THE GUARDIAN

OCTOBER 2026 | ISSUE 143

CAILEY #2612



ARE YOU A *golden retriever* BELIEVER?

Golden Rescue
...About Second Chances

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THE GUARDIAN

OCTOBER 2026 | ISSUE 143

The official publication for Golden Rescue, a not-for-profit rescue and adoption service for Golden Retrievers.

Editor: Viive Tamm **Creative Director:** Betty James

If you have any comments or suggestions for the Guardian, please email **board@goldenrescue.ca**.

All the Guardian issues since 2013 are on our website. If you'd like to read past issues, please click HERE.

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GOLDEN RESCUE MISSION STATEMENT

SECOND CHANCES FOR GOLDENS IN NEED

Our comprehensively volunteer-run organization is dedicated to ensuring each and every rescued Golden receives exceptional care, regardless of the extent of their needs. We provide veterinary care, rehabilitation, behaviour training, and numerous other services to help our Goldens prepare for their second chance with a loving forever family. We also help educate people about the virtues of rescue.

Our core values are our guiding principles ~ integrity, kindness, compassion ~ delivered without judgment.

Mailing address:
PO Box 31026, Barrie, ON L4N 0B3

Golden Rescue™ is a registered trademark of the Canadian Golden Retriever Adoption Service Inc.

ON THE COVER

Cailey #2612 ~ Cailey arrived from Turkey in June 2017 and made herself very comfortable. We quickly learned she was paw-picked from heaven. The phrase "who rescued who?" was never more true, We all knew we hit the jackpot. She loved to cuddle so she became a permanent fixture on the couch, snoring away. Her comfort was always top priority. She loved car rides, including many trips to Nova Scotia and she was always happy we were not leaving her behind. A very gentle soul, she loved people more than anything and tolerated other dogs; however, she selected a choice few as her besties. A quirky little weirdo, we experienced many head scratchers over the years including when she took a pie from the kitchen, carried it in the bag upstairs leaving it on the second last step, never touching the pie. But that's what made Cailey, Cailey. Sadly, we lost Cailey in March, but the memories of this quirky little love bug live on.
Robyne





DON'T MISS OUT ON GOLDEN NEWS!

We send out regular Adoption Alerts and eblasts for News & Events...

AND NOW, OUR FREE GUARDIAN!

To stay 'in-the-know' about Golden news

CLICK HERE TO JOIN OUR MAILING LIST

or sign up by going to our website *(click on 'Join our mailing list' on the top right-hand corner and follow the prompts).*

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

'Like' us on Facebook and 'Follow' us on Threads, Instagram, and Pinterest to stay up-to-date on what's happening with Golden Rescue. Click on the icons here (or on our website) to stay connected!



I've been busy helping the **GOLDEN RESCUE STORE** fetch some exciting new ideas. There's a fresh new look, fun new merchandise, and even more ways to show your Golden Rescue pride... all while helping Goldens in need.
The secret is almost out.
Get ready for the big reveal next month!

THE GRRR8 STORE

– SALE –

In the meantime, a lot of our old stock is on sale for incredibly low prices. Click HERE for fantastic deals and help us clear the way for new merch!

MEET & GREET



MAPLE #5165

Maple is a smart, eager-to-please girl who has already learned an impressive number of words and commands. She approaches food, treats, Kongs, and walks with tremendous enthusiasm and has just enough wild child in her to keep household barriers under constant review. Puppy classes are next on her agenda; however, when the day's adventures are done, this spunky little comedian is also wonderfully sweet and always ready to cuddle.

Heidi

MEET & GREET



GEORGIA #5163

Georgia has found her place in the family and completely adores her big sister, Kali. The two play nonstop until they collapse for a snuggle, while Georgia earns her nickname, the little chaos hurricane, by getting into absolutely everything along the way. Sweet, curious, and bursting with energy, she even enjoyed her first cottage adventure. Potty training remains a work-in-progress but we love her so much so we're patient.

Katrien & Rob

MEET & GREET



INDIE #5103

Indie is lovely, loved, and living her best life. She adores fetch, car rides, and trips to the park, where she goes delightfully ballistic the moment she realizes where she is. She walks beautifully both on and off leash. She plays well with the friends she meets and happily goes to work at the nursing home, collecting belly rubs from everyone. Her only questionable habit is the 6 am wake-up calls...even on weekends!

