

Furry Friends 5K



Speaking of Dogs Rescue is pleased to announce we have once again been chosen to take part in the 5K walk/run. We will be participating in both of their events, on June 3rd in Whitby and on October 21st in Burlington. You can visit furryfriends5k.ca for more information,

including details about how to register as a walker or runner. Anyone interested in volunteering for the event is invited to contact our FF5K coordinator, Sara, at sgw.peridot@gmail.com. This is our 3rd time being invited to take part in this wonderful event and it's always fun.

WOOFSTOCK IS COMING!

Woofstock is back to its original time of year and usual location, Saturday May 26th and Sunday May 27th at Woodbine Park in Toronto. Keep an eye out for details in next month's newsletter.

MARCH 2018

THE OFFICIAL SPEAKING OF DOGS MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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About Speaking of Dogs

Speaking of Dogs is a Toronto-based organization that launched in 2001 and is dedicated to educating and enlightening people about dogs through seminars, workshop forums, outreach and rescue. Our goal is to end cruelty, abandonment, mistreatment and homelessness of man's best friend.

Speaking of Dogs Rescue is the operating name of Speaking of Dogs Rescue Program, a Canada Revenue Agency—registered charity based in Ontario.

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Newsletters

If you no longer want to receive our newsletter, email newsletter@speakingofdogs.com, with "unsubscribe" written in the subject line.

Dogs Looking for Homes

A friend in need is a friend indeed

Without a doubt, a dog is a real friend. Our dogs come in all shapes and sizes, but they have one thing in common – they all need loving forever homes. Open your heart and your home to a rescue dog. You'll be glad you did. For complete information about the adoption process, please visit www.speakingofdogs.com/adoption-process. For more information on each dog, simply click on their name.

Abby

GERMAN SHEPHERD MIX
MEDIUM, YOUNG, FEMALE



FEATURED DOG:

Abby is a lovely dark chestnut coloured 2-year-old spayed female shepherd mix who is looking for an active, loving family. She has been with the same family since she was a puppy, but lifestyle changes and time constraints have created challenges for Abby as she requires more attention and exercise than her current family is able to provide.

Abby has been raised with young children and another dog. While she can initially be hesitant when meeting new people, she eventually engages once things calm down and she no longer feels overwhelmed. Abby's family describes her as loveable and good with children and other dogs, and they say she loves their interaction and attention.

She is an active girl who loves to exercise, run, and play, so needs someone who is ready and willing to get out their snow (and rain) boots and walk the trails and have a game of hide-and-seek in the yard. Her ideal new home would be a house with a large fenced yard with a family who has older children (rather than young toddlers who need more time and attention) and who has time for walks and runs. Abby will thrive in an environment where she is surrounded by love, patience, and kindness! Can you give her the active, engaged forever home she so richly deserves?



Hank

CATTLE DOG / BULLDOG MIX
LARGE, ADULT, MALE



Cashew

YORKSHIRE TERRIER MIX
SMALL, ADULT, FEMALE



Lucy

SHIH TZU
SMALL, ADULT, FEMALE



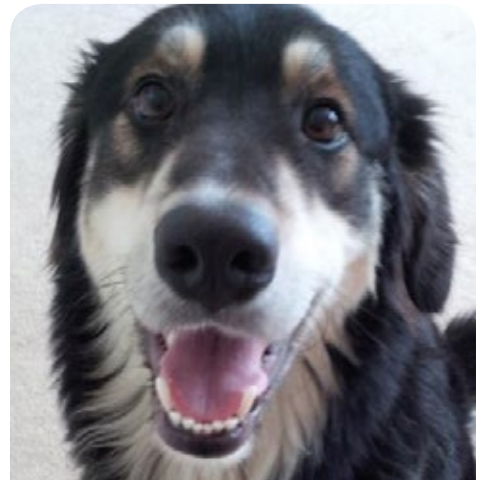
Mercedes

GERMAN SHEPHERD DOG
LARGE, ADULT, FEMALE



Minkus

YORKSHIRE TERRIER
SMALL, SENIOR, MALE



Zorro

SHEPHERD / BORDER COLLIE MIX
MEDIUM, YOUNG, MALE



Lester

BEAGLE / HOUND MIX
MEDIUM, SENIOR, MALE



Ruby

LABRADOR RETRIEVER MIX
LARGE, SENIOR, FEMALE



Beatrice

BEAGLE
MEDIUM, SENIOR, FEMALE



Henry
COLLIE / LABRADOR RETRIEVER MIX
MEDIUM, SENIOR, MALE



Willow
LABRADOR / SHEPHERD MIX
MEDIUM, ADULT, FEMALE

THIS MONTH'S RECALLS:

Click on a recall to be directed
to further information online.

