GIVING ‘PAWS’ FOR THOUGHT

On behalf of the vulnerable animals you helped in 2013, we offer our heartfelt thanks.
We are the Hamilton/Burlington SPCA.

Our Cruelty and Investigation Team protects animals from people.

Our Humane Education Programs teach people responsible pet ownership.

Our Animal Care Staff and Volunteers match animals with forever homes in the community.

This is our story for 2013.

Since none of this would be possible without you THIS IS YOUR STORY TOO!
A LOOK BACK – 2013 IN REVIEW

15 SHIH-TZUS’ TALE

In August 2013, 15 Shih-tzus were removed from a Hamilton residence by HBSPCA Cruelty and Investigation Officers. The dogs were frail, heavily matted, infested with fleas and at risk for parasites. The dogs were poorly socialized and several had eye infections.

The Shih-tzus were immediately triaged to identify the most urgent conditions. The dogs were shorn, bathed, given flea treatment and medication for parasites and their level of frailty was assessed. All the dogs required significant dental work, such as cleanings and extractions.

The 15 Shih-tzus recovered with the help of our Companion Animal Hospital, kennel staff, volunteer foster families and groomers. Some will require ongoing care for chronic conditions common to the breed such as ‘dry eye’. All 15 dogs lived to tell their tale and settled into their new forever homes.

WHAT’S IMPORTANT ABOUT A MICROCHIP?

A microchip is approximately the same size as a grain of rice and provides a permanent means of identification. Pets with microchips are returned to their owners sooner.

2689 TOTAL SURGERIES

141 animals microchipped at HBSPCA clinics
197 street cat spay/neuters
954 low-cost spay/neuters

198 animals rescued in the community
651 animals surrendered
1024 animals rescued from Hamilton Animal Services and Rescue Groups
1758 animals found their forever homes

83 youth leaders-in-training
379 youth in camp

197 street cat spay/neuters
91 people trained in Dog Obedience classes

44 volunteer pets

300+ volunteers
1450 pet visits
25 foster families

Before rescue
‘Ola’ after
VIVIAN LAFLAMME
PROGRAM MANAGER, ANIMAL PROTECTION & ADVOCACY
2013 RECIPIENT OF THE HBSPCA DR. JEAN RUMNEY AWARD

This award in Dr. Jean Rumney’s name honours those who have shown outstanding commitment and dedication to the Hamilton/Burlington SPCA and to the animals and community we serve.

Living on a farm and boarding horses, Vivian grew up with a natural love of animals. As a young girl, her dream was to become a police officer or to work with animals.

In December 2013, Vivian marked 25 years of service to animal welfare at Hamilton/Burlington SPCA, most of this time in the role as Officer, protecting animals from cruelty and neglect.

Vivian volunteered to clean kennels and socialise animals at the HBSPCA on Parkdale Avenue when she was age 20. A few years later she joined the SPCA Team as a kennel attendant. Soon, she was supervising animal intake and adoptions on weekends. Motivated still to make a difference in animal health and safety in the community, Vivian trained to be an SPCA agent. Since 2003, Vivian has been the lead Officer at the HBSPCA, growing a team of 1 to now a Team of 4 Officers to address the needs of animals in distress.

In her 25 years of service to the community, Vivian has seen big changes. Protection Officers are trained professionals. For the first time in the HBSPCA 127 year history, the Government granted funds in 2013 to help support cruelty prevention and animal protection.

“And euthanasia rates have drastically decreased as people understand and practice responsible pet ownership”, says Vivian, “Officers are educators too. Sometimes, people just need advice on animal feeding, grooming and exercise improve how animals are cared for at home”.

Vivian realized her dream of being an Officer and working with animals. When asked how Vivian would like to be remembered for her service to animal welfare, her answer is simple: “Speaking for those who cannot speak for themselves.”

GIVING ‘PAWS’ FOR THOUGHT: VIVIAN

“My love for the animals gave me the drive to protect animals, educate owners, and enforce the laws.” Thank you, Vivian and Shake a paw.
MEET FRANCESCA, CO-OP STUDENT

“\textit{I chose the HBSPCA for my co-op placement because I absolutely love animals and hope that they will be a part of my future career. There’s no better place to learn about animals than to be surrounded by them every day at the HBSPCA!} \textit{I learned a lot by working in different shelter programs and gained a variety of new skills. My favourite job was feeding and socializing the dogs and cats in the kennels. I learned about different breeds, feeding, about different bacterias and how to properly clean kennels as well as what’s important about an animal’s environment (e.g. Big dogs need big backyards and long walks). I enjoyed getting to know a range of different people and I will certainly miss all the staff members and animals that brightened up my day!”}

KIDS WITH HEART!

