

CREATURE CHRONICLES

PUBLISHED QUARTERLY BY THE VIRGINIA BEACH SPCA

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



⁽⁽ It costs

over

the VBSPCA

Message from the CEO

About a month ago, someone drove into Redwing Park, dumped a puppy out of a car and sped away. Luckily a Good Samaritan saw the pup had been abandoned and brought her to the Virginia Beach SPCA.

Since she was technically a stray, she should have been taken to the public shelter. Her finder burst into tears at the idea of having to take her to yet another shelter. So our Kennel Coordinator, Suzy Swims, called the city and arranged to keep the puppy at the VBSPCA on "stray hold".

She was only about three months old, but like so many of the animals that come to us, she was not in good health. Our vets examined her and found she had ear mites, worms, and a urinary tract infection. Of course, they began treating her right away.

A couple of days after the puppy arrived, I went into our receiving room where dogs are kept until they have been medically and otherwise cleared to go to the adoption floor. I was having a hard day at work, and I decided I needed a puppy break. This is definitely one of the perks of my job!

While I was looking at a bank of kennels filled with adorable litters of puppies trying to decide who to pick for some snuggle time, a dog kept bark, bark, barking behind me. I turned around, and there was Suzy (named after our Kennel Coordinator). I took her out of her kennel, and she nestled right next to my heart....and that was it. She is now the newest member of my family.



That is why the VBSPCA established its Care Fund. Each year, hundreds of donors give to the Fund to help pay for medical expenses. Sometimes a visit to the shelter prompts them to give to a specific animal's needs. Others simply donate to the Fund and tell us to use the money where it is most needed. In addition, we host a Care Auction as part of our annual gala which generates almost 20% of our yearly need for medical costs.

In honor of our Suzy, nicknamed Sueshi now, and in honor of the VBSPCA's 50th Anniversary, my husband Pierce and I kicked off the Care Auction at the VBSPCA's recent gala with a pledge of \$5,000. It is our hope that this pledge inspires others to give. We hope you will join us by contributing at whatever level you are able so that we can help even more animals in need.

Thank you for your support and for helping to create "happily ever afters" for homeless pets like Sueshi!

Dia DuVernet President & CEO



\$300,000 a year to provide the medical care our shelter residents need before being adopted into loving homes.²²

Support the animals today! Visit www.vbspca.com



I know many of you have had similar experiences of falling in love at the shelter. But what you

might not have known is that it

costs the VBSPCA over \$300,000

a year to provide the medical care our shelter residents need before being adopted into loving homes.



Award-Winning Junior Volunteers

The VBSPCA was honored to receive a 2016 Hampton Roads VOLUNTEER Achievement Award in the Youth Group Category for our Junior Volunteer program!

As a nonprofit organization, we rely on volunteer help. We depend heavily on our Junior Volunteers to help clean the shelter, to care for the animals, and to help customers. To be a successful JV, one needs to not only be hardworking, dedicated, and friendly, but also very compassionate. It is tough work, both physically and emotionally. There is very little "playtime" and motivated self-starters make the most successful JVs. We generally have 200-250 students on our corps roster at all times.

Our JVs, students between the ages 13-17, conduct fundraisers throughout the year such as bake sales and dog washes, and also host an annual Teen Art Show and reception. They assist with off-site adoption events and often foster shelter animals until they

are ready for adoption.

We are very proud of our JVs and are humbled that they choose to devote almost 14,000 hours of service annually to our shelter animals!

Critter Camp Schedule	
Age 6-8	Age 9-12
June 27 - July 1	July 11 - July 15
June 18 - July 22	July 25 - July 29
August 1 - August 5	August 8 - August 12
August 15 - August19	August 22 - August 26
Happy Paws &	Pals (Age 8-13)
June 20- 24 A	ugust 29 - September 2
	ormation visit
vbspca.com/humane-e	education/critter-camp

Jack's Happily Ever After



Summer is right around the corner! Make sure your pets are up to date on heartworm, flea, and tick prevention!

