



VBSPCA

OCTOBER 2018

Volunteer Spotlight

Alex Privette

Learn About
**Pet Health
FIV**

Scholarship Winner

Janna Goliff

CREATURE CHRONICLES

A PUBLICATION OF THE VIRGINIA BEACH SPCA

3040 HOLLAND ROAD, VIRGINIA BEACH, VA 23453 • WWW.VBSPCA.COM • (757) 427-0070

Letter From Leadership



Summer is always an exciting time at the VBSPCA. With kitten and wildlife season in full force, we welcomed hundreds of kittens through our doors, along with foxes, opossums, squirrels, turtles, rabbits, birds, bunnies, and even a couple non-venomous snakes. We also hosted 10 weeks of summer camps, and the shelter was filled with little animal lovers as they learned all about the ins and outs of animal sheltering. We also celebrated the VBSPCA mission at our annual Dancing for Paws and Puttin' for Paws Signature events, and we raised over \$80,000 for the animals. The summer was a whirlwind of adoptions and events, and as one season came to an end another one began - Hurricane season.

The threat of Florence came at a time when the VBSPCA was settling in with a new Leadership Team. With Florence predicted to make landfall just south of Virginia Beach, we needed to prepare for the worst and plan to evacuate our animals to a safe location. Our existing evacuation plan is in partnership with the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS), and, in the event of a potential disaster, they provide us with transport assistance to an emergency HSUS shelter facility in Danville, Virginia. However, with the path of the storm predicted to pass right over Danville, we had to come up with an entirely new plan, and we had to do it in less than 24 hours.

Derby Brackett, our Interim CEO, alongside our leadership team, Dr. Anne Marie Woyma, Cat Daniels, Emily Peck, Kate Baldwin, Kyle Dutton, and Vikki Spruill swiftly shifted from shelter mode to crisis mode, and the team searched for a space that could accommodate our unique needs. As you can imagine, evacuating 293 animals is no small feat. Sick puppies and kittens need to be kept separate from healthy puppies and kittens, dogs need to be kept separate from cats, and small animals need to be kept separate from all other animals. We also needed to make sure there was enough space to store a minimum of 3 days' worth of blankets, towels, food, water, and cleaning supplies for 293 animals. Plus... we needed additional space for staff.

We reached out to one of our long time dedicated supporters, Susan Browney-Dillon, who owns Golden Slippers Dance Studios. When we asked if we could use one of her locations to house our animals, she immediately said yes. Her Virginia Beach location provided the perfect space, and we quickly worked through the evacuation logistics.

The public stepped in with generous donations, and within 24 hours the VBSPCA was prepared to make the move to Golden Slippers.

Then the storm changed course and the alternative safe haven was not needed. As thankful as we are that our area wasn't impacted by the storm, our hearts go out to our southern neighbors who are still dealing with the challenges left behind in Florence's wake. We are collecting in-kind donations to help the shelters who were affected by the storm, and we will be opening our doors to animals who were already in those southern shelters to help make space for animals displaced by the storm.

The storm provided us the opportunity to test the strength of our new leadership and we know that community collaboration is the key to the delivery of our mission and the ultimate safety of our animals and staff. As you witness the VBSPCA mission in action in the upcoming year, you will see these innovative qualities present themselves as pillars of who we are and where we are headed.

Coming up at the end of this month is our annual Mutt Masquerade, and we will be wrapping up the event with an after party at Abbey Road. There will be food and drink specials, music, and the highly anticipated VBSPCA costume contest! Come out and have some Halloween-themed fun- all in support of the animals.

November will be full steam ahead for the Holidays. We have a fundraising campaign coming up for Giving Tuesday, followed by a brand new holiday event at our Pet Supplies and Adoption Center in celebration of Small Business Saturday. You can find great pet products for your furry friends or you can give your 2 legged loved one the gift of compassion. Our new Holiday Gift Drive will kick off at the end of November, and you can purchase gifts in support of the VBSPCA. There are a lot of exciting things coming up throughout the year, so stop by either location and pick up a copy of the VBSPCA annual event calendar.

We hope to see you out and about in support of the animals. Make your first stop our Mutt Masquerade!

