

Waterdown business collects gently used pet items

By Catherine O'Hara
REVIEW STAFF

Spring has sprung and local animal shelters are bracing for an influx in the number of pets that need temporary accommodations before finding their forever homes. To help the not-for-profit organizations that care for lost, abandoned and surrendered pets during this busy season, a Waterdown business is collecting gently used pet items.

Spoiled Rotten's Haley Luckanuck is appealing to dog and cat owners in the community to help boost Flamborough Animal Adoptions and the Hamilton/Burlington SPCA.

The young business owner and her mom, Teresa, are hoping to collect a large number of pet items, including toys, crates, leashes, collars, carriers, food and dishes. "Anything to do with pets, they can use," said Teresa.

While shelters are busy caring for animals year-round, spring is a particularly eventful time at the Flamborough- and Hamilton-based organizations.

Spring fever

"The natural course of nature brings a lot of kittens and puppies with spring," said the Hamilton/Burlington SPCA's director of development, Katrina Indewey, who explained that instead of opening their doors to one cat or dog, shelters are taking in their offspring.

Locally, Animal Adoptions of Flamborough is expecting to see a rise in the number of kittens that will call the shelter home until they are matched with loving owners.

"We seem to have a lot more intakes than adoptions," said the organization's president, Mary Lamb.

"And a lot less donations."

While toys and towels are necessary to ensure the animals are happy and comfortable, donations of dry adult cat food and litter would really help the pets at Animal



PUPPARAZZI: Spoiled Rotten's Lauren Griffin, Teresa Luckanuck and Haley Luckanuck, with Chase the German shepherd, Xena the puppy and Mojo the cat, want to help animals and the shelters that care for them.

Adoptions of Flamborough, said Lamb. "Clumping kitty litter is always a nice gift to receive."

At the Hamilton/Burlington SPCA, pre-loved resilient toys will go towards enriching the lives of cats and dogs at the shelter. Blankets, crates, towels and beds will ensure

that animals are cozy, and treats will provide pets with savory snacks.

Hoping to make the pet-item drive an annual event, Teresa said, "It's just a way of giving back to the community."

Luckanuck and the animal

Support AAF in a variety of ways

There are plenty of ways to boost Animal Adoptions of Flamborough this spring.

While a Waterdown pet sitting and dog walking business is collecting pet items for animals in the care of AAF, residents can also support the not-for-profit organization by attending this Saturday's Purrfect Penny Sale at Knox Presbyterian Church.

On Saturday, April 23, a giant Easter egg hunt at Morden's Organic Farm on Collison Road in Flamborough will also benefit AAF.

The event, which runs from 1 to 4 p.m., will feature lots of fun activities for youth, including horse rides, a petting zoo and bouncy castle. Admission is free. However, guests are encouraged to bring a bag of non-clumping kitty litter, dry dog or cat food, or donate \$10 per family to help local animals in need.

According to Mary Lamb, president of the organization, foster families are needed this spring to care for pregnant cats.

For more information on fostering, call AAF at 905-689-7801.

lovers at Spoiled Rotten are appealing for donations and will accept the items until the end of May.

The donations can be dropped off at the Luckanucks' Waterdown home, 115 Grindstone Way, or Spoiled Rotten walkers will pick up items in the community. To schedule a pickup, email spoiled.rotten@cogeco.ca or call 905-541-6450.