



We Need You to Help Us Get Ready for Kitten Season

The first kittens of 2015 were born at the Ottawa Humane Society nearly a whole week earlier than the inaugural litter arrived last year.

Like all kittens, the seven that came into the world on Feb. 22 were tiny creatures, mewling for their mother's milk, eyes still closed, shaky on their little feet when they tried to stand.

Since then, the OHS has seen 23* felines born at the shelter and 93* surrendered. And, with the first day of summer just weeks away, the OHS is about to get very, very busy.

The numbers will be high. In 2014, the OHS cared for 2,246 kittens, and every tiny life has its own story.

The first litter of 2015 has spent the past few weeks with a dedicated OHS foster volunteer. Sadly, of the seven, one did not survive, too weak to recover after a parasite prevented her from absorbing nutrients from her food. The other six pulled through and are now thriving after veterinary care, vitamin supplements,

cont'd on page 3

In 2014, the OHS cared for 2,246 kittens, and every tiny life has its own story.



Animal Hoarding: Notoriously Tough to Treat

There is a mother-daughter duo in east Ottawa who have surrendered or had seized 141 cats since first coming to the attention of OHS agents a decade ago.

“They consider themselves rescue hoarders. They feel they are rescuing these cats from an uncertain future,” said Insp. Miriam Smith, Rescue and Investigation Services manager. “They absolutely think they’re doing a good thing. But they’re not. When the numbers start climbing, they can no longer care for them and then the cats start to suffer.”

The OHS’s first choice is always education, “but hoarding is hard to treat, Smith said, adding “without counseling, hoarding has a 100 per cent recidivism rate.”

Every hoarding case is a significant drain on OHS resources, with dozens of chronically ill and under-

cont'd on page 3



Contact Numbers

Main 613-725-3166
 Emergency 613-725-1532
 Lost & Found 613-725-9998
 Fax 613-725-5674
 Dispatch/General Info ext. 221

Departmental Extensions

Adoption Centre ext. 258
 Lost & Found 223
 Fostering 255
 Investigations 224
 Administration 297
 Executive Director 232
 Tax Receipts & Donations 252
 Community Events 263
 Programs 298
 Humane Education 235
 Shelter Operations 226
 Volunteering 231
 Legacy Giving 268
 PAW Monthly Giving 254
 Media 261

info@ottawahumane.ca
 www.ottawahumane.ca



Editor:
 Natalie Pona

Contributors:
 OHS staff, volunteers and supporters

If you have a story idea or comment, please contact ohs@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.

Newsletter articles may be reprinted with acknowledgement of source.

Charitable registration # 123264715 RR0001

From the Executive Director's Desk

I'm in Love



I have fallen in love. She is beautiful. Her name is Gracie. She has been living with me for a little less than a month.

She is a tiny, 10-year-old blue-point Siamese cat. I think that Gracie is the most lovely, sweet cat ever born. Of course, I am biased.

Gracie — who came to us as Misty — had a long journey into our home. She and her sister were surrendered to the OHS by their owner on Jan. 17 of this year. Both cats had severe dental problems and both were suspected to have undersized kidneys.

Neither sister took well to kenneling and were showing signs of stress. Stress in cats in a shelter can literally be a killer. They weren't eating and were losing hair at an alarming rate. Staff members took the sisters into their offices to give them a break from the shelter. That is where I met Gracie. She took to me right away.

Gracie still had a long way to go. She refused to eat and was given drugs to stimulate her appetite. Eventually she was force-fed. She developed severe diarrhea and was treated with three different medications before one worked. She had three rounds of dental work: a cleaning and two courses of extractions. She was fostered between each. Between the two extraction sessions, she developed an upper respiratory infection and was treated for that.

We had been considering a cat for some time, but my allergy to them was more than a small hurdle. But amazingly, I didn't

react to this little cat. So, I submitted a request for adoption and hoped that no one else was on the request list for a senior cat like Gracie. We were sad to find out that Gracie's sister succumbed to kidney failure while in foster; likely an underlying condition worsened by her refusal to eat. We were worried for Gracie, as she too appeared to have undersized kidneys.

