



LINCOLN COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY

“Protecting And Caring For Animals Since 1881”

Newsletter

Fall • Winter 2012/2013

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Together We Can End Animal Euthanasia

As this community’s animal welfare agency, the Lincoln County Humane Society takes no pleasure in euthanizing animals.

We are in this line of work because we love animals, and we prefer to find healthy, adoptable pets a home. Humane euthanasia is a last resort.

It is our goal to no longer euthanize healthy and adoptable animals, but this cannot be realistically achieved with a blanket “No Kill” policy decreeing it to be so.

Getting there is a process.

The term “no kill” is a contentious one, but it is important to first consider the ramifications of such a policy. For the humane society, it would mean one of two things.

We either shut our doors to all new animals coming in — no strays will be picked up, pet owners would have nowhere to take animals that are no longer wanted; or we become a de facto warehouse of animals, where they are kept alive at any cost — regardless of poor medical health or adoption prospects — and despite the emotional and behavioural suffering caused from living in a cage for years.

Neither option is in the best interests of the animals. Even the animal activists People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) are of the same opinion.

Rather, we want to see a community where there is no need to euthanize healthy and adoptable animals. It would be better for our shelter, better for our neighbourhoods and, most importantly, better for the animals.

We are making progress.

Our adoptions from January to September have increased 86 per cent over the same period last year, in part because we are engaging in more weekend adoption efforts and because we are heavily subsidizing adoption fees. We do this because we want to see our animals in loving homes, not euthanized to make room for more strays coming into the shelter.

We also have four satellite adoption locations, actively seek foster homes for our animals and engage with community partners to spread awareness and create new opportunities for people to adopt pets.

But the humane society cannot do this in a vacuum. It is an effort that requires the support of our community and the engagement of our political leaders.

Continued on page 3

NEW POSTAL CODE FOR LCHS – NOVEMBER 19, 2012 OUR NEW POSTAL CODE IS L2S 0B6



Happy Tails

Kora & Kim's Canadian Adventure

In October, 2012 the Lincoln County Humane Society had the pleasure of having two beautiful American girls stay with us. We were introduced to them as Kim and Missy. Kim is part Rottweiler and Missy is part Yellow Labrador. We were contacted by a woman who rescues dogs from shelters in the U.S that have limited resources to re-home animals. She then transports them to other shelters with a greater chance of finding adopters for these animals. Both dogs had a



Kora in her new home

doubtful future without the intervention of their rescuer. The shelter they came from in North Carolina is only able to hold dogs for one week and their time was running out. When Kim and Missy arrived here, both were fearful and stressed, hungry and tired but their chances had just improved one hundred percent! We kept them out of the adoption kennel for a few weeks to get them adjusted to the new environment while our volunteers worked on reducing their fear issues. Kim and Missy turned out to be very friendly dogs when they realized we would not harm them. Once adjusted, we placed them in our adoption kennel and both were adopted immediately. Missy had been spotted by her adopter before she even made it into the cage and one of our own volunteers adopted Kim. Missy has been renamed Kora and her adopters report she is settling in well. Kim's adopter tells us his older dog has taken on the responsibility of teaching Kim the household rules and routines.

We are thankful that dogs have this ability to adjust and heal once they are in the right environment. Our hope is that all of Missy(Kora) and Kim's memories of their past life have vanished and now know that they are safe and loved. We wish this could be the story for every animal.

Jean Hampson, *Senior Animal Care Technician*

"ETHEL" Update

In late October of 2012 we received a stray boxer cross dog found in a rural area of Lincoln who had a pronounced limp. Our shelter staff sent her for emergency medical care at Martindale Animal Clinic, where it was determined her rear right leg had been broken, presumably by being hit by a car. The price for Ethel's care would be approximately \$2,500.00. Ethel, as our shelter staff had named her, would need to be given extra care while recovering, but the biggest hurdle to her recovery was the financial cost of the surgery.

With the help of our local paper, an appeal was made to the public to help fund Ethel's surgery and care. Dr. Jim Turpel had offered to perform the surgery at a 50% discount, but additional finances would still be required. The outpouring of support, both financial and emotional from our community was overwhelming. It has been heart warming to the staff and volunteers at the Lincoln County Humane Society to feel the support from our local residents. To date over \$13,000 has been raised. Amazing! Any funds over and above Ethel's current medical requirements has been directed to our "Lady & Tramp" fund. This fund was established in 2007 to provide for stray animals in our shelter who require medical treatment that we would not normally be able to financially provide.

