



LINCOLN COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY

WINTER 2016/2017 NEWSLETTER



Help Stop Animal Abandonment in Niagara

Some facts about animal homelessness and abandonment:

1. The main reasons animals are in shelters is because owners give them up or animal control finds them on the street.
2. Homeless animals outnumber homeless people 5 to 1.
3. About twice as many animals enter shelters as strays, compared to the number that are surrendered by their owners.
4. Many strays are lost pets that were not properly kept indoors or provided with identification.
5. Every year around Moving Day, July 1st, the number of abandoned pets triples.

Tia, a Rhodesian Ridgeback - Boxer cross, was picked up on June 13, 2016 by a passerby on Dunkirk Road in St. Catharines.

Witnesses saw a man in a maroon pick-up truck stop on Dunkirk Road under the QEW skyway bridge and let the dog out of the truck to run around. When Tia was far enough away, the man entered the truck and simply drove away.

Animal abandonment is a serious issue and it happens too often; more than you might expect. On average we receive at least one abandonment case every week. In 2015, we had 343 stray dogs come into the shelter and of those, 279 were claimed by their owners. That means 64 were unclaimed or abandoned in our shelter. That's about 1 in 4 and that's too many. For cats, the numbers are even higher...only 1 in 10 stray cats are claimed and fortunately we were able to save most of the other 1075 cats through the LCHS \$25 cat adoption program.

Tia, like many of the homeless animals that are fortunate enough to end up in our shelter as opposed to life on the street, found her forever home. Her name is now Maya and she went to a home where she is a valued and loved member of her family.



Upcoming Events

Pet Pictures with Santa
and a bake sale too.

December 3, 4, 10 & 11 from
11am-3pm at the shelter on
Fourth Avenue

Digital photos \$10
5 x 7 photo \$15



Mark your calendars on
February 27, 2017
and stop by the shelter for
some Cupcakes!!

Monthly Donors Make a Big Difference



There are many ways to help the Lincoln County Humane Society and one of the best ways is to sign up for our **Pre-Authorized Monthly Giving Program**.

Members of our monthly giving program provide the loyal monthly support the animals count on. With the help of monthly donors, the Humane Society is able to continue to feed, shelter and provide veterinary care for hundreds of animals each year.

By becoming a monthly donor, you are helping save the lives of animals in your community.

Monthly giving is the most cost-efficient way to donate and the best way to help the animals in our care. The money you help us save on administration costs means more animals will benefit from your gift.

How to sign up:

- On the LCHS webpage under **Ways to Donate** you will find a form you can fill out and send to the shelter directly and your credit card will be billed every month
- Clicking the **donate button** at the top of the **Facebook** and giving through our Canada Helps online page



Sugar Plum

What Your Donations Do

- Allow us to continue to offer \$25 cat adoptions
- Promote responsible pet care and ownership
- Provide superior care to animals in Niagara that come to the shelter
- Supply medical care and emotional support for animals removed from cruelty and abuse situations
- Advocate for responsible pet ownership and animal welfare in Niagara
- Provide continued investigations of animal cruelty

To Donate Today...

- come into the shelter
- go to www.lchs.ca
- online at Facebook or CanadaHelps.ca
- mail a cheque to the LCHS
- call Michelle Harder 905-682-0767 ext. 230 or email mharder@lchs.ca



Bessie

Legacy Giving

We all want to feel like we've contributed something to the world. Leaving your legacy is a way to add meaning to your life and leave your mark on the future. Giving a legacy gift to the Lincoln County Humane Society is a way you can make a difference for animals, for generations to come.

What is a Legacy or Planned Gift?

A legacy gift is planned today and fulfilled in the future. Donors can leave a lasting legacy by making a commitment to the future of humane treatment and care of animals in Niagara. Donors can structure a gift to the Lincoln County Humane Society that will be realized upon the execution of their estate.

Why Make a Legacy Gift?

It provides individuals with a special opportunity to demonstrate leadership with an investment in supporting outstanding dedication to the humane treatment of all animals; to alleviate their suffering and neglect, to support the human-animal bond and foster an environment in which people respect all living creatures. The Lincoln County Humane Society provides this safe refuge and compassionate care for animals.

For more information please call Michelle Harder at 905-682-0767 or talk to your financial planner.

THE MEXICAN CONNEXTION

At the LCHS our underlying passion is always to make a difference for homeless dogs by helping them to find loving families who will adopt them and give them a safe and happy home...even if it means helping homeless dogs from Mexico.

From November of 2015 to May of 2016 the LCHS along with some very dedicated volunteers flew dogs from a dog sanctuary, in Merida, Mexico to the Lincoln County Humane Society in St. Catharines to be adopted into their forever homes. Typically volunteers make 5-6 trips a year and over the last 3 years we have brought in 86 dogs.

These Mexican dogs are not like typical Canadian dogs...they are unique in that they do not have the same place in society in Mexico that Canadian dogs have in our society. So what does that mean?

Canadian dogs often have the luxury of a very "human" life that is heavily integrated into our lives. They sleep in comfy beds...often ours or their own; they eat well...some have very elaborate diets but at the very least they are probably having regular meals of kibble; they have regular interaction with us on a leisurely basis through daily exercise and play; but above all else we generally treat them with love and respect and the majority of them are companion animals.

Mexican dogs on the other hand, learn to keep their distance from people. Their place in Mexico is on the fringe...and this is where they stay...their whole lives. They do not have a comfy bed to sleep on. They do not get cuddles and tummy rubs. They are lucky if they get regular meals. If they are good at keeping predators away and are useful to a family in some way...then they can stay...on the fringe. If they are not useful to the family...then they are chased away or neglected and forced to live a life on the streets. So, they have learned to be wary of people, avoid contact with them and are not generally raised to be pets or companion animals.

"Having seen firsthand the plight of the street dogs in Meridia it breaks my heart to know that all of these dogs cannot be saved," says Jeannette R., one of our animal care technicians. "But for the dogs that can be helped it is truly life changing. I have had the enormous honour of doing this twice before and I would be forever grateful to be able to continue this much needed rescue work."

Winter Pet Safety Tips

- Keep your furry friends warm - never leave your pets outside alone or in a car. If it's too cold for you...it's too cold for your pets.
- Protect their paws from the salt and ice melt which irritates sensitive paws and can be fatal if ingested. Be sure to wash and dry their paws when you get home from a walk outside.
- Check under your hood - give a few honks before you start your car. You never know what animal might be hiding under your hood.
- Prepare an emergency kit that includes supplies for your pets. Winter storms can prevent you from leaving your house so make sure you have enough supplies for everyone.



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RUNNERS' EDGE

This year's inaugural K9K event was a great success. With over 100 people and 50 dogs in attendance, in spite of some rainy weather, we raised \$7,400. Some highlights were; training tips from Cat & Jack K9 Safety, a demonstration from Niagara Joring and the Creative Pet Solutions agility course for participants and their canine friends to try. A big thanks to our sponsors who helped make this event possible.



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