Gracie pulled through it all, and on March 26, she came to our home for the first time. She still wasn't ours though. She was a Foster Me First adoption as she was still recovering from dental surgery and was on antibiotics and pain medication. It wasn't until after her final exam in April that she became ours.

Gracie's long story is no longer that exceptional. While still a huge challenge, once the OHS could not have helped a cat with such a long list of needs. The OHS would not have had the money or the staff resources. Cramped conditions at the Champagne shelter would have virtually guaranteed that she would have become much sicker.



So I am grateful; grateful to all the staff and volunteers that cared for Gracie on her journey. I am grateful to the many generous donors that helped us build the West Hunt Club shelter, and to the thousands of donors that give us the resources to care for her and so many like Gracie today. Thank you for giving us Gracie and for giving so many animals a second chance. 🐾

Bruce Roney
 Executive Director

antibiotics and fluids. They'll soon come to the OHS to be spayed or neutered, vaccinated, and then make their transition to the Adoption Centre where OHS staff will see them off into loving forever homes.

The journey to happily-ever-after for kittens such as these is long, labour intensive, and expensive. Right now, the OHS is training an army of foster volunteers who will give kittens temporary homes until they're ready for adoption. Veterinary staff and volunteer vets are ramping up for pediatric spays and neuters, which will prevent countless generations of suffering by unwanted litters in the future. Then there are medical exams and treatments, vaccines, food, litter and microchips, in addition to many other costs.

Kitten season is now in full swing at the OHS and we need your help. Your support will make a difference in the lives of the thousands of tiny felines expected at the shelter this year alone. 🐾

* Numbers as of April 16.



By the Numbers: Kittens in 2015

2,245

Kittens that will be cared for at the OHS in 2015

318

Foster homes for the kittens

30

Specialized foster volunteers for orphaned kittens

31

Volunteer vets to spay and neuter the kittens

Animal Hoarding... cont'd from page 1

socialized cats requiring medical care. The OHS sees about 10 hoarding situations per year with more than 20 cats in need of help each time.

“We charge because it means the courts can mandate hoarders get the counseling they need,” Smith said. “And it helps ensure more animals won’t suffer in their hands.”



After education and outreach failed to stop them, OHS agents laid charges against the pair in 2009. Many of the cats were sick with infections. There were dead kittens found in a freezer. The cost of medical care and the investigation was high.

Last month, OHS agents again charged the mother and daughter after finding 34 cats and three dogs living in their home, which was a breach of a court order.

Thanks to you, OHS agents can be present in the community to investigate hoarding to prevent animal suffering. Your support means agents are there to inspect the homes of hoarders, that OHS vets are available to care for sick animals rescued from hoarders, and that the OHS is there to find safe and loving forever homes away from the cramped and neglectful conditions. 🐾



City of Ottawa

Spay/Neuter Clinic

Take advantage of your City Clinic which is open to all residents. Sterilized pets live longer lives and usually cost less to own.

Don't delay, book your appointment today!