If you follow our Facebook page, Jack may be a familiar face. Jack, a 7-year-old Yorkie Mix, was brought to the Virginia Beach SPCA last December because his owner was no longer able to care for him. During his veterinary exam, our doctors

found that poor Jack was suffering from gallstones, and the remedy would be a costly surgery that could not be performed at our clinic. Generous donors rallied together and helped us raise a whopping \$4,000 – twice the cost of his procedure! Jack got the surgery he so desperately needed, and many other animals benefitted from this generosity. He may be missing a gallbladder, but Jack found what he really needed – a loving home. Your support allows us to provide the care these animals need. From lifesaving formula for the tiniest kitten to vaccines for a 100-pound Great Dane, your generosity makes a world of difference for homeless animals.





Featured Product

insect 👽 shield 👔 for pets

Insect Shield Repellent apparel and gear for dogs are revolutionary products designed to provide longlasting, effective and convenient insect protection for pets.

ion the spring Insect Shield products combine the Insect Shield process with the insect repellent permethrin resulting in effective, odorless insect protection that lasts the expected lifetime of the product, repelling fleas, ticks, flies, and mosquitoes, including mosquitoes carrying the Zika virus. Our VBSPCA Pet Supplies & Adoption Center carries a wide range of Insect Shield products, including bandanas, blankets, and beds. If you're spending time outdoors with your four-legged best friends, Insect Shield products are a must-have!





Tim's Training Tips

- A tired dog is a good dog. Exercise can have a profound effect on improving your dog's behavior and is vital to his or her mental health. Dogs that are well exercised can focus better, are easier to train, and less likely to get into trouble. For dogs with higher energy, walking may not be enough. Try running, a fast paced game of fetch, or getting them involved in a dog sport such as agility. Leaving your dog in the backyard does not count as exercise and opens up the opportunity for boredom behaviors.
- There's an old training adage that says, "Give your dog a job to do or else they will become self-employed." Self-employment for a canine often involves barking at everything that walks by, knocking the trash can over, or digging in the yard. These things all happen because your dog is bored. Imagine being left alone in a house for eight hours a day with nothing to do. You'd get stir crazy in just a couple of hours. It's amazing that dogs don't get into more trouble than they already do. Training your dog, feeding her out of food puzzles, and giving her a Kong filled with something dog-safe and yummy, are all great ways of providing mental stimulation for your dog so she stays out of trouble.

Support the animals today! Visit www.vbspca.com

newsletter!



Tim Molina is the Lead Trainer and Manager of Happy Paws Humane Pet Training. Happy Paws is the preferred option for people who want their pets to be happy, well-behaved members of their families. Happy Paws has a "humane seal of approval" and is endorsed by the Virginia Beach SPCA, Chesapeake Humane Society, and Norfolk SPCA.

To learn more, visit HappyPawsTraining.org or call (757) 963-8661





Wildlife Rehabilitation

On a bitterly cold and snowy day in January, a call came in through our wildlife referral line that there was an oil spill in Chesapeake and urgent assistance was required. We were told that 40 ducks, geese and mergansers were known to be affected. Immediately, an extensive group of experienced rescue volunteers descended upon the location to begin the

challenging process of capturing this large group of waterfowl in freezing conditions. Here at the shelter, we began scurrying around to prepare for the triage of these poor animals in advance of their arrival. As we did, more accurate information began to come in from the field. It was worse-much worse-than originally reported. There were over 60 birds en route and several birds had already died on the scene. And then we heard the dreaded words...JET FUEL. A jet fuel storage container had spilled fuel into the water surrounding it, coating the birds seeking sanctuary there. A bird covered in oil is a crisis. A bird covered in jet fuel, sadly, is usually deadly. The jet fuel burns the skip, aver and the intertinal tract if increated



deadly. The jet fuel burns the skin, eyes and the intestinal tract if ingested. It causes respiratory distress, organ failure and coats their feathers.

