



After Six Months, Two Dental Surgeries, Lots of Medication and Plenty of Love, Marian Gets Her Happily Ever After

Marian was surrendered to the OHS in August when her previous owner had to move and couldn't bring the 15-year-old cat along. After losing the only home she's ever known, OHS staff set to work to help this gentle senior get her second chance.

A vet exam revealed Marian needed dental work. While waiting for surgery, she developed an upper respiratory tract infection. After two weeks of antibiotics, her body healed and the OHS vet performed two dental surgeries on her, pulling two teeth.

By early November, Marian was off to the Adoption Centre — but she would not be there long. OHS staff noticed that Marian was limping in her cat condo. X-rays revealed she had degenerative joint disease in her elbows and left hip. A vet prescribed pain medication to keep her comfortable and she was monitored closely for the next month to make sure she was feeling better.

During her stay at the OHS, Marian participated in the feline enrichment program, which targets cats that are stressed in the shelter, those that have been at the OHS for two weeks or longer, and those that are sick or not eating. Marian even got to spend some

time in an OHS staff member's office where she could stretch her legs and get some extra special attention!

Just after Christmas, Marian was ready to go back up for adoption through the OHS's special needs adoption program, as she will likely need to remain on pain medication due to her joint disease. Her second stay in

the Adoption Centre was also a short one — she was adopted into her forever home on Jan. 3 after 131 days at the OHS.

It's because of you that Marian was able to get the medical care and enrichment she needed to ultimately find her forever home. Help us give the next senior animal like Marian a second chance too. 🐾



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Emergency	613-725-1532
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Fax	613-725-5674
Dispatch/General Info	ext. 221

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If you have a story idea or comment, please contact ohs@ottawahumane.ca via e-mail or by mail to the OHS Newsletter Editor. Submissions of pictures and articles are welcome; however, they may not necessarily be used. Articles may be edited for length and content.

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From the Executive Director's Desk

Tenacity and the Long View



There are a few advantages to being older. When I was younger, I tended to view what already existed as permanent — what always was and would always be. Now I get

to see the long view, the great arc of time and history, and know that change happens.

Those shifts are often motivated by changes to our values as a society. There was a time when women could not vote. Not so long ago, children were treated as property. For the humane movement, the way the world views animals is changing fast. Our communities are becoming more compassionate. Animals suffer and we can no longer ignore it.

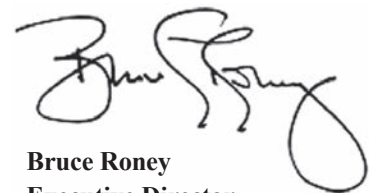
Once both dogs and cats in Ottawa could roam the streets at will, eating garbage and dying inhumane deaths. Now they hold a place in the hearts of many in our community as family members. Dogs do not roam in our community and fewer cats are allowed to roam every year. The launch of the OHS mobile spay neuter vehicle last year signals the beginning of the end of cat overpopulation in our community, and the suffering of countless generations of unwanted animals that goes with it.

On a larger scale, Barnum and Bailey and Ringling Bros. will be shutting down in May. This is the beginning of the end of elephants in entertainment.

The slow demise of Marineland and its ilk started with the harrowing movie *Blackfish*. And now the facility is facing new scrutiny after allegations surfaced as well about mistreatment of its deer and bear populations. This has been a long time coming but the future is now.

Then there was the international outcry about the treatment of Hercules the German shepherd in the movie, *A Dog's Purpose*. Times have changed.

We look forward to the day that the performing elephants, Marineland and animal cruelty are distant memories. There are always setbacks. There always will be. Now I know it doesn't matter. Tenacity, time and what is right will win out in the end.



Bruce Roney
Executive Director



STEVE BREEN SAN DIEGO UNION TRIBUNE CREATORS.COM

Thank You for Being There for Animals Left in the Cold This Winter

A three-month-old kitten is now safe and warm with his forever family after he was found outside in -27 C weather in during the holidays.

An OHS veterinarian examined the tiny kitten, named Cinder by staff, and found he had a frostbitten left ear. The tip would need to be surgically removed.

Cinder had his ear surgery and was neutered just before New Year's Eve, and by Jan. 2, he was in his forever home!

Every winter, the OHS sees animals just like Cinder suffering from frostbite when left outside in freezing temperatures. Thanks to your support, they can get the warmth and care they need at the OHS. 🐾



No Time Limit on Love: Cats Like Chili Stay Until They Find Their Happily Ever Afters

Like many long-term residents, after nearly a year in the care of the Ottawa Humane Society, Chili had gotten into a routine in his OHS foster home — regular meals and play, settled and happy in his temporary stop en route to a forever home.

