

Winter 2015



Our Best Friends

After Nearly Freezing to Death, Lucky the Cat Melts Heart of New Forever Friend

Lucky, the kitten who nearly died after being left outside to freeze, spent Valentine's Day warm and safe in his new forever home after he was adopted last month.

A Good Samaritan found the two-month-old kitten in a shed suffering from severe hypothermia in November and rushed him for emergency care. The vet performed CPR in a final attempt to save his life and astonishingly, Lucky's tiny heart started beating again!

Lucky recovered at the OHS and with a dedicated foster volunteer until he was ready for adoption. He went home in January with a new friend, who informs us Lucky, now Kato, has a kitty sibling to play with in his new forever home.

The OHS was there for Lucky because you care about animals. Every time the cold weather hits, the OHS sees many animals just like Lucky in need of urgent care after being abandoned in freezing temperatures. 🐾



Thank You for Helping Us Keep More Animals Out of the OHS (and in Their Forever Homes)!

When Guinness was hit by a car, his family couldn't afford medical care so they made the decision to surrender him to the OHS where he could get the life-saving treatment he needed. Your support means there's always a place for animals like Guinness at the OHS, a place for pets whose owners have no other option but to give up a companion. The OHS is here to shelter the more than 1,700 animals like Guinness who



Guinness before

cont'd on page 3



Contact Numbers

Main	613-725-3166
Emergency	613-725-1532
Lost & Found	613-725-9998
Fax	613-725-5674
Dispatch/General Info	ext. 221

Departmental Extensions

Adoption Centre	ext. 258
Lost & Found	223
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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.

Newsletter articles may be reprinted with acknowledgement of source.

Charitable registration # 123264715 RR0001

From the Executive Director's Desk

Is the OHS "no-kill"?



The humane movement has been fixated with the rise of the so-called "no-kill" movement, mainly from the outside, but sometimes from within the humane movement. It is frustrating because the term is elusive and frequently misunderstood.

No-kill does not generally mean no euthanasia. In Ontario and most jurisdictions it is a crime to keep a severely sick or injured animal alive and suffering. For an organization to be "no euthanasia" would be to announce that it allows animals to suffer inhumanely and illegally.

No-kill is used by some organizations to describe themselves. Unfortunately, there is no standard definition that they must use. Sadly, it often used to beat another organization over the head. Scandalously, it is sometimes used to deceive the community. Almost always, it means turning animals away because there is no space or resources to treat them. When they are full or faced with an animal with needs beyond their capacity, some organizations flying the "no-kill" banner simply refer animals and people in need to open admission shelters like the OHS. Or worse, do nothing. What, I wonder, happens to those animals?

One definition of no-kill is a policy of not euthanizing adoptable animals. (Yes, the next question does go begging: what defines adoptable?) Another suggests the appropriate definition is that a no-kill shelter saves all healthy, treatable and rehabilitatable animals. (Again, what constitutes treatable or rehabilitatable?)

At the OHS, we have made great strides in both categories, but in the end, we decide what we can do to treat and rehabilitate based on the resources we have. And what if we assess an animal as not adoptable because either there is no intervention possible, or that despite our many programs and promotions, the situation is so extreme that we know that no one would adopt the animal even after our loving care? There simply are not enough homes for animals with serious problems. Do you and I believe in leaving an animal in a shelter for the rest of its life? I have been shocked by the living conditions of dogs "saved" from euthanasia and tethered with dozens of other dogs in a barn for years after, sometimes left in pain, sometimes dying slow deaths.

As an open admission shelter, the OHS accepts all animals at any time, no matter how old, sick, injured, and no matter what their behaviour or temperament. We are always here for them. That means those that are not treatable, rehabilitatable are humanely euthanized by caring professional staff who wish that they didn't have to.

In the end, of course, the debate should not be a philosophical one — not between organizations and who is right or wrong. It needs to be based on good veterinary practices and sound research available, and what is the best interests of each individual animal.

So, is the OHS a no-kill shelter? I don't know. It depends on which definition you subscribe to. But you won't catch me or anyone else here using the term. I do know this: we are a no-suffering shelter. 🐾

Bruce Roney
Executive Director

Thank You for Helping... cont'd from page 1

are expected to be surrendered to the shelter in 2015.

There are many reasons animals come to the OHS. Some are saved from abuse by Rescue and Investigation Services agents, others are strays. And then there are some animals surrendered by owners who can no longer care for them: a cat who won't use the litter box whose human companion has run out of solutions, a dog needing life-saving medical care that's just too expensive for her companion, animals like Guinness.

