

Paw Prints SPCA

of Martinsville • Henry County

SPCA of Martinsville and Henry County - Shelley Frith Drane Adoption Center

May 2016

Community Togetherness at the North Shore Animal League "Tour for Life" Adoption Event



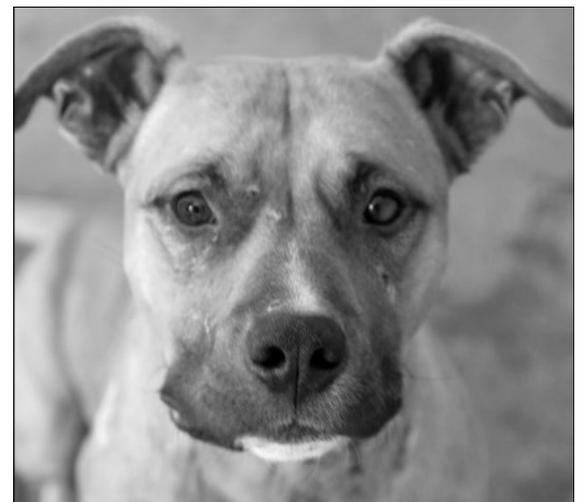
The North Shore Animal League Pet Adoption Unit

Martinsville-Henry County SPCA joined North Shore Animal League America's 2016 *Tour For Life*™ – the world's largest national cooperative life-saving mobile pet adoption event - sponsored by Purina® on Saturday, April 9. Twenty-two dogs, cats, puppies and kittens were adopted during the event, which featured adoption specials for approved adopters, and 68 animals received rabies/vaccine clinic services from Dr. Eric Lorens of the Pet Clinic of Rocky Mount. The event also featured onsite dog training tips from animal behaviorist Britney Kreiner, a bake sale, and a raffle and silent auction featuring items such as Dale Earnhardt memorabilia, a Vera Bradley handbag, a Blue Buffalo gift basket

provided by Fido's Finds & Kitties Collectibles, among other items. Every person who attended the event received a gift bag courtesy of Purina®. From the beginning of March to the end of May, *Tour For Life*™ will travel throughout the United States from North to South and East to West in four "shelters on wheels" Mobile Pet Adoption Units helping shelter and rescue groups in 53 cities and towns in 32 states to generate more awareness of their organizations and find homes for the adorable, adoptable animals in their care. We are grateful to have been included in this life-saving event.

2016 Membership Campaign Kicks Off in April

Our 2016 Membership Campaign kicked off on April 16. The Membership Campaign is one of the major fundraising efforts the SPCA organizes annually and has historically been one of the most successful. This year's campaign features new benefits, such as free dog training or canine evaluation and use of the organization conference room for special events, for members joining at Sustaining levels and above. This year's mailing also features a few of our critical care cases from 2015, Tramp and Dax. Both animals suffered extreme injuries and with the help of animal-loving supporters of the organization we were able to facilitate the veterinary care they needed. Both animals recovered and are now in loving homes.



Critical Care Case Tramp-"After" photo

SPCA of Martinsville-Henry County

132 Joseph Martin Highway
Martinsville, VA. 24112
Phone: (276) 638-PAWS (7297)
Fax: (276) 638-0490
Email: exec@spcamhc.org
office@spcamhc.org
Website: www.spcamhc.org

Board of Directors:

President: Scott Stone
First VP: Elizabeth De Vault
Second VP: Tiffany Smart
Endowment Chair: Bob Clark
Treasurer: Bill Gardner
Secretary: Alice Ann Blevins
Past President: Laura Bowles

Carol Berlaug	Joy Haley
Nate Butterworth	Laura Hundley
Martha Clark	Samantha Mahoney
Rebecca Crabtree	Johnathan Phillips
Jeanie Curlee	Liz Secrest
Judy Dashoff	Frank Shelton
Jennifer Gravely	Gwen Sowdon
Joe Grogan	Tanya Verlik

Staff:

Nicole Harris, **Executive Director**
Dr. Eric Lorens, **Veterinarian In-Charge**
Donna Belcher, **Rescue and Spay/Neuter Coordinator;**
Adoption Coordinator Henry County
Animal Shelter (HCAS)
Debbie Toms, **Financial Officer**
Mary Compson, **Director of Development &**
Community Relations
Karissa Bonner, **Volunteer Coordinator—Development**
Assistance
Catherine Gupton, **Information Resource Manager**
Amy McGuire, **Executive Assistant**
Keisha Wooten, **Transportation Manager**
Sherri Curry, **Shelter Supervisor—Kennels**
Kathy Washburn, **Medical Director**
Cassidy Street, **Medical Assistant**
Susan Sessoms, **Office Manager; Foster Coordinator**
Ta'Quina Wilson, **Adoption Counselor**
Kayla White, **Office/Medical Assistant**
Britney Kreiner, **Dog Trainer**
Edna Griffith, **Animal Technician—Feline Lead**
Jomica Warren, **Animal Technician—Puppy Lead (North**
Shore Coordinator)
Linda Baily, **HCAS Animal Technician**
Jesse Alley, **HCAS/Animal Care Technician**
Shane Belcher, **HCAS Care Technician**
Geffery Clark, **HCAS Care Technician**
Michaela Hulsey, **Animal Technician**
Micayla Ballard, **Animal Technician**
Logan Mitchem, **Animal Technician**
Phoebe Brown, **Animal Technician, Office Assistant**
Crystal Gentry, **Animal Technician**

Adoption Center Hours:

10-6 Tuesday-Friday; 10-4 Saturday

Fido's Finds and Kittie's Kollectibles

133 E. Main Street in Martinsville
10-5 Tuesday-Friday, 10-2 Saturday
276-656-1101

Barry Nelson and Nelson Automotive recognized for Humane Efforts during the North Shore Animal League "Tour for Life" event

On Saturday, April 9, during the North Shore Animal League "Tour for Life" event, Barry Nelson and Nelson Automotive were recog-



(left to right) Barry Nelson, owner of Nelson Automotive; Nicole Harris, SPCA Executive Director; Mary Compson, Director of Development/Community Relations

nized by the SPCA of Martinsville-Henry County for humane efforts on behalf of homeless and injured animals throughout the community. Nelson Automotive has long been a friend of the organization, but the award was inspired by one incident in particular

which took place on March 11, 2016, at the Nelson Kia-Subaru dealership.

On this day, a small stray dog was hit by a truck on 220 Business North, right outside the dealership. Nelson employees retrieved the badly injured animal from the roadside and took him to Kings Mountain Animal Clinic. Barry Nelson, owner/manager of Nelson Automotive, agreed, without hesitation, to be responsible for any expenses incurred in the treatment of the animal, who was later named Jefe.

Jefe was badly injured, sustaining two broken legs, a broken jaw, and a nearly severed tongue, among other injuries. He was expertly treated by the staff at Kings Mountain Animal Clinic and is now well on his way to recovery. It is the hope of his rescuers at the Nelson Kia-Subaru dealership that he will "find an amazing home and live a long life with lots of love." Barry Nelson and Nelson Automotive made a gift of \$1,800 to the SPCA in Jefe's honor, and the final expenses for his care, in excess of \$1,300, will be paid for by the SPCA of Martinsville-Henry on behalf of Nelson Automotive. This award was an excellent addition to the events of the day, and accurately reflects the humane efforts of businesses like Nelson Automotive throughout our area.

