

# Breaking the Chains!



You want to teach your dog not to counter surf, pull on the leash, or jump up on people, but what you ended up with is a dog that:

- gets up on the counter, is told “off” or “leave it” and then comes to you for a cookie;
- pulls on the leash, stops when you stop, comes back and sits next to you, gets rewarded and immediately goes back to pulling;
- jumps up on a person and then sits... over and over again.

Dogs are literal learners. They're association machines, constantly making connections between events. When they connect dots, however, it's not always the dots humans are hoping they'll connect!

Part of this is a common problem on the human side of the equation. All too often, we act reactively, not proactively, and don't anticipate certain behaviours. This is why trainers often hear statements like: “I tell him NO and he gets down, but then gets right back up again!”

What do you get when this happens? An unwanted behaviour chain. They are quite common and, I believe, come from the old-fashioned punishment-based mindset that the dog must perform the behaviour in order for it to be “fixed.”

In other words, the human gets frustrated because the training “isn't working.” Meanwhile, the dog is like, “What? I did the thing and now I get the cookie, right?”

[\*Continued on page 5...\*](#)

## NOVEMBER 2021

### THE OFFICIAL SPEAKING OF DOGS MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

#### In this month's newsletter

Ask the trainer .....	1
Dogs looking for homes .....	2
Wags & wiggles .....	6
Speaking of flashbacks.....	7
Adoption update .....	12
Recent adoptions .....	13
In memoriam .....	15

#### 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.*

#### Contact Speaking of Dogs

P.O. Box 8058, RPO Hurontario  
Collingwood, ON L9Y 0H1  
Phone: 705-444-SODR (7637)  
Email: [info@speakingofdogs.com](mailto:info@speakingofdogs.com)  
Web: [www.speakingofdogs.com](http://www.speakingofdogs.com)

#### Newsletter Team

Editor: Nancy Foran  
Design: Cathy Vandergeest, RGD  
Contributors: Nancy Foran, Lorraine Houston, Maggi Burt, and Kim Gladding

#### Newsletters

If you no longer want to receive our newsletter, email [newsletter@speakingofdogs.com](mailto: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](http://www.speakingofdogs.com/adoption-process). For more information on each dog, simply click on their name.

## Nova

BULLDOG MIX  
LARGE, ADULT, FEMALE

### FEATURED DOG:

Meet Nova! This spayed female Bulldog mix is about 3 years old and weighs about 60 pounds. She's been in our foster program since July and has done very well, but Nova's looking for something new – a forever home!

Some of Nova's favourite things to do include playing with her toys, sitting outside, and napping.

She's a very sweet and smart girl who loves getting lots of attention. She also loves to meet new people and is friendly with children and other dogs.

While in foster care, Nova's been back and forth to one of our Toronto vets, as she's dealt with ear issues and itchy skin. We think we have everything under control now, but anyone who wishes to adopt her needs to know that skin and ear issues may reoccur. Nova's foster mom has been vigilant about following medication instructions from our vet, and Nova's new family will need to be equally vigilant so she can stay happy and healthy.

Nova would do best in a home with a fenced yard and is happiest when she is around people. This smart lady is housetrained and knows basic commands.

Every day would bring new joys and novel adventures with Nova by your side! Can you give her the love and care she needs to live her best life?







*Brady*

BEAGLE / LABRADOR MIX  
MEDIUM, ADULT, MALE



*Ebony*

SPANIEL MIX  
MEDIUM, SENIOR, FEMALE



*Rosie*

BEAGLE / SHEPHERD MIX  
MEDIUM, ADULT, FEMALE



*Charlie*

SHIH TZU  
SMALL, SENIOR, MALE



*Jiji*

BEAGLE / TERRIER MIX  
LARGE, ADULT, FEMALE



*Bella (Pyr)*

GREAT PYRENEES / SHEEPDOG MIX  
LARGE, YOUNG, FEMALE



*Lainey*

RETRIEVER / COLLIE MIX  
LARGE, ADULT, FEMALE



*Coco*

POMERANIAN  
SMALL, ADULT, FEMALE



*Bella (Peke)*

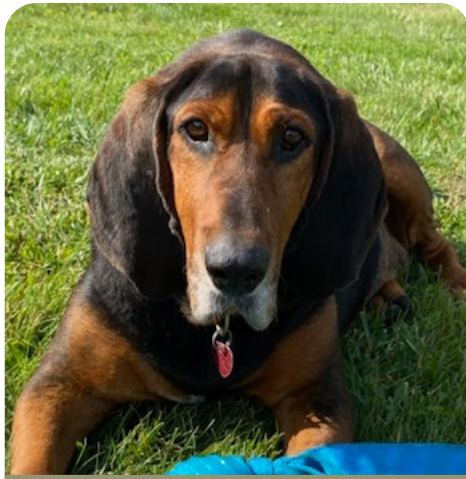
PEKINGESE / SHIH TZU MIX  
SMALL, SENIOR, FEMALE





