



JUNE 2018

Humane Education
**Summer
Camps**

Learn About Our
**Miracle
Medical
Fund**

**Lifesaver
Honoree**
Jane Smith
Wolcott

CREATURE CHRONICLES

A PUBLICATION OF THE VIRGINIA BEACH SPCA

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

VBSPCA

PRIVATE LABEL PRODUCTS

- Aloe & Oatmeal Shampoo
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When you purchase VBSPCA private label products, all proceeds directly support the animals in our care. These products are veterinarian approved, providing your pet with quality pet care while also making a positive impact in the lives of homeless animals.



Letter From Our Board Chair



We were recently in a meeting and an occasional “hmmm” or “uh - uh” squawked in agreement with our conversation. The squawks came from Socrates, a beautiful and opinionated 23 year old Macaw who recently made her way to the shelter in need of care and a new home. This is a unique situation which occurs on occasion at the VBSPCA. In fact, animals often join us at our meetings, providing the reminder of our mission of compassion working alongside

animals every day. If allowable, we recommend everyone bring a pet to work on occasion as we know the impact will improve your outlook and your productivity that day. It will surely make your co-workers smile. We know from experience.

Socrates is only one of the reasons why we come to work every day - there are over 4,000 other reasons throughout the year, including dogs, cats, rabbits, and small animals taken in annually with a focus on providing loving care and permanent homes for them all.

And while April showers bring May flowers...it is also the time when our wildlife and kitten populations surge. Our wildlife focus is on stabilization and rehabilitation, with the end goal being a return of the wildlife to their natural habitats. Our goal for our kittens is to nurture them until their old enough, at which point we strive to find them their forever homes, just like we do with all of our dogs and cats. Our mission is clearly focused on eliminating animal suffering while increasing human compassion.

We were proud to celebrate our animals this year at our annual Wags and Whiskers Gala. Attended by over 325 patrons and committed donors, we raised over \$185,000 in support of these animals. This year, we introduced our 365 Days of Compassion Wall, in addition to our silent auction and paddle raise for our Miracle Medical Fund (formerly CARE Fund). The Miracle Medical Fund is used to provide medical care for our shelter animals, easing the financial burden on potential adopters. These funds are critical to making adoption feasible for many animals and keeping our adoption rates over 90%. We greatly appreciate our donors' generosity in helping us serve the community through our shelter and clinic.

Next up? Dancing for Paws! Join us June 9th at Chrysler Hall for our second annual dance competition. We have staff and board participants, as well as some local celebrities! It's a magical, elegant evening - all dedicated to raising funds for our shelter animal care, clinical services, wildlife rehabilitation, and humane education initiatives.

May is also a transformational season - the temperatures rise and days get longer, heralding the arrival of the summer. It has also been a dynamic time for us as we transition our leadership. Our CEO, Dia DuVernet, is pursuing other interests after 4 years of service. We thank Dia for her commitment and wish her well in her next endeavor. In the interim, the Board will focus on supporting the leadership team, and with the direction of former board member Derby Brackett accepting the position of interim CEO, the organization is in terrific hands. Derby has long term experience in values based leadership working for strong mission focused organizations, both corporate and nonprofit. Our vision is to continue our dedication to the mission while building leadership strength of our organization. Our strategic growth is clearly on target to build capacity and increase sustainability with the consideration of facilities improvements and greater integration and collaboration with all area animal service providers. The VBSPCA is centered at the core of continuing care to the animal population throughout south Hampton Roads. We are leaders in understanding animal behaviors, needs, and compassion. All of the VBSPCA staff serve the mission, whether working in the kennels, serving as trainers, providing support services, giving critical clinical care, selling retail items, or cutting the grass at our home shelter - it all goes back to the animals. And that's a doggone good thing.

We hope you will come visit this summer - there is definitely a Dakota, Reed, or Pumpkin who would love to see you. Plus we have many summer camps for kids and events to keep the whole family busy. So spend a day with us - it will definitely improve your perspective.

We will see you June 9th at Chrysler Hall for our Dancing for Paws event. We look forward to sharing the talent of many in our community as we showcase both human and animal participants, by the way!

In service to our loving community supporting our animals,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Scott Taylor".