For the animals,

Anne Marie, Cat, Derby, Emily, Kate, Kyle, and Vikki
The VBSPCA Leadership Team



Feature Animal Stories



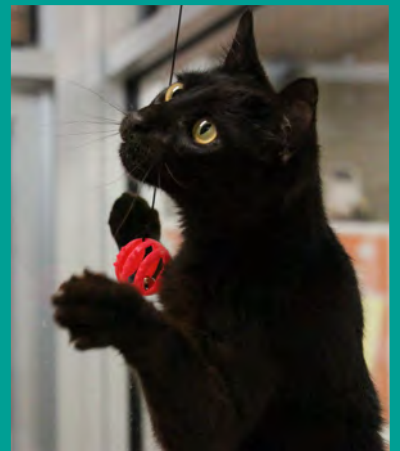
Belle

Belle is a sweet 5 year old Great Dane mix. Her owner dropped her off at a neighbor's house for what was supposed to be 3-4 days, but her owner never returned. After 2 months of waiting, the neighbor realized Belle's owner had abandoned her so she brought Belle to the Virginia Beach SPCA. Upon arrival, Belle was confused, malnourished, and she was suffering from a skin infection. Our shelter and clinic staff quickly stepped in to care for this gentle giant, and it wasn't long before her health started to improve. She was given lots of TLC and she even participated in the VBSPCA Shelter Dog Birthday Party! As Belle started feeling better, her lovable personality came out and she stole the heart of her forever family. Belle is now living a happy life in her new home and we couldn't be happier!

Blue Kitty

Blue Kitty was transferred to the Virginia Beach SPCA in April. He was only 12 months old, yet this was his third time being transferred to a different shelter. When he arrived at the VBSPCA, his hair was patchy and thinning, he had a wound in his right nostril, and he was malnourished. Blue Kitty struggled to eat, and it was soon discovered that Blue Kitty's teeth were causing the issues. The clinic staff quickly scheduled a dental surgery, and the majority of Blue Kitty's teeth were removed.

After recovering from surgery, Blue Kitty began eating more readily. He gained weight and his hair grew back into a beautiful black coat. Generous donors helped cover the cost of Blue Kitty's dental surgery, and he was adopted into his forever home.



Christopher

Christopher spent the first two year of his life neglected, locked in an outdoor pen with his brother Happy, their owner surrendered the dogs to PETA. Both Christopher and Happy were then transferred to the VBSPCA where they received medical treatment for their skin infections. Christopher went into our foster care program while he healed and soaked up as much attention as possible.

It wasn't long before his personality began to shine and we learned that his favorite pastime is playing fetch. After several weeks of being overlooked in our kennels, Christopher's luck changed. While attending PETA's Poochella event, he quickly stole the hearts of Alysoun Mahoney and Chuck Gordon. Christopher is now living the good life playing with all of his new friends on a farm, canine sister Marina, and horse siblings Caroline, Henry, and Charlie.

Saving Lives

What is FIV



Chateau

Ready for her forever home.

FIV+ cats can not be adopted into homes with FIV- cats.

Similar to Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (FIV) attacks and compromises a cat's immune system. This virus is only contagious among cats, and it is primarily transmitted through a bite wound. While any feline is susceptible, un-neutered, outdoor males have the highest risk of being infected because of their propensity to fight. Pet owners should always keep cats indoors to minimize the risk of contracting diseases such as FIV.

For cats who already carry the virus, proper care can provide them with happy, healthy lives. With a healthy diet and a lot of love, these kitties can live a great life. FIV positive cats should always remain indoors, which not only helps prevent transmission of the disease to another cat, but it also decreases the cat's exposure to secondary diseases. This is always a concern when dealing with a weakened immune system. Having your cat spayed or neutered is another important consideration in preventing the spread of disease, since altered animals are less likely to fight.

VBSPCA Clinic Director Dr. Woyma explains that FIV cats should have a wellness visit with their veterinarian every six months. This visit should include blood work to monitor any changes or early signs of advanced disease. There is no direct treatment for FIV, so the focus is on extending the asymptomatic period and easing the secondary effects of the virus.

The VBSPCA is happy to provide FIV+ kitties with second chances, and you can meet our FIV+ residents at the VBSPCA Pet Supplies & Adoption Center, where the VBSPCA staff provides lots of TLC.

Additional Neuter Scooter Locations



SUBARU

RK SUBARU

MADE POSSIBLE BY
A GRANT FROM THE ASPCA
<https://www.asPCA.org>

The VBSPCA is partnering with RK Subaru of Virginia Beach for a special vaccine clinic. The Neuter Scooter will be on site offering discounted vaccines to the public. This clinic is made possible through a generous grant from the ASPCA. Vaccines will be administered on a first come, first serve basis and are only available while supplies last.

October 20th, 2018 from 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM

For more information, visit vbSPCA.com/medical-clinic/neuter-scooter.



The VBSPCA is excited to be adding New Realm Brewing as a new Neuter Scooter location. Starting in November, the Neuter Scooter will be making two appearances at New Realm Brewing in Virginia Beach for spay/neuter surgeries and vaccine clinics. The Georgia based brewing company opened its doors in August 2018, and we are thrilled to share that it is a dog-friendly brewery.