Found wandering the streets cold and alone in January 2016, the seven-year-old cat just wasn't built for shelter life. So he became part of the Foster-to-Adopt program, spending time in an OHS foster home until he found a permanent one to call his own. Kitties in the program visit the shelter to greet potential adopters who've made an appointment to meet them.

Many animals who come to the OHS spend months getting the care they need to be ready for adoption, from spays to behavioural intervention. Like Chili, some spend months waiting for the right match in the care of the OHS.

Since his arrival, Chili has not faced a day feeling hungry or cold. He will never again face the lonely, scary streets, hunting for food and seeking warmth under cars. This is only because Chili had you to care for him until he got the happy ending every homeless pet deserves — adoption. And in the best early Christmas gift ever, Chili went home to his new family on Dec. 22, one month before his first anniversary at the OHS. It's only thanks to you that Chili had a warm and safe place to wait for his own happily ever after. 🐾



Make a Gift of Love to Tomorrow's Animals

You can create a brighter future for Ottawa's animals by leaving a gift to the Ottawa Humane Society in your will.

It's easy to do.

It will give you a sense of pride and comfort to know that you will continue to make an extraordinary difference in the lives of the animals in our community.



**For more information please contact
Amy Scott, Manager: Legacy Giving**

Call: 613-725-3166 ext 268

Email: legacy@ottawahumane.ca

Visit: www.ottawahumane.ca

PAL Partner Enclosure Size Exceeds Standards

At the OHS, we've made huge strides over the past several years to make sure we are following the best practices in animal sheltering — including making sure our animals' habitats meet their needs.

While a recent news article led to our community asking questions about the size of the enclosures for cats at some OHS Pet Adoption Location (PAL) partner stores, in fact the enclosures referenced exceed the Association of Shelter Veterinarians' (ASV) Guidelines for Standards of Care in Animal Shelters — they're simply bigger. These standards are an internationally-recognized, comprehensive list of more than 500 guidelines created and refined by respected shelter veterinarians to ensure the welfare of shelter animals, both their mental and physical welfare. Meeting and exceeding these

guidelines is something we have worked hard to do for the animals in our care.

That being said, obviously, like you, we do not think cats belong in cages but rather in permanent, loving homes. The PAL program is not intended to provide long-term housing for animals, and in fact most cats are adopted within days of arrival at a PAL.

Our partnership with PAL stores allows us to increase our adoptions of cats into our community, ensuring that every adoptable animal finds a home. Thanks to this program and the support of our partners, we placed over 2,000 animals through our pet adoption locations last year, giving a second chance to these homeless cats with nowhere else to turn. 🐾

Greetings From Griffin, a Rabbit Who Got His Second Chance and a Fluffy Sibling!

Griffin the rabbit was four years old when the new baby in his family developed allergies. With nowhere else to turn, his owners surrendered Griffin to the Ottawa Humane Society.

Very quickly, this adorable rabbit with the crystal blue eyes was adopted.

Griffin's new family also included a resident rabbit who was hoping for a great new brother to snuggle with after losing her former bunny buddy. Like all animals, introductions and bonding can take time — sometimes a lot of time — but the end result can be extremely rewarding.

After four months of slow introductions and supervised play dates that started out very short and increased in length as they got better acquainted, Griffin and Clara share an amazing homemade condo!

"Griffin" wrote to let us know how everything was going in his new home:

"Oh, hi there, I just wanted to thank you for finding me a new family! I have been here for almost a year! It's pretty fun! I have a new friend. She's great most of the time - but she can be quite annoying sometimes. She wants to cuddle ALL THE TIME... but sometimes, I just need a break. When I need my break, I run away and she chases me. I have to admit though, she's pretty good at cuddling. The humans say we are just like brother and sister. One minute we like each other and the next minute we need our space."

Speaking of the humans, they are pretty awesome... they give the best pets... oh, the pets, I do love the pets... if they seem busy and dare ignore me, I just look at them with my big blue eyes and, somehow, they suddenly have the time for me, imagine that? It's like magic!"

Sometimes, worries about introducing animals to resident pets can result in reluctance to bring home a new furry friend. As Griffin can attest, introductions can sometimes take a lot of time but patience and persistence can bring about the most wonderful relationships!