As rescue teams began to arrive at the shelter with groups of birds, they told us of the suffering they observed on site. Our hearts ached for the birds and the volunteers. In cooperation with



veterinarians and several of our rehabbers, we began the arduous task of assessing the birds.

The protocol for treating birds covered in jet fuel is very specific, but nothing can be done until they are stable. We had to wait until their temperature was ideal to begin their medications and the bathing process. It is heart-wrenching to want to help so badly, but have to wait for them to warm up. It was clear that many of the birds were beyond help and suffering immensely. Euthanasia was the kindest option for them. Those that still seemed to have a fighting chance, once stable, began to receive medications and their extremely important baths in Dawn dish soap (yes the commercials are true). The bathing process is more intricate than one would imagine and requires quite a few experienced hands to

get it done right. We were so grateful for the volunteers that stayed well into the night to get these birds bathed. First thing the next morning, we reached out on social media to ask for desperatelyneeded supplies and we received an incredible outpouring of support from the community! For several days we continued to work late into the night along with several volunteers in order to tube feed, medicate and monitor the birds. Finally, they were stable enough to go to our wildlife rehabilitators for their long recovery period.

We received 61 birds that day. The likelihood of survival for a bird exposed to jet fuel is next to nil. We are very proud to say that we were able to save 7 Canada Geese (2 of which are a mated pair), 10 Mallards and 1 American Black Duck. Honestly, after participating in this unforgettable experience, I often wonder how any of them survived at all. To date, they

continue to require care until their lost feathers are replaced. All of the survivors are little miracles and they, as well as all of those that assisted us, will always have a special place in our hearts. Nothing will feel better than seeing them fly away from us and toward their renewed lives when the day of their release comes.

- Cara Stutzman, Wildlife Technician

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Have you found injured or displaced wildlife in need of help? Call our Wildlife Referral Line for assistance.

Celebrating 50 Year

We're a Shelter and More...



We're a Community of Compassion.

The Katz Family joined the VBSPCA volunteer team early last summer, and recently began assisting with our Humane Education Program. Each year our Humane Education department provides lessons of compassion and kindness to 15,000 local elementary school students. Every January, in support of Virginia Beach City Public Schools' Reading Month, VBSPCA volunteers flood local elementary schools armed with critters and books. This year, Michael and Joey Katz visited eight schools with adorable baby rabbits, and read to classrooms full of captivated children. Michael described the opportunity as a "huge step" for Joey, and returned from each volunteer session beaming with delight and pride for his son. Joey was all smiles as Michael recounted their day. Our volunteers are the backbone of our organization, and we are so pleased to know that being a part of our community is as meaningful to Michael and Joey as they are to us.

Susan Wagner has been with the Virginia Beach SPCA for over 30 years. In 1979 she met VBSPCA co-founder B Lovitt, who offered her the position of Humane Education Director. This part-time position encompassed pet therapy, creating our newsletter, and of course visiting schools. In 1993 Susan made the jump to full time and we began offering day camps and visiting local Vacation Bible School classes. She says that her favorite part of her job was going back years later and seeing children who remembered her previous visit. Even if four years had passed, they remembered the lessons of kindness she taught. Susan retired in 1999, and served on our Board of Directors from 2002-2012. She now lends a hand as a volunteer and serves on our Honorary Board. If you've adopted from us, you may have received a call from Susan, just checking in to make sure your new pet is settling in nicely. She believes that our Humane Education program is "one of our best chances to have a more compassionate community," and has dedicated



her life to ensuring that this becomes a reality. Susan has helped build the Virginia Beach SPCA into the vibrant community we know and love today, and for that we are eternally grateful.



You're Invited!

Join us on June 18th for our 50th Birthday Party! We'll be celebrating in style, with an afternoon chock-full of kids' activities, adoption promotions, food trucks, and a cake cutting. It wouldn't be a party without you!

