

ANNUAL APPRECIATION REPORT CREATURE CHRONICLES

PUBLISHED BY THE VIRGINIA BEACH SPCA

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





Thank You from CEO and Board Chair

In 2016, the VBSPCA celebrated 50 years of service to the community. We were happy to reach out to our friends, old and new, to join in this celebration.

We were especially happy to welcome John and Anne Sills to the shelter over the summer. John is the son of the late Liz Sills, one of the founders of the Virginia Beach SPCA. Liz Sills, and co-founder B Lovitt, were by all accounts two dynamic women who had the vision to create a safe haven for animals in our community. As an early motto for the organization read, "NO ANIMAL is ever turned away from our door. NO ANIMAL is

allowed to lie suffering by the road if we are called. NO ANIMAL may be mistreated if we can help, within the limits of the law."

From its beginnings as a small shelter at the corner of General Booth and Oceana Boulevards, built with \$5,000 in donations, the VBSPCA expanded to the current shelter on Holland Road in 1989 and has grown to help thousands of animals each year. In our 2016 fiscal year, we found homes for 3,389 companion animals, assisted over 2,600 injured wildlife, and served 11,500 cases in our public clinic, a 15% increase over the previous year.

Our history has been one of many "firsts" and "onlys."

We were one of the first shelters in the country to operate a spay/neuter clinic; we are the only shelter in Virginia licensed to rehabilitate injured wildlife; and we are the only shelter in Hampton Roads that operates a Humane Education program, educating youth in the importance of kindness and compassion for all living things.

Over the past two years, the VBSPCA has continued to trailblaze with a planned expansion in services. We have invested in upgraded and new facilities, as well as increased staffing to make this growth possible.

New locations include a Pet Supplies and Adoption Center, reaching a new audience of adopters in Kempsville, and Happy Paws Humane Pet Training Center, offering high-quality training to pet families throughout Hampton Roads.



Adoptions and training at the new locations have continued to grow over the past year. All puppy adoptions now include a free six-week training session at Happy Paws, helping to get pets off to a good start with their new families and prevent future returns to shelter due to behavior problems.

Revenue from annual contributions and fees for service this fiscal year was 29% greater than two years ago when we began our planned expansion in services, demonstrating need, demand and support for our expanded offerings. As often occurs in a period of growth, expenses have grown at a faster rate than revenue, leading to an overall deficit. Our goal in the coming year will be to continue to grow our revenue to operate in a financially sustainable manner within our expanded footprint.

In 2016, the VBSPCA was honored to once again receive Charity Navigator's highest 4-Star Rating for demonstrating strong financial health and commitment to accountability and transparency. Only 23% of the organizations Charity Navigator evaluates have received at least 2 consecutive 4-star evaluations, indicating that Virginia Beach SPCA outperforms most other charities in America.

The VBSPCA is a community of compassion that is made possible only by our generous supporters, countless volunteers and dedicated staff members. We want to thank each and every one of you for your support during this year of growth and celebration for the VBSPCA.

With appreciation,

Trish Bene

Dia DuVernet President & CEO

Trish Blue Chair, Board of Directors





Derived from FY2016 internal financial statements

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"The VBSPCA is

Support the animals today! Visit www.vbspca.com



Expanding our Reach

Pet Supplies & Adoption Center

983 Providence Square Shopping Center, Virginia Beach, VA 23464

The Pet Supplies and Adoption Center had a total of 740 adoptions in our 2016 fiscal year: 54 cats, 271 puppies, 208 dogs, 204 kittens, 1 rabbit, and 2 guinea pigs! Many of the adoptions were special needs animals, and some of those spent months at the main shelter on Holland Road. Special needs included heartworm positive dogs, amputees, seniors and even animals with behavior issues.

a three-year-old Boxer mix, was brought to our shelter when her family was moving and unable to take her along. She spent two months at our main shelter, but due to severe anxiety and barrier frustration, she had a hard time in the kennels. Her behavior was often misinterpreted as aggressive by potential adopters. She came to the Adoption Center and spent a week acclimating to her new

environment. We learned that she made a very friendly greeter when allowed to spend time with staff on the sales floor. She very quickly found love and a quiet, new home with lots of land to run and chase tennis balls.







