A HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS:
Every Pet's Wish

HURRICANE SEASON:
OHS Deploys to Help Pets

EAGLE CREEK FIRE:
OHS on Alert

TIS' THE SEASON:
End-of-Year Giving

VADER'S STORY:
Healed Dog Helps Others
Contents

4 OHS News  Governor signs new protections for animals; pets rescued from Lane County; dogs from hoarding case get new start OHS.

7 Rags to Riches  His name may be “Vader” but this loveable little dog wins friends in the classroom.

8 Season of Hurricanes  OHS emergency responders deployed around the country to help other shelters recover from natural disasters.

12 Home for the Holidays  Every pet deserves to be with family, especially during the holidays.

14 Volunteers Help Pets Adjust  Skilled volunteers work with dogs and cats at OHS to help them overcome their fears and adjust to a new life as a member of a family.

16 Thanks to You  OHS efforts to help shelter pets are made possible entirely by donations.

18 Donor Profile  Long-time supporters Hank and Louise Stukey help pets at work and on the golf course.

20 Giving at the Last Minute for 2017  There’s still time to make that tax-deductible gift for 2017 and help pets in need.

21 Friends Forever  This compassionate caregiver made sure her friend’s pets were in good hands.

22 Happy Tails  When pets are adopted and are welcomed into a new family, we all celebrate.
This fall a host of severe disasters challenged all of us to lend a hand, dig a little deeper into our pocketbooks and double check our capacity to survive a disaster in our own community. Much has changed since Hurricane Katrina exposed our weaknesses when it comes to helping animal victims of natural disasters. While hundreds of thousands of animals were rescued in New Orleans over a decade ago, too many died due to inhumane policies, ineffectual plans and inadequate resources. We learned many lessons the hard way.

The good news is those lessons caused a massive rewrite of our disaster response protocols with outstanding results for all involved. Animal shelters now evacuate as many pets as possible from their care before a disaster hits, which frees up space for pets left stranded or injured by the disaster. Animals are now evacuated with their human families and emergency shelters for people welcome animal family members – giving everyone a little love when they needed it the most. In Houston, the veterinary community provided emergency boarding and VCA Animal Hospitals offered medical care to pets in need.

With more than 100 experienced volunteers and staff who are FEMA certified, OHS is often the first to respond in times of disaster. At one point we were in four states helping care for animals, distribute food, and relocate pets to safety. Why do we do this? The experience is invaluable and the opportunity for leadership development is unparalleled. It also means that we will be ready when a disaster strikes in our local community. During the Eagle Creek fire, for example, OHS was on standby to evacuate and care for pets from the Multnomah County Animal Services shelter in Troutdale. As I write this column today, we have a third team deployed to St. Croix where they are doing amazing work to help pets affected by Hurricane Maria.

While the need for rehoming pets during the recent wave of hurricanes was much less pressing than with Katrina, the states of Texas, Louisiana, and Florida struggle with dog and cat overpopulation even in the best of times. Thanks to our generous donors and Alaska Airlines, we have taken in over 100 pets from affected areas. Lucy Pet Foundation assisted with the largest single transfer of pets from the SPCA of Brazoria County, Texas.

There is much to be grateful for this time of year. I recently attended a bill signing ceremony with Gov. Kate Brown. OHS typically has great results in the legislature and this session was no different with four progressive bills making it to the governor’s desk.

Another cause for celebration is the wonderful new OHS public awareness campaign that you may have seen. The campaign calls on everyone to help us create a more humane society. I can’t give enough thanks to the talented team at the Leopold Ketel agency for donating their talents to creating this heart-warming campaign.

As we close out the year there is much to be grateful for and a lot to be optimistic about. Happy holidays to you and your family and wishing you a Happy New Year!

Sharon Harmon
President and CEO
KLAMATH MAN CHARGED WITH MORE THAN 30 COUNTS OF NEGLECT

A Klamath man has been cited for multiple felony crimes after more than 30 animals, including horses, chickens and 22 dogs, were seized from his property. A five-person OHS investigations team assisted with the execution of the search warrant that led to the charges.

The animals are being cared for and their medical concerns are being addressed at the Klamath Humane Society. The animals are in protective custody and are not available for adoption at this time. “OHS is pleased to assist in cases like these,” said Sharon Harmon, OHS president and CEO. “Our investigation team trains year round to identify and process evidence related to animal neglect cases.”

The Klamath case began with a report to a deputy of the Klamath County Sheriff’s Office (KCSO) concerning the possible neglect of several horses, a dozen chickens, and approximately 50 dogs at a property on Medicine Mountain Drive in Beatty. The report detailed multiple medical concerns that were not being addressed and described the living conditions as terrible. During the investigation, a Klamath County Animal Control (KCAC) Officer discovered several previous animal neglect and abuse convictions on the suspect’s record from California and Oregon.

On Sept. 29, OHS responded with KCSO, KCAC, and a veterinarian from West Ridge Animal Hospital to execute a search warrant. The owner of the animals was cited for more than 30 counts of felony animal neglect.