Ethel is currently recovering from her surgery in a foster home. Inquiries have already been received for her adoption. Our goal is for her full recovery and adoption into a loving forever home.

Many people ask us how Ethel's owners could simply abandon her. That is a question we face each and every day at the Lincoln County Humane Society. We are asked how we can do our jobs, and face this. The question should actually be, "How can we not?". Please keep our staff, volunteers and the animals we care for each and every day in your thoughts and prayers over the year ahead.

LINCOLN COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY

160 Fourth Avenue, St. Catharines, ON L2S 0B6 • Tel: 905-682-0767 • www.lchs.ca

Annual Tail Waggin' Walk-a-thon

On October 13th, the annual Lincoln County Humane Society Tail Waggin' Walk-a-Thon was held at Burgoyne Woods in St. Catharines. The weather was brisk, and luckily the rain held out. Many people participated with their dogs, and many of our shelter dogs got to spend the day walking in the woods with some of our volunteer dog walkers.

Around \$3,200 was raised, and this money will go directly towards the dog walker's fund, as well as the cat foster program. The day included a great penny sale, live music by the local band Burnt Toast, cupcakes from The Frosted Cupcake, and pizza from Bella Noella's.

Thank you to Megan and Vivi for organizing this event and Thank you to all of the participants in the event, as well as all the volunteers, who took the time to come out and help raise money for the shelter animals.

Several businesses were an integral part of this events success. We are very grateful for the support of: the Tim Horton's on 4th Avenue and the Starbucks on 4th Ave, as well as every generous business who donated a prize for our penny sale.

We look forward to another successful walkathon next year!





Jim Bradley, MPP
St. Catharines

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We Can End Animal Euthanasia Continued

We simply have to do a better job controlling and reducing our pet population.

In December, the Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (OSPCA) will open a spay/neuter clinic at our Fourth Avenue facility, which will also help facilitate a trap-spay/neuter-release program.

City council can show leadership by considering regulations to help control pet populations, like expanded licensing and spay/neuter bylaws, or can look at what it can do to help with the cost of spaying and neutering pets. It is also important to remember the humane society is bound by a contract with the city to pick up strays. This puts constant pressure on the resources of our shelter, including our capacity that, unfortunately, results in the need for euthanasia. It underscores the need for pet owners to show more responsibility to look after their animals.

"No Kill" is not a viable option, but it is certainly possible to end euthanasia of healthy, adoptable animals. Together, as a community, we can.

Kevin Strooband, *Executive Director*



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Cat Socializing at LCHS

The Cat Socialization program is a very important program for our cats, who may be frightened coming into the shelter. Stray cats need to be reassured that everything is okay and that they are safe, while a cat who has been surrendered needs to know someone still cares for them. Our program aims to get each cat out of the cage once a day, and if possible twice. With so many cats this is difficult. Cats are used to their freedom, so the time volunteers give them out of their cage is important. Volunteers take a cat, for fifteen minutes at a time, to one of our socialization rooms. There, the time spent is up to the cat. Some of them want to run around and play, some want to snuggle in your lap, some like to explore their surroundings. Some even like to roll around on the floor and let you massage, brush, and pamper them. Our volunteers spend the time based on what the cat wishes to do. The rooms have toys in them, so if playing is what the cat wants, volunteers can wave toys around, toss balls around, and get the cat engaged. They even give a treat or two. Volunteers also provide brief documentation to assist potential adopters and to communicate with other socializers. This kind of social activity also aids in adoption, because the more cats are around people, willing to interact and are not afraid, the more adoptable they are. Socializers are also great with the cats who don't trust people quite yet and are not ready to be removed from the cage - they will work slowly to earn their trust and help them come around. It doesn't usually take long, once they hear a soothing voice and realize they aren't in danger.

To participate in our Cat Socialization program, please go online or visit the shelter and ask our staff for an application. You will receive an acknowledgement from the coordinator that your application has been received and will then be contacted for an orientation. Due to the popularity of the program, it may be a 3 month wait from the time you apply. We ask for a minimum of 1 1/2 hours a week commitment for at least 3 months. If you have further questions about our program please e-mail csi@lchs.ca.

**Donate your HBC points.
To see how go to www.lchs.ca
and click on “Ways to Donate”.**

Pinehurst Loves Leroy!