Have you been thinking about adding another companion animal to your family? The OHS has many incredible animals eagerly awaiting their new family. Need some advice on introductions? Don't worry — our adoption staff would love to help get you started on the right path with advice on creating lasting bonds! 🐾



Meet Heidi and John Elliot

Cats: The Final Frontier

Heidi: “We’re both cat lovers and animal lovers, and big Star Trek fans, as you’ll soon see. All our cats have come from the OHS, the first being Jean-Luc in 1995. Sadly he passed away at 11 years old from lung cancer. We then adopted two males, one of which is still with us — Riker is somewhere between 14-17 years old. He’s a bit arthritic, but still pretty spry and he keeps a close eye on our two younger girls, Janeway and Seven of Nine. These all white beauties keep us on our toes!”



John: “We’ve been PAW monthly donors since 2007 and when we received an invitation to learn more about Legacy Giving and the Pet Stewardship program last year we were intrigued. After attending a seminar we called our lawyer right away to sign up to both make a

bequest and enter into a Pet Stewardship agreement in our Wills. It just made sense to us, we don’t have children, we travel regularly and we didn’t want to rely on or burden family or friends if something unexpected should happen. The OHS does great work, is financially sound and while we are considered young to be Legacy donors, we decided we should have a plan for our affairs at the outset rather than waiting until later in our lives or retirement.”



Heidi: “I made a promise to my little innocent pets to protect them and ensure their health, wellness and happiness. I believe that does not end just because I may no longer be here. With our Pet Stewardship Agreement, I know that they will be receiving the same things I provide and this allows me peace of mind. Since the program allows provisions, like trying to keep two siblings together, this is more than I expected. For me personally, these wonderful members of my family deserve the best quality of life.”

John: “On being a donor, I would say that it’s not difficult to get involved or make a commitment, any and all support goes a long way to helping all the animals at the OHS. Just look at what we’ve gotten from it.” 🐾

Why I Foster Cats for the OHS

Whenever I tell people I foster cats and kittens for the OHS the first question is always, how do you not want to keep them all? At first it was difficult returning them without tearing up as I left the shelter, but it became easier as I became more comfortable with the process. I started to foster after losing my own pet as an interim plan until I got my next cat. Well, it’s been 10 years and 150 cats later, and I still don’t have my own pet. I fell in love with the challenges and rewards of meeting and helping out animals that needed me before they could become someone else’s forever companion.

Whenever I pick up a new foster animal it’s always exciting to see who and how many I will be getting. I jokingly ask for the cute ones but to me they’re all cute! Fostering works really well for me because I am the one who decides when I want to do it. The program gives you the ability to coordinate what will work best for you or your family and match it up with the appropriate animal and their needs. It’s not just about having a “temporary” fluffy companion. There is a commitment that needs to be there. There could be appointments that need to be adhered



to, medicine that needs to be administered and training or socializing that needs to be done on a daily basis. This may sound like a lot, but it really isn’t if you love animals.

Over the years I have had the pleasure of meeting so many different cats and kittens who are all very different from each other. I’ve seen kittens being born, opening up their eyes and taking their first wobbly steps. I’ve had cats that like sleeping in sinks, cats that like to mess up my hair, cats that like to play hide and seek and

my favourite — cats that like to snuggle!

There are still times when I do have a special cat or kitten that is difficult to return, but the reality is that there will always be more of them that will fill my heart with just as much love. Found, abandoned and owner surrendered animals are always going to be part of our society. As a foster volunteer I am doing my bit to help this situation. And while it may sound like I’m doing it for the animals, I am also doing it for myself because I truly love every cat and kitten who has come into my life. — Kathy Lane, OHS Foster Volunteer 🐾

Meet Claudia Arizmendi, The Cupcake Lounge, owner and operator

Baking a difference

"I love the Ottawa Humane Society, and I'm very happy to support National Cupcake Day. This will be my third year participating.

Customers can come to one of our two locations in Westboro or the Byward Market and choose from a selection of three differently sized cupcakes, priced between \$5 and \$25. We also keep a donation box at the cash and all the money raised goes directly to the OHS.

Some of the cupcakes feature the OHS logo or an animal design, they are all very popular. And to help promote awareness of the event, we take cupcakes to CTV Morning Live where the hosts and an OHS representative can ice and decorate. One year, Laureen Harper was there on behalf of the OHS and she came back to my shop to personally thank me! But I tell people you don't need to be the wife of our former prime minister to make a difference, every little bit helps and even if it's just buying one cupcake."

Here's how you can help on Cupcake Day: a host baker (you) signs up to "bake" a difference by fundraising and collecting donations from friends, family, co-workers and customers. On Feb. 27, 2017, the baker hosts a National Cupcake Day party where they supply yummy cupcakes and collect donations from their supporters. Go the extra doggy mile and top fundraisers and top teams are eligible for great prizes!