DOGS FROM HOARDING CASE GET NEW START

Nearly 40 dogs rescued from an animal hoarder in Lane County recently came to OHS to get a new start in life. The pets were among 98 small breed dogs rescued from a private home in the Walton area of Lane County by the Greenhill Humane Society and Lane County Animal Services. The owner voluntarily surrendered ownership of the dogs.

All the animals were living in extremely overcrowded and unsanitary conditions in both indoor and outdoor pens. The animals ranged in age from newborn to senior, including dogs who were pregnant and nursing. Because of the unusually large number of animals rescued, Greenhill and Lane County requested the assistance of OHS in caring for and adopting 39 of the dogs.

Although some of the dogs who came to OHS were offered for adoption almost immediately, many needed several weeks of foster care before they were healthy enough to be placed in forever homes.

OHS CITES OWNER FOR NEGLECTING HORSES

A Willamina resident has been cited for neglecting horses following an OHS investigation. An initial investigation by OHS found the horses to be suffering from several medical conditions, including rain rot, lice infestation and emaciation.

The owner agreed to relinquish seven horses to OHS, and a subsequent medical exam of those horses revealed painful, untreated injuries. The owner was cited on seven counts of animal neglect in the second degree. The horses are now in the care of Sound Equine Options, a nonprofit that assisted with the investigation and will continue to care for the horses until they have made a full recovery and can be offered for adoption.

Horses available for adoption from rescue cases are listed on the OHS website at oregonhumane.org/adopt.
Oregon Governor Kate Brown celebrated the passage of an important new law protecting pets and children during a special signing ceremony attended by OHS President Sharon Harmon.

The law, HB 2732, protects members of the public from damages if they break into a locked car to save the life of a pet or a child. The law immediately led to the rescue of one dog in downtown Portland the day after it was enacted earlier this summer (read the story of the dramatic rescue on the OHS website at bit.ly/2OHSlw. OHS was one of the major organizations that backed the bill during the last Oregon legislative session.

During the ceremonial signing last month at the Oregon State Capitol, Brown praised the law as an important step forward that would help save children and pets left alone in vehicles. Although law enforcement officers are already shielded from damages when breaking into a car to save the life of an endangered child or pet, the new law marks the first time that those protections have been extended to members of the public.

Before someone breaks a vehicle window to save a pet or child at imminent risk, they must first make an effort to locate the owner of the vehicle and, if unsuccessful, call 911 to report the emergency and request help. Additionally, rescuers must stay with the animal until first responders arrive or the owner of the car returns.

For more information on the new Oregon law and how quickly a car’s temperature can rise to a dangerous level, visit the OHS website at: oregonhumane.org/hot. ☏

Way back 150 years ago, even before the streets of Portland were paved, a group of dedicated Oregonians was already fighting to stop animal cruelty. They were years ahead of their time, working to prevent animals from being beaten, starved and neglected.

Led by noted humanitarian Thomas Lamb Eliot, the group established the Oregon Humane Society in 1868. “Must do something for horses here,” wrote Eliot soon after he arrived in Portland and witnessed the abuse of a carriage horse on a downtown street.

Next year, OHS celebrates its 150th birthday with a community-wide, year-long sesquicentennial birthday bash. There will be dozens of events across the city where individuals (and their furry friends) can raise a paw to celebrate a more humane society.

Ever wonder how far OHS has come? Consider this: OHS didn’t have a shelter for the first 50 years, and has already outgrown two shelters built on Columbia Boulevard, the first dating back a century.

A special exhibit at the Oregon Historical Society in September 2018 will highlight early OHS accomplishments, including many that are still visible today. The Elk Fountain in Portland’s park blocks, for example, was given to the city in 1900 to honor OHS. It was placed in the middle of SW Main Street so that horses pulling heavy loads would have a convenient place to drink water.

Today, 150 years after its founding, OHS finds homes for more pets than any other single-facility shelter on the West Coast, supports Oregon’s only dedicated animal cruelty investigators, and is a leader in providing veterinary care to thousands of shelter pets each year.

While OHS was started 150 years ago by a small group of forward-thinking individuals, it is now supported by tens of thousands of Oregonians who adopt, volunteer and donate. Watch the OHS website, oregonhumane.org, throughout the year to discover how you can join in the celebration.
Pets Take Over the Airwaves

Broadcast live from OHS and the studios of KATU, the annual OHS Telethon took to the airwaves on October 5 from 9 am to 7 pm, raising $426,000 for shelter pets.

Viewers were treated to hour-long morning and afternoon programs broadcast from OHS, plus appearances by OHS staff and pets on KATU’s evening news broadcasts. The Telethon gave audiences a first-hand look at how OHS helps pets in need, and introduced viewers to dozens of adorable and adoptable pets.

Although this year’s telethon fell short of an ambitious $500,000 goal, donations can still be made online at oregonhumane.org/telethon. “Hundreds of people reached out to donate during the Telethon, and I want to thank everyone who opened their hearts to pets,” said OHS President Sharon Harmon.

OHS Telethon: Thanks for Helping Pets!

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VADER, A 17-POUND mixed breed dog, was first described by his foster parent as an animal who “looked like a coyote that went through the dryer.” Who knew that this strange looking dog with major medical issues would grow up to be a great OHS ambassador to kids?

