

SHE'S THE CAT'S *Meow!*

MARGE COLAS, OWNER
OF THE HOTEL 4 CATS,
KNOWS HOW TO
APPRECIATE LIFE.



"I'VE ALWAYS been a cat person," Marge Colas said. "There was a time when I had seven cats, but now I'm down to three. My idea for the business came, of course, out of my love for cats. When I was away on vacation, I would board our cats at the local kennel and when I picked them up, I noticed they seemed to be stressed. I felt that it was because they had been boarded in the same kennel as dogs."

AS THEY SAY, THE REST IS HISTORY—THE HOTEL 4 CATS WAS BORN!

Marge grew up in New Jersey and graduated from J.F. Kennedy High School. Three years later she married her husband, Chris, and they have one son, Sean. "I wake up everyday knowing how blessed I am," Marge said. "I am fortunate to have a husband who assists me in the daily operating functions of the business in addition to the marketing aspects.

"My husband is a great cook and prepares our dinner every evening," she said. "He also shares in all the daily household chores.... I don't know what I would do without him."

Having previously owned a similar business in New Jersey, Simply Cats Hotel, Marge said that she and her husband relocated to North Carolina for a good reason. "In May of 2008, Chris and I became grandparents for the first time," she explained. "We came down to North Carolina to meet our grandson, Quinn, and we fell in love...with our grandchild and the area!

"When we visited Sean and his family after the birth of Quinn, they took us on a tour of the Lake Norman area. I loved the blue skies, the beautiful lake, and most of all, the friendly people. I am very fond of all four seasons you get in North Carolina, but I especially enjoy the not-so-harsh winters."

Personally and professionally, Marge says that her family is what keeps her motivated. "I think by being a parent you are most gratified in seeing your children succeed," Marge said. "My son has done a wonderful job of achieving

his goals, and I am proud of the man he has become. In work and in life, my family is always behind me 100 percent."

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Marge says her success comes from her support system—primarily her family but also friends. "One of my best friends really inspired me. She went back to school to get her degree in nursing when her children were 9 and 11. I always had great respect for her," she said. "Years later, when the thought occurred to me to open a cat boarding facility, I knew it would be an enormous task, but I also knew I could do it after seeing my friend attain her goal.

"I'm just very fortunate in so many ways—my family, my friends, my business, and of course, my cats!" 🐾