SPCA Founding Member Alice Ann Blevins receives Bravo Humanitarian Award at VFHS Conference



Alice Ann Blevins (left) and Debra Griggs, VFHS President (right)

Local humanitarian and founding board member of the Martinsville-Henry County SPCA Alice Ann Blevins was recognized with the VFHS Bravo Award on Friday, April 8, at the annual conference of the Virginia Federation of Humane Societies. The Bravo Award is presented to an individual who has demonstrated a commitment of outstanding service to promote animal welfare, who has been instrumental in making an impact within an animal welfare organization, and who is a reflection of the values and standards set by the Virginia Federation of Humane Societies. Alice Ann Blevins has been pivotal in establishing and maintaining the SPCA of Martinsville-Henry County. In 1974, she and a group of humane, animal-loving citizens formed the organization, and over the years, as the organization has grown, she has donated both her time and money selflessly. She has chaired and created many projects as well as served as an officer and board member for 41 years. Through her hard work, Fido's Finds & Kitties Kollectibles, our SPCA's thrift shop opened in 2012, in space adjoining an existing business. In 2014, Fido's expanded into its own separate location and is run and managed exclusively by volunteers with Blevins acting as general manager, and all proceeds benefit the Martinsville-Henry County SPCA. It is an honor to have one of our own receive this award, but it would not be possible without many, many devoted, caring people who have taken the organization from the member's kitchen tables to a beautiful, spacious shelter. Bravo to all the animal lovers who have gotten us to where we are today and to those who will continue speaking for those who need our voices.

Have you heard?

The Pet Clinic OF MARTINSVILLE

Arrives in May!

Full service small animal veterinary care & boarding facility

(276) 656-0442 • Just Ahead on Left - Beside Movie Town

SPCA Summer Camp to be Offered Again this Year



Last year's summer camp was a big hit, and we are doing it again this year! Children will learn how to care for animals and make beds and toys for shelter pets and their own pets.

First Session: June 14th-18th

Second Session: July 12th-16th

Third Session August 2nd-6th

Tuesday-Friday 8am-12noon

Closing Ceremony Saturday 10:30am-12pm

\$55 per child, including snacks, drinks, crafts, and a camp t-shirt. Ages 6-12. Contact the shelter for more information or come by to register.

Sponsored once again by the Charity League of Martinsville-Henry County.

Fido's Finds: Luxuries for You, Essentials for Your Pet!

If you have been to Fido's Finds and Kitties Collectibles on Main Street in Uptown Martinsville, you know that it is full of fabulous items and hidden treasures.



What many people don't know about Fido's is that Fido's was the first place in Martinsville and Henry County to carry Blue Buffalo pet food. BLUE foods consist of the natural ingredients combined in balance for holistic nutrition. These high-quality ingredients are the foundation of all of BLUE products along with essential vitamins, minerals,

and antioxidants – each specifically formulated for dogs, cats, life stages, weight conditions, taste preference, and personal feeding choice. Buying Blue Buffalo at Fido's is a great choice to benefit your pet and a lot of other less-fortunate pets as well.

Expressing our Appreciation for our Animal Control Rescue Partners

April 10-16 was Animal Control Officer Appreciation week. Our ACOs, E.C. Stone (top) with the city of Martinsville and Chris Price (bottom left) and Scott Semones (bottom right) with Henry County, received framed certificates, gift cards, Frontline products, and free oil changes courtesy of Nelson Automotive. Our Animal Control partnerships have made No-Kill possible in our community. We could not do what we do without them.



Closing Words from Exiting Board President, Scott Stone

Dear Staff, Volunteers, Supporters, and Board Members of the Martinsville-Henry County SPCA:

I want to thank you all for your support and encouragement during my tenure as Board President. I have had the privilege of working with some of the finest people that one could wish for over the past 3 years. It's such a pleasure to work with dedicated people both employees and volunteers alike that have the best interest of our animals at heart. It clearly shows through the many successes that the Martinsville and Henry County SPCA has achieved over the last 3 years:

First and foremost, the relocation of Fido's Finds and Kitty Collectibles, now at 133 East Main Street. Thank you, Alice Ann Blevins, for your hard work getting this store up and running.

Second, our Wellness Clinic has helped serve our community and its animals needs at a reasonable cost. Thank you, Dr. Lorens, for your time and assistance during these clinics. Without you, this program wouldn't be possible.