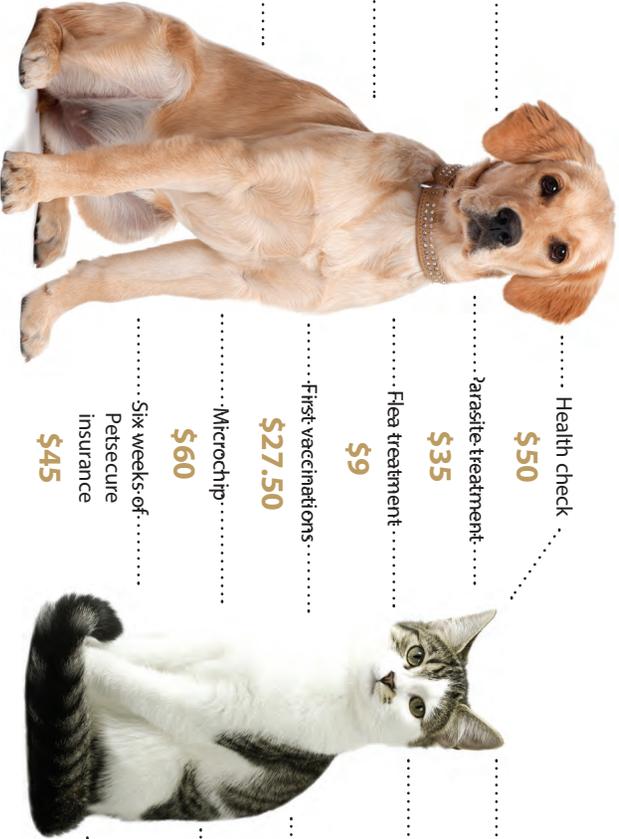
613-798-8970

spayneuter@ottawa.ca

www.ottawa.ca



Price of Adoption



Temperament assessment	.....	Health check	.....	Ear mites	.....
\$57		\$50		\$45	
Spay or neuter for dogs	.....	Parasite treatment	.....	Upper respiratory infection treatment	.....
\$350		\$35		\$47.50	
Average market cost for all services for a dog	.....	Flea treatment	.....	Spay or neuter for cats	.....
\$726		\$9		\$250	
OHS price of an adult dog	.....	First vaccinations	.....	Average market cost for all services for a cat	.....
\$290		\$27.50		\$626	
		Microchip	.....	OHS price of an adult cat	.....
		\$60		\$170	
		Six weeks of Petsecure Insurance	.....	
		\$45			

A lifetime of love and companionship: Priceless

Bringing Animal Awareness to a Classroom Near You

Because changing the future for Ottawa's animals is important to you, the 2014/15 year was one of exciting growth and expansion for the OHS Humane Education School Program. The program delivered an unprecedented 391 presentations, reaching and teaching a total of 9,554 children and youth across Ottawa.

Now, for the first time, the OHS offers classroom presentations in French. This significant expansion of the school program allows humane education to access Ottawa's French school boards, as well as the multitude of French immersion programs within the city's English boards. In its first year, the French program comprised 80 of the total 391 presentations delivered, reaching 2,082 students through French or bilingual humane education.

The school program offers a selection of presentations covering a variety of animal welfare topics, with specific presentations directed toward each grade level from kindergarten through high school. In addition to an educational presentation, classroom visits also include a hands-on learning experience with an OHS volunteer companion animal. Over the last year, the program incorporated new presentations that cover topics such as urban wildlife, farm animals, and puppy mills, which have helped engage interest in the program and create new education opportunities in the classroom.



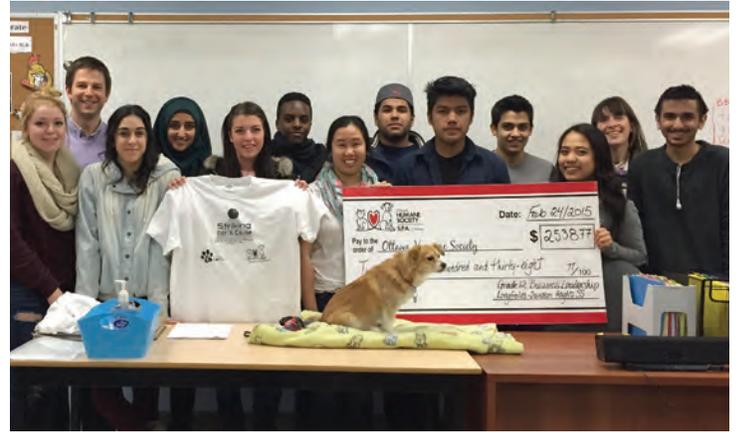
Due to these new additions, as well as strategic networking with teachers and schools, the school program has been expanding rapidly. The OHS is grateful for its growing team of dedicated volunteer humane educators who have facilitated the recent changes and contributed significantly to the program's overall success.

