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June 2023

Your monthly tail wag!

This month's issue of *Your monthly tail wag!* is dedicated to Max, who crossed the Rainbow bridge on May 17th, 2023.

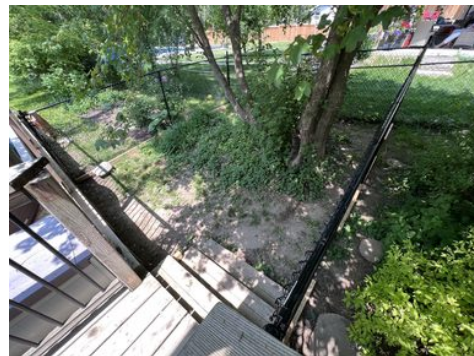
Our new fenced in greenspace!

Welcome to the following pup that had his first stay with the Caledon Tailblazers in May!

- Chewie (Shiton)

And happy birthday to these pups that are celebrating a birthday in June!

- Indie (Happy 1st birthday!)
- Cooper (Chocolate Lab)
- Ozzie
- Zeus
- Zora
- Milo (Shiatsu)



It sure feels like summer is here as we welcome the month of June! It was another busy month with lots of guests!

The May long weekend was spent building a fenced in area for the dogs. The dogs can now take the stairs off the deck to a small grassy area. The space is 256 square feet, not huge but enough for them to stretch their legs and play. It also means they have somewhere to go to the bathroom other than the deck! I think the dogs will enjoy having this extra bit of green space. Walks will still be our main source of exercise but it sure is nice to be able to let



Max, April 20, 2009 - May 17, 2023

When to say goodbye?

End of life decisions for our pets is never an easy one but it is a reality of pet ownership. Most dogs will not die of old age because far before that happens their

quality of life will be so poor that we, as owners, will be forced to make that decision for them. This decision is never an easy one to make and always heart wrenching when we do. I said goodbye to one of my regular clients, Max, on May 16, knowing that it was likely my last time to look after him. On May 17th, Max's mom made the difficult decision to put him to sleep. Max was a 14 years old Beagle Bulldog mix. He was diabetic and he was blind. He needed two insulin shots a day and could smell food from a mile away. He had a voracious appetite and particularly enjoyed chocolate. He was sweet and quirky and a very lovable boy. I am so honored that I had the opportunity to meet Max and look after him when his mom had to work. I may have only met Max in November 2022 but in those few short months we had several adventures and created lots of memories. Max accompanied me to Lauren's hockey tournament in April and cheered her on to victory! I will miss Max so much but I am also so grateful that I had the opportunity to meet him and his mom.

As pet owners, a day will come where we will have to face the same decision Max's mom had to make this past month. Euthanizing our pets is a very difficult and very personal decision. It is a decision we agonize over always asking WHEN is the right time. There is no answer to this question. As owners we worry, we may make the decision too soon but we are more likely to wait too long then to act prematurely. This is because we wait until we can see and feel their suffering. The grief that comes from losing a pet can be debilitating because they bring us so much happiness, they love unconditionally, and they share in our daily lives so losing all of that is heart wrenching. Making that decision to euthanize is agonizing but in

the dogs outside without having to take them out on a leash. May ended with a big birthday for me! I celebrated turning 50 by running a 10K race to raise money for women's mental health.

The day was hot but Rob, Jaime, Lauren, and I persevered and completed the whole 10K! Nik, Flo, and Jeffery came along to cheer us on! We set a goal to raise \$400 and ended up raising \$600!

Thanks to all who supported us!

Katrien



the end if the animal we love so much is suffering and that suffering can no longer be eased in a way that gives them quality of life then isn't it the right decision? My dogs are 13.5 and 14 and I know the day is coming too soon that I will be in this position. It is easy to write the advice and the thoughts around euthanasia but will I have the strength to not wait "too long" and end their suffering when the time comes? That is my hope and my intention.



Kuma and me after completing a 5K training run a day before my big 10K race!

News & Announcements!

Upcoming Vacation:
July 7-14
October 14 - Nov 1

August is booked solid and July is quickly filling up. Please remember to book early to avoid disappointment as I am limited with how many dogs I can accommodate at one time. If your plans change be sure to let me know asap so that I can open up the spot



Max and Ollie, came to cheer Lauren on to victory at the Brampton Canadettes Easter tournament.

for others.

Tailblazer Guidelines:

Reservations must be canceled at least 24 hours ahead of time otherwise may be subject to a cancellation fee.

Payment of pet sitting services is required before your pet's stay begins (or at the time of drop off).

Drop offs/Pick ups should be within 5 minutes of the agreed upon time. If you are going to be early or late please text me.

If your dog pulls when being walked on a leash then some type of training collar is required. If one is not provided then I will use one of my own. I will discuss the use of a prong collar with you prior to using one.

Link to my intake form

Need to get in touch? Send me an email!

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