



## Midnight Surgery at the OHS Saves Lives of Shih Tzu and Her Three Pups

The moment Meg the pregnant Shih Tzu started whimpering late that July evening, Iona Guindon knew the mom-to-be was in trouble.

Pint-sized even for a small breed, delivering her babies would be difficult, said Guindon, a registered veterinary technician at the OHS and the foster volunteer who was caring for Meg when she went into labour.

Surrendered to the OHS six weeks earlier, just days into her pregnancy, Meg appeared as if she may have been born in a puppy mill.

“Her coat was scraggly. Her nails were overgrown. She was innocent and naive to her environment. She didn’t know stairs. She wasn’t overly socialized,” she said. “She was small, undernourished.”

Meg had been staying with another dedicated foster volunteer until she approached her due date. Sort of a doula for dogs, Meg was Guindon’s fifth pregnant charge. Just three days into her stay, it was go time.

“She jumped on the couch and that’s when her water broke,” she said. “It was an emergency right from the time she went into labour.”

The first three puppies were breech, much bigger than mom could manage. Typically weighing 100 grams, the pups were about double that size. When Meg couldn’t push them out, Guindon had to start pulling.

“It was one paw out at a time, inch by inch.”

“It was one paw out at a time, inch by inch,” she said.

Guindon called Amanda Lewandowski, OHS vet, for help at 9:30 that night. By then, there was just one pup left to go. It was clear he wasn’t going to budge on his own.

The pair hopped into the car for 40-minute drive to the OHS to save mom’s life — a puppy stuck for too long can spell death for its mom. They both knew it was likely too late to save the puppy.

“I mourned. The whole time we were driving... I felt bad. It was likely the puppy wouldn’t be alive. And mom was in agony. We just wanted to relieve her of her distress and the only way to do that was to help get that last puppy out,” Guindon said.

Their fears were confirmed in surgery — Meg’s fourth puppy didn’t survive. But Guindon, who’s been part of the life-saving team in many animal emergencies at the OHS, recognized how miraculous it was that any of the pups made it that night.

“The loss of one was a gain of four. She could have lost them all, including her own life,” she said.

During the surgery, Lewandowski spayed the mom to get her ready for adoption and a little after midnight, the rest of the furry family went home to recover.

Though full-time staff, their actions that night — from Guindon’s fostering to Lewandowski’s emergency surgery, were entirely on a volunteer basis to help the animals.



Guindon and her foster charges



## Contact Numbers

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

## Departmental Extensions

|                          |          |
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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

## The One Constant



**M**My faith in Ottawa Humane Society donors is rarely unfounded, but it is tested sometimes. In the days following the lightning storm that forced an evacuation of this year's

Wiggle Waggle Walkathon, I will admit, I was nervous. Were we going to have to make cuts this year? Or could we somehow make up the lost revenue?

Then I received an email from a donor. He had heard about the walk. He was out of the country but wanted to talk as soon as he returned because he wanted to help. His proposal? Matching the gift of anyone who wanted to respond to an emergency appeal to make up for the washed out walk. Fantastic! But would it work? We know people care about the animals, but would they care enough to make up the shortfall? In short, yes, they — you — cared enough. A potential disaster was averted, my faith in you once again reinforced.

I really like opportunities to meet OHS donors. Your devotion is amazing. You not only love animals; it is more than that. You value them, and that is different. You understand that how we treat animals is not just about being nice or kind. It is about being human. In the end, it may be our salvation.

At this year's annual general meeting, we gave an award to an amazing 12-year-old girl named Maelyn. This wonderful girl bought craft supplies with her own money and created hundreds of beaded bracelets. She sold them, and raised more than \$2,000 to support the care of the animals at the OHS. She started a group at her school that is raising awareness of animal cruelty and the importance of adopting from shelters.

Imagine a future populated with adult Maelyns. Now imagine a future without them.