Vader came to OHS in May of 2016 from another shelter with his front legs broken. Even worse, neither had been set and one had begun to heal the wrong way. The OHS medical team performed three surgeries on the small dog’s legs, working to make the best of a bad situation.

Needing time to heal, a request went out for a foster family for Vader, and that is where he met the Cushway family. Barb Cushway, an OHS humane educator, and her husband Al had fostered medically fragile dogs before and volunteered to take in Vader. Barb was recovering from foot surgery at the time, and while she kept her foot elevated, Vader would join her on her lap. “We healed together,” she said. “His front legs were wonky and you could see the scars from multiple surgeries, but he was the happiest little dog with a big heart,” said Barb Cushway. It didn’t take long for the Cushways to realize that Vader needed to be part of their family. Despite the fact that they had not been looking for another addition to their family, they adopted him in June 2016. They considered changing his shelter name to something less ominous, but nothing seemed to fit. To lighten things up, his official name became Bark Vader.

As an OHS educator, Cushway is constantly visiting schools and working with students who come to OHS. She teaches children about the humane treatment of animals as well as how to interact with pets. Cushway saw potential in Vader and, when he was strong enough, started taking him on visits to classrooms.

“Vader would work the whole room to make sure everyone got time with him,” said Cushway. She once observed Vader jumping into a little girl’s lap and worried that the girl might be scared of dogs. Cushway relaxed when the little girl started petting him. It’s as if Vader said, “You need me.”

School children wrote letters to Cushway and Vader, thanking them for visiting their classroom. Hazel wrote, “I thought Vader did a fantastic job and you and Vader bring smiles to many people.” Classmate Clara wrote, “Your visit was like a maraschino cherry on top of an ice cream sundae.” Another student, Lakalee, said her favorite part was “when I got to pet Vader under the ear; I can tell he really liked that.”

Vader is still in training, learning to keep four paws on the floor when visiting, and to wait patiently while Barb talks with the students about OHS. Although his legs may be scarred and wobbly, his spirit is one of unbridled “pawsitivity.” “He’s a bit of magic wrapped in fur,” says Cushway. “He is the dog I want to grow old with.”

About the OHS Education Program
Barb Cushway and Vader are part of an OHS education program that reaches more than 12,000 youths and 2,000 adults each year. Through classroom visits, tours of the shelter, a summer day camp and other activities, educators help the public understand humane values as they are put into action helping animals. Learn more online at oregonhumane.org/services.
An unprecedented wave of hurricanes swept through the United States and the Caribbean this fall, leaving in their wake flooded neighborhoods, flattened buildings, and thousands of people and pets in need of help.

Animal shelters in the disaster zones, and those nearby, struggled to help pets already in their care while preparing for a huge influx of pets stranded by the storms. These shelters reached out for help, and OHS responded.

After years of conducting large-scale rescues of neglected animals, OHS has a cadre of skilled staff and volunteers trained in setting up emergency shelters and providing continuing care for scared, frightened and injured animals. “When our fellow shelters need a hand to care for pets in distress, we’re going to do everything we can to respond,” said OHS President Sharon Harmon. “Our teams can help save the lives of animals and also gain hands-on experience that just may be needed when a disaster hits Oregon.”

Disaster nearly came to Portland when the Eagle Creek fire swept through the Columbia Gorge in early September. OHS was on high alert, with crews and equipment ready to evacuate animals near the fire and bring them to OHS for shelter (see story, p. 11).

Farther from home, the first OHS response team deployed to Houston in late August, about a week after Hurricane Harvey struck Texas. Less than a month later, Hurricane Irma struck Florida and additional OHS teams were soon deployed to South Carolina and Georgia. Just a few weeks after Hurricane Irma made landfall, Hurricane Maria devastated Puerto Rico and a host of other islands. OHS responders were soon on their way to St. Croix, part of the U.S. Virgin Islands.

The OHS response teams consisted of both full-time employees and volunteers who had completed FEMA training as well as OHS emergency shelter training. The responders were encouraged to send daily reports to OHS so that friends, family and co-workers could stay informed. What follows are excerpts from their daily journals.

**HURRICANE MARIA**

OHS deployed three responders to St. Croix after the island, with a population of about 50,000, was struck by Hurricane Maria. OHS responders Tyreen Jarrell, Melanie Anderson and Lynn Esser worked for nearly two weeks with other volunteers at an ASPCA emergency shelter that housed more than 150 animals. The shelter was set up under a metal roof, but had no walls. In addition to caring for animals at the shelter, the team rescued injured animals from around the island and distributed needed food.

*From Melanie Anderson:* Today we got to work on distributing all of the animal feed on hand to the residents of St. Croix. From morning till about afternoon, we were handing out large bags of animal feed for horses, hogs, dogs, cats, chickens as well as other items such as leashes, buckets, etc. Cars were lined up as far as the eye could see with people waiting to receive food for their pets. We helped as many as we could but eventually had to start turning people away once we ran out of dog food … The dogs here at the shelter are so well taken care of by the ASPCA volunteers that they hardly show any stress, but this can’t go on forever. The workers are working round the clock to bring in more supplies and the ASPCA is providing a lot of assistance. The dogs here are well socialized and friendly, and we have seen a few of them go home to their owners.