What if, with your help, we could keep more kitties curled up on familiar windowsills, more canines playing fetch with the families they've known and loved their whole lives? What if we could give pet owners more ways to keep their furry friends at home and not have to make the heart-breaking decision to surrender them to the OHS?

Thanks to you, the OHS is working on ways to keep more people and their pets together. The OHS is just the second-best place for animals; home will always be No. 1. Here are just a few examples of what we're doing now to help more pets stay in their forever homes:

Education: You've helped us offer obedience classes to the community. This program helps dogs become good canine citizens, strengthen the bond between owners and their pets, and helps tackle some common problems with tools from the experts.

For OHS adopters, canine and feline experts offer post-adoption information to help manage concerns, providing new families with resources to settle in with their new furry friend.

Changing the future for the animals: Advocating for the humane treatment of all animals starts early at the OHS. Because you've made humane education a priority, the OHS is educating the next generation about responsible pet ownership — with school programs, shelter tours and camps — so our community's animals in generations to come will spend their lives in loving homes.

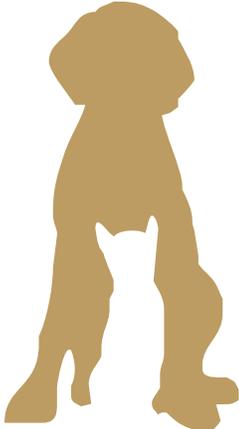
Pet insurance: Every cat and dog adopted from the OHS goes home with six free weeks of pet insurance. Adopters are encouraged to renew to ensure pets are covered in the event of an injury or illness to get help with potentially pricey medical bills.

Thanks to you, Guinness's story had a happy ending: after he recovered from his injuries, the OHS found him a new home! 🐾



Guinness after

**By the Numbers : Top 10 Reasons
Pets Were Surrendered
to the OHS in 2014**

<p>Too many animals in the household</p> <p>Moving</p> <p>Problem with owner <small>(owner got sick, for example)</small></p> <p>Allergic</p> <p>Cost</p>		<p>No time for pet</p> <p>Pet is sick</p> <p>Doesn't get along with other pets</p> <p>Owner died</p> <p>Pet is aggressive with people</p>
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Take advantage of your City Clinic which is open to all residents. Sterilized pets live longer lives and usually cost less to own.

Don't delay, book your appointment today!

613-798-8970

spayneuter@ottawa.ca

www.ottawa.ca



Lifetime Pet Ban, Probation in Case of Starved Great Dane

Charlie spends final days surrounded by loving forever family, thanks to you

Charlie the Great Dane was an emaciated, shadow of the dog he'd eventually become when he first arrived at the OHS in January 2014. Weighing just 53 pounds, his starved body was so thin that he needed a special coat to stay warm.

But after months of care at the OHS and with a dedicated foster volunteer, Charlie grew strong, doubling his weight before going home with his forever family, thanks to our community of supporters like you who made Charlie's happily ever after possible.

In December, the final chapter of his case closed when the person who starved Charlie pleaded guilty to the crime. Jason Woodruff was sentenced to two years of probation, a lifetime ban on animal ownership and 100 hours of community service.

We're sad to report that Charlie passed away on Feb. 10. He was surrounded by the loving family you made possible.

"Charlie taught us many things in his short life with us. We will miss him so very much," his family posted to Facebook.

Vets suspect a pulmonary embolism in his lungs ended Charlie's life, the family said.

At six, Charlie was a senior Great Dane, said Dr. Shelley Hutchings, OHS chief veterinarian.

"It could have been connected to underlying cardiac disease and probably not his starvation," she said.

Though his ending came too soon, thanks to you, Charlie spent his final days warm and safe, with a full stomach, surrounded by the love and care every animal deserves. 🐾



Charlie before



Charlie after



Make a Gift of Love to Tomorrow's Animals

A legacy gift in your will provides a brighter future for the lost, abandoned, injured and neglected animals in our community.



For more information please contact Greg Beck, manager: legacy giving at 613-725-3166 ext 268, email to legacy@ottawahumane.ca or visit www.ottawahumane.ca.



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Community Kudos



Craig, Holly and former OHS resident Angus organize an annual Santa Claus Pub Crawl in support of the OHS. Angus is the official “spokes dog” for the event and this year they raised more than \$500 for the animals in the care of the OHS.