Scott Taylor
Board Chair



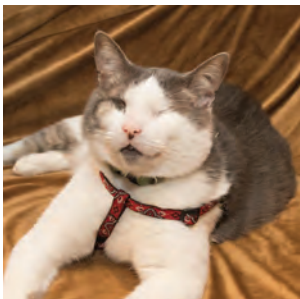
Saving Lives



Each animal that comes to the Virginia Beach SPCA requires varying levels of medical treatment before being adopted into a loving home. From eye drops to medicated shampoos to broken bones and even amputations, the cost of caring for nearly 4,000 animals each year can be staggering. Because of the Miracle Medical Fund, previously known as the Care Fund, the VBSPCA is able to turn bleak outlooks into extraordinary acts of care and compassion, as was the case with Noel, Rufus, and Duncan.



Noel, a Domestic Longhair cat, came to us in January after her owner passed away. The VBSPCA staff immediately fell in love with her and quickly noticed that her mouth was misshapen and in need of attention. Noel needed full dental surgery to repair her fractured jaw and remove painful teeth. Our clinic staff was able to provide Noel with the treatment she needed, and she is now free from pain and living the good life with her forever family. **Rufus**, a Jack Russell Terrier mix, found his way into our hearts in March. He arrived at the shelter with a badly broken leg and the only treatment option was amputation. Our clinic staff took great care of Rufus, and our front desk staff took turns looking after him while he recovered. As soon as Rufus was medically cleared for adoption, a loving family scooped him up and took him home. **Duncan** was brought to the VBSPCA as a 4-week-old kitten with severe conjunctivitis in one of his eyes. After weeks of treatment, the ophthalmologist determined that the best option was to remove the infected eye. Duncan was quickly adopted; however, he was returned to the VBSPCA six years later when painful ulcers developed in his remaining eye. With the help of the Miracle Medical Fund, Duncan's remaining eye was removed, and he received the medical care he needed. Duncan has become the official Compassion Mascot of the Virginia Beach SPCA. He is a staff favorite, and he authentically represents the saying, "Love is Blind."



Duncan, Noel, and Rufus are just a few of the many animals who have experienced miracles because of your generous donations. Their stories have happy endings, and each story is a testament to the compassionate community in Hampton Roads.

The Miracle Medical Fund covers a percentage of all medical care and the associated expenses for any animal taken in by the Virginia Beach SPCA. This fund allows the VBSPCA to maintain affordable adoption fees for all animals, which ultimately means more miracles for more animals.

Veterinary Internship

This past spring, Dr. Ibrahim Haikal traveled all the way from Egypt for a week-long internship at our clinic. Dr. Haikal is from Cairo, where animal overpopulation has been an ongoing problem. Stray dogs and feral cats roam the streets and there is little access to animal welfare education. Dr. Haikal has been a spay/neuter awareness advocate in his community, and now, after seeing our Neuter Scooter, he plans to have a mobile clinic up and running in the next few years.

Dr. Haikal came to us through Humane Society International's Internship Program, a program offering veterinarians from developing countries the opportunity to study with host clinics to help fine tune their skills and learn new surgical techniques. Dr. Haikal was a joy to have around the shelter, and our staff was sad to see him go, especially Trey the cat!



Protecting Our Pets



Over 1 million dogs in the U.S. currently have heartworm disease.

Heartworm Awareness and Prevention



With summer right around the corner, it is important to remember that warmer weather also brings mosquitos. An increase in mosquitos will bring an increase in the transmission of heartworm disease, so you want to make sure your pet is protected. Heartworm disease is caused by *Dirofilaria immitis*, a parasitic worm transmitted by mosquitoes. If your pet is bitten by a carrier mosquito, microscopic larvae are deposited into the bloodstream, eventually taking up residence in the heart, lungs, and blood vessels. If untreated, heartworm disease can be fatal.

The good news is that this disease can be avoided. There are a variety of heartworm prevention medications for both cats and dogs, and they are proven to be very effective when administered responsibly and correctly. However, if your pet has already contracted heartworm disease, treatment is only available for dogs. Sadly, there is not yet an approved treatment for heartworm positive cats, which makes feline heartworm prevention essential.

Through September, the VBSPCA low cost medical clinic is offering a discounted heartworm package, including 50% off heartworm tests with the purchase of six months of preventative. If you qualify for our services, call the clinic to schedule your appointment to have your pet tested. You can reach the clinic by calling 757-427-0070 option 2.

Our VBSPCA Pet Supplies & Adoption Center also carries Insect Shield Repellent products designed to provide additional protection for your pet. Insect Shield products incorporate permethrin, an insect repellent that provides long lasting protection against fleas, ticks, flies, and mosquitoes. Insect Shield offers a wide range of products, including bandanas, slings, blankets, and beds. **Mention that you saw these products featured in our newsletter and receive 10% off of your Insect Shield purchase.** Visit us today- 983 Providence Square Shopping Center, Virginia Beach, VA.