Angie

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

Every second chance begins with someone who cares enough to say:

"You're safe now!" – Julie



UPCOMING EVENTS

TELL YOUR FRIENDS, MARK YOUR CALENDARS, AND HOPE TO SEE YOU SOON!

Sat, Oct 4th
Pinery Bark-toberfest
Grand Bend (ON)
9 am – 4 pm

Fri, Oct 16th – Sun, Oct 18th
Bala Cranberry Festival
Bala (ON)
Fri (10-5), Sat (9-5) & Sun (9-3)

Sat, Oct 24th
Ottawa Street Farmers' Market
Hamilton (ON)
8 am – 2 pm

Sat, Oct 24th
Ottawa Farmers' Market
(Westboro location)
Ottawa (ON)
9 am – 3 pm

Sat, Nov 21st
Amhertsberg Santa Claus Parade
Amhertsberg (ON)
6 pm

Fri, Nov 27th
Huntsville Community Tree Lighting & Santa Claus Parade
Huntsville (ON)
6 pm

Sat, Nov 28th
Huntsville Holiday Market
Huntsville (ON)
11 am – 8 pm

Dec 5th/6th & 12th/13th
Oshawa Flea Market-Christmas Event
Oshawa (ON)
10 am – 6 pm

Help us spread the GOLDEN word!

We need YOU ~ volunteers and visitors! If you are interested in volunteering with your Golden for a few hours, please email **volunteer@goldenrescue.ca**. Indicate which event you would like to help with and the hours you are available.



ASK Goldie

Dear Goldie: Mom and dad keep ignoring my 'play bow'. Come on...it's my invitation to play. You know ~ bum in the air, front legs lowered to the ground, relaxed tail wagging. But dad just says "Oh look, he's stretching". No...it's what Taylor Swift sings in Shake it Off "cause the players gonna play, play, play, play, play". Get with it...it's play time for me. Yet again, my invitation to play goes unnoticed and ignored. Goldie, why don't they understand me? Travis

Dear Travis: Play behaviour develops social skills. It's a great outlet for social interaction, establishing relationships, improving coordination, and enhancing physical and mental dexterity. It may also be accompanied by some front leg pawing, some pouncing and leaping, twisting jumps, open mouth panting, and a barking or throaty sound. Enjoy!

Dear Goldie: "Ground Control to Major Dad. Why you think I look so sad?" I love my new forever family but I do really miss my old life of running free. Now I'm always on a 6-foot leash with you, which is totally new for me. When will I ever get the chance to run around again? David

Dear David: Long leash training (20 to 50 ft) is a great option for you and dad. A long line, will give you safe exploration freedom while dad maintains control. It's ideal for practising recall training, transitioning to off-leash walking or for allowing decompression "sniffaris" in open spaces. The long lead should always be clipped to a harness to avoid sudden momentum at the end of the line. With time, you will build trust with dad as he calls you back to him at intervals. Eventually complete trust will be gained allowing you to periodically run freely off leash while under supervision.

Dear Goldie: "Poop a Dee Doo Da, Poop a Dee Yay! My, My, My, What a Wonderful Day!" Just wanna give a shout-out to my foster family. I used to be poo extreme... too loose or constipated. But now I have a healthier digestive tract and gut flowers thanks to my poo-biotics that mom adds to my meal. Sunny

Dear Sunny: A healthy Golden will maintain the balance of digestive microbes naturally, but during times of stress, illness or malnutrition, an imbalance can occur. Adding probiotics to a meal can aid digestion and improve irritable bowel and intestinal inflammation. A Golden may also benefit from probiotics during times of dietary changes or after the use of antibiotics. Always use dog-specific probiotics and check with your vet to ensure it's right for you.

With love dear readers, Goldie XOX



2027 CALENDAR

IN THE GR STORE NOW!

Click HERE to order your copies today!

THE GRRR8 STORE

GR Picnic & Gold Medal Memories



CONGRATULATIONS
CAITLIN & KINGSLEY!

Six Countries...One Golden Community

On September 19th, Viamede Resort went gloriously to the Goldens as around 200 people and 160 four-legged athletes gathered for our 2026 Golden Games Picnic.

The day began with a hike with Ben, followed by our Opening Ceremony and Parade of Nations. Goldens and their people proudly represented Canada, Türkiye, Brazil, Japan, Australia, and Egypt. Some enthusiastic participants even carried the flags themselves!

continued on page 8...