Thanks to you, the growing Humane Education School Program will help to shape a brighter future for animals. 🐾

Community Kudos



The young ladies from the 194th Barrhaven Guide Unit sold OHS paw prints in their community to raise funds in support of the animals! These generous girls dropped by to submit their donation and for a tour of the facility where they got to meet some very special OHS furry friends.



Students from the Grade 12 Business Leaders class at Longfields Davidson High School spent the semester raising funds in support of the OHS. These entrepreneurial students even built their own online fundraising website and finished the semester off with a big bowling fundraiser — raising more than \$2,500 for the animals.

To see other humane heroes who have helped the animals at the Ottawa Humane Society, please visit www.ottawahumane.ca/communitykudos.

Cool Kids



The 123rd scout troop came for a tour of the OHS facility and brought along with them a big collection of homemade dog pillows! These amazing young adults chose the fabric and cut out the patterns for the pillows and even did all the sewing themselves!



Kyle O. turned five years old and asked for donations to the animals at the OHS in lieu of birthday presents. Kyle is seen here with his collection of wonderful donations and his older brother Justin.

To see more cool kids who have helped the animals at the Ottawa Humane Society, please visit www.ottawahumane.ca/coolkids.

Thank You for All You Do for the Animals!

The Huyer Family

The Huyer Family, comprised of Victoria, Tim, Greg, and Scott (Rufolo), are a living testament to the famous words attributed to Gandhi, “*Be the change that you wish to see in the world.*”

The Huyers say they fundamentally believe that a world which wholly loves and respects its animals is one which offers a more enriched human experience. It’s a profound concept, and one they have consistently and passionately stood behind through their contributions to the OHS.

From their significant investment in the new facility to offer better care to animals in need, to the memorial donations they have made to honour their beloved family members and pets, the Huyer family has better enabled the OHS to fulfill its mission — and their vision — of eliminating the root causes of animal suffering.

They recently shared with us a little bit about the positive impact pets have had on their lives, and how they believe that their act of giving is just their natural way of making the world a little more like the one they’d like to see.

Q: Did you have pets in your household when you were growing up?

A: Yes, pets were a constant presence growing up, including cats, dogs and guinea pigs.

Q: What do you think it was that resonated with you from your childhood and brought you to be the animal lovers you are now?

A: Pets are such great companions and so much fun to have around that it’s impossible to imagine life without pets: the house doesn’t feel like a home without them.

Q: Why is the OHS important to you?

A: Having adopted a number of rescue animals over the years, it was important to us to show our appreciation and give something back so shelters like the OHS can continue to serve



the community and help other people adopt their own furry friends. We are impressed by how many key roles the OHS plays in the community beyond simply being an adoption agency, and we are continually amazed by the dedication and commitment of all the staff we’ve met at the OHS. Giving to the OHS also offered us an opportunity to honour the memory of some of the two- and four-legged members of our families.

Q: What kind of impact do you think it would have on the Ottawa community if people focused more on animal welfare and supporting the cause?

A: Learning to love and appreciate animals is an experience that enriches our own humanity and makes us better people. We would love to see a world where the OHS is no longer needed because all animals are being taken care of and have a home. That’s why the education and outreach efforts of the OHS are so important, to address the root causes of animal welfare problems.

Q: What is your guiding principle when it comes to charitable giving?

A: It’s important that charities align with our values, including providing a voice for those in society who can’t speak up for themselves, like animals. We also look for efficient organizations like the OHS that spend as much of the donations as possible directly on the services they provide. And when the staff and volunteers are as committed to the organization as they are at the OHS, we feel especially good being among the supporters. 🐾

Court Updates

New Charges

Ms. Shannon Bourguignon was charged with failing to meet the standards of care for general welfare and permitting distress after a cat was brought to a vet clinic. Rescue and Investigation Services agents allege the cat had been in distress for eight days. She was scheduled to first appear in court on April 15.

Ms. Suzanne Ibrahim was charged with failing to meet the standards of care and permitting distress after a dead guinea pig was surrendered to the OHS. Rescue and Investigation Services agents allege the guinea pig was in a severe state of neglect. Ibrahim was scheduled to first appear in court on April 24.