Training Tips For Motivation

HAPPY PAWS HUMANE PET TRAINING

Pet parenting can be challenging at times, especially when you're dealing with disobedient behavior. However, the truth behind your dog's disobedience might simply be that your pet isn't motivated. Here are a few tips from our trainers on how to motivate your pet:

Make It Fun

If you make training enjoyable, your dog is more likely to listen to you. Try playing the "Look at me" game: Hold a treat between your eyes to attract the dog's eyes to your face. Wait until you get eye contact and say, "Look." Praise, and reward with the treat.

High Value Motivators

Praise as a motivator often works in a familiar environment, but it will be less successful when in competition with a squirrel or another dog. This is where high value motivators come in. For some dogs it might be a favorite toy, for others it will be a tasty snack, such as chicken or hot dogs.

Keep It Simple

One of the biggest problems we see are pet parents trying to speed up the training process before their dog is ready. It's best to start training in a familiar environment where a dog can easily focus, then slowly expand the training to the outside world.

Need more help? Schedule a training session today!

HappyPawsTraining.org • (757) 963-8661 • info@HappyPawsTraining.org

Celebrating Our Mission

On Saturday, March 24th, over 300 Hampton Roads business leaders, community members, and philanthropists put on their western wear in celebration of the Virginia Beach SPCA's mission of compassion. The annual Western Wags and Whiskers Gala was held at the Cavalier Golf and Yacht Club, and partygoers enjoyed an exclusive VIP wine and scotch tasting, a delicious dinner, s'mores and campfires, and a fantastic silent auction featuring close to 100 items. Guests mingled to the acoustic sounds of Jacob Vanko and later danced the night away to the lively music of Cheap Thrills. During the formal program, hosted by on-air personality Allen Fabijan, guests participated in a paddle raise and together contributed over \$185,000 to our Miracle Medical Fund. It was a magical evening that will make a significant impact in the lives of homeless animals in Hampton Roads.



Lifesaver Honoree



Jane Smith Wolcott was honored with the VBSPCA Lifesaver award at the annual VBSPCA Western Wags & Whiskers Gala. The Lifesaver award is given annually to an individual who has demonstrated unwavering commitment to the VBSPCA mission of compassion.

"Loving animals is just a way of life, it's the most natural way to be," Jane says. She married Mike Smith in 1967, and although they had dogs and cats in their early married life, it wasn't until they settled in Texas that rescuing animals became a passion. Since then, Jane has rescued countless cats, dogs, horses, and wildlife. Not only does Jane provide temporary shelter for her rescued animals, ensuring they are safe until she can find them a home, she also covers the costs of veterinary care for animals in need of treatment.

When the Challenger tragedy occurred in 1986, with her husband Mike Smith piloting the shuttle, Jane's life was turned upside down. Jane was living outside of Houston with her three children, two dogs, and a cat, and she credits her animals with helping her through the tragedy. "Dogs are connected to our mental wellness. They know what we are thinking and feeling, and they knew I was grieving," she said. "They never left my side." It's because of the comfort they provided her that Jane was able to make it through some of the darkest hours of her life.

Jane remarried and moved to Virginia Beach in 1991, and shortly thereafter she attended a VBSPCA gala. She immediately aligned herself with the VBSPCA mission and became actively involved in the community. She served on the Board of Directors for over 20 years, and she continues to foster and inspire a love for animals everywhere she goes.

With Our Annual Gala

We are deeply grateful to the following sponsors, donors, and volunteers who helped make our gala a success:

DeCroix Family
—FOUNDATION—

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NEW AMSTERDAM VODKA

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In-Kind Donors:

Daniel Burke, Don Monteaux Photography, Fika Coffee Caravan, Fresh Market, Tidewater Coffee, Target, Trader Joe's, Whole Foods

2018 PLANNING COMMITTEE

Co-Chairs

Elissa Frantz Pierson Randi Dunlap

Committee

Board Members: Derby Brackett, Jan Fine, Angie Lombardi

Staff Members: Kate Baldwin, Dia DuVernet, April Le, Sarah Parrish, Emily Peck, Kimberly Sherlaw

Volunteers: Joan Bertucci, Mimi Boseman, Maria Ellmer, Renee Fairchild, Emily Franklin, Suzanne Gravitt, Bonnie Purefoy, Shannon Pride Satterwhite, Gilda Solomon, Debbie Stephens, Meg Taylor, Polly Watson