...continued from page 9

Armed with pawsports, guests travelled among six country stations celebrating the Golden qualities of friendship, joy, loyalty, adventure, courage, and community. Then it was time for the Games: Friendship Retrieve, Soccer Shootout, Splash Zone, and the crowd favourite, Leave It or Steal It...where considerably more stealing than leaving took place. Some Goldens were natural athletes. Others felt the rules were merely suggestions. **The Golden Paws Cup was won by Caitlin with her Golden Kingsley. Congrats!**

Our Rainbow Bridge Ceremony gave us a quiet moment to remember those forever loved and never forgotten.

Then the mood lifted again with the **Sporty Paws Best Dressed Showcase, won by Timbre**...a Leafs player sitting in the penalty box. We're still investigating what that very good boy did to deserve two minutes for ruffing.

The day ended with a spectacular drone photo filled with Goldens, their people, and enough smiles to light up the sky.

To every volunteer who planned, organized, registered, photographed, sold, announced, set-up, cleaned-up and kept the games running ~ THANK YOU. And a huge thank you to Ben Samann for inviting us yet again to Viamede. You all turned sunshine, laughter, wet fur, and some highly questionable athletic abilities into one unforgettable day.

And the next chapter is already taking shape. The picnic will return in 2027 on September 18th with bestselling author and Golden Rescue friend, Louise Penny, as our special guest. We may already have a mystery, or two, in mind.













GOLDEN RETRIEVER BELIEVER CLUB

MONTHLY DONORS:

Thank you for your love and support! Our Goldens are grateful that you care!

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Robyne Ahmed
Kimberly Allen
Jane Allin
Simon Alway
Carmen Anderson
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Esther Backler
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Teresa Bailey
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Ron Ziernicki

Thank You Retriever Believers

JOIN THIS COMPASSIONATE & GENEROUS GROUP OF SUPPORTERS!
BECOME A MONTHLY DONOR NOW & MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN A GOLDEN'S LIFE!

Donate by clicking HERE OR email board@goldenrescue.ca.

GOLDEN HEROES

This is our third year presenting the Golden Hero Awards at the picnic, recognizing a few of the extraordinary volunteers whose contributions have profoundly changed the lives of our Goldens. We are blessed with so many remarkable volunteers that choosing just a few is one of the toughest jobs the Board has each year; however, these individuals have given their time, their talents, and enormous pieces of their hearts to Golden Rescue.



LYNN WITH CHIEF #3345 & CLAIRE #4314

Lynn Allan

If you have read a Golden Rescue eblast, visited our social media pages, seen an adoption feature or found an event on our website, chances are Lynn had something to do with it and probably completed it faster than a Golden can inhale dinner. Lynn began volunteering in memory of her beloved Crew and has since helped with Facebook, website updates, home visits, transports, fundraising, events, adoption alerts, and eblasts. Today, she is an exceptional Social Media Team Lead and the glue holding our eblast team together...although 'glue' hardly captures her speed, patience, and ability to make things happen. Lynn works quietly behind the scenes; however, her impact is seen everywhere. Lynn, thank you for your compassion, patience, and extraordinary dedication. Golden Rescue simply would not be the same without you.



LAURA-LEE WITH JACKSON #4818

Laura-Lee Bowman

Laura-Lee joined Golden Rescue's Photography Team in 2020. Then the pandemic arrived, events disappeared and she did what every sensible person with four Goldens at home would do...she volunteered for even more. Since then, Laura-Lee has helped with home visits, transports, fostering, and picnic registration. She is now Team Lead of our Home Visit Team for adoptive and foster families, where tight deadlines and urgent requests keep her hopping. Fortunately, living with four Goldens has made her very comfortable with chaos. Laura-Lee trains and assigns our home-visit volunteers, helping to ensure that every Golden is placed somewhere safe and loving. Laura-Lee, thank you for always finding room for one more Golden, one more task, and one more way to help. Your leadership, dedication, and enormous heart make you a truly deserving Golden Hero.



PATRICA WITH LUNA

Patricia Hope

Patricia began volunteering in 2020 in memory of her beloved Golden, Kyla. Since then, she has become an indispensable member of our Intake Team and is also the second-in-command. Patricia transfers veterinary records for fosters and adopters, carefully removing personal information, sending care requests to our supporting clinics, and providing the medical details needed for placement summaries. She and her husband, Walter, also handle northern transports, have fostered five times, and use their training experience to help each Golden become the best possible version of themselves. Most recently, they welcomed Tigger and his grounded volunteer pilot for dinner and an overnight stay before returning both to the airport, which may be Golden Rescue's first foster arrangement to include a pilot. Patricia, thank you for your compassion, dependability, and meticulous behind-the-scenes work. You help carry Goldens from uncertainty into safety and we are deeply grateful.

continued on page 12...