Third, Thank you to Nicole Harris and her staff who have provided countless hours running our facility, as well as caring for the animals with love and compassion, especially those that were neglected and/or abused. These individuals are angels and can't be thanked enough. Since my time as Board President, Nicole and her staff have gone from saving 2,605 animals in 2013 to saving 3,388 animals in 2016. This is simply amazing considering the budget we work with, which is a third of the budget that Charlottesville and Richmond animal rescue organizations have at their disposal.

Last but not least, I want to acknowledge my fellow Board Members for their time and effort helping to make our SPCA a great organization that this community can be proud of. It wouldn't be possible without your time and service. So from the bottom of my heart, thank you.

As my final act as president, it is my pleasure to introduce our new Board President - Tiffany Smart. Tiffany has been a real asset to our board, and I feel that with her enthusiasm and dedication to animal welfare, she will be a great Board President.

I know I am leaving this position in good hands and with the continued support of our members, Board of Directors, and Staff, the SPCA will continue to be a great organization that Martinsville and Henry County can be proud of, now and in the future.

Sincerely,

Scott Stone,

Martinsville/Henry County SPCA Board President

2013-2016

Thanks and Acknowledgement from Executive Director, Nicole Harris

As we near the end of fiscal year 2015-16, I want to thank everyone associated with our daily work. I mean all of you: full- and part time staff, volunteers, board members, community partners, financial and in-kind donors and, of course, the animals. What incredible work we do here. Each of you in your own way does something each day to further a homeless /abandoned or abused animal's trek toward recovery and a forever home. Our SPCA is becoming regionally known for setting the standard for excellence throughout the animal welfare community. As I find myself among the heroes, our professional and knowledgeable staff, who work within our shelter, I can tell you that the reputation is well deserved. We benefit from a supportive community, engaged and committed volunteers, non-profit and rescue partners, and business leaders who contribute daily to the life-saving work we do here, providing a safety net that enables us to achieve a NO-KILL Martinsville-Henry County. Our success depends on a community-wide effort that extends far beyond the walls of the SPCA. We will continually work to maintain and strengthen our relationships with animal control personnel as they truly serve on the front lines and work tirelessly providing service to the community and saving lives that may otherwise be lost. We have recently been recognized for our leadership in the area of spay-neuter, an effort that has greatly reduced the number of unwanted animals in our community, and we will continue to build upon that great work. We will continue working to maximize our success in reuniting lost pets with their owners and ensuring that animals entrusted to our care are placed into appropriate homes. Our operations will continue to meet the standard of excellence.

I want to congratulate this team for all of its accomplishments to date. I am proud to serve this community and work with such a dedicated board of directors and staff in order to provide the best service possible for the people, pets, and homeless animals of the Martinsville-Henry County community.

Sincerely,

Nicole Harris

Martinsville/Henry County SPCA Executive Director

Memoriam and Honorarium Donations Made Between January 1—March 31

In Honor of People:

Ruth Bassett
Dr. and Mrs. Ralph Kahn
James Crowder
Dr. and Mrs. Ralph Kahn
Anne Freya Dalton
Tim Mills
Sandra Ford
Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Benfield
Jay Frith
Mrs. Charles C. Bassett
Betsy Gravely
Ms. Virginia G. Hufford
Kitty Sue Hooker
Ms. Lucy H. Davis
Mr. and Mrs. Raymond T. Harm
Esther Schilbe
Pat Folio

In Memory of People:

Evelyn Barnes
Merri and Robert Turner
Sarah Baselici
Marie Alderman
Leanne Beck
Pam and John Burgess
Verna and Tommy Herring
Mavahi 1968
Linda and William Moles
Deborah Price
Frank J. Radnoczi
R'Dell Boucher
Mrs. Gwen Sowdon
Lacy Brown
Ms. Carol Berlauck
Jimmy Cutright
Ms. Virginia G. Hufford
Steve Dashoff
Dr. and Mrs. Ralph Kahn
Donald "Don" Deaton
Mrs. Charles C. Bassett
Roxann Dillon
Mrs. Charles C. Bassett
Judy and George Baylor
Dot Farrer
Perry and Judy Potter
Ronald "Ron" Fentress
Debbie and Tony Bliss
Lt. Col. Speros and Bree Koumparakis
Mr. and Mrs. Henry Mitchell
Nilit America, Inc.
Stanley Palmer
Kittie and Billy Ratcliff
James "Jimmy" Fox
Patti and Harry Garrett
Nancy Helms
Mr. and Mrs. David Reynolds
Hoppy Hervey
Mr. and Mrs. William Pannill

Vera Hervey
Bassett Furniture Industries Inc.
Mr. and Mrs. Mike Carrow
Harold Isley
Lowanna and John Hance
Joan Kochersperger
Mrs. Bobby Dalton
Ms. Jane Farley
Mr. and Mrs. Larry Fulcher
Joan Cash Kochersperger
Ronald Cash
Sam Lawrence
Elizabeth Brady
Janet Frith Lester
Mr. James B. Frith, Jr.
Roberta "Etta" Marshall
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas E. Gordon
Ken Pace
Mrs. Charles C. Bassett
Wes Parker
Ms. Virginia G. Hufford
Deborah Parks
Mr. and Mrs. John Johnson
Kenneth Ramsey
Margaret Katherine and Lea Washburn
Garnett Robertson
Bev and Gordon Dukerschein
Harry J. Robertson
Pam and Stephen Brinegar
Meryl Bullard and Weldon Barnard
Carter Bank & Trust
Nancy L. Collins
Clifton Williams
Rusty Shropshire
Ms. Virginia G. Hufford
Samuel Smith
Mr. and Mrs. David Reynolds
Dan Spough
Mr. and Mrs. Ron Johnson
Katherine Stokes
Mr. and Mrs. Kirby Blevins
Henry Clayton Stone
Ireita Cuathen
Ms. Lucy H. Davis
First Baptist Church
Susie and Bobby Merriman
Nina and Ted Rea
Smith Memorial United Methodist
Robert Tuggle
Mrs. Charles C. Bassett
Walt Turner
Ms. Joy Stone
Audrey White
Hope Kirk
MHS Class of 1953 and 1954
Barbara Wilson
Kathy and Dave Sweet
Kayla Wood
Dr. Donald W. Richman
Johnsie Woody
Mr. and Mrs. David L. Reynolds
James M. Wyatt, Jr.
Diane and Paul Clifton

Mr. and Mrs. Robert C. Kovac

In Honor of Pets:

Buffy
Ethel Jamison
Lily and Jett
Mr. and Mrs. Baxter Robertson
Lily and Puppies rescued from Carson
Patrice Colamesta
Lucy, Lillie, and Ellie
Martha Wilson
Merlin and Dylan
Sherry and Paul Lirette

In Memory of Pets:

Beamer
Lorrie, Bill and Amber Teegen
Beamer Teegen (Lorrie and Bill Teegen)
Ms. Lucy H. Davis
Beaufort (Lou and George Harris)
Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Riddle
Bliss
Martha Wilson
Jett (Jim and Clarke Beckner)
Mr. and Mrs. Jim Beckner
Ann and Steve Gibson
Mrs. Betsy Midkiff
Dr. and Mrs. James K. Muehleck
Junior (Trish and Mike Shifflet)
Mr. and Mrs. Scott Stone
Lord Peter Wimsey
Mr. and Mrs. Smith Chaney
Nemo
Cynthia and Michael T. Hairston
Patches (Mr. and Mrs. Art Pruett)
Barbara and Pete Epperly
Pepper (Martha and Gene Medley)
Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Medley
Dr. and Mrs. William D. Prince
Mr. and Mrs. Baxter Robertson
Pop (Robin and Baxter Robertson)
Allyson P. Campbell
Mr. and Mrs. William Curlee
Mr. and Mrs. Raymond T. Harm
Betty Isaacs
Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Medley
Mrs. Betsy Midkiff
Dr. and Mrs. William D. Prince
Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Riddle
Mr. and Mrs. Baxter Robertson
Susan Crafton
Tracy and Chris White
Sassy
Mrs. Betty T. Gordon
Scooter (John and Lowanna Hance)
Tammy Shumate
Sidney (Sandee and Steve Barth)
Mr. and Mrs. Kirby Blevins
Thurman (Katie and Jason Lefton)
Ms. Donna K. Leahey