Volunteers

Manda Apiag
Kathryn Arn
Shiona Attenweiler
Savannah Barnes
Mike Bertucci
Ashley Betz
Leila Bradley
Jeff Brediger
Sheri Brediger
Becca Cackett
Sheryl-Lynn Caroff

Sam Ciardiello
Laura Craddock
Cat Daniels
Lizzie Davis
Alyssa DeSena
Montana DeVore
Allen Fabijan
Sarah Ferenc
John Fielder
Cindy Gendron
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Jennifer Lopez
Suzanne Lowman
Autumn McDaniels
Chris McKeel
Kory McKeel
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Jake Peters
Tria Presher
Julia Rosenfeld
Charlie Shepperd
Nikki Shepperd
Debbie Stephens
Suzy Swims
Tony Swims

Scott Taylor
Susan Terpay
Jessica Traynor
Cat Walker
Evan Walker
Polly Watson
Shelbi Wray

Upcoming Events

DANCING FOR PAWS

DANCE COMPETITION TO BENEFIT THE ANIMALS

JUNE 9TH • CHRYSLER HALL • 7PM

Doors open at 6pm

Tickets \$35-\$45 - available at ticketmaster.com

More information visit: vbspca.com/dancing



Puttin' For Paws Charity Golf Tournament

Greenbrier Country Club
Chesapeake, VA • August 17, 2018

If you would like to become a sponsor or register a team,
contact April Le at events@vbspca.com or call 757-427-0070 ext.145
You may also register online at: vbspca.com/golf

Engaging Our Youth

Summer is here, which means so are camps! Summer camps at the Virginia Beach SPCA provide a fun, educational experience while leaving a positive impact on the community.



Four reasons you will want your child to be a VBSPCA camper:

1. Animals

Each day we provide interactive, memorable experiences with our shelter animals, including dogs, cats, guinea pigs, rabbits, birds, mice, and rats. Sometimes we have special critter guests, such as turtles, pigs, and goats.

2. Education

Our summer camps are well-planned, in-depth programs, featuring a curriculum that inspires an appreciation for all animals and the environment. Campers learn in an interactive, fun, and compassionate way.

3. Fitness

We keep kids on the move with indoor and outdoor activities, games, crafts, nature exploration, and play. Older campers enjoy field trips that include nature hikes and swimming at local beaches.

4. Friendships

Our summer camps are a great way for kids to make positive friendships. We provide an intimate environment creating maximum opportunities for group involvement.

Animal Adventure Camp

June 18 - June 22: Ages 9-12

June 25 - June 29: Ages 5-8

July 9 - July 13: Ages 9-12

July 16 - July 20: Ages 9-12

July 23 - July 27: Ages 5-8

July 30 - August 3: Ages 9-12

August 6 - August 10: Ages 9-12

August 13 - August 17: Ages 9-12

August 20 - August 24: Ages 5-8

August 27 - August 31: Ages 9-12

Kitten-Around Workshop

July 11: Ages 6-12

Junior Trainer Camps

June 25 - June 29: Ages 9-12

July 23 - July 27: Ages 9-12

August 20 - August 24: Ages 9-12

For more information or to register, visit vbspca.com. For questions, email humane.education@vbspca.com or call 757-427-0070 ext. 112.



Honoring Our Loved Ones

Memorial Garden

Drawn by a shared love and compassion for animals, many visitors pass through the doors of the Virginia Beach SPCA looking for a new family member. While most wander straight toward the adoptable animals, some make their way to a shady spot on the far side of the property to spend time in the VBSPCA Memorial Garden, a space dedicated to the lives of loved ones who are no longer with us.

We recently had the honor of adding a new stone to our Memorial Garden in celebration of Margaret Rickard. Margaret was an animal lover through and through, and her family selected the VBSPCA Memorial Garden as a place to pay tribute to a long life of service to animals in need. After a heartfelt ceremony, Margaret's family was given a special tour of the shelter, where they received some very good news: Margaret's dogs had both been adopted into loving homes.



"It was such a special tribute to my Mom and we are so appreciative of the opportunity to celebrate her with something she was so passionate about."
- Lea Anne Campbell, Margaret's daughter

To honor the people and animals that have graced our lives, the Virginia Beach SPCA is proud to offer memorial stones that can be purchased in memory of a dearly departed friend. Uniquely personal and sentimental, each memorial stone will serve as a lasting tribute honoring the person or pet and their impact on the lives of their loved ones.