Christine A. and her daughter were so inspired by the passion of an OHS street canvasser that they decided they wanted to give back to the staff at the OHS. They worked for almost a month on this incredible “Thank You!” cake for those who spend their days working for the animals at the OHS.

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

Cool Kids



When Portia turned 11 last month she decided to ask for gifts to the animals at the OHS in lieu of gifts for herself — and she raised more than \$400 in the process! Portia is pictured here with Jerry the St-Bernard; she has a St-Bernard at home named Molly. Portia loves giving to charity and plans on donating her hair for wigs for cancer patients. What a young lady!



Evan decided to ask for donations to the OHS in lieu of birthday presents for himself for his ninth birthday. He came in to drop off all the items he collected for the animals at the OHS! Here he is pictured with a furry OHS resident and all the wonderful donations he collected!

To see more cool kids who have helped the animals at the Ottawa Humane Society, please visit www.ottawahumane.ca/coolkids.

Thank You for All You Do for the Animals!

Beechwood Animal Hospital

How great is it when people do the right thing simply because they don't know any other way? This is the case when it comes to the team at Beechwood Animal Hospital.

Led by Dr. Monique Sandoz, Beechwood Animal Hospital has strengthened Ottawa's ability to care for its animals through its contributions to the OHS's Vet Memorial program.

The program is simple: when an animal is euthanized, clinics donate \$15 to the OHS. The OHS sends a letter to the family recognizing the donation in their beloved pet's name. The program has garnered a lot of positive feedback from families, with many of them incredibly touched that the clinic has made a gift in their pet's memory.

The program has helped the OHS raise money for animals and even helped build the new West Hunt Club Road shelter. We are thrilled that Beechwood has agreed to continue to support the OHS through this program into the future, even though they recently fulfilled their commitment to the building campaign. We are so grateful for their ongoing support!

We are grateful that Dr. Sandoz shared her thoughts on why she feels compelled to honour passed-on pets and support the OHS:

Q: What does it mean to you to commemorate an animal by making a donation to the OHS?

A: We feel that commemorating a loved pet's passing can help the caregiver grieve and then, slowly, come to terms with the loss. We hope that attaching significance to a loss, in the form of a donation to a worthy cause, can help owners feel that their pet's passing has not gone unnoticed; that we are remembering their pet, and honouring them.



Q: Why is it important for you to help the animals at the OHS?

A: We hope that someday, each and every animal at the OHS is destined for a loving home. They just need a little tender loving care, and a helping hand. Supporting the animals at the OHS is our small way of trying to repay the many animals who have helped us.

Q: What inspired your love of animals?

A: This is a tough one. I think I was born this way! I don't remember thinking that I loved animals any more than anyone else, but I'm told that as a young child it was obvious I'd end up somehow involved with animals. I guess I assumed everyone loved animals as much as I did. When I put the question to the rest of our staff, I got similar responses. Maybe it's just in your genes!

Q: Why do you think the OHS is important to the community?

A: Many, many, many people care deeply about the health and welfare of animals. In the unfortunate circumstance where an owner can no longer care for a pet, it is so comforting to know that there is somewhere that a pet can go, where every effort will be made to give that pet a new, wonderful life. It is also reassuring to know that when a pet is lost, there is a safe and warm place for it to be taken until he or she can be reunited with its owner.

We feel that every community needs an organized and empowered institution to protect its animals from abuse, neglect, and ignorance. We think an important measure of the humaneness and care within a community can be seen in how it cares for its vulnerable populations, including animals. With the new OHS, Ottawa is moving in a clear positive direction to improve and take the lead in animal welfare. The degree to which our community was involved with its development, and continues to donate, shows how much the people in Ottawa care about animals and their welfare. And we are so very proud to be a part of it all. 🐾

Top 10 Amazing Experiences to be had at FurBall 2015 – Moroccan Nights



10. Join honorary chair Mrs. Laureen Harper for an unforgettable evening
9. Mix and mingle with Ottawa's finest and fellow friends of the OHS at a lavish cocktail reception
8. Take in the best view of downtown Ottawa from the beautiful Trillium Ballroom
7. Savour an extraordinary dinner created by Executive Chef Geoffrey Morden
6. Meet the OHS Brightening Lives Animals during the Parade of Animals
5. Enjoy sensational live entertainment, with a few surprises
4. Have a chance to win fabulous prizes and auction items
3. Dance the night away in a room transformed into Moroccan Nights
2. Take a picture with your date or an OHS furry friend at our photo booth
1. Be a part of one of the most important annual fundraising events for the animals, our generous guests and sponsors raise funds that are used to care for more than 10,000 animals that come into our care every year.