In Memory of Kobi

On the afternoon of April 14th, our community suffered a huge loss. Kobi, the canine superstar of the SPCA Pet Therapy Program, sadly passed away. Kobi, a 10 ½ year old German shepherd therapy dog, belonged to Steve and Celia Cruise of Martinsville.

In 2006, Steve Cruise retired and knew he wanted a canine friend to enjoy his days with. After a lot of searching, he found Kobi, who had been surrendered

by his original owner. Kobi was being trained to be a “sniff dog” for the police department, but, unfortunately, due to loss of funding, his trainer had to stop his training and find him a new home. That’s where Steve came in. Steve found out about Kobi, loaded up his dog Chewie, and the two went to meet Kobi. It was love at first sight for Chewie and Kobi. The two were instantly the best of friends. Steve knew right away he had found the right dog.

After taking Kobi into his care, Steve took him to be examined by a veterinarian, who immediately said Kobi should be a therapy dog because of his extremely gentle nature. Steve pursued this training for Kobi and put him on the road to becoming the amazing service dog he was. During one month of training, Kobi accomplished what takes most dogs



to the Paw program. Kobi, who was the very first service dog allowed in the Martinsville Hospital, knew which days of the week he was going to be making his rounds and would sit by the front door patiently waiting for his owner to get ready.

Kobi and Steve went everywhere together and Kobi was always recognized when he was out and about in the community. Steve recalls attending a tree lighting ceremony one year and, as always, Kobi was right there. A couple of people approached him and

asked if they could get a photo of their children with Kobi. Steve agreed and before he knew it a long line of people had formed waiting eagerly to have their picture taken with Kobi.

Kobi never passed up an opportunity to please those around him. And as long he got his nightly sweet potato, he was a happy camper. When he wasn’t helping others, Kobi enjoyed going for car rides, sitting with his owners on the porch watching the sunset, and laying in the front yard observing the deer. There is no doubt: Kobi was one of a kind. If you had the chance to meet Kobi, you were truly lucky. Kobi touched the hearts of hundreds of people throughout our community; he will be extremely missed and forever in our hearts. Donations can be made in memory of Kobi on our website at www.spcamhc.org.

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Paw Prints

SPCA of Martinsville-Henry County
Shelley Frith Drane Adoption Center
132 Joseph Martin Highway
Martinsville, VA 24112

Welcome!!

The SPCA is delighted to welcome our supervising veterinarian, Dr. Eric Lorens, to the Martinsville area. Dr. Lorens has purchased and is renovating the old Henry County Animal Hospital beside Movie Town theater. The new clinic will be opening in May. Check Facebook and our website for more details and information on the new clinic's grand opening.

9th ANNUAL HOGS FOR DOGS CHARITY RIDE

\$10 Entry Fee
per rider



\$10 Entry Fee
per rider

Saturday, June 11, 2016

All proceeds benefit the SPCA of
Martinsville Henry County

Registration begins at 11:30 am and the ride pulls out at
1:00 pm from the SPCA building located at 132 Joseph
Martin Hwy.

**PLEASE COME OUT TO SUPPORT THIS
WORTHY CAUSE!**

For more information contact: Margaret Wimmer @
(276) 806-4970 or Nicole Harris, SPCA Executive
Director @ (276) 638-PAWS (7297)



**All proceeds benefit the
SPCA of Martinsville-Henry County**

**Thursday, July 21, 1pm
Chatmoss Country Club
Registration details coming soon!**