Kennel Sponsorship

Our Kennel Sponsorship program provides a unique opportunity for families, organizations, and businesses to directly support animals in need of shelter. Kennel Sponsorships are also a wonderful way to pay tribute to a beloved person or pet.

Your sponsorship fee will help provide care for EVERY animal who is housed in your kennel for one year, offering homeless animals a place to rest and recover while waiting for a new family. Your tax-deductible donation will be life-saving for our shelter animals.

When you become a kennel sponsor, a personalized plaque will be placed on one of our dog, cat, or small animal kennels, offering visible recognition of your dedication to animals in need. Sponsors are also recognized on our website and our Compassion Channel.

For more information about our Memorial Garden or Kennel Sponsorships please contact Emily Peck at 757-427-0070 ext.143 or emily.peck@vbspca.com.

Leaving A Legacy

Bequest Donor

This past April, the Virginia Beach SPCA had the honor of receiving a generous bequest from Evelina F. Bump. Evelina had been a long time animal lover and supporter of the Virginia Beach SPCA. She had adopted five different german shepherds from our shelter, and she named them Baron 1, Baron 2, Baron 3, Baron 4, and Baron 5. We were honored to welcome the family of Ms. Bump to the shelter so we could share with them the impact of her generosity. We gave Ms. Bump's sister, Maria, and niece, Bett, a tour of the shelter and introduced them to some of our animal residents. Just like Ms. Bump, Maria and Bett were enamored with our German Shepard resident. To help Ms. Bump's legacy live on, we will be looking for the perfect puppy or kitten who comes through our doors in need of a name, and they will both be named Evelina.



Bett Cornetta and Maria Lambert

Leave your legacy by making a planned gift to the Virginia Beach SPCA. To learn more about how you may "remember" the VBSPCA within your estate plans, please contact our Development Office at (757) 427-0070 ext. 144.

Ways To Give



General Donations

To make a monetary donation, visit our website at vbspca.com.

In-Kind Donations

Donations can be dropped off at our main shelter on 3040 Holland Road. For a list of commonly used items, visit our website at vbspca.com.

Recurring Monthly Donations

To set up a recurring gift, contact Manda Apaig at (757) 427-0071, ext.142.

Miracle Medical Fund

To donate towards medical care, contact Emily Peck at 757-427-0070, ext.143.



Animal Sponsorship

To sponsor the adoption fees or medical costs for a specific animal, contact our front desk at 757-427-0070.

Kennel Sponsorships

If you or your business would like to sponsor a kennel, cattery condo/colony, or small animal enclosure, contact Emily Peck at 757-427-0070, ext.143.

Planned Gifts/Bequests

Include the VBSPCA in your will, trust, or beneficiary designation. Please contact Emily Peck at 757-427-0070, ext.143.

Workplace Giving

To learn more about workplace giving campaigns, contact Emily Peck at 757-427-0070, ext.143.

Grandy Wildlife Care & Education Fund

To learn more about supporting wildlife and humane education, Please contact Emily Peck at 757-427-0070, ext.143.

Signature Events

Support the VBSPCA through our signature events. Visit vbspca.com for more information.

Corporate Sponsorship

For information on sponsorship packages, contact Emily Peck at 757-427-0070, ext. 143.

Car Donation

Donate your car to the VBSPCA and claim a charitable deduction. Please contact Emily Peck at 757-427-0070, ext.143.

Community Fundraising & Outreach

To host a fundraising event for the VBSPCA, contact Sarah Parrish at 757-427-0070, ext. 104.

Volunteer

If you are interested in volunteering at the VBSPCA, contact Sarah Parrish at 757-427-0070, ext.104.

Second Chance Thrift

Second Chance Thrift benefits the VBSPCA and is located on 5193 Shore Drive. To make a tax deductible donation, please call 757-318-PETS or visit secondchancethrift4pets.com.



3040 Holland Road
Virginia Beach, VA 23453
phone: (757) 427-0070
fax: (757) 427-5939
www.vbspca.com • info@vbspca.com

OPEN FOR ADOPTION SEVEN DAYS A WEEK!

HOURS OF OPERATION

Shelter Receiving Hours:

Mon, Tues, Thurs 12-5pm, Fri-Sun 10am-3pm

Shelter Adoption Hours:

Mon, Tues, Thurs 12-6pm, Wed 2-6pm, Fri-Sun 10am-4pm

Pet Supplies & Adoption Center Hours:

Mon-Sat 10-6pm, Sun 12-6pm

Check out www.vbspca.com, where adoptable animals' photos are updated regularly.

..... Happy Tails