Your commitment is profound. Once I received a call from an elderly lady. She had been called by the OHS to ask if she would consider increasing her PAW monthly gift. She wanted to speak with me, not to complain, but to apologize. You see, she explained, she was living on a very modest pension, and with the cost of everything, she was sorry, but she felt she could only afford the \$10 a month she was currently contributing. I felt awful. We have to ask people to help the animals. It is our job. But we don't want to impoverish low-income seniors. I thanked her and assured her that we were grateful for what she gave, and certainly didn't want her to go without. Did she feel, I asked, that she could afford her current gift? Was it too much for her? She assured me in no uncertain terms that she would continue it no matter what. She believed in helping animals and believed in the OHS. This was her contribution. It was clear to me that she wasn't just talking about her contribution to the OHS or to animal welfare. It was her contribution to life.

I have had so many experiences like these with you. There have been some disasters and near-disasters, like the walk evacuation. There have been some seemingly impossible goals, like building a new shelter. There has been bitter public criticism and awards and accolades for our accomplishments. But mostly there has been the day to day work of caring for each and every animal that need us, rescuing animals in distress, and helping to create the next generation more kind than the last.

But the constant is you; and for that, I thank you. 🐾

**Bruce Roney**  
Executive Director

## After Being Hit and Dragged By a Car, You Gave Queenie Her Second Chance

Queenie had a broken hind leg, two pelvic fractures, and road rash down to the bone when her former owners, unable to afford treatment, surrendered her to the OHS last spring.

After OHS staff medicated Queenie to keep her comfortable, clinic staff got to work to fix her injuries. They bandaged her skin, splinted her leg, and performed surgery to repair her shattered pelvis. Over the next few months, she recuperated in a foster home, visiting the OHS regularly for bandage changes, X-rays and checkups.

Since then, Queenie has undergone physiotherapy and taken swimming lessons to help improve her joint strength. Her pelvis has healed but it isn't clear whether she'll be able to keep her hind leg — it may be too damaged to save.

Queenie happily bounced around on her three good legs during a visit to the OHS in September. OHS veterinarians continue to consult with a specialist to determine whether she will keep her leg.

“She has been a real trooper. She has been very sweet and tolerant during splint changes. Because she was so amenable to treatment it made it easier for us to help her,” said Dr. Shelley Hutchings, OHS chief veterinarian.

The OHS was able to help Queenie because of you. A fundraising appeal for her surgery reached its astonishing goal in just one day. But Queenie is just one of more than 10,000 animals in the care of the OHS this year. Thanks to you, they will have a chance of finding their happily ever after. 🐾



## From a Life on the Street to Happily Ever After — Thanks to You

Keesha had been found wandering the streets and brought to the shelter for help in early March.

After no one stepped forward to claim her, the one-year-old shepherd mix spent three months waiting for her forever family, greeting potential adopters and visitors by standing on her hind legs and looking out the window to her room.



Keesha and new dad, Jason

Thanks to you, Keesha got the food, shelter and medical care she needed to be healthy and ready for a new forever home including lots of walks, playtime and enrichment.

On June 3, Keesha's dreams came true when her new dad walked through the door hoping to meet her and take her home. As you read this, Keesha has graduated from OHS dog obedience class, loves to make new friends at the farmers market, and has blossomed into a truly amazing little lady.

Her very proud family is dedicated to her and gives us regular updates on her adventures. While the staff misses seeing her eager face in the window of her room, there is nothing better than knowing she is happy and adored in her forever home.

Without you, thousands of cats, dogs, and small animals would have had nowhere to turn for a chance at happily ever after. Help us make second chances possible for even more animals in the OHS Adoption Centre this year. 🐾

## Midnight Surgery... cont'd from page 1

“It was the natural thing to do. I committed to Meg and once I brought her home I took a personal oath to follow through to the end for her and her puppies,” Guindon said.

Since then, all the pups and Meg have found forever families.

“Each dog will have a unique and joyful life. I would do it again tomorrow. It was worth it,” she said.

Because of your support of OHS volunteer programs, Meg and her puppies have a second chance at a happy life. 🐾



# Holiday Delivery Program

Twas the night before Christmas when all through the house, not a creature was stirring, well maybe an OHS mouse.