...continued from page 11

Joan & Ron Howard

Since 2010, Joan and Ron have adopted three Goldens, fostered 28, hosted many more, and opened their home to Goldens with significant medical needs, including two epileptic fosters currently in their care. And then there is the driving: Northern Ontario, Alberta, and British Columbia. Apparently, Ron believes that if a road exists, a Golden can be rescued from the other end of it. Blizzards, wildlife, and very long distances do not faze him, which is why we call him 'The Roadrunner'. However, every Roadrunner needs an extraordinary partner at home. Joan and Ron work as a team, offering safety, patience, and love to every Golden who comes through their door. Their answer is almost always yes, regardless of the distance or the challenge. Joan and Ron, thank you for every kilometre travelled, every Golden welcomed, and every second chance you have made possible. You are the best of the best and truly deserving of this award.



RON WITH HOLLY, SCOOBY, DEZI & WILLOW

Sue Montgomery

Since 2017, Sue has been one of those remarkable volunteers who seems to appear wherever she is needed most. She has greeted Goldens at the airport, coordinated transports, completed home visits, fostered and hosted innumerable Goldens, supported events, and served for seven years as our back-up Transport Coordinator. In other words, when plans change, a ride falls through or a Golden needs help, Sue is one of the people who makes everything work. At home, Sue and her husband Don have also shared their lives with several rescues, including Buddy, Koffee, and Miss Frankie. Sue doesn't simply support rescue...she lives it. She is one of Golden Rescue's most enthusiastic ambassadors and will happily promote us to the moon and back. Sue, the feeling is mutual: we are your biggest fans. Thank you for your compassion, reliability, and off-the-charts dedication.



SUE WITH BUDDY

Jeremy & Diane O'Neill

Jeremy and Diane's Golden Rescue story began with Daisy, grew with the adoption of Stanley #1760, and somehow expanded into a family tradition of saying 'yes' whenever Golden Rescue calls. For years, the O'Neills have supported Tag Days, markets, movie nights, picnics, and countless other events. Jeremy is famous for never saying no...even when the job involves setting up, tearing down, selling tickets, balancing the money or calmly carrying on when an event goes slightly off-leash. Diane and their family have been right there beside him, proving that volunteering truly can be a family affair, especially when they are fostering. They are wonderful ambassadors who happily talk to anyone about adopting, fostering or volunteering, and they do it all with warmth, generosity, and good humour. Jeremy and Diane, thank you for giving Golden Rescue your time, your hearts, and so many helping hands. We are incredibly fortunate to have the entire O'Neill family in ours.



JEREMY & DIANE WITH BARKLEY #4777 & FINLEY #5088

Iain Rankin

For approximately 25 years, Iain Rankin has been quietly woven into just about every part of Golden Rescue. He has adopted five Goldens, fostered, transported, conducted home visits, greeted airport arrivals, and participated in more events than anyone could count. He helped with golf tournaments and car rallies, wrote much of our 25th-anniversary coffee-table book and, for years, has written almost all our adoption webposts. He has even written two songs for Golden Rescue, because apparently ordinary volunteering wasn't enough. What makes Iain truly special is his sense of humour, his thoughtfulness, and his fierce belief in rescue. Iain, your kindness has changed countless lives. Thank you for sharing your creativity, wisdom, and enormous heart with Golden Rescue. We are so fortunate to have you in our family.



IAIN WITH PRINCE #4995

MEET & GREET



WILLOW #5168

Willow is growing exponentially and keeping big brother Finn firmly on his toes. This playful little girl has been compared to a beaver ~ fortunately, distressed furniture is in fashion. Finn helps her burn off some of that boundless puppy energy. She is learning quickly, naps happily, and is already a couch-potato-in-training because, really, why should the floor get all the fun? We are thrilled with her and cannot imagine life without her.

Sara & Derek

MEET & GREET



ELLA #5167

Ella is fitting beautifully into family life and keeping everyone busy with all the important work of being an energetic puppy. She loves the backyard, is growing at lightning speed, especially those wonderfully long 'giraffe' legs, and has already learned 'sit', 'come', 'stay', 'lie down', 'off', and 'let's go'. Best of all, she and Monkey chase and wrestle together, bringing some youthful energy back into Monkey's life and plenty of action into ours.