November X, 2018 | December X, 2018

Vaccine Clinic is from 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Wildlife

Nearly 2,000 injured or orphaned wildlife make their way to the VBSPCA each year.

Fox Rescue

On a rainy morning, a woman in Virginia Beach came across an orphaned baby animal who was all alone. Thinking that the animal was a kitten, she quickly rescued it, placed it in a box, and brought it to the Virginia Beach SPCA. Our staff opened the box expecting to find a kitten but were surprised when they saw a cold, wet baby fox staring back at them.

Since a fox is considered a rabies vector animal, only a team member who had been vaccinated against rabies could handle this situation. Our Transfer and Placement Liaison, Suzy Swims, was the only vaccinated staff member onsite, and immediately stepped in to provide lifesaving care.



After being stabilized in our wildlife room, the fox was brought to one of our volunteer rehabbers who just so happened to be caring for another baby fox at their home. Foxes do best in packs, and two babies recovering together gave them a far greater chance for survival. Soon, both foxes were healthy, strong, and released back into the wild.

Each year the VBSPCA receives nearly 2,000 injured or orphaned wildlife, who are then diagnosed, treated, and transported to one of our volunteer rehabilitators. These volunteer, licensed rehabilitators provide care until the animals are strong and healthy enough to return to their natural habitat. The VBSPCA also maintains a strong group of volunteers who manage our 24 hour wildlife referral line, answering over 2,000 calls each year.

Please call the Wildlife Referral Line before bringing any wildlife to the Virginia Beach SPCA: 757-263-4762

Grandy Match Campaign

Thanks to the Grandy Wildlife and Humane Education Fund, the VBSPCA can match donations made to the VBSPCA Wildlife up to the amount of \$12,500! That's a total of \$25,000 that can be raised to provide ongoing care to wildlife in Hampton Roads. This campaign will last through November, and stay tuned to our website and social media pages as we highlight wildlife stories from our VBSPCA wildlife team.

Grandy Wildlife and Humane Education Fund

Established in loving memory of J. Walton Grandy III and Anne E. Grandy.

The Grandys were lifelong residents of the Tidewater area, and they were passionate about the humane treatment of all living creatures. Through this fund, the VBSPCA is able to continue its life-saving work with wildlife while also educating the children of our community on how to be caring stewards of the earth, which includes caring for all creatures, both wild and domestic.

To make a donation to the Grandy Wildlife and Humane Education Fund please contact our Development Department at 757-427-0070 x 142

Or visit vbspca.com



Humane Education

Summer Camps



The summer season is always busy for the Virginia Beach SPCA, and this year was especially busy for our Humane Education Department. VBSPCA camps filled up with over 170 children in participation. We offered Animal Adventure Camps, Junior Trainer Camps, and we launched our brand new Kitten Around Workshop. The week long Animal Adventure Camps provided children ages 5-12 with a behind-the-scenes look at an animal shelter, including guest speakers, animal inspired arts and crafts, field trips, and plenty of animal time. The Junior Trainer Camps taught participants about how to properly and humanely train dogs, and Junior Trainers were able to practice their newly acquired training skills with Happy Paws clients. The Kitten Around Workshop was offered for the first time, teaching participants all about what it takes to care for a kitten. They learned about bottle feeding, grooming, and safe handling. Kitten Around was a huge hit, and it will be back on the schedule next summer.

MOCA Open (C)all 2018

The Virginia Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA) and the Virginia Beach SPCA invited Hampton Roads artists of all ages to participate in MOCA's annual Open (C)all 2018 exhibition. This year's open call featured a special theme: Compassion. Hampton Roads artists were encouraged to submit pieces of art that explored what role compassion plays in their life. Ideas to help get artists started included prompts such as: What meaning does compassion have for you? Have you received or witnessed acts of generosity and kindness? Have you ever adopted an animal?

Over 90 animal lovers submitted their pieces and the exhibition was on display at the Virginia Museum of Contemporary Art from June 10th – August 19th, 2018. The Closing Celebration took place on Sunday, August 19th, and the VBSPCA was on hand with a few furry friends to thank all of the artists for helping to spread our mission.



Jr. Volunteer Award 2018



We are pleased to present this year's Sharon Q. Adams Humane Education Fund Junior Volunteer Award to Janna Goliff of Virginia Beach. A diligent and reliable worker, Janna has contributed over 500 hours of steadfast service to the VBSPCA since she joined the Junior Volunteer Program in September, 2013. She not only volunteered in the main shelter, but also served at our PetSmart Adoption Center, and has spent 3 summers assisting with VBSPCA Summer Camps. As a Black Shirt experienced volunteer, Janna has helped mentor new volunteers, she has assisted staff with complex tasks, and she is trusted with the highest level of Junior Volunteer responsibilities. Janna recently graduated with honors from Salem High School, and will be attending University of Pennsylvania in the Fall.