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Happy Paws Training Center

5660 Indian River Rd #118, Virginia Beach, VA 23464

Happy Paws is very excited to add classes in K9 Nose Work[®] These classes are a fun search and scenting activity for virtually all dogs and their humans. K9 Nose Work[®] classes are designed to teach dogs how to search for specific odors and find the source. This easy-to-learn sport is excellent at building confidence and focus in many dogs, and it provides a safe way to keep dogs both mentally and physically fit. Best of all, no previous training is required.

The first round of K9 Nose Work[®] classes was such a success, it had pet families asking for additional classes. Beth Ann Sabo currently leads the classes and is the only certified K9 Nose Work[®] instructor in Hampton Roads.

Check out all of our class offerings at www.happypawstraining.org

Providing More Than Shelter

There really is no place like home. Thanks to the support of our community, volunteers, donors, and partner organizations, we are able to make home a reality for thousands of animals in need each year. In fiscal year 2016, we found loving families for 3,389 homeless pets.

We take an adoption-focused approach, meaning that we work to find homes for all the healthy and treatable animals in our care. We accept owner surrendered animals from throughout the Hampton Roads region. We also accept transfers of animals from other shelters in the region and

beyond in order to help promote adoption and prevent euthanasia of animals in areas where shelters do not have the space to accommodate them. Our various programs spread compassion and establish us as a leader in the animal

welfare field.





Annual Shelter Stats

Fiscul leur 2010	Dogs	Cats	Other	
Received	1845	1803	285	
Adopted	1687	1440	262	
Spay/Neuter	962	990	79	
Euthanized*	87	194	8	

*NOTE: All of the animals euthanized by the Virginia Beach SPCA were either ill, aggressive or otherwise unadoptable.

CREATURE CHRONICLES • Annual Appreciation Report

Providing Care

Low Cost Medical Clinic

66 I enjoy working at the VBSPCA as it has allowed me to work with some of the most talented, dedicated and compassionate individuals in the veterinary and shelter fields.

It is truly rewarding to help the thousands of shelter animals who come into our care each year.

This job has also allowed me to provide high quality veterinary medicine to low-income families who might not otherwise receive care for their pets. **?**

Dr. Genovese





11,54 Public Patient Visits 5,400 Spay/Neuter Surgeries Performed

Wildlife Program

- Our total intake number for wildlife that came into the shelter for 2016 was over 2,600
- The year began with 61 geese, ducks and other water birds that were the victims of a jet fuel spill and had to be rescued, triaged, washed and cared for.
- Due to the three storms that hit our community during August and September, we treated 266 squirrels that were cold, wet, displaced, and many with respiratory problems and other injuries.

Volunteers who answer our wildlife referral line took over 1,000 calls regarding animals needing help.
The volunteers that make up our rescue team went out on over 500 rescues to catch injured wildlife.

If you are interested in getting involved please contact our Wildlife & Special Projects Director at 427-0070 ext. 114 Support the animals today! Visit www.vbspca.com



Helping Other Shelters





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The VBSPCA is proud to partner with other shelters near and far. This year, we helped 55 shelters and accepted transfers of 1,608 animals who likely would have been euthanized without our assistance. While most of our transfers came from other shelters in Hampton Roads and throughout Virginia, we also accepted transfers from North Carolina, Maryland, Tennessee, and Louisiana.

Too often, pets in shelters end up on euthanasia lists simply due to lack of shelter space when, many times, a high proportion of these animals can quickly find adoptive homes in other shelters. Transfer and relocation programs can be the key to ending the needless euthanasia of adoptable animals because of shelter overcrowding.

This year we partnered with the ASPCA's Nancy Silverman Rescue Ride initiative, aimed at relocating dogs from overcrowded shelters in the Southeast - where the likelihood of adoption is slim - to other locations, including the VBSPCA, where they have a much better chance at being adopted. The VBSPCA is also a top Emergency Placement Partner of The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS). After The HSUS rescues animals from large-scale animal-abuse cases—from hoarding situations to animal fighting or puppy mill operations – we care for the animals, proving veterinary care, rehabilitation, and ultimately placement in lifelong homes.