The OHS is seeking families who would like to have volunteer elves stop by during Hanukkah or Christmas morning to deliver their new furry family member. Be it a cat or dog, bird or guinea pig, rabbit or hamster, the OHS wants to help families responsibly create a holiday memory they will never forget. Regular adoption procedures still apply so parents hoping to fulfill their child's special wish need to come to the shelter to speak with an adoption counsellor who will help match your family with the right pet.

For more information on the OHS Holiday Delivery Program, please call our Adoption Centre at 6130-725-3166, ext. 258.



Maddie (A183521) the lioness wants to be the queen of her domain in her new home. This beautiful princess of the feline kingdom will fulfill any experienced cat owners dreams.



Logan (129378) is a social butterfly with a sweet personality. His dream come true would be a home where he could join his human on daily outings to help build up his confidence.



Phoenix (A176837) Netherland dwarf mix may just be the cutest bunny ever! She loves to be snuggled and has the softest coat!

## Supporter Testimonial: Sue Roy Like Father, Like Daughter

Sue Roy is one of our loyal PAW monthly donors. She's been supporting the animals for 20 years and is also a proud adopter. Her enthusiasm and love for animals radiated when we asked her to share with us why she supports the Ottawa Humane Society and what giving to the animals means to her.

*"One of my earliest memories is of my father waking my sisters and me at the crack of dawn one morning, so we could see a fox and her cubs cavorting on our back lawn. My late father was a big animal lover, especially when it came to cats, and I'm happy to say I take after him.*



Sue and her cat, Birdie

*What the OHS does is absolutely essential. If we didn't make provisions for the welfare of animals, those most vulnerable members of our community, what would that say about us?*

*When thinking of the OHS and its staff, the first words that come to mind are kindness, patience, and dedication. It's a blessing that they choose to put those qualities to work for the benefit of animals, and I'm proud to show my support by being a monthly donor.*

*Most important of all, it's the OHS that brought me and my cat Birdie together. I'm grateful for that every day."*

Every day, we see the difference donors, like Sue, make in the lives of animals. You can give them a second chance at love and happiness too. If you're interested in joining the Ottawa Humane Society's PAW monthly giving program, please call 613-725-3166 ext. 254 or email paw@ottawahumane.ca to see your dollars in action 365 days a year.

## Supporter Testimonial: Dave Sweeny Why Legacy Giving is Important to Me

*"I have had the privilege of being closely associated with the Ottawa Humane Society for five years. The Ottawa Humane Society's programs and staff make it the number one shelter of its kind in Eastern Ontario. I am*



Dave Sweeny

*proud to financially support the OHS and to demonstrate my support of the society's mission by donating much needed funds to continue its service to our community. I recently decided to support the OHS more substantially than I could during my lifetime by making a legacy gift through my will. A legacy gift to the OHS allows you to provide a safe, secure future for generations to come."*

To make a difference and help animals today and for years to come, email legacy@ottawahumane.ca.

## Community Kudos



Hats off (literally!) to Jason M., who generously took a dare from his coworkers to shave his head in exchange for donations to the OHS! The hair cut didn't cost him a cent, but he raised over \$200 for the animals! Thanks Jason — we think this is a good look on you!



The genius group of Ed K., Amanda F., Taylor G., Dan E., Bob M., and Rachel H. participated in the Westboro Legion's Trivia Challenge for Charity and came in 3rd place out of 20 teams! These smarty-pants chose the OHS as their charity recipient!

To see more, please visit <http://www.ottawahumane.ca/donate/community-kudos/>

## Cool Kids



Miia L. had her birthday in May and asked for donations to the animals in lieu of gifts. This young lady raised over \$260 for the animals in the care of the OHS.



Allie W. decided to raise funds for the animals at the OHS and use that money to purchase items off our wish list! She's seen here with some of the amazing things she donated. Great job Allie!