*Baker*

LABRADOR RETRIEVER  
LARGE, SENIOR, MALE



*Abbott*

COONHOUND MIX  
LARGE, SENIOR, MALE



*Maggie Mae*

WHEATEN TERRIER  
MEDIUM, SENIOR, FEMALE



*Peek & Boo*

BORDER COLLIE / LABRADOR MIXES | MEDIUM, SENIOR, FEMALES  
COURTESY POST FOR SOUTHERN ONTARIO SHELTY RESCUE



*Tux*

LABRADOR RETRIEVER MIX  
MEDIUM, BABY, MALE



*Daisy & Tucker*

POODLE MIXES  
SMALL, SENIOR, FEMALE AND MALE



*Snoop*

LABRADOR / WHEATEN TERRIER  
MEDIUM, ADULT, MALE



# Ask the Trainer

[...Continued from page 1](#)

Your dog is not wrong here. You actually taught them to jump up and then get off by giving them the cookie when you did.

You. Yes, you. This is not a dog problem. It's a *timing* problem.

But don't despair! These things can be fixed, and you are not the only one who's experienced this issue. When I was first learning, I accidentally taught my dog to run up to people, bark at them, and then run back to me for a cookie. Funny in hindsight, not so much at the time.

Most good professional dog trainers study and practise much more than the average pet owner, so our timing and setups often seem to be clearer for the dog, but even we occasionally scratch our heads and think "Hmm, what did I do to get *that* behaviour?"

This just means we go back and look at what we have been doing and figure out where to change things.

As a dog owner, you can consider taking more training classes with your dog and learning more about good mechanics. You can also become better at anticipating behaviour and teaching your dog. Here are some helpful tips:

- Be the "thought police." Learn to see that moment when your dog is thinking of doing the unwanted thing: when their nose rises up toward the counter to sniff, when your puppy just barely starts to move forward on leash, when your dog is just starting to collect their body to jump up... Now is the moment to cue something else or to interrupt the behaviour and reward.



It's too late to reward once the behaviour has actually happened!

- Set the learner up to succeed. This means making the wanted behaviour easier and more rewarding than the unwanted behaviour. Management is key, as is timing. Being prepared to respond and reward quickly makes all the difference.
- Practise your timing and train your dog in setup sessions as frequently as you can manage. Don't try to do it only in "regular life." There are not enough repetitions for the dog to be able to learn accurately, and you are at the mercy of what is happening around you. Don't forget to actually train your puppy or dog in ways that encourage learning as well as training during real-life scenarios. Dogs are always learning something – make sure it's the thing you need!

Now go teach your dog that it's the *walking* with the loose leash that gets the cookies, not the sit at your side! Happy Training!



Maggi Burt, CPDT-KA,  
owner of Tailspin Petworx  
([www.tailspinpetworx.com](http://www.tailspinpetworx.com))

# Wags & Wiggles



## WAGS AND WIGGLES FOR SIMCOE COUNTY!

Thanks to everyone who voted for us in Simcoe County! We are honoured and humbled! We are the Simcoe County Diamond winner in the Readers' Choice for Best Pet Adoption Service and Best

Animal Rescue. And we see our vet is also a Diamond Winner! Congrats to Mountain Vista Veterinary Hospital!

And many thanks to Karen Flude for making this eye-catching thank you ad! Wags to all our supporters, fosters and voters! We appreciate the nod of confidence and support.

## YARD SALE WAGS, WIGGLES, AND WOOFs!

Heartfelt thanks to Vicki Chorley and her merry band of yard-salers. Their efforts over the past year raised over \$2,500 for our foster dog programs! They held three sales and worked so hard unpacking, displaying, lugging, wrapping, and selling!