1,608 Transfers Accepted

Responding to Crisis

When the rain kept falling and the waters kept rising, Louisiana residents desperately sought shelter from the worst natural disaster since Hurricane Katrina. Our Director of Shelter Operations, who is originally from Louisiana, joined a local team of shelter professionals to head to Baton Rouge and provide assistance. They searched the city and surrounding areas, wading through deep water, to help reunite lost animals with their families. They delivered free food and other supplies by boat, and led stranded animals to safety. They also transported 62 homeless animals (pets who were already in shelters prior to the floods) back to Virginia. This helped to make room in Louisiana shelters for pets displaced by the floods. The VBSPCA sheltered and found homes for 15 dogs from Louisiana,

including Creole and Tulane, who eventually were both adopted by Kelly. Creole had serious health problems when he arrived, and he sadly did not survive surgery.



My Louisiana Dogs

There once was a dog named Creole who made his way up to VA after a great flood washed away his home in Baton Rouge. Creole had a pal in life who didn't leave his side until they were separated into new homes in Hampton

Tulane was an old pup whose heart ached so much after being separated from her buddy that she was acting out in her new home. She was unsuccessfully trying to tell her new person how sad she was.

There once was a woman who brought a gimpy, happy, strong as an ox Australian Shepard named Creole in to her home and heart, only to lose him too soon.

This woman answered the phone one October evening with a kind dog lover who worked at VBSPCA wondering... "Would you be willing to give Tulane a shot at comfort?" In hopes the lingering scent of Creole that only a dog pal

could smell and take solace in, the woman said yes. Now Tulane has found his forever home, where he rests in the bed of her forever friend Creole.

- Kelly

Building a Community

Teaching Compassion





At the heart of our mission of preventing cruelty is teaching children about the importance of kindness and compassion for all living things. Our extensive Humane Education program employs three full-time teachers and one part-time. We partner with over 60 schools throughout Hampton Roads with our "Compassion Classroom" program.

Our summer Critter Camps, Vet for a Day program, and Listening Ears reading program are other ways we connect with children to foster educational success and love of animals. Our Critter Camps offer a behind-the-scenes look at life in an animal shelter. This year Critter Camps will be offered at the shelter and at Happy Paws Training Center.

Inspiring Volunteers

Our VBSPCA volunteers are the backbone of our organization... we could not do what we do without them. In 2015, our adult volunteers won a Volunteer Achievement Award from Volunteer Hampton Roads. In 2016 we were proud to see our Junior Volunteers honored by Volunteer Hampton Roads in the Youth Group category. Mayor Will Sessoms also commended our young volunteers at a City Council meeting.

Like our adult volunteers, our hundreds of Junior Volunteers between the ages of 13-17 help to clean the shelter, care for animals, provide customer service to adopters, fundraise, and foster shelter animals in their homes until they are ready for adoption. While it is hard work, our "JVs" also manage to have some fun, with dog washes, bake sales, sleep ins, and an annual Teen Art Show. Many Junior Volunteers go on to become adult volunteers, and some have become employees and even Board Members of the VBSPCA. Junior Volunteers are some of our best advocates. They help to spread our mission of compassion throughout the community.







Tribute Gifts

Birthdays

"Powder" Gary & Stephanie McBride

Brooke Jessica Hoppel

Ethan Gilbert Carol Skarbek

Izzy Addy McCollom Rebecca Miller

James Brand **Diana Sheets**

Jan Fine **Blair Fine**

Susan Lyon Joy (Grace) Lyon

Honors

"Chief" Mary Dickinson

"Gabbie" Donna Firestone

Bob Rotz Rebecca Isoldi

Frances Pileggi

Nancy Carrera **Darlene Davenport** Allyson Day Tonya Edwards Melissa Harwood Salli O'Donnell **Jill Richards** Janet Sullivan Tara Wise

