

The Paw Press

2021 Spring Edition



Home sweet home at 190 Hanlon Creek Blvd.

It was years in the making, but the Guelph Humane Society can finally say: **we've moved!**

On March 5th and 6th, GHS staff and directors loaded up the contents of 500 Wellington Street West and unloaded them at 190 Hanlon Creek Blvd. It is hard to put into words the difference between the two buildings. Going from a 3,000 sq ft building to an 18,000 sq ft building is a transformational move - and after nearly two months in the new facility, we can honestly say that for the GHS team it already feels like home.

Most importantly, you can see the difference in the animals. They have a bright, comfortable, enriching and low-stress environment to stay in until they find their #HappyTails.

We finally have a building that reflects the work we are doing in our community, and we cannot wait until everyone is able to step inside this bright new building and see the difference for themselves.



Boo, formerly Candy, was the first animal adopted from the new GHS building on March 9th.



Samantha holds one of 25+ rats surrendered to GHS this spring. Some of the rats were pregnant and produced more litters while in our care.

Our new dedicated small animal intake room gave us the ability to accept these rats from outside of our jurisdiction, when no other shelter would take them in.

The "On-the-Move" MATCH campaign March 5-7 sponsored by B.A.P. Heating & Cooling Services helped to raise over \$14,000 towards our new building!



Ksenia enters the cat adoption room with specialized breakfasts to accommodate different dietary needs.

Supporter Spotlight: Charlie & Diann Millage continue a legacy of kindness to animals

As longtime recipients of the GHS Paw Press newsletter, Charlie and Diann Millage had been following along with our new building plans and construction updates for years. Earlier this year, they both agreed that they wanted to help. They committed to a \$100,000 gift to the new building just days before Charlie died, at the age of 95.

"We are thankful that Charlie and I could contribute to this project," says Diann, who recently toured our new home at 190 Hanlon Creek Blvd. "It's an up-to-date facility that will provide care to animals who so desperately need the assistance."

The Millages sold farm property years ago, and they consciously set out a purpose for that money: to better their community. Diann says that the rationale is to "fund projects that would enable support, extend kindness, and create a happy environment for folks in our community."

Charlie was born in 1925, on a farm in Emily Township – near what is now known as Kawartha Lakes. Animals were a part of his life from the beginning, from working with horses on the farm, to spending weeks caring for an injured lamb, to his very own cow/calf operation. Diann says the pastured cattle, barn cats and dog were always happy to see Charlie, as they knew he would usually bring treats with him.

"Kindness was a thread woven in Charlie's personality," says Diann. "We felt that by supporting the campaign for the new location of the Humane Society in Guelph, we would provide a continuation of the kindness that Charlie and I always tried to extend to the various animals that we had in our home."



The second Dog Adoption Room at 190 Hanlon Creek Blvd. (left) will be named after the Millages, honouring Charlie's legacy of kindness to animals and his impact on the community.



Diann with Charlie at the Elora Mill in 2019, celebrating his 94th birthday.

GHS 50/50 Lottery raises over \$85,000!

The first-ever online GHS 50/50 Lottery took place March 15 - April 15, raising over \$85,000 in support of our new building!

With 50% of the jackpot going to one lucky winner, Jennifer Garner's ticket number was randomly selected and she became the recipient of the \$43,325 grand prize!

Jennifer has adopted two cats from GHS in the past, and she says she was speechless when she found out she won, adding, "I've never won more than \$100 playing different lotteries over the years."

Many ticket purchasers wrote on our social media feeds following the winning announcement: ***I didn't win the money, but the big winners here are the animals.*** That couldn't be more true! Proceeds from the 50/50 closed the gap on our Capital Campaign, with **\$1 million left to raise.**

Thanks to everyone who purchased tickets for the 50/50 lottery. GHS will be running a second 50/50 lottery June 15 - July 15. Could YOU be the next winner?



Jennifer Garner picks up her \$43,325 grand prize cheque!

SAVE THE DATE:

The next GHS 50/50
Lottery takes place
June 15 - July 15

GHSLotto.ca

High-profile #HappyTails

GINNY

Ginny, a 7-year-old calico, was in the care of GHS for seven months. Ginny has diabetes and needs two insulin injections every day. She sat on our Available Animals page for three months waiting for her #HappyTail - and when it finally came, it was a perfect fit! Ginny's new mama is a healthcare professional with lots of experience giving injections. We were so happy to see Ginny go to her new home back in February!