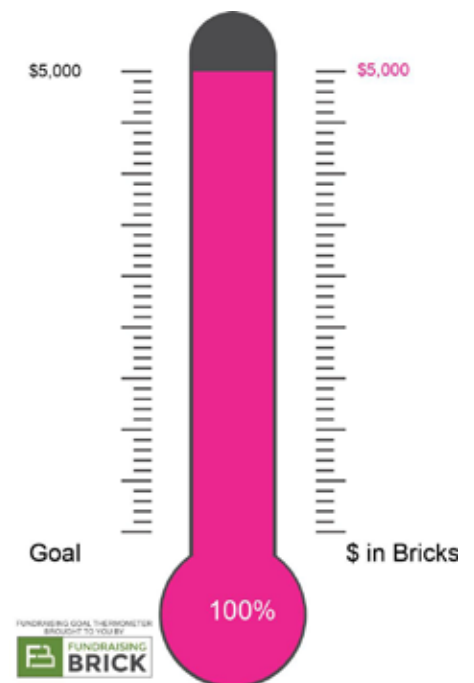
### Our amazing yard sale team included:

Brian Chorley  
Dale Cowdrey  
Diana Vanalstine  
Gary Bumpus  
Jim Killop  
Laura Evans  
Lorraine Rodgers

## THANKS TO ALL OUR DONORS!

We have made our 5K goal for the Blackie's Fund Match Challenge – a week early! We so appreciate your support and generosity, and we'd like to thank our anonymous donor who matched the funds up to 5K!

Blackie's Fund was created in 2020 to pay tribute to a dog who overcame adversity and never lost his zest for life, trust in humans, or his sense of fun. Here's to you, big boy, we all miss you and are sending you heavenly hugs!



Lynn Weston  
Shelley Baker  
Stu Kellock  
Wanda Prince

Thank you all so much! We are grateful for your time, dedication, and endurance!

Special thanks also to everyone who donated so many wonderful items



# Speaking of Flashbacks



We were busy as always in 2018 and 2019, helping many dogs.

We started sponsoring flights for dogs coming in from remote Indigenous areas in Northern Ontario and Manitoba with Flights for Hope in late 2018 and into 2019. We were also working with three rural shelters in Kentucky and took many of their senior dogs and occasionally took younger ones as well.

We helped over 350 dogs over 2018 and 2019, including flight sponsors.

We had to stop hosting seminars because it was no longer feasible with Lorraine

now living in Collingwood, but we continued to participate in many events. We were on the dog event circuit with walkathons, expos, a yard sale, Pawlooza, Woof and Cheese, and pictures with Santa, and we were a chosen charity with Cars4Cures. It's a good thing we had those fundraisers, as we continued to take many medical cases.

We were honoured to win the Toronto Pet Daily Readers' Choice Award for Best Rescue, which was exciting!

We started using our Facebook page more for messaging, dogs for adoption,

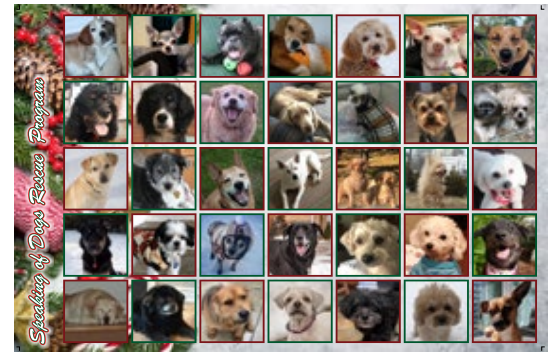
shout-outs for more foster parents, and to let people know what we were up to in terms of events.

In both 2018 and 2019 we had a volunteer appreciation holiday party at the Mandarin and had the very best time! We always enjoyed getting together with our team and exchanging stories about the dogs we had transported, fostered, and found new families for. It was a time to reflect, rejoice and recharge. We are so blessed to have such an amazing team!







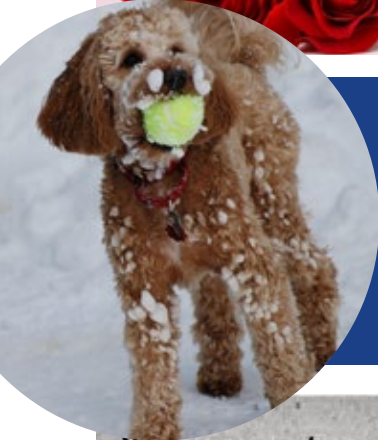


## GIANT YARD SALE!

**Saturday, May 16  
& Sunday, May 17**

**58 Dukinfield Crescent  
RAIN OR SHINE**

**FUNDRAISER FOR HOLLY'S HOPE**



"No act of kindness,  
no matter how small,  
is ever wasted."