Lizzie Tracy Allenburg

Michele Bergman

George & Anne Shipp **Claiborne Winborne**

Memorials

"Benji" Joe & Rose Arnold

"Buster" Vernon O'Berry

"Ellie" Jennifer Jones

"Kallie" Frank & Tonie Wilkins

"Maggie" Lowery Finley

"Puffy" Joe & Susie Kestner

"Ripley" and "Roddenberry" Douglas, Gillian, Tamara & Dana Cobb

"Rocky" June Blaine

"Simba" and "Mugsy" Maria & Daniel Shaughnessy

"Spots", "Rex", and "Frieda" Joseph Falletta

"Stormy" **Robert Bishard**

"Winston" Jacalyn Pfeiffer

"Zeus" John Steward

"Zoe" Bonney George & Luanne Wong

Bill DeLoatche Joe Sanderlin

Bob Gohr Jill Gohr

Buddy Whitt Christine Mabe **Caroline McGrann** Annette Houston

Carolyn Blackwood David Shine

Debbie Heath Steele McGonegal

Dione Boecker Jo-Anne Barreiro William & Mary Dillon Valerie Henchel

George M. Harrell, Jr. Donna Earp

Horty Osborne Nedine Miller

James Davis Mary Morris

John Trounson Shirley Tavernero

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Margi McIntosh Matthew Norman

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Shirley B. Brown Shirley Beale Charlotte Keefe Marilyn Schweisberger

Shirley Rountree Don Bahlman Joanne Belda Joseph Bowles **Carolyn** Cox Sue White

THIS REPORT ACKNOWLEDGES HONOR & MEMORIAL **GIFTS RECEIVED BETWEEN** SEPTEMBER 1-NOVEMBER 30, 2016

> 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 Vice President & CFO, Lacy Kuller, at lacy.kuller@vbspca.com

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CREATURE CHRONICLES • Annual Appreciation Report

Michael G. Morris, Jr.

THIS REPORT WHO GAVE AT THE \$250 LEVEL OR ABOVE TO THE VBSPCA IN THE SEPTEMBER 1, 2015

\$10,000+

Foundation

Foundation

Janice Lawrence

Priority Toyota

Nancy Przeworski

Foundation

\$5,000-\$9,999

Black Iris Florist

Morris & Jan Fine

A Dolphin's Promise

Chesapeake Bay Catering

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Great Neck Doggie Daycare

Leadership Fund

Hassell & Folkes, P.C.

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Hampton Roads Community

Marcus Holman Photography

Porsche Club of America

Troutman Sanders, LLP

Virginia Legends Walk Foundation

Scott & Teri Rigell

\$2,500-\$4,999

Back Bay Brewing Co.

Bissell Pet Foundation

Clark-Janis Foundation

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ASPCA

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Hampton Roads Community

In preparing this report, every effort has been made to ensure its accuracy. Please notify us of omissions or corrections at development@vbspca. com and accept our sincerest apologies.

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Best Friends Honor Roll

Tito's Handmade Vodka VA Valet John & Martha Wallace Carney & Joan Welker

\$1,000-2,499 A. Dodson's

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Friends Forever Legacy Society

Our Friends Forever Legacy Society honors those who have demonstrated unwavering support that will last beyond a lifetime by including us in their wills, life insurance, IRAs, trusts, or other estate plans. These legacy gifts will help to ensure that we will be able to care for animals most in need well into the future. If you have already made plans for a future gift, please let us know so that we may thank you! If you would like information on how to become a Friend Forever, please contact Dia DuVernet, President & CEO, at 757-301-8719, or ceo@vbspca.com.

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We are grateful to all our donors, and a complete list can be found at vbspca.com/honor-roll

Support the animals today! Visit www.vbspca.com





3040 Holland Road Virginia Beach, VA 23453 phone: (757) 427-0070 fax: (757) 427-5939 www.vbspca.com • info@vbspca.com Non-Profit Organization U.S. Postage **P A I D** Permit No. 1048 Norfolk, VA

OPEN FOR ADOPTION SEVEN DAYS A WEEK!

HOURS OF OPERATION Shelter Receiving Hours: Mon-Thurs 12-5pm, Sat & 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.

Save the Date

VBSPCA Donate



Western Wags & Whiskers: Home on the Range Spring Gala April 8, 2017

> Dancing for Paws Dance Competition June 10, 2017

Puttin' for Paws Golf Tournament September 22, 2017

Mutt Masquerade 5k Run and Walk for the Animals October 29, 2017 Our Furry Friends Could Use Your Four Wheels...





www.vbspca.com/cardonation