We are incredibly thankful for all of Janna's hardwork and dedication to the VBSPCA.

For more info about our Humane Education programs visit vbspca.com or email humaneeducation@vbspca.com

Volunteer Spotlight

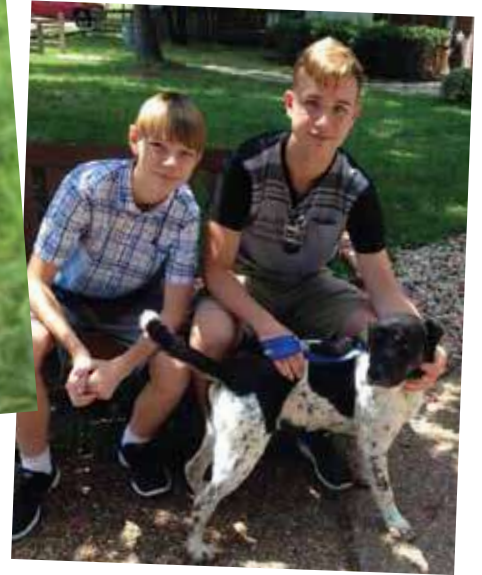
Meet Alex Privette

Alex Privette is a Junior Volunteer who began volunteering with the VBSPCA in fall 2017. He logged over 60 hours in less than a year, with many of them from this past summer. He is a dedicated volunteer who spent many hours in the kennel, and that is where a special someone caught his eye.

Ludwig, a 3-year-old Spaniel mix, was transferred to the Virginia Beach SPCA from Brunswick County Animal Shelter in March 2018.

He was heartworm positive and showed signs of possible kidney disease. For over a month, Ludwig was placed on medical hold. He was being treated for inflammation as well as an unrelenting upper respiratory infection, which prohibited him from being made available to the public. As his health improved, staff spent more and more time with Ludwig, and his playful nature won their affection. His big smile and happy-go-lucky attitude melted the hearts of VBSPCA staff and volunteers, including Alex, but his pending heartworm treatment continued to deter potential adopters.

Word got out and donations poured in to cover the cost of Ludwig's heartworm treatment. Staff become hopeful, however time crept by and Ludwig kept getting overlooked. He eventually became the kennel's longest resident... and then Alex brought his family to the shelter. No convincing necessary, Alex and his family decided to adopt Ludwig. After four months of waiting, this smiling Spaniel went home to a caring and compassionate family.



National Family Volunteer Day



Sign up today and make a difference in the lives of animals in our community!

Families can schedule an hour of service to include a shelter tour and animal time beginning at 1:00, 1:30, 2:00, and 2:30.

For more information or to reserve your spot please visit our website or email: volunteer@vbspca.com

Limited spaces are available.

Dancing for Paws



On June 9th, we hosted our second annual Dancing for Paws dance competition at Chrysler Hall in Norfolk. The event was a huge success with over 450 people in attendance, and over \$60,000 raised for the animals. The success of Dancing for Paws will make a significant impact in the lives of the homeless animals in our community.

We're already looking forward to June 15th, 2019 when we get to do it all over again, and we hope to see you on the stage, in the audience, or behind the scenes, once again supporting the mission of increasing compassion right here in Hampton Roads.

Thank you to Saint Germain, Tiffany Kidwell-Gaylord, and her staff for hosting a really fabulous after party. The food was delicious, the drinks were great, and they provided the perfect end to the evening. And, lastly, thank you to our judges, Elbert Watson, Kendall Grant, and Donna Reese, and to the one-and-only Barbara Ciara for being our fabulous Master of Ceremonies.

A Big "Round-Of-A-Paws" To Our Mirror Ball Trophy Winners:

Female

Ballroom Novice: Kate Baldwin & Brent Dunn
Ballroom Experienced: Renata Sheppard & Dmitry Sviridov
Latin Novice: Shirley Sasser & Damir Abdullaev
Latin Experienced: Jessica Larche & Riccardo Pacini

Male

Ballroom Novice: Chenue Her & Marie Rants
Latin Novice: Jason Miyares & Rebekah Klyukin
Latin Experienced: Kelly O'Clair & Jana Smith

People's Choice Award Winner:
Corinne Powers



**WE WANT
YOU
TO DANCE
IN OUR NEXT COMPETITION**

For more information,
contact events@vbspca.com