's of Compassion

Bruce Rader is known mostly for his position as the long time Sports Director of WAVY-TV. What you may not

know is that Bruce's work with various charitable organizations has helped raise millions of dollars throughout Hampton Roads, including for the Virginia Beach SPCA. Bruce has lent his voice and expertise to many of our Spring Galas over the past 28 years as our Master of Ceremonies. Because of his



dedication to our organization, Bruce was honored with our 2016 Lifesaver Award at our Western Wags & Whiskers Gold Rush Gala. It was at this event where he and his wife, Virginia, first met Beans, an adorable Border Collie mix who was featured in



our Dog & Cat Walk. Adopted by the Rader family the very next morning, she is now known as Abby!

Round of A-Paws

We love Derek Flick, manager of the PetSmart in Landstown Commons! Derek hosts rabbits on adoption days and allows our Critter Campers to have scavenger hunts in his store on rainy summer days.

Three cheers for everyone who helped make calls during our annual Phone-a-thon! Thanks to these dedicated volunteers, we raised \$56,484.50 in pledges!

Many thanks to the Freddy Golf Group for raising \$2,220 for the animals!

Two paws up for Trish Ostrum, the "Christmas Elf," who brought stockings for the animals in December and kept them stuffed all month long!

Thanks to Give.Treat.Love and Real Property Management for hosting Angel Tree supply drives this past holiday season!

We're so grateful for Wild Birds Unlimited, who hosted a fundraising event and donated window clings to protect wild birds around our shelter.

Shout-out to Abbey Road Pub & Restaurant and the VBSPCA volunteers for hosting a great fundraiser!

Olive Garden showed true hospitality by making sure our Western Wags & Whiskers: Gold Rush volunteers were wellfed before kicking off a night of boot-scootin' fun!

We're so grateful for Brandon Middle School, Bayside Middle School, Pembroke Meadows Elementary, and Cox High School for hosting supply drives!

Thanks to Friends School Grade 1 for hosting a bake sale fundraiser to benefit the VBSPCA!

Hooray for Cruelty Free Kitchen and all of the schools that participated in our annual Art Show! Together we raised over \$700 for the animals!

What would we do without Dr. Paul Rowan and Dr. Natalie Griffin? Dr. Rowan and Dr. Griffin donate their time and specialty veterinary services to help the animals of the VBSPCA.







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All photos by Marcus Holman Photography

Western Wags & W

It was a Gold Rush to celebrate the VBSPCA's 50th Anniversary! Our Western Wags & Whiskers: Gold Rush Gala sold out, with over 500 guests celebrating at Landmark Aviation on Saturday, April 9th. This event brought in over \$215,000 for the animals of the VBSPCA our highest grossing event to date! Our heartfelt thanks go out to this year's co-chairs, **Maria Ellmer** and **Emily Franklin**, whose vision made the night truly special for everyone in attendance.

Guests entered through a mine shaft, and struck it rich when they entered the hangar to find the room dripping with gold. **Guava Jam** kicked off the evening with acoustic country sounds while guests enjoyed a spectacular silent auction featuring unique packages. **Bruce Rader**, Sports Director for



WAVY-TV and longtime VBSPCA supporter, emceed the evening's program and was presented with the 2016 VBSPCA Lifesaver Award by past recipients **Dennis & Jan Ellmer**.

The evening continued as adoptable animals were then escorted by prominent members of our community in our Dog & Cat Walk. Walkers included Jackson & Mallory Andrews, Earlene Coyner & Joni Green, Luke & Stephanie Hillier, Leigh Folkes & Stuart Bonnell, and Jeff & Danielle Jones.

Auctioneer **Scott Freeman** worked the crowd for our fund-a-cause, during which attendees generously pledged \$50,000 towards the care of the 3,500 animals anticipated to be sheltered this year. We also had a surprise auctioneer, **Bruce Thompson**, who gave guests a sneak-peek of the new Hilton Norfolk The Main, and auctioned off two exclusive packages.