To see more, please visit <http://www.ottawahumane.ca/donate/community-kudos/>

# Reaching Out to Invite Our Community In Outreach Programs at the OHS

The OHS Outreach department is dedicated to providing opportunities for our community to connect with our shelter and gain new experiences with animals — either their owned pets, our adoptable friends, or our volunteer companion animals. Our goal: to create a brighter future for both animals and people in our community. Here's how we're striving to achieve it with programs right here, at our shelter.

## Seminars

We are pleased to offer on-site educational seminars to provide much-needed information and support to community members who own pets or who may be considering a pet in the future. Seminars provide opportunities for education, discussion and advice from qualified professionals, and networking with fellow animal lovers. Upcoming seminars include pet first aid and our new *Don't Blame The Cat!* seminar on understanding and addressing challenging cat behaviour. Watch for new seminar topics to come!

## Dog Obedience

Our Education Centre is the perfect setting for dog owners to develop a strong relationship with their canine companions through positive-reinforcement obedience classes, promoting proper socialization and good manners in dogs while strengthening the human-animal bond.



Dog obedience class at the OHS

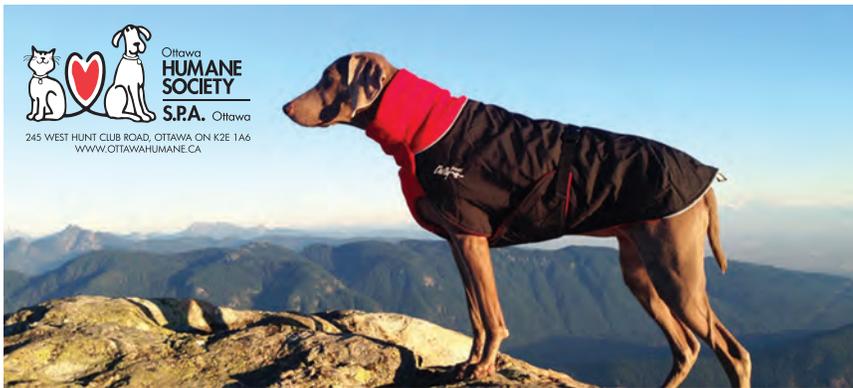
With a variety of courses and workshops available, we truly have something for everyone! Courses include beginner puppy obedience, beginner adult obedience, level 2 obedience, as well as private obedience classes and our sought-after loose-leash walking workshops.

## Family Events

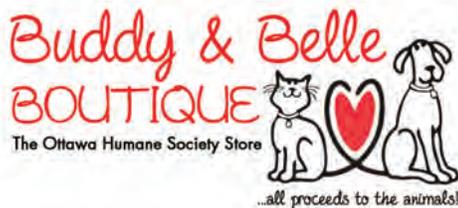
We love hosting family events where we invite our community to visit our shelter and better understand what the OHS is all about. Our themed seasonal events attract individuals and families of all ages and include crafts, draws with prizes, photography opportunities, a chance to meet some of our adoptable animals, information on the many services

our shelter provides, and opportunities to chat with our dedicated program staff and volunteers.

Our Outreach department delivers a variety of programs each year, and many take place in schools or community centres across the city, but the focus of seminars, dog obedience classes, and our family events is to invite our community through our doors so that we may work together and support each other in helping animals and, ultimately, changing the future. If you'd like more information on our Outreach programs, contact [programs@ottawahumane.ca](mailto:programs@ottawahumane.ca). 🐾



This coupon provides a discount of 25 per cent off Chilly Dog Winter Jackets at the OHS Buddy & Belle Boutique, located at 245 West Hunt Club Rd. One hundred per cent Canadian outdoor gear for active dogs and owners. Jackets are available in a variety of colours and sizes. While supplies last!



## Need a Great Idea for a Holiday Gift? Furball Tickets are Available Now!

On April 9, 2016, join us for the 12th annual FurBall! The FurBall is an evening of extraordinary cuisine, auctions, entertainment, dancing and a special appearance by OHS Brightening Lives animals, all in support of the animals in the care of the OHS. Purchase tickets now for an unforgettable holiday gift! For more information and to purchase tickets visit [www.ottawahumane.ca/furball](http://www.ottawahumane.ca/furball)



# Court updates

## New Charges

**Mr. Steven Dean** has been charged with wilfully causing pain and suffering after witnesses reported they allegedly saw Dean kick, punch and choke his dog, Paco on two occasions. He first appeared in court Oct. 6.

