to perform this essential work.*

*(Results of some of these court appearances were not available by press time.)*

# DEAR PUMPKIN



## Practical advice for companion animal owners

Dear Pumpkin,

We are thinking of getting a pet in the next few months and we're torn between looking through advertisements or at the OHS. We really want a great pet that will fit in with our family. Can you help us please?

Signed,

Emily and family

Dear Emily,

Each day at the OHS I hear stories about people who make the difficult decision to give up their family pet after they got the animal through an online or newspaper advertisement.

The biggest problem with these 'free to good home ads' is that they are often placed by people who withhold important information about why they're giving up the animal. In so many of these cases, the reason is that the animal has

a health or behaviour problem that the owner does not know how to cope with. The well-meaning person who answers the ad ends up having these problems passed on.

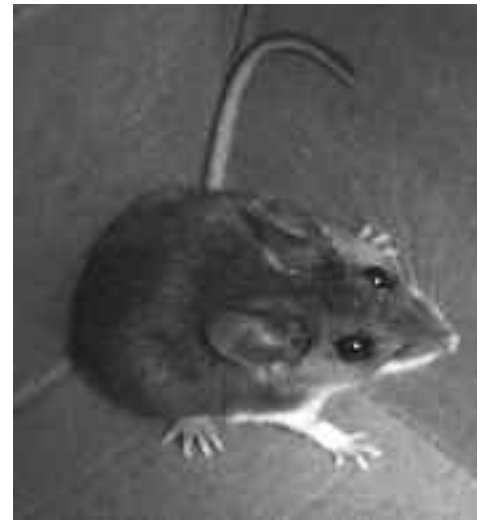
Call me biased, but I always recommend adopting a furry (or feathered!) friend from the OHS. All of our animals are assessed for health and temperament, spayed or neutered, vaccinated, microchipped, defleaed and dewormed. The OHS staff also offer pre and post-adoption counselling, which is helpful for first-time pet owners!

So come and visit my human friends at the OHS, Emily. They're your best bet to help you find YOUR best animal friend.

And don't forget to view our animals online at [www.ottawahumane.ca](http://www.ottawahumane.ca)!

Luv & Purrs,

Pumpkin



**This wee wild mouse came into our shelter in a most unusual way shortly after the Christmas holidays. He was trapped inside a toaster and his finder brought the appliance in to us for a humane rescue. OHS technicians were able to free the little guy safely, much to the relief of the finder and his young granddaughter. Staff nicknamed the mouse 'Toastie' and he was set free shortly after his ordeal. The finder thanked us and after deciding he didn't want his morning bagels infused with rodent, left his toaster behind!**

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The draw for the Ottawa Humane Society Warm Hearts Raffle took place on Feb. 14, 2008. The lucky winners are:

- Kristeen Walker from Ashton who on Jan. 14, 2008 won the "Early Bird" prize of a \$500 shopping gift card from HBC (The Bay, Zellers, Home Outfitters).
- Yvette Lachapelle from Orleans receives the third prize of a week-end for two at Chateau Montebello.
- Lois Manning from Ottawa will enjoy watching their 40" Sony LCD TV.
- Terri Bolster from Gloucester will spend New Year's 2009 in Las Vegas at the Hilton Grand Vacations Club at the Flamingo.

Congratulations to our four winners and thank you to all who purchased tickets. The Ottawa Humane Society sold a record number of tickets and raised over \$38,000 for the animals!

# COMMUNITY KUDOS

We are very fortunate to be the beneficiary of many fundraising activities and events hosted by Ottawa businesses, groups and individuals like you!



**The Ottawa Folklore Centre's choir Folka Voca** held their second annual Holiday concert on Jan. 26, 2008. After a December concert was cancelled due to inclement weather, the concert's organizer Alan Marsden managed to put together another concert in a little over a month! The OHS is indeed grateful to Alan, Folka Voca and the Ottawa Folklore Centre for such an outstanding effort in support of the animals. Over \$2,000 was raised! Thank you!



**Tweed & Hickory's** holiday gift wrapping program for the animals raised over \$1,400! The staff and the clients of Tweed & Hickory are to be applauded for their continued enthusiasm and support — thank you for helping us take care of the animals!