Mr. Kevin Page was charged with wilfully causing unnecessary suffering to an animal and wilfully neglecting to provide suitable and adequate care after allegedly dumping his Bernese Mountain dog puppy into a dumpster a week before the dog was found. He was scheduled to first appear in court on April 28.

Completed Cases

Ms. Robyn Campbell pleaded guilty to permitting distress and failing to provide the standards of care after OHS agents rescued several animals from her home. The judge sentenced Campbell to a 10-year animal ban, preventing her from owning pets other than a dog and two cats already in her care. OHS agents can perform surprise inspections on Campbell’s property, and she was ordered to pay \$3,000 restitution to the OHS.

Mr. Terry Cheng was charged with permitting distress to an animal after allegedly abandoning a raccoon in a live trap for three days. On Feb. 19, the charges were withdrawn by the prosecutor.

Mr. Thomas Forbes pleaded guilty to causing pain and suffering to an animal after he allegedly attempted to drown a raccoon in a barrel of water. On Jan. 20 he was sentenced to pay a \$600 fine and to pay \$750 to the OHS.

Mr. Martin Morris brought a dead cat to the OHS for aftercare in December. All charges were stayed on February 19. 🐾

Although legally mandated to enforce the animal cruelty provisions of the Criminal Code of Canada, the Ottawa Humane Society does not receive any government funding or any funding from any animal welfare group to rescue animals in distress and only receives partial funding for investigations. The Ottawa Humane Society relies on donors like you to help perform this essential work in our community.

The Wiggle Waggle Walkathon and Run for the Animals Return Sept. 13, 2015!

The walk and run are the OHS's largest fundraisers of the year and a great opportunity for the community to come out with their four-legged friends to raise funds to help then animals.



Not only do the day's events include a fundraising walk and run down Queen Elizabeth Drive, but also a festival site at Queen Juliana Park for all participants, their family, and furry friends to enjoy! The festival site offers a wide variety of activities, including a Pet Pavilion Marketplace, a K9 Fun Zone, Family Fun Zone, as well as food vendors. There is also a silent auction and great prizes awarded throughout the day.

Register now as a team or individual and lead the pack in your fundraising goals! For more information visit www.ottawahumane.ca/walk or www.ottawahumane.ca/run 🐾



Celebrating National Volunteer Week



The OHS celebrated the hard work and dedication of its volunteers during National Volunteer Week, April 12-18. Pictured above, volunteers enjoy a special lunch at the OHS. In 2014, more than 765 volunteers donated close to 60,000 hours of their time, to more than 26 volunteer-based programs. OHS volunteers allow the OHS to provide such a high level of service to the animals and help the OHS provide so many great services to our community. Thank you OHS volunteers for helping us create a more humane environment for all!

WALK OR RUN AND HAVE FUN HELPING THE ANIMALS!

GUINNESS
Living happily with his new family!

SEPTEMBER
13.2015

OTTAWAHUMANE.CA/WALK
OTTAWAHUMANE.CA/RUN

BECOME A MONTHLY DONOR

THE BEST WAY TO HELP THE ANIMALS



SIGN UP TODAY

 WWW.OTTAWAHUMANE.CA
 613-725-3166 ext. 254

Join us!

-  Tamarack Ottawa Race Weekend – May 23-24
-  Just for Cats Festival – June 13 at the Horticulture Building, Lansdowne Park
-  Summer Harvest Garden Party – July 12 at Jean Pigott Place, City Hall
-  Wiggle Waggle Walkathon and Run for the Animals – Sept. 13 at Queen Juliana Park
-  Bingo – Every Sunday, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., at the Overbrook Bingo Palace

Visit our website at www.ottawahumane.ca for more information



In this issue

We Need You to Help Us.....	1
Animal Hoarding	1
From the Executive Director's Desk	2
Price of Adoption.....	4
Bringing Animal Awareness to a Classroom...4	
Community Kudos.....	5
Cool Kids	5
Thank You for All You Do for the Animals	6
Court Updates	6
Wiggle Waggle Walkathon	7
National Volunteer Week.....	7