*From Michele Lytle:* Today we got to work on organizing all of the supplies that we have received from OHS. We have a lot of dogs and we need to make sure that they are all well cared for. We have also been working on getting the emergency shelter set up and making sure that everything is in place for the animals that we have received.

*From Lynn Esser:* We have been working hard to ensure that all of the animals are well taken care of. We have received a lot of supplies from OHS and we are working on organizing them. We have also been working on setting up the emergency shelter and making sure that everything is in place for the animals that we have received. The dogs here are well socialized and friendly, and we have seen a few of them go home to their owners.
shelter continue to capture my heart. They have been through so much, covered in scars, emaciated, or many times both. It’s hard work but at the end of the day, it’s incredibly rewarding to know you are taking care of these animals.

HURRICANE IRMA

Four responders from OHS travelled to South Carolina to help pets displaced by Hurricane Irma. Team members Julie Griggs, Tyreen Jarrell, Michele Lytle and Danielle Works were based out of a shelter established by the ASPCA in a vacant warehouse. At the same time, another group of three responders, Liz Bartholomew, Debra Garcia and Ginny O’Brien, worked with the Atlanta Humane Society to help pets at their emergency shelter. In addition to caring for pets, team members also helped transport dogs to permanent shelters where the pets could be adopted. Among the final tasks for both teams: dismantling their emergency shelters after the last pets had been moved out.

Michele Boris Lytle (deployed to South Carolina): I’ve never gone through an entire roll of poo bags in one day, let alone before noon!! The team had 135 dogs to walk in the South Carolina heat. Mostly large breed, but I got in a couple of older tiny ones at the end. Afternoon was spent loading 80 dogs out for transport to a real shelter for adoption, then breaking down kennels followed by the second walk of remaining 50-ish dogs. Left the hotel for the shelter at 7:30 am, got back at 8 pm. Very satisfying and rewarding day.

Tyreen Jarrell (deployed to South Carolina): Started off our first day with walking a large number of very sweet and eager dogs in the southern heat, and ended our day the same way! In between we stayed plenty busy with feedings, loading dogs into transport vehicles and deconstructing kennels ... All in all, I’m tired, sore, and bruised but this day has been so rewarding and I know the rest of the week will be equally as great!

Julie Griggs (deployed to South Carolina and spent most of her time on the road delivering supplies to Florida): Today we started driving at 7:30 am and drove the truck for a little over five hours to Hollister, Florida. This was a very small shelter that is currently housing around 100 dogs, and doesn’t have a lot of resources ... We then had to immediately drive to the Brevard SPCA so we would be there before they closed ... They were really excited to be getting everything because they’ve taken in a lot of animals that were affected by the hurricane ... We have about a seven hour drive ahead of us tomorrow to get back to the shelter, and we might be heading back out with supplies for other organizations tomorrow afternoon.

Liz Bartholomew (deployed to Atlanta): Our first day was long but great! We worked from 7 am to 7 pm at the Atlanta Humane Society’s emergency shelter. We did basic care – walking dogs, cleaning kennels, and making sure the animals were comfortable ... It is HOT! Our shirts are dirty, feet are sore ... it’s these hot and humid twelve hour days that make me long for the clean white walls of OHS and the echo of laughter from the break room. I think of OHS fondly as we say goodnight. This is truly an unforgettable experience!

HURRICANE HARVEY

Hurricane Harvey brought torrential rains and flooding to large parts of Texas. The Houston SPCA reached out to OHS for help, and four responders, Sherry Adams, Kristy Nicholas, Daniel Rost and Megan Willard, arrived in Houston on August 30. Although the society’s building was not hit by flooding, it was faced with the daunting task of caring for an extraordinarily...
large number of displaced animals and helping local residents who had run out of pet food.

Sherry Adams (Houston): Megan Willard and I were assigned to drive to Dickinson, about one hour from Houston, taking dog and cat food as well as several crates. We would stop the van, get out and walk from house to house asking if folks had dogs and/or cats and if they needed food for them. The people who accepted our offer were so grateful. Many of them were busy emptying their homes of furniture, carpet, hardwoods, and more ... Yes, my clothes were sopping wet with sweat; yes, I probably smelled really bad; and yes, I was exhausted, but it was all so worth it. Those people who had been through so much misery were so friendly and thankful for the pet food we provided.

A flight of 80 pets that survived Hurricane Harvey arrived in Portland on October 13, helping to relieve the pressure on flood-ravaged shelters in areas hit by the hurricane. OHS, along with the Lucy Pet Foundation, chartered the flight to assist the SPCA of Brazoria County, which was in urgent need of help.

The Brazoria shelter, located about 51 miles south of Houston, selected approximately 40 dogs and 40 cats for the trip to Portland. “We all breathed a big sigh of relief, knowing that our homeless pets would be traveling safely to new homes and new families,” said Stacey Suazo, the shelter’s executive director. “Our community was badly hit by flooding during and after Harvey, so people here are still displaced and not in a position to be able to adopt. It has been an absolute godsend to have a safe place for these homeless pets.”