Join us on Saturday, April 11, 2015, for the FurBall Gala, Moroccan Nights, being held at the Shaw Centre. Cocktails are at 6:30 p.m., with dinner starting at 7:30 p.m. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit www.ottawahumane.ca/FurBall.

Court updates

New Charges

Mr. Alfred Bou-Rjeili, who runs a mobile grooming business, is alleged to have restrained a client's cat using excessive force. The cat died and Bou-Rjeili was charged with causing distress. He was scheduled to appear in court Feb. 13.

Mr. Richard Brunet was charged with permitting distress and failing to meet the standards of care after cats and kittens were found living in unsanitary conditions. Investigators allege dead cats were also found in his apartment. He is scheduled to next appear in court March 13.

Ms. Robyn Campbell has been charged with permitting distress and failing to meet the standards of care after she allegedly did not comply with an order to maintain an acceptable standard of care for her pets. She last appeared in court Feb. 6.

Mr. Terry Cheng was charged with permitting distress after allegedly trapping a raccoon and leaving it for three days without food or water. The animal had to be euthanized to end its suffering. He last appeared in court Jan. 29.

Mr. Andre Emery was charged with permitting distress and failing to meet the standards of care after he allegedly did not comply with an order to maintain an acceptable standard of care for his cats. He is scheduled to next appear in court March 6.

Mr. Martin Morris was charged with permitting distress and failing to meet the standards of care after a necropsy on his dead cat found it was jaundiced with a large opened wound on its hind leg and severe periodontal disease. He was scheduled to first appear in court on Feb. 19.

Mr. William Pryor and Ms. Lorna Sutton were charged with permitting distress, not seeking medical care, failing to comply with an order, and interfering with an agent after they allegedly hid a dog in need of medical care. They are scheduled to first appear in court on Feb. 26.

Mr. Peter Pruchowsky was charged with wilfully causing pain, suffering and injuries for allegedly punching and kicking his dog. He is scheduled

to go to trial on March 25.

Completed Cases

Mr. George Buchanan pleaded guilty to permitting distress and failing to meet the standards of care for allegedly not getting his kitten vet care after he fell from a ninth-storey balcony. He has been sentenced to two years of probation and is not allowed to have pets for two years.

Mr. Scott Crossfield pleaded guilty to failing to provide an adequate standard of care and permitting distress for not seeking help for his severely matted Schnauzer. He was sentenced to two years of probation and a two-year animal ban.

Mrs. Tagried Mohamed was charged in June with leaving her dog in a hot car. She was found guilty in absentia and was sentenced to one year of probation and a \$300 fine.

Mr. Robert Palmer pleaded guilty to permitting distress and failing to meet the standards of care after his dog was brought to the OHS in a severely neglected state. He was sentenced to one year of probation.

Ms. Sandra Pryce pleaded guilty to permitting an animal to be in distress and failing to provide adequate medical attention after her dog's terribly infected eye had to be removed because Ms. Pryce did not seek appropriate vet care for her. She was sentenced to a year of probation.

Mr. Marin Umbres was convicted of leaving his dog in a hot car. He was sentenced to one year of probation.

Mr. Jason Woodruff pleaded guilty to failing to meet the standards of care and permitting an animal to be in distress after his emaciated Great Dane was sold on Kijiji. He was sentenced to two years of probation, a lifetime ban on animal ownership and 100 hours of community service. 🐾

Although legally mandated to enforce the animal cruelty provisions of the Criminal Code of Canada, the Ottawa Humane Society does not receive any government funding or any funding from any animal welfare group to rescue animals in distress and only receives partial funding for investigations. The Ottawa Humane Society relies on donors like you to help perform this essential work in our community.

BECOME A MONTHLY DONOR

THE BEST WAY TO HELP THE ANIMALS



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 WWW.OTTAWAHUMANE.CA
 613-725-3166 ext. 254

Join us!

-  Warm Hearts Raffle Draw – **March 13**
-  Hoppy Easter Open House – **March 29** from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
-  11th Annual FurBall – **April 11**, at the Shaw Centre
-  Bingo – **Every Sunday**, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., at the Overbrook Bingo Palace

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



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