There is a wonderful group of people who call themselves “**Critter Crafters**”. This dedicated and talented group works very hard throughout the year to create a variety of craft items to sell at local craft shows. One hundred per cent of the proceeds are donated to the OHS. Last year, the Critter Crafters raised \$7,000 — thank you for your unfaltering support!



The **Kanata Singles Club** decided to donate \$500 to the OHS from one of their dances over the holiday season. Thank you for thinking of the animals!



Also over the holiday season, employees at **Lee Valley Tools Ltd.** generously donated \$1,200 to support the animals! Thank you for caring!



Several times a year, employees at **bitHeads** raise funds and then decide on a charity to direct the funds. In December 2007, they chose the OHS! Thank you for your kind gift of \$985!



Thank you to the **RCMP Departmental Security Branch** for raising \$500 in 2007! Their staff decided to donate the proceeds from their “dress down Fridays” to the animals in our care.



**Minitel Communications Corporation** donated a data line and its installation as part of a new voicemail system we purchased at the end of last year — a \$300 value. Thank you for helping us help the animals!



We'd like to send wags and purrs to funds raised by:

Zoë K. and James W.  
Jordanna T.

Victoria and Francesca F.  
Adams Orthodontics  
Stephanie C.

Tia and Christopher I.  
Tracy T. and the Yule Craft Fair  
Guardian Angels Catholic School  
Olivia V.

St. Patrick's High School  
Ashbury College  
Sarah M. and Elmwood School

## Customized giving to the OHS

### Create personal donation options in lieu of gifts at your next event or party

James Ward and Zoë Khoe met and fell in love thanks to their dogs — two adored beagles named Boomer and Ruben. When planning their wedding, both James and Zoë decided to ask their guests to send a donation to the Ottawa Humane Society in lieu of gifts.

When the couple contacted the OHS, we offered to create a customized donation form — complete with a picture of Boomer and Ruben — to send out with the wedding invitations to make it easy

for guests to contribute. “We wanted to do something in celebration of our dogs since they were the ones who brought us together in the first place,” says James. “Helping animals in need comes naturally to us and we knew that our friends

and family would support our decision wholeheartedly.”

That decision raised over \$1,600 for the animals in our care. Thank you James and Zoë for celebrating your wedding day in such a generous and kind way!

**Our animals thank you for caring!**

Please accept my gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

First & Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_, Province: \_\_\_\_\_, Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel. Work: \_\_\_\_\_ Home: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Gifts of \$10 or more will be issued in tax receipt

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

CASH  VISA  M/C  AMEX  CHEQUE Payable to: Ottawa Humane Society

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp: \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Please fill out this form and give your donation to the event organizer or mail to 301 Chappin Ave. S. Ottawa, ON K1S 5P7

For more information on creating a personalized donation form for your next party or event, contact the OHS community events department at 613-725-3166 ext. 263 or e-mail [candicen@ottawahumane.ca](mailto:candicen@ottawahumane.ca)



# LETTERS

A small Jack Russell terrier mix came to live with me over the Christmas and New Year period and claimed a part of my heart within two days. My sadness at saying goodbye to him today after a three-week foster stay has inspired me to share what a lovely little gent he is in the hopes that someone will recognize in him a spunky little guy that they could share their life with.

The name he was given at the Humane Society was Brillo (probably because of his wiry coat) but he soon became Badger at my house. When seen from a human height looking down, his black face with a narrow white stripe down the middle just suggested a badger to me.

What was so special about Badger that I am inspired to write about him?

Number one, he was a mannerly little gent. He didn't growl if I or my granddaughter came too close, he played gently, he very quietly asked for affection by putting his beautiful little head down, and he had to be invited and encouraged to come up on the sofa or my bed (where he slept at night most

of the time). He recognized the gentlest correction such as a wagging finger if he needed it, which was very seldom. On the other hand, he could get into some very spirited and energetic play with someone younger and loved it!

Another plus for Badger was his complete reliability on being left alone in the house. He never touched anything



that wasn't his, such as my slippers, and played only with his own toys.

Did this little paragon have any faults? You betcha! The worst was his single-minded pursuit of prey. If ever there was a dog looking to get skunked, this is he! He has to be kept on the leash at all times or else he will be off and gone in pursuit. Good luck with catching him!