The pets from Brazoria were released for adoption by their owners who, for various reasons, are unable to care for them. “OHS is honored to help these pets who survived so much,” said Sharon Harmon, OHS president.

The first dog to be adopted from Texas was Boots, a shepherd puppy who arrived earlier from San Antonio. Boots and the other pets were strays who had not been able to find homes in Texas before the hurricane hit. By finding a home for Boots and others, OHS helped free up space in local Texas shelters for pets from the disaster zone.

HOW TO HELP: OHS efforts to help pets displaced by natural disasters are supported entirely by private donations. Although OHS emergency responders are FEMA certified, no federal, state or local tax dollars support their work.

Use the envelope in this magazine to make a gift, or visit the OHS website at oregonhumane.org/donate.

Your gift will help the pets we love get the help they need.
IN A SEASON of deadly hurricanes, the Portland area nearly fell victim to a disaster of a different kind: an out-of-control wildfire that started in the Columbia Gorge on September 2 and quickly moved west.

With ash from the 48,000-acre fire falling in downtown Portland, authorities issued mandatory evacuations for several towns in the Gorge, closed the Columbia River to maritime traffic and established an emergency evacuation center at Mt. Hood Community College in Gresham. Fortunately, firefighters and cooler weather stopped the fire from spreading.

But what if conditions had gotten worse instead of better? One of Portland’s largest animal facilities, the Multnomah County Animal Services shelter in Troutdale, was located less than ten miles from the evacuation zone. If Troutdale residents were ordered to evacuate, what would happen to the shelter pets?

OHS officials had already developed a plan in case the worse did happen. “We put out an offer to transfer all the animals at the Troutdale shelter to OHS. We had all our assets ready to go and were prepared to help with just about anything,” said Chase Patterson, OHS director of shelter operations.

Working late into the night, a group of OHS volunteers loaded two large OHS transport vehicles with empty animal crates. If an evacuation was ordered, the team was ready to head to Troutdale and return to OHS with the 65 pets at that shelter. “The vans were ready to go at a moment’s notice,” said Patterson. If additional pets needed to be evacuated, OHS was prepared to set up and staff an emergency shelter.

“The fact that OHS has so many people with emergency response experience is a huge plus for animals,” said Patterson. “I’m just thankful the fire didn’t progress further and that our services weren’t needed.”

DO YOU KNOW AN ANIMAL HERO?

Do you know a person who has helped animals in a unique way? Or, do you know an animal who has made a difference in the life of a child or someone with an illness? OHS is looking to shine the spotlight on animals and animal lovers who are true heroes.

OHS is now accepting nominations for the prestigious Diamond Collar Awards, which will be presented February 28, 2018 at the Multnomah Athletic Club in downtown Portland.

The awards honor animals who have saved a human or animal life in peril, performed services within the community, or overcome incredible odds to survive. Award winners can also be humans who have had a positive impact on the lives of animals, exhibiting courage and compassion to help animals in need. Past winners have included a therapy dog who brought joy and love to children suffering from cancer, a Portland business woman who helped find homes for hundreds of pets, and a cat who alerted humans to life-threatening medical conditions.

For more information about submitting a nominee or attending the awards ceremony, visit oregonhumane.org/diamond.
THERE’S NO PLACE LIKE HOME—especially during the holidays. At the Oregon Humane Society, pets are cared for by an extended family of dedicated staff and volunteers, but even the coziest shelter kennel is no substitute for the comfort of a real home. Each December, OHS works to find every pet a loving “Home for the Holidays.”

The goal is simple: by December 31, we hope to find a home for every pet who was residing at the shelter as of December 1. What better way to start the next chapter in your life than by spending the holiday season with your new family?

There is, of course, never a time limit on how long a pet stays at OHS. While most pets stay at the shelter for only a week or two, some need much longer to find an ideal match. To help these pets find their homes by December 31, the OHS lobby will feature a large display that includes a photo of every single dog, cat, rabbit, rodent and bird who has been at the shelter since Dec. 1 or earlier. In this article, you’ll find descriptions of a few of our Home for the Holidays animals. You can learn more about each pet by visiting our website at oregonhumane.org, which features profiles of every animal available for adoption.

It’s easy to visit the animals in person. The OHS shelter (1067 NE Columbia Blvd. in Portland) is open from 10 am-7 pm Sunday-Wednesday; 10 am-9 pm Thursday-Saturday.

**BERNARD** is curious baby rat who enjoys exploring tunnels, snuggling with his rat friends and climbing. Did you know that rats are very social animals? *Looking for a home since Nov. 7.*

**FITZGERALD** is the friend for you! He loves receiving attention and gives head butts galore. This four-year-old red tabby with striking looks is seeking a low-stress household where he can relax and feel the love. *Looking for a home since August 29.*
This beautiful diva is looking for the purrfect home. **ANNIE** is eight years old and will do best in a quiet setting where she can relax as the only pet in the house. Once given the time to adjust, she will show lots of affection. *Looking for a home since September 6.*

If **TIGGER**’s distinctive tan and white face doesn’t win you over, his energetic personality will. This three-year-old fox terrier mix can’t get enough play time. If you are looking for a dog that will sprint with you to the next adventure, Tigger is your guy! *Looking for a home since October 15.*