**Mr. Brian Parent** has been charged with permitting distress, failing to meet the standards of care for general welfare, and non-compliance with an order after his cat, Snowball, was allegedly found grossly overweight with matted fur covering his entire back and fecal matter caked to his hind end. Parent first appeared in court Oct. 1.

**Mr. Derek Pennel** has been charged with permitting distress and failing to provide adequate and appropriate protection from the elements after his dog was found alone in a car on a hot day. The temperature inside the car registered at 41 C. He first appeared in court Oct. 1.

**Ms. Jennifer Sarazin** has been charged with causing unnecessary suffering after witnesses told investigators they saw her slapping her Jack Russell several times at a dog park. She first appeared in court Oct. 22.

**Ms. Marjorie Conlin** has been charged with permitting distress and failing to provide adequate and appropriate protection from the elements after OHS agents rescued the dog she had allegedly left alone in her car. The temperature inside the car registered at 40 C degrees. She first appeared in court Sept. 24.

**Ms. Camille Winter** has been charged with permitting distress and failing to meet the standards of care after her 12-year-old Siamese cat, Kia, was allegedly found face down in a flowerbed, covered in maggots. Winter first appeared in court Oct. 15.

**Elissa and Nora Aubrey-Lafreniere** were charged with seven counts of breaching a court order made in 2010 after they plead guilty to permitting distress

and failing to provide suitable standards of care in 2009. The court order allowed them to have no more than five animals; all of the animals were required to be spayed and neutered and to have annual vaccinations. On two recent inspections, the pair was allegedly in possession of 34 cats and two dogs. They last appeared in court Sept. 25, 2015.

## Completed Cases

**Mr. Alfred Bou-Rjeili**, who ran a mobile grooming business, allegedly restrained a client's cat using excessive force. The cat died and Bou-Rjeili was charged with causing distress. The charges have been stayed by the prosecutor and Mr. Bou-Rjeili ceased the operation of his grooming business.

**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. The charges have since been withdrawn by the prosecutor's office.

**Ms. Annick Lambert** was charged with failing to meet the standard of care and permitting distress after her sick cat didn't receive the necessary care. The justice sentenced her to a suspended sentence and one year of probation.

**Ms. Marie Parise** was found guilty in absentia of permitting distress and failing to meet the standard of care after her cats, Mango and Tango, were brought to the OHS last spring, starving and covered in fleas. She has been sentenced to two years of probation, a \$300 fine, and restitution. 🐾

*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.*



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[www.ottawa.ca](http://www.ottawa.ca)



# National Cupcake Day™

🐾 for SPCAs & Humane Societies 🐾

**Monday, February 29, 2016**  
**fight cruelty with cupcakes.**  
[www.ottawahumane.ca/cupcakeday](http://www.ottawahumane.ca/cupcakeday)

# There's *Love* in every Heart-Warming Gift!



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 613-725-3166 x252



## Join us!

-  Santa Pet Pics - Dec. 5 – 20 at 245 West Hunt Club Road
-  Critter Christmas Family Event – Dec. 6, 2015 at 245 West Hunt Club Road
-  Warm Hearts Raffle Early Bird Draw – Jan. 8
-  Ottawa Senators Pet Parents Night – Jan. 22 – Canadian Tire Centre
-  Warm Hearts Raffle Grand Prize Draw – Feb. 12
-  My Furry Valentine Family Event – Feb. 14 at 245 West Hunt Club Road
-  National Cupcake Day – Feb. 29
-  Hoppy Easter Family Event – March 20 at 245 West Hunt Club Road
-  FurBall Gala – April 9 – Shaw Centre

Visit our website at [www.ottawahumane.ca](http://www.ottawahumane.ca) for more information



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