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Attention News Editors:

## Toronto Humane Society Kicks Off Be Kind To Animals Week by Honouring Community Heroes

TORONTO, April 29 /CNW/ - The Toronto Humane Society will kick off Be Kind To Animals Week by honouring exceptional animals and people on Monday, April 29 at 11:00 a.m.. The recipients have exhibited bravery and determination in the face of dangerous situations; and, they have shown exceptional support for animal rights.

The ceremony, hosted by Citytv's Gord Martineau, is an annual event for the Toronto Humane Society. "This is a wonderful event that the Society is excited to celebrate," says Lynda Elmy, communications manager. "It is an opportunity to recognize some incredible people and courage, and give something back to the community."

This year's recipients include:

- Ivor Oram and Shirley McVittie who saved a frozen and abandoned cat that had been tied in a bag and thrown in the Don River
- "Hershey" an adorable Pit bull who overcame horrendous treatment to be in the hands of a breeder to become a St. John Ambulance Therapy Dog
- "Ziggy" a trained guide dog that rescued his blind 'mother' from a raging fire by bringing her safely down 20 flights of stairs
- "Dante" the dog who saved many Torontonians in the summer of 2004 when a man who was planning to do harm had a change of heart and a chance meeting.

Be Kind To Animals Week, May 1-7, is a time to recognize the bond between humans and animals and the important role animals play in our lives. During this week, we honour animals as our companions, protectors and friends. This week is an opportunity to promote responsible animal care and encourage people to get involved.

The media launch and ceremony, on May 2, will take place in the Toronto Humane Society Dog Park located at 11 River St. (on the corner of River St. and River St.). For bios of all the honourees, please visit [www.torontohumanesociety.com](http://www.torontohumanesociety.com) and click on the Be Kind To Animals Week link.



The Toronto Humane Society is a not-for-profit organization that operates through charitable donations. Its mission is to promote the humane treatment and protection of all animals and to prevent cruelty and suffering.



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TORONTO HUMANE SOCIETY - More on this organization

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