**FLOP** is an adorable young bunny looking to hop into your home. He comes with his brother Flip (equally adorable), and the two bunnies will need to go home together because they love each other so much! *The pair has been looking for a home since November 9.*

**Lil Bub** is an energetic nine-pound Chihuahua mix who enjoys life in the slow line. He sips his water instead of lapping it up and is looking for a home where he can be a cherished member of the family. If you can provide **LIL BUB** with support and encouragement, you’ll have a big friend for life. *Looking for a home since October 30.*

**CHARLIE** is an independent gentleman looking for a good home and family to start his new life. Charlie is a handsome Manx cat who came to OHS from a shelter in Kennewick, Washington. His big green eyes and handsome face are sure to win you over. *Looking for a home since November 9.*

**Watson** is a fun-loving young German shepherd mix looking for a family to give him the attention he needs. Watson’s hip dysplasia prevents him from going for long walks, but he will be happy lounging around your house and playing in the yard. *Looking for home since November 4.*
Volunteers Help Dogs Learn Trust

For volunteer Marilyn Happold-Latham, it all started with standing as still as possible. As one of the first five volunteers to be trained to work with dogs in the OHS behavior modification program (or B-Mod), Happold-Latham’s initial assignment was to stand nearly motionless as six dogs walked by on leash.

The dogs deeply feared strangers, having had little contact with humans. Unless that fear could be overcome, their chances of being adopted were near zero.

The job of the volunteers that day was to avoid making eye contact or petting the dogs—either action could generate a negative response. Instead, the volunteers would drop a treat to the ground so the dogs would notice the treat and eat it. The goal was to get the dogs to associate humans with something good: dog treats.

The exercise was part of a lengthy process designed to build trust one step at a time. Using a positive-reinforcement approach combined with lots of patience, the dogs slowly began treating humans as friends.

The B-Mod program works with dogs and cats who come to the shelter from backgrounds filled with neglect, isolation, or worse. “Sometimes the dogs have simply had a lousy start in life at a puppy mill or with a family that couldn’t give them what they needed,” said Happold-Latham, who began volunteering for OHS six years ago after retiring as a strategic planner and manager in the medical industry.

A typical day for a B-Mod volunteer begins with getting an assignment from Lori Kirby, lead OHS trainer and creator of the B-Mod program. Assignments might include sitting quietly with a shy dog or playing scent games that let dogs gain confidence by sniffing out hidden treats. Only specially trained volunteers like Happold-Latham are permitted to work with B-Mod animals, as even simple activities (such as putting a dog on leash) can prove stressful for these animals.

Thanks to volunteers like Happold-Latham and others, and professional trainers such as Kirby, the OHS B-Mod program is able to help approximately 100 dogs and cats a year. “It’s very rewarding to know that you can take a dog that might be euthanized somewhere else and help that dog become somebody’s pet. We can save lives on the behavior side as well as the medical side,” said Happold-Latham.

Celebration Cards are the perfect gift for the animal lover on your list.

Holiday cards can be mailed or emailed. Order your holiday cards by December 18th to ensure your gift is delivered by Christmas.

Call (503) 416-2987 to order cards or see all cards (including news ones) online at oregonhumane.org/tribute
Imagine a place where kindness and love prevail.
A society in which all beings have a place, a purpose, and a sense of belonging. Join us in creating a more humane society.

Visit oregonhumane.org to take the pledge.

#bemorehumane
Meet Hank and Louise Stukey

FOR THE LAST TWO DECADES Hank and Louise Stukey have been a part of the Thomas Lamb Eliot Circle of donors, generously supporting the animals of OHS. “We support OHS because my father taught me, by example, to respect animals. Sometimes animals end up at OHS as the result of poor choices by humans, and it is our responsibility to help them,” said Hank.

Hank and Louise give personally and through their business, Terra Hydr, Inc., a general contractor specializing in civil and environmental construction services. They are particularly invested in the work that OHS does to protect animals from abuse and neglect. Their business has provided personal protective equipment including Tyvek suits and respirators to keep volunteers and staff safe during hazardous and unsanitary rescues.

Wanting to do even more to help, last year Hank worked to make OHS the beneficiary of the PDX Industrial Golf Tournament. “It’s been a great opportunity to match an established golf tournament with an organization doing remarkable work,” said Hank. “We have a number of generous corporate supporters and would love to add more sponsors and players next year.”

100% of the proceeds from the tournament will support the lifesaving work of OHS. The 2018 tournament will take place Tuesday, August 14, at Langdon Farms Golf Club. The tournament’s goal is to raise $50,000 or more to help animals in need (see below).

“Donors like Hank and Louise, who help OHS in a myriad of ways, are incredible heroes to animals,” said OHS President Sharon Harmon. Jed, the couple’s three-year-old black and tan coonhound couldn’t agree more.

PDX INDUSTRIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

The Langdon Farms Golf Club in Aurora plays host to the PDX Industrial Golf Tournament, which hopes to raise $50,000 or more to help animals at OHS. The August 14 tournament begins with lunch at 12:15 pm and is followed by a reception after players finish the course. This tournament is open to NW industrial companies and/or players wanting to support the mission of OHS. For information on participating, contact the OHS Event Department: (503) 416-5026, events@oregonhumane.org

Give a Gift for Life

DO YOU HAVE a relative or friend who would benefit from income payments for life? It is now possible to give the gift of a charitable gift annuity (CGA). The annuity provides a lifetime fixed income stream to the recipient.