PIXIE

Pixie came into our care at GHS in March after being hit by a vehicle. Pixie had to have one leg amputated, and she was able to get the help she needed thanks to our **Duke's Fund** donors. A video of Pixie learning to walk again brought her international fame. The video was viewed over 150,000 times on Facebook, and CTV Kitchener even stopped by to do a story on her. Pixie won over so many hearts because she showed such resilience and strength - and she never stopped wagging her tail despite all of the obstacles. Pixie was adopted in early May, with her #HappyTail wagging as she hopped into the car with her new family.

Jamie — the first farm animal at 190 Hanlon Creek Blvd.

One of the most exciting features of our new building is the dedicated farm animal room - a comfortable, stress-free space for farm animals to stay while in our care.

Jamie the hen was the first farm animal to stay in the brand-new room. She arrived as a stray on March 17th, and became so comfortable that she started laying eggs!

By early April, Jamie was adopted and found her own #HappyTail. The farm animal room only sat empty for a few days, as three roosters (Curly, Larry and Moe) were surrendered and are the most recent inhabitants of our farm animal room as they await their #HappyTails.



Jamie the hen was the first animal in our dedicated farm animal room.



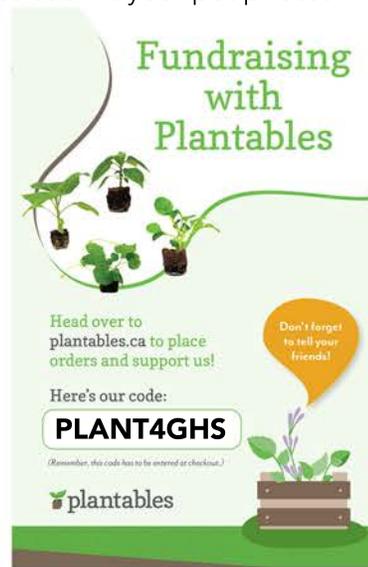
Larry looks out at the nearly completed outdoor chicken coop, which will be named after the Grand River Agricultural Society in recognition of their \$10,000 grant supporting our farm animal program!

You won't want to miss it....

- **Vote for your favourite pet photos in the GHS 2022 Calendar Contest!** The top 12 pets with the most votes will get a place in the calendar. Head to www.gogophotocontest.com/guelphhumaneociety to submit your pet photos and place your votes by May 31st.

- **This JUNE, join us for the Great Canadian Giving Challenge.** Make a donation to GHS through CanadaHelps.org, and you could help us WIN \$20,000! Every \$1 donated in June through CanadaHelps.org gives GHS a chance to win. Look for more information on the Great Canadian Giving Challenge throughout June.

- **Garden while supporting GHS!** This year you can purchase soil (below) and plants (right) while raising money for the animals in our care.



YOU SAVE \$5, WE DONATE \$10!!!

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GIVE & GROW

Visit BigYellowBag.com and enter the code below to receive an additional \$5 off any current promotions.

GUELPHHS21

Cannot be combined with any other loyalty code offers. Must take delivery in Greenhorizons Delivery Zones.

BigYellowBag Black Garden Soil

\$10 from every bag you buy goes to Guelph Humane Society!

Is that cat a stray?

The safest place for cats is to be inside, however there are currently no by-laws in the communities we serve that prohibit cats from roaming. Although well-intentioned, cats found outdoors are often reported or brought into the shelter by members of the public, even if they have a home.

Did you know the Return-to-Owner rate of stray cats brought into shelter in Canada is only about 10%? While our rate at GHS is closer to 20%, this startling statistic shows the majority of cats brought into shelter are never reunited with their owners.

If a cat appears underweight, scared, injured, young (under 1 year), or is in danger, please don't hesitate to call GHS so that we can help.

However, if a cat appears well fed, has a healthy coat, and is friendly – the cat may live nearby. When in doubt, call GHS. Our team has a thorough process by which we can determine whether the cat you are seeing is in need of our help.

Thanks to PetSmart Charities of Canada for a \$25,000 grant to GHS, to help more kittens find homes this year!



JOIN OUR EMAIL LIST!

Don't miss out on animal stories, updates on our new building, news, events, and so much more!

Click the link at the top of our homepage at guelphhumane.ca

Follow us on



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