Our guests enjoyed fabulous food and cocktails by **Chesapeake Bay Catering**, beer provided by **Back Bay Brewing** and vodka by **Tito's Handmade Vodka**. They tried their luck on the mechanical bull, panned for gold, bailed their friends out of the pokey, and ended the evening dancing with **Guava Jam** and **DJ Ty Street**.





'hiskers: Gold Rush

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

GOLD RUSH HEADLINE SPONSORS



2016 PLANNING COMMITTEE

Co-Chairs Maria Ellmer Emily Franklin Committee

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For a list of Auction Donors and additional photos, please visit vbspca.com/westernwags.

Making a tribute gift is a special way to honor your loved ones while making a difference in the lives of homeless animals. For information about tribute gifts, planned giving, bequests, or capital campaign donations, contact our Senior Director of Resource Development at joy.eyrolles@vbspca.com.

10

HONORS John Steward

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Kelly Ogle

BIRTHDAYS

Caroline Cool

Amy Keenan

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nter Zickefoo

Traci Taliaferro

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Kevin Tompkins "Fat Cat" & "Bonita Joseph & Donna DeSmet

u<mark>ffy</mark>" Betty Buzzy

"Ehhie

"Genie

"Grissor

"Heidi"

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Darla Roger

"Koko" & "Chelsea"

Tom Fortenberry

"Lady Jasmine" & "Flossie"

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Sue Bowser

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"Bandit'

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"Buckshot", "Jody", "Brandy"

"Rlink" & "lowel"

"Berge

"Bonne

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"Callie Sue Bowser

"Casey" & "Annie Judith Rudacille

"Charlie Rug" John & Dove Podolski

"Chelsea' Pamela Willyard

"Chew Bill & Diane Curran

"Chlo Glenn Silver

"Chloe" & "Bella" Moody Stallings

"Chopper" Blackman Gail Davis

"Chrystal Patricia Schlitt

Liam & Jennifer Benincasa

"Cody Gary & Louise Sutor

"Co Ann Randolph

Marilyn Haugen

"(Bob & Dee Gillies

"Daisy Susan Karlau

Gregg Cornetski

"Dai

Barbara Cullen "Dai

Barbara Ann Satmary "Dante"

Mary Reid Barrow

"Diamond Cat" Gregory Werrell

"Dudley Karen Traweek

"Duke" Thomas Green

"Dusty" & "Penne Betsy & John DiPilato

Stephanie Banks

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Tracy White

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'Pepper

tsie" & "Bijou

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"Libby Doodle" & "Ginge

Linda Sykes

Sarah Orner

June Wilder

"Lily" Rod & Susan Rogge

Richard & Barbara Cullen

"Lil Bit

"Linda' Alba Hart

'Lola **Fd Wilkinson**

'Loι

"Lucky" PETA

"Maddi

"Max

"Maxamus

Chrissy Mason

"Maggie" Kathleen Howe

nio-Mao A. M. Scarborough

Cathy Williams

Dianna McGee

"McKenzie", "Sugar", & "Toby

Leslie Ann Neatrour

CREATURE CHRONICLES • Spring 2016

William Andrews

"lake" Stenha

"Jazz

"Kitty

"Konno

"He

"lack"

"Harley" & "Max" Ron & Marla Miller Denny & Pat Wance

"Molly Beverly Baker

"Mr Gabes' Sally Baker

> "Mugsy" & "Simba' Maria & Daniel Shaughnessy

"Midnite" & "Dusty" James & Charlotte Bergen

"Miss Kitta"