When the initial gift is made to purchase a CGA, the donor gets an immediate income tax deduction. A portion of the payments received will also be tax-free. The payments continue for the remainder of the donor’s life. A donor who purchases a CGA can choose to make a gift of the annuity to another individual (such as a friend or relative), who will then receive income payments for life.

Gift annuities have been around for over 100 years and are popular among donors. Funds kept in a CD or bank account are often better utilized by converting them to a CGA. Gift annuities are more than just a way to get tax benefits and a lifetime income stream—they are also a great way to help animals in need.

For more information, contact Gary Kish, OHS Vice President for Development, (503) 416-2988, vpdev@oregonhumane.org.
# TLC Business Partners

The following business have made significant financial contributions ($2,500+) to OHS and/or in-kind donations from September 2016 through September 2017. A complete list of TLC Business Partners can be found online at oregonhumane.org/get-involved/support-our-partners.

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## RAISE YOUR PAWS FOR PETS!

“Our PAWS gift is so easy and supports OHS on a daily basis and throughout the year! Giving monthly allows us to be more generous, renews our membership automatically and helps do life-saving work for animals, all without a second thought!”

—Tesa Apperson

## JOIN

Join a group of animal lovers and feel great each month knowing you are helping pets in need. PAWS (Planned Account Withdrawal System) gifts are billed to your credit or debit card, or debited from your checking account each month.

It’s the easiest and most efficient way to help the animals.

To enroll, return the envelope inside this magazine, visit us online at oregonhumane.org/paws, or call Marsha at (503) 416-7079.
There’s still time to help pets in need before 2017 draws to a close. In most cases, your gift will qualify for a charitable tax deduction. Here are quick tips for year-end giving (unless otherwise noted, contact OHS at (503) 416-2988, or vpdev@oregonhumane.org for more information).

Short on time? No problem—as long as your mailed donation has a 2017 postmark, it qualifies for a 2017 tax deduction. It’s even easier to go to the OHS website, oregonhumane.org, and use a credit card to make a gift up to the last second. Because OHS is a 501(c)(3) charity, the entire amount qualifies as a charitable contribution.

Stuck on gift ideas? Instead of giving a material gift, many people make a donation in honor of a loved one. OHS will mail a special greeting card to the person you’re honoring. We’ll even include your personal note. Holiday Tribute Gifts can be sent by email or phone. Contact Nicole at (503) 416-5027, nicolel@oregonhumane.org, or visit oregonhumane.org/tribute.

Donate a Vehicle. Vehicles, boats, and RVs are gladly received through the OHS Autos for Animals program. It’s quick and easy. We promise! Contact Margaret at (503) 802-6766, margaretc@oregonhumane.org, to arrange your gift.

How about stock? By donating shares of appreciated stock you can claim the full fair market value and avoid capital gains taxes. For stocks that have declined in value, consider selling them and claiming a capital loss, which can be used to offset capital gains from other sales (this applies only to shares held longer than one year). Then, donate the cash proceeds of the sale to OHS for a charitable deduction. While most stock transfers are done electronically, it may still take a few days to complete the transaction. Be sure to leave enough time for your brokerage to execute the transfer order by December 31.

A gift for you and OHS! Purchase an OHS Charitable Gift Annuity. You’ll receive a current year tax deduction and fixed annuity payments for life. You can also make a gift of your charitable annuity to another person.

Time to Plan? Is it time for a New Year’s resolution to either make an estate plan, or review and perhaps amend your existing estate document? Making an estate gift to OHS is a meaningful way to carry forward your compassion and concern for animals. If you have any questions your phone calls and emails are always welcome.

DIY Fundraising: Each year, dozens of individuals and companies create their own events to benefit the pets and programs of OHS. These events include holiday parties, golf tournaments, birthday celebrations, bowling parties and more. OHS can provide materials about the shelter for your guests, sample invitation emails, and assist with setting up a web-based fundraising page for your event. To get started, create your own Online Events Page to invite guests to your event and collect donations to help the animals. For details, visit https://secure.oregonhumane.org.

FOR BUSINESSES: Time to Plan for 2018

While individuals are thinking about year-end tax deductible contributions at year’s end, businesses are planning for 2018. This is a great time for business to think about promoting employee engagement by “investing” in OHS.

OHS offers team building opportunities as well as special events that help employees come together and support animals in need. Some of our special events include the Diamond Collar Awards, Doggie Dash Teams, Tail Wag Summer Soiree, Canines Uncorked and Snuggle Express.

To find out more, contact Jane Morrison, (503) 416-7084, janem@oregonhumane.org.
For the 38 years that Susan Blake and I were friends, there was nearly always a sweet cat presence in her home. Her most recent kitty, Ginger, was no exception. About a year ago, Susan told me she just received a diagnosis of advanced-stage pancreatic cancer. I was shattered.