-Aesop

**cars 4 cures**



**10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

**"Woof & Cheese" Open House & Fundraiser**

**Sunday October 21st from 11am to 4pm**

Join us in celebrating our Tenth Anniversary "Woof & Cheese"  
and tour our 6,800 Sq Ft facility!

- BBQ
- Raffle
- \$10 Pawdicures
- Pet photos
- Mini Readings with Animal Communicator, Mary Madaleno
- Face painting for the kids
- Birthday cake for our two & four legged guests
- Play with your dog in our 3,800 Sq Ft play area
- Meet the Doggieville Team!
- Doggie contests starting at 1:30pm
- Mr. & Ms. Doggieville Beauty Pageant
- Best Dressed, Best Trick, Waggiest Tail & Longest Sit-Stay

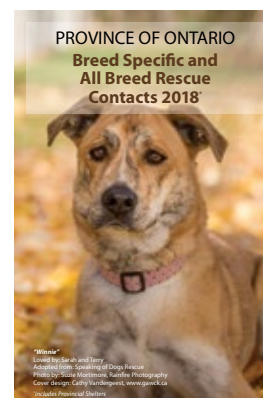
All proceeds from  
our fundraiser will be  
donated to  
"Speaking of Dogs" Rescue



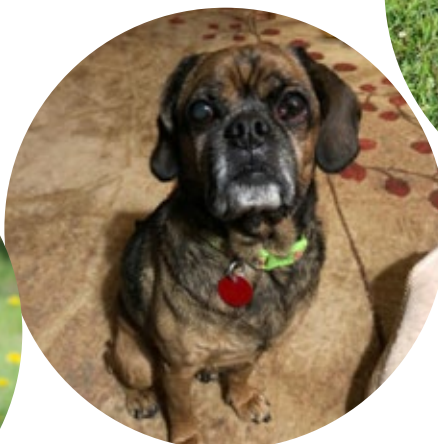
OPEN Mon-Fri 7am-6:30pm  
Saturday 9am-4pm

**1166 Gorham St., Unit 4 • 905-953-9136**  
info@doggieville.ca • www.doggieville.ca











# Adoption Update

*To: Speaking of Dogs Rescue*

*From: Karen and Fred*

*Subject: Ace*

Dear Speaking of Dogs Rescue,

We have fallen head over heels in love with our Ace. He has settled into city dog life and our household very nicely. Without a doubt, Ace is spoiled silly with 5 beds in our home so he can lay at the front door, monitoring the neighbourhood, relax in our living room, join me in my home office for meetings (he's sometimes formally invited to meetings!), chill in the TV room, and snooze in his crate bed at night – a bed in every room of our tiny bungalow!

He makes great use of his little toy chest in the living room and happily tosses and chases many toys each day. Ace becomes extremely excited when he hears the voices of children. He has befriended the young kids next door, lovingly greeting them and prancing about – he put on quite the show.

Ace has become a neighbourhood celebrity and has also travelled to a cottage, a B&B, put his toes into a lake (hasn't yet tried a full swim), and has the best manners when meeting people and in new environments when visiting. He is a great ambassador, showing people how great it is to adopt dogs and especially those with special needs. Everyone loves him!

Ace is a very special guy and started off his young life pre-foster with a few catastrophic injuries and has experienced a number of surgeries as a result to insert and replace various types of hardware to support his remaining front leg (with one having been removed). All hardware is now removed, and he has recovered extremely well despite his tri-pawed state.

He also has some unusual bone structure yet is active and happy to go for walks and race about the house and yard. Ace's movements can be rabbit-like with hopping, but he can quickly shift to a full-on gallop when he sees our son come for a visit. He surprises us (and his vet) with his agility, playful nature, speed, and endurance.

Above all Ace is an incredibly loving and sweet pup. He loves to snuggle, is generous with his kisses, and absolutely loves every person and dog he encounters.