"Missy

"Misty

"Misty

"Misty

Starr Griffin

John DeBusk

Andrew & Nancy Fritz

Roxanne Petersen

"Mikey", "Sam", "Angel", & "Nella Jane Newbury

"Murphy Jeffrey & Karin Barrett

"Murphy Jennifer Jones

"Nikki", "Pookie", & "Mr. Shorty" Ken & Wanda Edney

"Ocean Michael Ballato "Pappi" Albero

Caroline Oliver "Paris Homer Arnold" Justine Arnold

"Paris Jon & Meredith Beckett

"Paris Denna Barney

Pennie", "Digger", "Cootie Michael Holohan

"Peyton" Diana Cooper

Catherine Daniels "Pri

Gail Popyk s", "Kodiak", & "Heidi "Prin Sally Daughtrey

Lisa Fanton

Robert Speece "Roof

Faye Walker "Reno

Nancy Carter "Rex" & "Frieda" Joseph N. Falletta

"Rinley" & "Roddenberry Douglas, Gillian, Tamara & Dana Cobb

Fred & Margaret-Anne Levitin

"Mama Kitty" & "Milo" Laurie Claywell "Rudy" & "Sam Peter Yates

"Rufus Kazoo Lori Jensen "Sage

Betsy Cromwell Blaine & Mary Denny "Sam" Jenkins

Rosalee Jewell

"Sam", "Peanut", "Inky", & "Harı Meredith Wicks na" & "Charlie" Ferguson

Ryan & Chas Ferguson my" & "Lilly' Donna Grove

Woody & Harriet Woodhouse Sandbridge's "Sweet April May Dianne Smith Frances Christian

"Sangria" John Steward

"Sasha" Mary M. Goldrich Mark Bonney

Kathy Barnett

Nelia Sarno

ister" & "R Rick & Mary Anne Avery

"Shas Dawn Hardman

Victoria Buckley "Shen

Juan Ripoll Cathlene Armstrong

"Skinny" "Bahy" "Bascal" Carol Santana

John & Mary Wolfe

'Sni Linda S Brian

Somer" & "Big Boy" Claude Gregory

Sandra Inks

"Sophi Susan Bancroft

'Sparkle C Edward Conner

Pamela Willyard or"&"Henry

Marianne Stanley "Tebby

Lisa Foster-Creelman "Thad", "Salena", & "Nash

Peggy Gahagan Patricia Pope

Tigger" John & Judith McClintock

"Timbe Kirsten Modine

Dennis Tackett "Tucko

> John Steward ٬\//il Roger & Joy Eyrolles

Will William & Anne Zach

"Ziggy" Mary Grace Davis

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Anne C Brown

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Jeanne Watkins

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Tammy Cox

Candy Elaine Fu

Rodney Houchens

Jackie Telle Roberta Snyder Louise Kennedy

Mariclare Ryan

Peter Rvan

Mary Mitz Mayo

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ue Hul

Brigitte De La Burde

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Carter & Patsy Sullivan

Jim & Rosemary Bladh

James & Janet Knapp

Ruth Steir

D.A. Stein

Smiley Thom

Sofia Kalezies

Thomas Ada

Timothy Kna

Tom Kiehl

Ty Gomez

Betty Land

Woody Houck

Lee & Anne Smith

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Nancy Smith

Joy King

Mike Harris

Lois Wilkins

Leesa Gauthier Charlotte Nolan

Denise Holbrook

Mary Landon Peabody

William & Deborah Landon

Susan Murray-Wood

THIS REPORT ACKNOWLEDGES HONOR & MEMORIAL FTS RECEIVED BETWEEN **DECEMBER 1, 2015** FEBRUARY 29, 2016

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Laura Etheridge lean Gaha

> Peggy Gahagan Jeanne McLaughl Clarence & R. Diane lves

> > Marilyn Haugen

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David Jay Nordwall

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Diana Daversa

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Danny Walton

Frank Edwards

Richard Bower

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Marietta Marston

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

Share your "happily ever after" stories with us! facebook.com/VBSPCA



Joyce

My babies I adopted from VBSPCA as little ones. Bear (black) is going to be 7 this year and Christmas (white) is going to be 5!! Thank you for everything you do!





I think Scout and Felix (previously called squidward at the shelter) are



Here's our Meya that we were lucky enough to have adopted from you guys in the spring. We love her.