- The euthanasia drug pentobarbital was found in certain Gravy Train, Kibbles 'N Bits, Ol' Roy, and Skippy products.
- Smokehouse Beef Munchies
- Darwin's ZooLogics
- Redbarn bully sticks
- Raws for Paws ground turkey

Canadian Pet Expo!



Join us at the Canadian Pet Expo, Canada's largest consumer pet show. Speaking of Dogs rescue will be there to promote our dogs and provide information about responsible pet adoption and ownership. The expo will feature more than 300 exhibitors and pet-themed events, including Canada's largest cat show. And don't miss Speaking of Dogs Rescue's booth! Pets are, of course, welcome.

Time: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Friday and Saturday,
and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday

Date: Friday March 30 to Sunday April 1

Location: International Centre, 6900 Airport Road, Mississauga
For more information you can visit www.canadianpetexpo.ca

2018 Rescue Directory

In 2017, Speaking of Dogs decided we would not be publishing another rescue directory due to a drop in advertising dollars (which pays for printing and mailing). However, that decision may change.

As many of you know, the provincial directory was originally created to help build bridges and relationships between Ontario's animal shelters and dog rescue organizations in an effort to offer shelter dogs more options and opportunities. The first directory was published in 2001, and in the 17 years since, our annual directories have hopefully assisted shelters and rescues work collaboratively and productively to help the many dogs who come to need them.

Upon rethinking, we've decided to produce a 2018 Province of Ontario Rescue Directory, but it will be an online only version and will be accessible on our www.speakingofdogs.com site at some point in March.

Should you wish to advertise please contact Lorraine at lh4dogs@rogers.com.

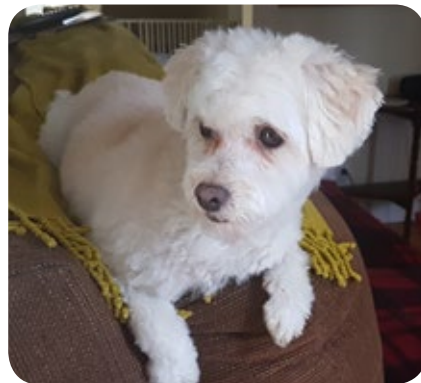
WAGS AND WIGGLES FOR MARIAN AND SLEUTH OF BAKER STREET!

Thank you so much to Marian, owner of the Sleuth of Baker Street in Leaside, and her patrons for donating to the Speaking of Dogs Rescue jar! The popular bookstore raised almost \$250 for our dogs. Enthusiastic wags and wiggles

from all the dogs to Marian and all! Visit Sleuth of Baker Street at www.SleuthOfBakerStreet.ca or their store at 907 Millwood Road in Toronto. You can also email Marian at sleuth@SleuthOfBakerStreet.ca.

From: Cheryl
To: Speaking of Dogs Rescue
Subject: Nina

From day one, Nina has been an integral member of my family. I had adopted Gertie a year earlier from Speaking of Dogs Rescue; Gertie is blind and can be nervous in some situations. I thought another dog might help draw her out, and Nina certainly has accomplished that! Nina is an absolute joy to be around and always makes me laugh. She is a little wild and impulsive, but she does listen well. She is healthy with lots of energy and loves going for a run in the backyard almost as much as going for a walk. She definitely likes the outdoors no matter what the weather. Nina has become particularly close with one of my cats. They chase each other around the house and then will cuddle on the couch in the evening. Thanks to Speaking of Dogs Rescue for the great work you do and to Lorraine who suggested Nina as a possible match. I fostered her first to ensure a good adoption match.



Leafs for Lester Raffle Now On!

Thanks to a very generous donor, we have two Gold Leafs tickets to raffle off to help pay for Lester's cardiac ultrasound and x-rays. Speaking of Dogs Rescue took Lester from a crowded shelter when the senior beagle was overlooked for adoption. Lester is the sweetest boy and has a heart murmur that needs diagnosis.

Tickets are the usual price: one for \$10 or three for \$25. The raffle started on Monday February 26th and runs to Monday March 5th. We will draw the lucky winner on Tuesday March 6th!