By: Andrew Casey, 13 years old

In 2006 Dave Bird walked into the Lincoln County Humane Society hoping to find a new dog. He got his wish, the staff at the Humane Society showed him a beautiful golden lab that had been abandoned by its previous owner. The Humane Society told Dave that they felt it would be hard to find a home for Leroy seeing as he was “Anxious, Nervous and Very Noisy.” He needed someone who wouldn't leave him alone all the time, who could take him to work with them and give Leroy the attention that he needed. Seeing as Dave worked as the principal of a boarding school, which was dog friendly, he was and still is, the perfect owner.

Pinehurst School works with adolescents who have special needs/ individual needs, kids with low motivation and who could not cope properly in a regular large classroom setting. Naturally, Leroy fit in just fine, and the students show him lots of love. The kids of Pinehurst have often looked to Leroy and his sister; Clover (also a rescue dog) as a source of peace.

Leroy was abandoned by his previous owner who was clearly not capable of handling him. As Dave said in our interview, “dogs are domesticated living creatures, not to be abandoned or discarded at whim.” Leroy is a loving dog, and has been enjoying his new home for the past six years. He enjoys spending time with the students, and serves as our “guard dog”. On behalf of Dave Bird and all of us at Pinehurst School I would like to thank the Lincoln County Humane Society for giving us the privilege that is Leroy.

PINEHURST LOVES LEROY!





Animal Welfare vs. Animal Rights - what's the difference

Since 1873, the Ontario SPCA has provided humane leadership in animal care, protection, and education. Through our network of Community adoption centres, animal cruelty investigators, and innovative programs, we serve and protect animals by providing quality animal care, a safe haven and a second chance – with the ultimate goal of ending pet overpopulation, cruelty and neglect.

"Animal welfare," as defined by the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association, is a human responsibility that encompasses all aspects of animal wellbeing, including proper housing, management, nutrition, disease prevention, responsible care, humane handling, and, where necessary, humane euthanasia. As an animal welfare organization, we believe that humans can interact with animals in entertainment, industry, sport and recreation, but that the interaction should include provisions for the proper care and humane management of all animals involved. We use scientific and legal arguments to promote and advocate for the protection of animals from cruelty.

"Animal rights" is a philosophical view that seeks to end the exploitation of animals and animal use industries, including the slaughter of animals for consumption, animal research, animals used in entertainment or education, service animals, working animals and companion animals. Animal rights groups typically avoid working with organizations involved in these practices, and may employ confrontational methods to promote change.

We work cooperatively and collaboratively with pet owners, farmers, landowners, producers, veterinarians, and breeders on issues that affect animals, and we actively work with municipal and provincial governments to ensure animals are provided with every possible protection under the law.

The Ontario SPCA is proud of being Ontario's largest animal welfare organization, and one of the most responsive animal welfare organizations in Canada. Partnerships, based on professionalism, openness and understanding foster a spirit of goodwill and trust that helps us achieve changes that may otherwise not be possible.



Pinehurst School

10 Seymour Ave.
St. Catharines ON
L2P 1A4

905-641-0993
explore@pinehurst.on.ca

Pinehurst School is a proud supporter of our Lincoln County Humane Society, through financial contributions and dog adoptions.

Our Wish list

The following is a list of items that our shelter needs. Through your donations, we can save money by not having to purchase them. Thanks for your support!

Animal Food

Greatest Need is Wet Kitten/Cat Food

- Small Animal Food	- Cat Litter
For: Guinea Pigs	- Dry Cat & Dog Food
Hamsters	- Pelleted Food for Cockatiels
Budgies	- Kitten or Puppy Food
Rabbits	- Small Animal Bedding

Animal Supplies

- Dog Toys/Soccer Balls	- Bird Toys & Cuddle Bones
- Squeaky Toys	- Grooming & Nail Clippers
- Grooming Scissors	- Dog Collars - All Sizes
- Indestructable Dog Toys for Aggressive Chewers	
- Gently Used Carriers and Crates	

Office Supplies

- Black Pens	- Sharpie Markers
- Highlighters	- Duct Tape
- 8 1/2 x 11 White Paper	- Packing Tape
- Plastic Page Covers	- Scotch Tape

Redeemable Coupons

- Canadian Tire Money	- Pioneer Bonus Bucks
- Zehrs Receipts.	- HBC Points

Cleaning Supplies

- Bleach	- Dish Detergent	- Laundry Soap
- Brooms	- Sponges	
Good Condition Thick Beach Towels for Cat Cages		

Gift Certificates

- Office Supply Stores	- Home Depot
- Canadian Tire	- Grocery Stores
- Pet Food Stores	- Other

Miscellaneous

- New Dog/Cat/Rabbit Mascot Costumes (adult size)
- Printing Calculators
- Insulated Water Jugs
- Humane Live Catch Cat or Dog Traps
- Batteries, AAA, AA, C, D, or 9 Volts
- Garbage Bags
- Various Hand and Garden Tools



What is the Animal Welfare Philosophy of the Ontario SPCA?