Badger worked his way into my heart, and if it weren't for my physical limitations he would be living here now with me. But he needs more exercise than I can provide, so reluctantly (and a bit tearfully) I had to take him back this afternoon hoping that someone can be found who will love him and appreciate this great little guy for the really wonderful companion he is. Goodbye Badger, and good luck.

*Madeleine Whitfield*

Editor's note: Badger (a.k.a. Brillo) was happily adopted into a new home at the end of January.

## Double your gifts to the animals!

Many companies have established a matching gifts program where they match donations that their employees make to the Ottawa Humane Society. Some of the larger local companies include Scotiabank, Telus, BMO, Home Depot, American Express, IBM, MBNA, Adobe and Dell.

Companies use various methods to submit matching gifts, including online, by phone or on paper. If your company uses a paper form, complete and sign it, and send a copy to the Ottawa Humane Society. We'll do the rest.

If you are interested in knowing if your company offers this type of program, contact your Human Resources department.

Double your gift to the OHS and make double the difference for Ottawa's animals!

For more information on this giving option, visit [www.ottawahumane.ca/employeematchinggifts.html](http://www.ottawahumane.ca/employeematchinggifts.html).



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The 9th Annual Fore the Animals Charity Golf Tournament will be held at Manderley on the Green golf course on Thursday June 12, 2008. The cost is only \$125 per golfer and it includes golf, power cart, lunch and dinner.

Register online for your and your four-some at [www.ottawahumane.ca](http://www.ottawahumane.ca)!

If you or your company are interested in sponsoring or advertising at this fun event, please contact Shelley Callaghan at [purpledog@sympatico.ca](mailto:purpledog@sympatico.ca). 🐾



## Investigations in the 21st century

.....Continued from Page 7

These tools allow agents to record addresses where abuse or neglect have taken place, and share that information between agencies through e-mail and the internet. With a press of a button, agents can view detailed complaint histories instead of relying on paper records or the memory of agents and inspectors who may have dealt with an individual before. This allows for more efficient, timely investigations that result in animals getting help faster.

Other high-tech gear such as GPS tracking systems, licence plate look-ups, digital photography and wireless internet connections help OHS agents conduct

the daily business of investigating cruelty and neglect and build strong criminal cases in the courts. And while machines and gadgets will never replace the people who care for animals, these technologies help us do a better job of protecting animals in our community and keeping them safe. 🐾



## AUXILIARY UPDATE

Sales of our 2008 "Pets on Parade" calendar, the spring bazaar, quite a number of garage sales, and over \$5,000 in sales of crafts all helped to make 2007 another successful year of fundraising for the Auxiliary. All the money we raise goes to support the animals at the Ottawa Humane Society.

Sadly, the 2008 calendar marked the last one we will be producing. Thank you to all our calendar supporters.

Our members are currently hard at work on a new project for the summer. We will be holding a gardening event, "Blooms and Berries", featuring horticultural expert Ed Lawrence as our

guest speaker. After Ed gives his talk and takes questions from the audience, we will be serving strawberry shortcake. The event will be held on Sunday, June 22 from noon to 4 p.m. at the Glebe Community Centre. Look for information about buying your tickets as well as details about our other future events on the OHS website ([www.ottawahumane.ca](http://www.ottawahumane.ca)).

Our monthly meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month at 1:30 p.m. at the Great Canadian Superstore on Richmond Road. We are always looking for new members. After the meeting, refreshments are served. For more information, call 613-825-1621.

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- Please provide me with more information on leaving a gift to the OHS in my Will.

Please cut out and mail back to the OHS in envelope provided.

Charitable registration #123264715 RR0001



Grade 1 and 2 students at Morewood Public School were so touched by the story of Popsicle the cat (see cover story on Page 1) that the class wrote a letter to Popsicle and each student drew a picture of the tiny cat to accompany the package. OHS staff were so appreciative of the gesture that we brought Popsicle to visit the class shortly before Christmas. Pictured here are some of the students giving Popsicle lots of much-needed love and attention.

Thank you to the students for showing such care and compassion to all the animals in our care!



Spring 2008

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