The tickets are for Saturday March 31st, and the Leafs will be playing the Winnipeg Jets. Your raffles stewards are Lorraine and Gerry, with Lester as our honorary captain! If you would like to participate, please email Lorraine@speakingofdogs.com



Ask the Trainer

WHEN TRAINING A REACTIVE DOG, LIFE HAPPENS...

If you have ever owned a reactive dog, you most likely know how important it is to train only when your dog is under threshold and not when he is already barking and lunging. This is the goal: manage the environment the best you can and always set your dog up for success.

Nevertheless, life happens. No matter how hard we try, we cannot completely eliminate a reactive dog's outbursts, and, frankly, I don't even think it is realistic to try to do so. In real life there will always be that incident when the neighbour's dog runs off-leash up to you, you have a had long day, and you are not quick enough to ask your dog for an alternative behaviour.

And there we go. You have spent so much time and effort training your dog, and it feels like this one incident has ruined it all. I don't think anyone but a person who has had "The Hound from Hell" can relate to this.

One of the questions that we need to address is, "How quickly does my dog recover from the barking/snarling festivity?" Reacting to life is as natural for dogs as it is for us. We can get very angry at traffic, strangers walking across our front lawn, etc. But we are capable (most of the time anyway!) to recover from emotional outbursts. With thorough training, dogs can do the same.

Of course, the goal is for the reactivity to become less and less frequent, but it is important to keep in mind that it will never truly go away. It will always be there.

So what should we do when the poop hits the fan? We need to patch things up with successful repetitions. I once taught



Control Unleashed-type workshops in Finland, where the participants were very savvy trainers. Many of the dogs had some level of leash reactivity, but they already had a beautiful, happy conditioned emotional response to other dogs: to them, other dogs meant good things would happen!

So we tried to push the limits a little bit further. And yes, unintentionally life happened, and some of the dogs had an emotional outburst when they got too close to another dog. But the beauty of this happening in a controlled training setup was that we could learn from this experience and patch things up. We would re-gauge the distance between the dogs and start again from a point where both dogs were still able to make good choices and respond to their handlers.

Of course, in real life recovering from setbacks is more challenging because we cannot completely control the environment. Sometimes we just have to move away and cut our losses. On

the other hand, quite often, with a little bit of imagination, it is possible to turn a reactive outburst from our dog into a successful training session. Increase the distance to the best of your ability and ask your dog to do behaviours that are the safest bet and reward for them heavily.

The hardest part is to make yourself cheerful and happy on those occasions, but do your best. Remember, dogs do not fake feelings. They are not exhibiting the reactive behaviours to annoy us. They just cannot help it.

So when life happens we have no other option but to take a deep breath, adjust the training, and work through it!



Mirkka Koivusalo, MSc, PhD, owner of Mindful Behaviors and co-owner of the Toronto Centre For Canine Education

Happy Tails

FEBRUARY ADOPTIONS:

A big thank you to our foster parents and our new adoptive guardians for helping give these loving dogs a second chance.



Pooh Bear



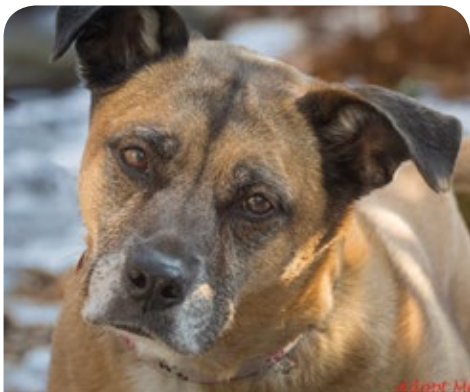
Marydale



Sarah



Millburn



Raven



Lokum



Karma



T-Shirt Fundraiser!

We've joined with multiple rescues to create the Group Tee Fundraiser! These are excellent quality, Fruit of the Loom t-shirts, and every sale helps rescues across Canada. Please share with family and friends and animal lovers in general. When you buy your t-shirt, Collie Rescue Network receives \$1.00 of the sale. When you choose Speaking of Dogs as an additional rescue, we will receive \$5.00 for every shirt sold! The more we sell together, the more we can change lives in rescue groups across Canada.

Please visit www.collierescuenetwork.com/grouptees.html to order your tees.

In Memoriam



Ranger

LOVED BY TOM, SHIRLEY, GERRY
AND ALL AT SPEAKING OF DOGS RESCUE
FOREVER-IN-FOSTER
PASSED FEBRUARY 15, 2018



George (aka Gadget)

LOVED BY SUSAN FITZRANDOLPH
ADOPTED JANUARY 2016
PASSED FEBRUARY 2018