It's that simple! Together with your help we can make Monday, Feb. 27, 2017, the sweetest day and most purr-fect day for Ottawa's animals! 🐾

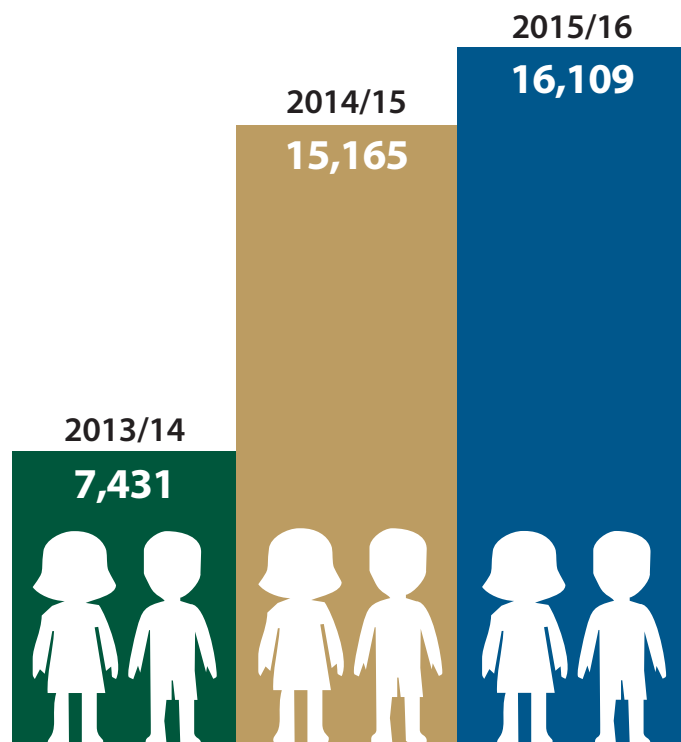


Claudia Arizmendi, Cupcake Lounge owner/operator

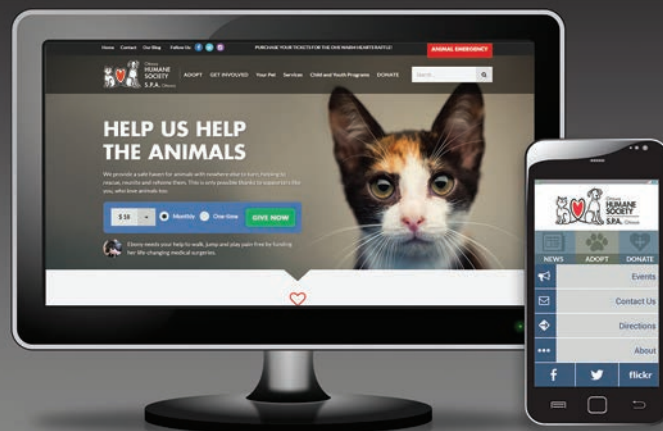
Expanding Humane Education at the Ottawa Humane Society

We're changing the future for the animals, with your help! The OHS leads the way in the humane treatment of all animals with the next generation of pet owners. Humane Education programs teach children responsible pet ownership, promote the human-animal bond, and nurture kindness, sensitivity and appreciation for all living creatures.

Total number of kids reached, by fiscal year



Thank you to Iversoft Solutions Inc. for creating the OHS iPhone and Android app and their ongoing work on our website!



Community Kudos



Katie and Lily-Ann saved money from household chores to buy Christmas gifts for animals without a home. What a wonderful way to give back to the animals of the OHS and say Merry Christmas. Thank you so much girls!



Nikolai, 8, wanted to donate where he felt it was needed most — to the animals at the OHS. So he sold healthy homemade slushies to neighbours with help from his friend Brady. He really made a difference. Thank you Nikolai!



Lilly, who's only five years old, wanted to help the animals so she donated blankets, collars, leashes and toys in lieu of birthday gifts. She donated more than \$100 worth of items for our animals. A huge thanks to Lilly!



It's amazing what team work can accomplish! Anika, Zenib and Josh sold flowers and lemonade for OHS animals and donated more than \$90! That's a whole lot of love and giving back in support for our furry friends. A huge thanks and high fives for a job well done!

To see other humane heroes who have helped the animals at the Ottawa Humane Society, please visit www.ottawahumane.ca/communitykudos.

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THE BEST WAY TO HELP THE ANIMALS



SIGN UP TODAY

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 613-725-3166 ext. 254

Join us!



Moffat Farm Cycle Club Spinning Classes
– Six classes per week in January and February, 430 Rahul Crescent, All proceed donated to OHS



National Cupcake Day – Feb. 27



Hoppy Easter Family Event – April 8
from 11 am to 2:30 pm at 245 West Hunt Club Road

Visit our website at www.ottawahumane.ca for more information



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