Children and youth are making a difference every day at the HBSPCA. Their compassion and empathy for healthy animal companions and respect for all living things shows itself year round. Here are their stories.

BIRTHDAY WISHES

What did Emalee wish for her 10th birthday? Gifts of course! But not gifts for herself - Emalee was kind enough to ask people to give gifts for the animals of the HBSPCA. \textit{Thanks Emalee!}

ANIMAL ADVOCATES

Meet Tessa, 9, & Kristen, 10, from Mount Hope. On August 21st, 2013 these two determined advocates held their second annual charity lemonade stand in support of the animals. They raised $92.00 for the animals, $11.00 more than last year! The girls received a quick tour after presenting their donation, where they learned about the costs of housing animals. They were proud to announce that their donation could keep nine cats or six dogs in the shelter for a day. \textit{Way to go girls!}
Who doesn’t welcome the unconditional love of a pet, touch time with a furry friend, or the comfort a lap cat provides? Animals and pets have a positive effect on people.

Visiting pets brighten days for seniors, students, children and youth with special needs, some with autism.

HBSPCA volunteers – 50 in number – visit schools, long-term care homes, hospitals and shelters with their 36 dogs and 4 cats as well as 4 HBSPCA rabbits. Their reach is phenomenal – 1450 visits in 2013!

“There's something to be said about the carefree, disposition of therapy animals when in the company of people. As our students have gotten to know the animals they have been much less inhibited and it's wonderful to see some true emotions emerge. Students who are more withdrawn will now crack a genuine smile, laugh or extend a hand. Others who were sheepish, actively feel the warmth of a dog’s ears and some are allowing a rabbit to sit in their laps as they hold them. I can't believe we have come this far! Thanks again for such a wonderful experience.”

James Axiak, teacher
Billy Green Elementary School

WHAT’S KEITHS’S STORY?
Jesse James and I have been volunteering with the HBSPCA for 11 years. We started in the pet therapy program and have since gone on to volunteer in long-term care homes, hospitals, retirement residences and women’s shelters. Every Thursday morning I watch Jesse working with autistic children, teaching the kids how to pat him, walk him and put on his leash. Jesse and I volunteering together at with the HBSPCA gave me a chance to realize my dream of working together with people and animals. We encourage people to come and join us in supporting the HBSPCA with their time in any way they can—walking dogs, fostering pets or joining us in the pet therapy program.”
THE STORY OF RUCKUS

Ruckus was a puppy when she was surrendered to the HBSPCA following a car accident in December 2013.

Her front leg had suffered severe nerve damage, causing her to drag the leg. Ruckus was placed in foster care to rest pending a decision on the best course of care for the Border Collie/Boxer mix pup.

In January 2014, Ruckus began weekly electro-acupuncture treatments to stimulate nerve growth. Ruckus regained 35 – 40% of her leg function back in just five weeks. She has a long road ahead of her, and best of all, she is happy at home with her now permanent “foster” family and her fur siblings – Chaos and Motley.

MEET AMY

In May 2013, HBSPCA Protection Officers found an injured 4 year old cat, named Amy. She had been bitten by a dog and her eye was badly injured. Amy was examined at the HBSPCA Companion Animal Hospital. The veterinarian determined that removing the eye would give Amy the best quality of life.

After Amy’s eye was removed, she was spayed and then she recovered with her foster family.

Three weeks later, Amy returned to the shelter for a final health check and that lucky girl found her forever home the next day!
A FALL FAMILY REUNION – THE IG JAMBOREE

Happy endings were celebrated November 3rd, 2013. Italian Greyhounds (IGs) and their foster families and adopter families played cheek by jowl at the HBSPCA. Pups found their siblings and caring families shared pictures, stories and family trees.

149 mostly Italian Greyhound dogs were rescued from deplorable conditions in October 2012. And so began an incredible journey of health recovery in hospital, kennels and foster homes over 8 months and sometimes more. Foster families welcomed these fragile dogs into their homes. They trained them, nursed them back to health and loved them. Every dog had found its second chance home by the end of 2013.
BAKE TO BENEFIT THE ANIMALS

National Cupcake Day 2013 was the first pan Canadian event to support animals in local shelters, SPCAs and Humane Societies.

In February 2013, animal lovers in Hamilton and Burlington hosted goodie sales at home, at school and at work to raise money, and several local bakeries generously gave proceeds of their sales – all to support the animals at the HBSPCA!

The HBSPCA sweetened this brand new event with an open house – inviting the community to visit the shelter. Companion Animal Hospital tours, bake sales, face painting and cupcake decorating filled the day!