He is the best choice we've ever made, and he fills our days with love and laughter. Thanks to Lorraine, Sue (his foster home), and to Speaking of Dogs Rescue. You've changed our lives in a fantastic way





# Happy Tails

## RECENT ADOPTIONS:

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



*Foxy*



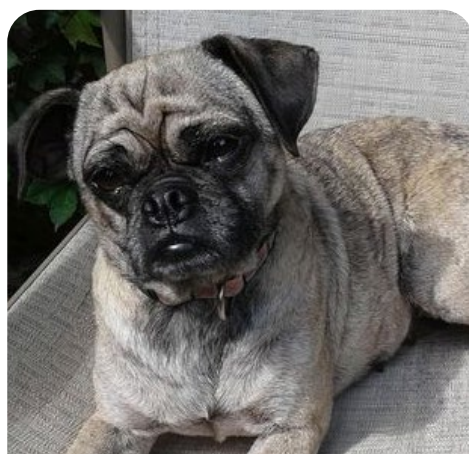
*Ariel*



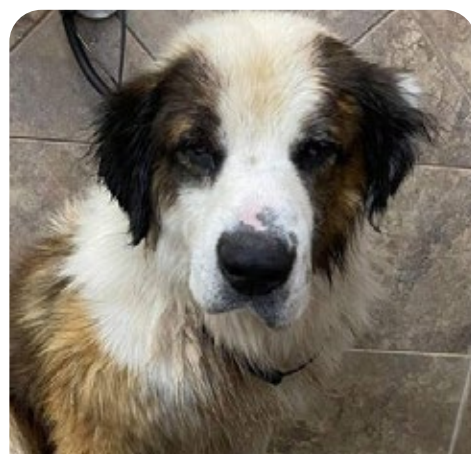
*China*



*Kobi*



*Lily*



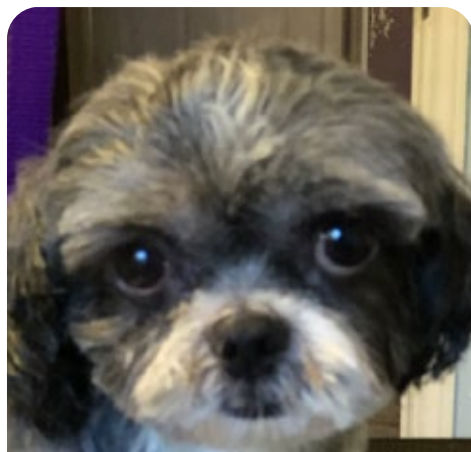
*Oden*



*Drake*

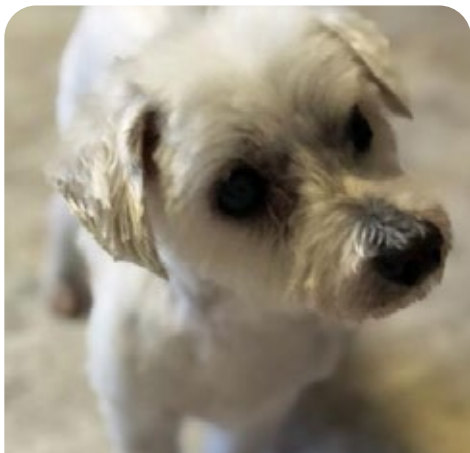


*Benz*



*Julie*

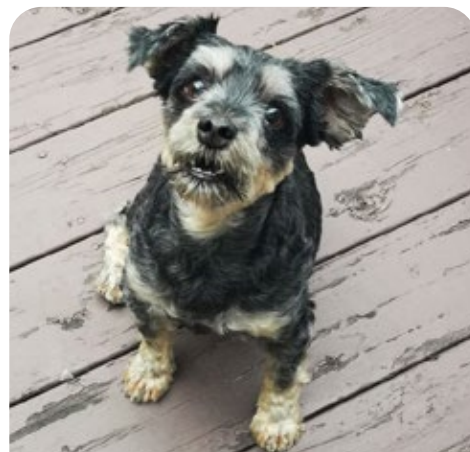
# More Happy Tails



Bobby (maltese)



Karma

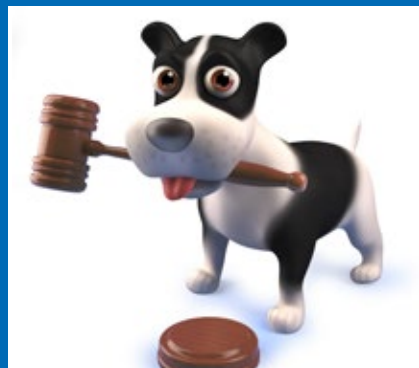


Tyson

## THURSDAY IS FACEBOOK AUCTION DAY!

Speaking of Dogs Rescue's Facebook page not only includes lots of info about all of the amazing dogs we're helping, every week we auction off different items – all for the dogs! Visit our [Facebook page](#) every Thursday to see what's on the block and to place your bids.