The Ontario SPCA is an open admission, For Life, organization; we strive to accept all animals.

When entering one of our facilities, each animal is given his/her own animal care plan. The animal's best interests are always at the forefront of all decisions we make, including adoption, foster care, veterinary care, transfer to other adoption centres or rescue groups or, in some cases, euthanasia.

Our staff are professionals who work in this field because they love animals, and the decisions they make are made for the good of the animal and of the communities that they will live in.

Our Animal Welfare philosophy leads us to focus on optimum solutions for animals in our shelters including high-volume spay/neuter services, adoption programs like Meet Your Match, animal fostering, animal transfer programs, humane education for the prevention of cruelty, enforcement of the Ontario SPCA Act and rescue & relief services.

The Ontario SPCA works in partnership with many organizations to ensure that optimum animal care strategies are available for communities across Ontario and we extend our programs and resources to Animal Welfare organizations across the province and around the world.

For more information on our Animal Welfare programs and services, please visit our website, www.ontariospca.ca

What is a “No Kill” facility?

The term ‘no kill’ can be a contentious one in animal sheltering and the term is used differently by different groups.

A true ‘no kill’ facility is one where animals are kept alive at any cost, and no animal is euthanized, regardless of state of health (including emotional health) or temperament.

Unfortunately, many of these facilities do not recognize that emotional and behavioural suffering is just as damaging as physical suffering, and/or will adopt out animals with aggressive temperaments who are a danger to the community.

For example, if an animal is physically healthy, but is showing signs of emotional distress in the form of behaviours caused by living in a kennel or cage for years, a true ‘no kill’ facility would keep the animal alive, without consideration for the emotional and behavioural suffering this animal is experiencing.

Ref: www.ontariospca.ca

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Our Dog Walking Volunteer Program



Councillor Joe Kushner, a 35 year member of our Board of Directors, encourages you to support the excellent work by our staff and volunteers at the Lincoln County Humane Society

Our current group of volunteer dog walkers at the LCHS are a very passionate group of people, and we are always looking to add new volunteers who care about animals to join the program.

Our volunteers take adoptable dogs out in the runs and give them the opportunity to play and they help with the dog’s socialization. The dog walkers play a key role in helping with the development of the dogs at the LCHS. If you are interested in learning more about dog behaviour, this may be the volunteer opportunity for you. You will have exposure to many different types of dog personalities and the chance to learn how to deal with each one.

We have many shifts available to fit anybody’s schedule. There are three shifts per day, seven days a week. Our shift times are 8AM, 1PM and 6PM. Each shift will typically last between two to three hours depending on how many dogs we have available and how much time the volunteers want to spend with each dog.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer dog walker, you can stop by the shelter to fill out an application or you can download one from our website at <http://www.lchs.ca/pdf/dogwalking.pdf>.



Be responsible, make sure your pets are spayed or neutered!

Rick Dykstra, M.P.
61 Geneva Street
Downtown St. Catharines

905-934-6767
rickdykstra.ca



LCHS thanks KIA for donating \$5,000 and helping to reduce the prices of cat adoptions in 2012.



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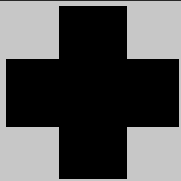
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ALL FOR THE ANIMALS - MONTHLY PLANNED GIVING

I would like to support the work of the Lincoln County Humane Society throughout the year by making regular monthly gifts.

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Address _____

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Signature _____

Date _____

I understand that I may cancel this arrangement in writing at any time.

Thank you for your support, we appreciate your kind contribution.

I hereby authorize the Lincoln County Humane Society to electronically withdraw from my bank account each month for the payment of:

- \$10 \$20 \$50 \$_____
- chequing chequing-savings

Withdraw date: 1st 15th

Please enclose a cheque marked "void".

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I hereby authorize the Lincoln County Humane Society to deduct from my credit card on the first of each month:

- \$10 \$20 \$50 \$_____

Please charge to my Visa Mastercard Amex
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Exp. Date: _____

Signature: _____