EVERY DOG IN THE POOL!

Wiggle Waggle Walk & Splash: Walk-a-Thon? No longer! In September 2013, the HBSPCA took ‘the plunge’ and revamped the ever popular ‘Wiggle Waggle’ to include Wild Waterworks, on the inviting landscape of the Hamilton Conservation Authority. Walkers and their dogs were invited to once again walk 5 km (at Confederation Park), then were welcomed into Wild Waterworks to shake a paw in one of the three pools! Doggie Swimsuit contests, Dock Jumping performances and live music were just some of the fun to be had at this exciting re-vamp! All dogs in the pool!
It doesn’t matter whether you live in Burlington or Hamilton, an animal in need is an animal in need. That’s why I’ve been a monthly donor to the HBSPCA for the last decade. The work being done by their staff and volunteers is tremendously important in ensuring that animals great and small in our communities have a champion and a voice. I support the HBSPCA because they do this great work on behalf of all of us and they can only do it with our help. I invite you to become a monthly donor and help keep the HBSPCA a strong and healthy champion for animal rights.
PAVING THE WAY

In July 2013, a crew from Bravo Paving teamed up to give HBSPCA dogs a safe outdoor run and play space.

What a day it was – hot and humid. “Fergie” was the first happy canine customer to enjoy the new space!

Hats off to Sante, Andrew, Gary, Brad & Justin from the Bravo team and the shelter volunteers who made this happen!
Bernie Morelli served on the Hamilton/Burlington SPCA Board of Directors (2009-2014) as the City of Hamilton Councilor representative. His respect for and love of animals was evident in his commitment to the City he loved as a decision maker, resident and dog owner. Bernie was deeply committed to the HBSPCA and an ardent supporter of its mission to protect animals, care for and re-home animals, and teach responsible pet ownership. Bernie’s knowledge of good governance served Board processes and deliberations well.

Bernie, thank you for your love of the animals. Shake a paw, we miss you.
NEW SUPPORT

The HBSPCA thanks the Government of Ontario for the first of a two year grant to sustain Cruelty Protection and Investigation Services. This is the first time in 127 years that government support has been available to help enforce animal protection regulations in Hamilton and Burlington.

HBSPCA REVENUE SOURCES

- Program fees (36%)
- Donations (33%)
- Lotteries (13%)
- Grants (8%)
- Events (7%)
- Other (3%)

TOTAL: $1,785,192

WITH THANKS TO OUR COMMUNITY

Community members give back to the animals in their lives in many ways. People adopt from the HBSPCA. People of all ages make donations. Some participate in games of chance wherein a portion of their purchase benefits homeless, abused and neglected animals. Individuals and families bake, buy cupcakes, sell lemonade, walk and splash with their dogs in Confederation Park and smile with Santa for a seasonal picture. Our granting partners too, help support summer programs; a big thanks to the YMCA Summer Jobs for Youth Program.
BEQUESTS
The HBSPCA thanks the generosity of residents who made bequests in 2013. These gifts sustain the HBSPCA’s service to community – protecting animals in distress, caring for and rehoming neglected, abused and homeless animals, and growing respect for all animals. The following individuals collectively bestowed $999,279 to the HBSPCA in 2013.

- Jill Allen
- Marjorie Baskerville
- Betty Beatty
- Shirley Benning
- Lubomira Bielak
- Stephan Bonta
- Irene Brabbs
- Catherine Dawson
- Barbara Dusitn
- Lila Giencke
- Thelma Honour
- Shirley McGinley
- Dorothy Powell
- Kathleen Quin
- Sheila Raby
- Gail Rusnell
- Julia Tozzi
- Audrey Williams

WE COULDN’T DO IT WITHOUT YOU

SPONSORS
- Air Kool
- Parkway Motors
- Royal Canin
- Skedddadle

PARTNERS
- Banyan Community Services – Arrell Youth Centre
- Community Veterinary Outreach
- Hamilton Community Foundation – Phenix Fund for Animal Welfare
- Mohawk College
- Spectator Camp Fund
- Pet Valu
- Positive Pups
- YMCA Summer Jobs for Youth
- Chedoke Animal Hospital
- East Mountain Animal Hospital
- The Cat Clinic
- The Village Cat Clinic

SUPPORTERS
- Bankomedia
- Cable 14
- CIBC Wood Gundy
- Corus Radio
- Liaison College
- Pet Max

PROUD MEMBER OF
- Canadian Federation of Humane Societies
- Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
- Hamilton Chamber of Commerce

CARE  ADVOCATE  PROTECT  EDUCATE
COME FOR A VISIT!

WWW.HBSPCA.COM