Shirley & Stanley

MEET & GREET



DENBIGH #4520

Denbigh joined the dog crew as a 10-week-old puppy in September 2023 and, now three, has her family perfectly trained to respond to every demand. Outdoors, she races after squirrels, bunnies, and her beloved ball. Indoors, her stuffies hold afternoon meetings on her beds after mysteriously escaping their baskets. Smart, lovable, energetic, and blessed with a magnificent side-eye when expectations are not met, Denbigh has wriggled firmly into our hearts and home.

Monica & Chris

MEET & GREET



Goose #5164 & Maverick #5169

Goose and Maverick are growing fast and making quite a splash beside their older sister, Tess. Goose is a true retriever who loves balls so much he rolls them downhill for himself to chase. He is also an adventurous beach explorer and enthusiastic digger. Maverick remains the resident snuggle bug, devoted Tess follower, and firm believer that the world revolves around mealtimes. The boys are starting puppy classes and are already local celebrities ~ their new junior hockey team has unofficially adopted them as mascots.

Natalie & Mike

MEET & GREET

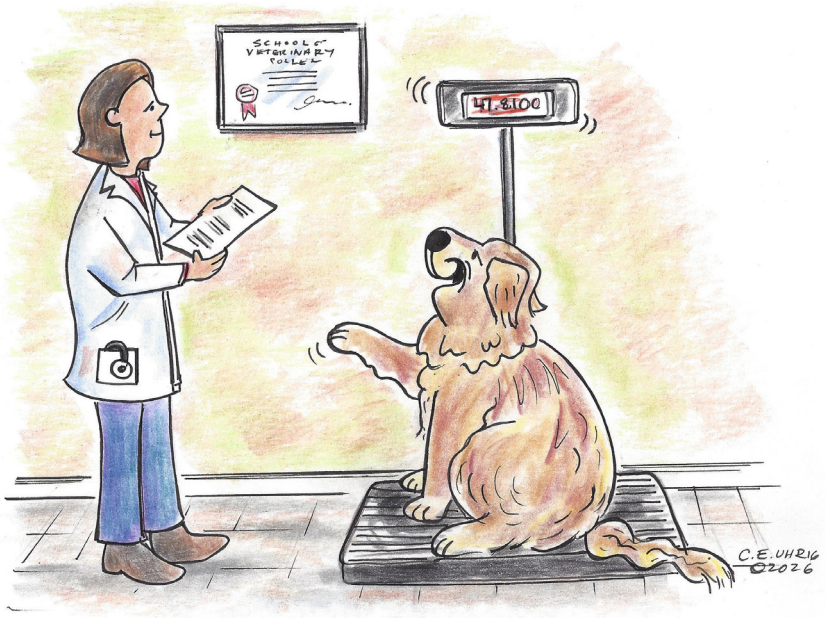


SYDNEY #5166

Sydney is doing wonderfully and growing quickly. Confident, curious, and independent from day one, this bright little girl knows her own mind ~ although none of that stops her from being a first-rate cuddle bug whenever the mood strikes.

Michael

GOLDEN MOMENTS©



"Let's just keep this between us — shall we!"

WELCOME TO THE GOLDEN FAMILY



Tara #5134
Adopted by Tiffany & Ron



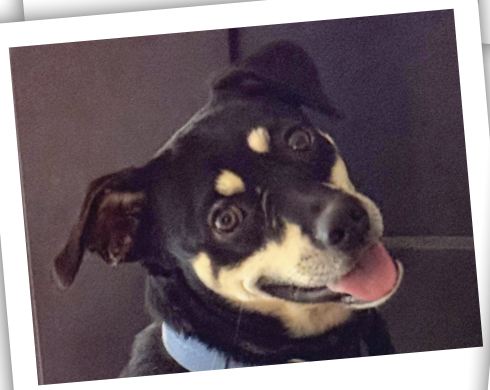
Jilly #5145
Adopted by Pamela & Tim



Mila #5178
Adopted by Ineke & Jan



Leonard #5179
Adopted by Natalie & Kelly



Thomas #5180
Adopted by Jennifer & Ryan



Sullivan #5188
Adopted by Allison



Chase #5203
Adopted by Sue



Louie #5210
Adopted by Stefanie & Barry


LOOK BACK AND BE
grateful
LOOK AHEAD AND BE
hopeful
LOOK AROUND AND BE
helpful
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Help our future Goldens by becoming a monthly donor ~
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MAVERICK #5169 &
GOOSE #5164