Good luck to all of the bidders, and most enthusiastic wags and wiggles to all of our supporters who have donated auction items.



Click the link for details  
on this month's recalls:

- [Fromm Family Four-Star shredded entrées for dogs](#)
- [NutriSource Pure Vita salmon entrée dog food](#)

## CAN YOU LEND A PAW?

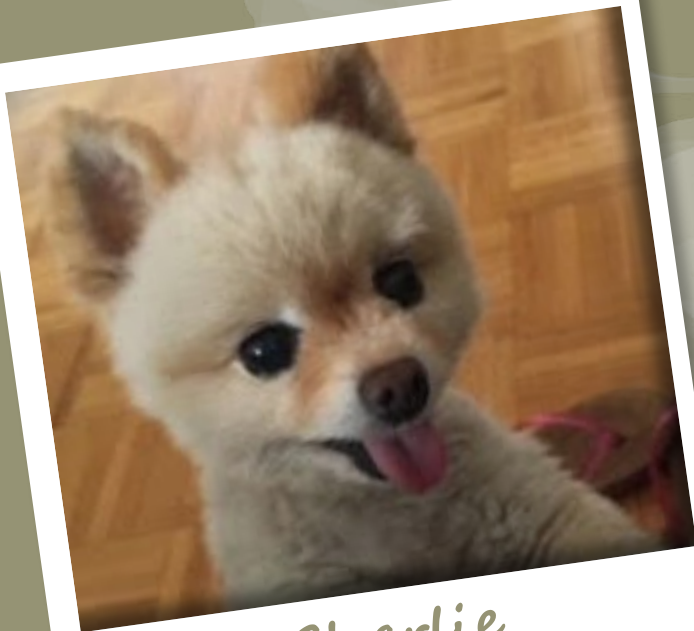
Although we have a partnership with a doggy daycare, we do not have a physical shelter; our dogs are in-home fostered by caring, loving volunteers. Because of the way our rescue is structured, the only hands-on volunteer position with our dogs is fostering. Can't foster but want to help our dogs? Consider donating new or gently used items for them. We are always in need of

- Gas gift cards
- Global Pet Foods or Pet Valu gift cards
- Kong or other treat-disensing toys
- Canned and dry quality dog foods
- Martingale collars
- Kuranda beds
- Thunder Shirts





# In Memoriam



*Charlie*  
LOVED BY KIRSTEN MCKERNAN  
ADOPTED AUGUST 2016



*Lucy*  
LOVED BY JANE, KEVIN AND BRADLEY  
ADOPTED MAY 2016



*Huck*  
LOVED BY DAVE AND CHRISTINE NICKERSON  
ADOPTED MARCH 2017



*Marley*  
LOVED BY ELAINE MEHISTO  
ADOPTED JUNE 2021

# In Memoriam



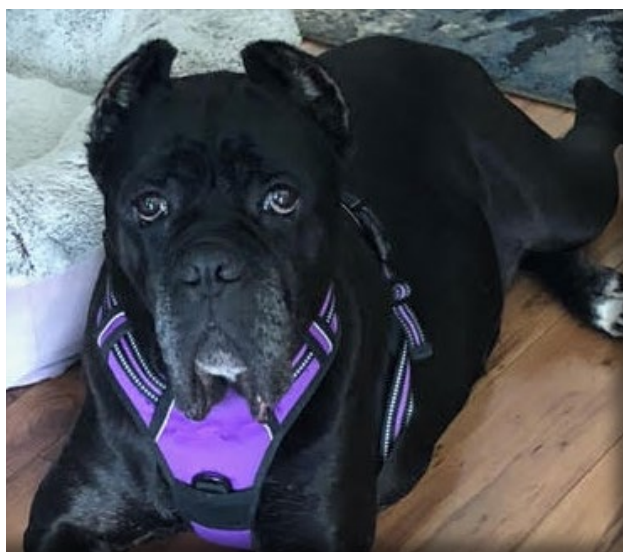
*Toby*

LOVED BY IAN, MARION, STEW, LUAN AND LORRAINE  
FOREVER IN FOSTER



*Millie*

LOVED BY KAREN, DEREK AND FAMILY  
FOREVER IN FOSTER



*Casey*

LOVED BY MORGAN AND FAMILY  
FOREVER IN FOSTER