While I agonized, wondering how it could possibly be true, she began working quietly to take care of all the end-of-life details like her will and the disposition of her possessions. Susan had designated OHS as a beneficiary of a life insurance policy.

She then enrolled Ginger in the Friends Forever program, which provides for the care of any pet who survives their person. Knowing that plans for Ginger’s care were already in place helped Susan immensely as she dealt with everything else.

When Susan called me to ask if I would be willing to be with her until her death, I was stunned. I felt honored to accept and soon found myself as her primary caretaker, with Ginger’s assistance.

There was never any question that Ginger took her caretaking seriously. She settled in to being with Susan all the time and rarely left her side. I enjoyed seeing them snuggled up together. We had a few nurses who didn’t realize the role that Ginger was playing in Susan’s care.

One night one of them woke me with a frantic, “The IV pump is beeping and I don’t know what to do!” I raced in to find Ginger perched on top of the pump, her paws pressing the buttons—completely unaware of the fuss she’d created!

Susan and I spoke frequently about plans for Ginger. I wondered if being moved into an entirely new situation immediately after losing Susan would truly be “humane” for Ginger. I decided to speak to Kathryn Karr, the donor relations manager who oversees the Friends Forever program at OHS.

We had a long, wonderful exchange about Friends Forever and Ginger’s life after Susan. I hung up reassured that Ginger would be cared for very well at OHS.

Susan passed away on July 26, 2017, as quietly and serenely as she lived. I made arrangements for Kathryn to pick up Ginger. Because I loved her presence, I had been dreading Ginger’s departure. She and I shared the “job” of tending to Susan; together we did it well. It was bittersweet saying goodbye but such a relief to me to know she would be collected quickly and in the wonderful care available at OHS.

I was impressed with Kathryn’s grace. She entered Susan’s home with such respect and was clearly eager to know more about Ginger. I never once felt a sense of being rushed. It took several trips up and down the 33 front stairs to transport Ginger’s beds, food, and medicine!

In the end, the team that surrounded Susan in her last month was able to respond to her gentle guiding and give her what she required. To the last, Ginger was there. I learned later that Ginger was adopted five days after she arrived at OHS. I found solace in that, and I am sure Susan would have as well.

Susan Blake, MD and Merrill Clarke.

Susan Blake with her cat, Ginger.

Since its founding in 1994, the Friends Forever program has helped hundreds of individuals plan for their pets. The program provides peace of mind: should the need arise, OHS stands ready to find pets carefully matched, loving homes. To learn more about ensuring the future care of your pet or including OHS in your estate plan, visit the OHS website at oregonhumane.org or contact Kathryn Karr at (503) 802-6743, kathrynk@oregonhumane.org, or Gary Kish, vpdev@oregonhumane.org.
HAPPY tails
Finding homes for animals is one of the most important things we do at the Oregon Humane Society. When adopters keep in touch, their stories and photos inspire us.

Pica and Dora
Dear OHS,
I wanted to send you all an update on Pica and Dora. It took these girls a bit of time to settle in, but they have surprised us by adapting to their new home faster than we expected. We knew they felt comfortable when only a couple weeks into their time with us they came out to investigate friends who'd come to visit and flopped on the couch to chill with the group.

Dora has become a lap cat and loves snuggles, chasing toys, and climbing anything that could be a fun perch. Pica started the exploration of their new home a few days after arriving (and hasn’t stopped getting into new things since). We are delighted by these two every day. Attached is a picture of them hanging out in their custom box fort — they love sleeping and playing in it.

Thanks, Gwen Kerse

Nora
Hello OHS Team!
Our pup has been settling in nicely at her new home. We renamed her Ada Lovelace in honor of the first computer programmer! Ada enjoys her backyard, drinking lots of water, playing with balls, curling up on a doggy bed, and meeting new friends. The neighbor dog Riley introduced himself yesterday through the fence and Ada was so happy to wiggle and play bow for him. Thank you all for your dedication to your important work.

We are extremely grateful!

Thanks, Mary Perry

Boston
Dear OHS,
We adopted our sweet boy, Boston, on August 21st and it seems as if he has always been a part of our family. One of the best decisions we have made was to bring him home with us that day.

Thank you, Stacy Gorbett

WE LOVE TO HEAR how animals adopted from OHS are doing. Send your letters, stories, emails and photos to: Editor, OHS, 1067 NE Columbia Blvd. Portland OR 97211; OHS@oregonhumane.org.

Did you know...
» There is never a time limit on how long animals remain available for adoption at OHS.
» You can see every animal available for adoption on our website at oregonhumane.org.
» OHS save rates are among the highest in the nation: 97% for all pets in 2016.
» Adoptions include an ID microchip, initial vaccines, a courtesy veterinary exam, one month of free pet health insurance and plenty of post-adoption support. Every animal is also spayed or neutered before being adopted.
DID YOU KNOW THAT OHS...

- Is a national leader in pet adoptions (finding homes for 11,614 animals last year)?
- Boasts a save rate that is among the highest in the nation (97%)?
- Investigated more than 1,000 reports of animal cruelty last year?
- Is an independent charity that receives no tax dollars?

Visit www.oregonhumane.org to adopt, volunteer, or donate.