



SPCA

# Paw Printz

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## We're looking for model pets

Not model as in a small copy of something, and not model as in perfect, but model as in pets to be in photographs.

Last year we raised almost \$2,000 for the shelter through the publication of our first SPCA Eastern Shore calendar, and we're hoping to do even better this year.

Several of our supporters asked if they could "buy" a month to feature their own pet's picture. By the time they asked the question, we already had the photos that we planned on using, but we liked their idea so much that we've decided to use it for the 2015 calendar.

So if you've adopted a pet from SPCA Eastern Shore, we're inviting you to purchase a month to feature your furry family member.

It doesn't matter if you adopted your pet

recently or years ago. In fact, we think people would really enjoy seeing how some of the "old timers" are thriving in their forever homes.

The cost to make Fido or Fluffy a pin-up pet is just \$75. If you have several pets whom you've adopted from us, you can feature all of them in a group photo for the same price.

Our photographer will make an appointment to photograph your pet(s) at a place of your choice—your home or yard, on a walk, at the park or the beach, on your boat...

The 2015 calendar will be available at the shelter in early October, in plenty of time for Christmas gifting.

If you'd like to purchase a month to feature your pet, call the shelter at 757-787-7385. But hurry—a year only has 12 months, so space is limited!



## Summertime, and the living is . . .

...well, hazardous if you're a pet.

So we wanted to remind you of some of the special summertime dangers to be aware of, starting with one that you might not immediately think of: fish hooks.

Cats, being the enchantingly curious creatures that they are, see a fish hook as just another toy swinging enticingly from the end of a string—maybe even a toy with an especially attractive scent. Even dogs have been known to get themselves into trouble with fishing gear.

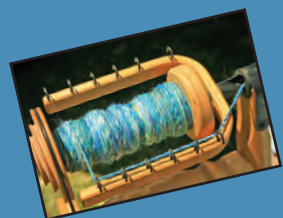
So please, if you like to fish, remember to remove the hook from your pole after fishing and put it somewhere where it won't be accessible to your cat or dog. Otherwise, you may find

that it has to be removed from your pet, not a pleasant experience for either you or them.

Then there's the summertime heat. Of course you know that the temperature inside a closed car can quickly build to an unsafe level for your pet. But even being outside in the heat can be hazardous to pets, especially dogs.

Unlike you, your dog can't shed clothes to make himself more comfortable. He can only cool himself by panting and by a little sweating through his foot pads.

So schedule his outside time or his walk or his jog with you for either early morning or in the evening when it's cooler and safer for your  
(See **Summertime Safety**, Page 3)



Who's spinning what from this beautiful yarn?

And why?

Find out on Page 4



# ‘Fixing’ the problem

*Spaying and neutering is the best way to prevent unwanted litters*

Because there is no national centralized recordkeeping system for statistics relating to animal welfare, it is difficult to know exactly how many healthy dogs and cats are euthanized in the United States each year.

So let’s forget about the national picture and focus instead here on Virginia’s Eastern Shore with numbers obtained through the Virginia State Veterinarian’s Office.

The only two facilities sheltering animals on the Shore are SPCA Eastern Shore and the Eastern Shore Regional Animal Control Facility (ESRACF).

SPCA Eastern Shore is a privately run, no-kill, limited intake shelter. In 2013, the shelter cared for a total of 157 animals. Of these, 2 cats and 1 dog were euthanized, or “put down,” either because the animals were dangerously aggressive or on the advice of a veterinarian because of health issues resulting in an unacceptable quality of life for the animal.

ESRACF is the housing facility for the Animal Control divisions of Accomack and Northampton Counties. They are responsible for managing whatever portion of the Shore’s pet overpopulation problem that private organizations and individuals cannot handle.

In 2013, ESRACF handled a total of 1529 animals. Despite their best efforts to reunite lost pets with their owners, adopt animals, or transfer them to another Virginia releasing agency (SPCA Eastern Shore received 87 of our 157 animals from them), ESRACF still ended up euthanizing 750 cats and 204 dogs, a total of 954 animals.

Almost all of the animals who were euthanized died simply because their time ran out before someone could be found to reclaim or adopt them or before another agency with room to take them could be found.

### Help reduce the numbers

The best way to reduce the number of animals that ESRACF is forced to euthanize here on the Eastern Shore is to spay or neuter your pet and encourage your friends and neighbors to do the same thing.

Recognizing that not everyone can afford the cost of having their pet spayed or neutered by their local veterinarian, SPCA Eastern Shore partners with the Virginia Beach SPCA to bring the Neuter Scooter, their mobile surgical unit, to the Shore twice each month for low cost spay neuter services. The cost is just \$65 for cats and \$75 for dogs, plus an additional \$10 for rabies vaccination, if needed.

Because of limited space on the mobile surgical unit, there is a 65 lb. weight limit for dogs.

### Low income discounts available

Low income residents qualify for substantially discounted charges, only \$15 for cats and \$25 for dogs, plus an additional \$5 if a rabies shot is needed. The discounts are subsidized through a \$25,000 grant from the Barbara J. Mapp Foundation and a \$5,000 grant from the Two Mauds Foundatin which was secured with matching funds of \$2,500 each from Accomack and Northampton Counties.

All unaltered animals that are taken into SPCA Eastern Shore are spayed or neutered before adoption. If any animal is adopted before we are able to work it into the Neuter Scooter schedule, the adopter can either make an appointment with the Neuter Scooter to have the surgery done at our expense, or we will pay an equivalent amount toward the cost of the surgery by the adopter’s veterinarian.

### Make appointments well in advance

Appointments are required for the 20 surgeries that the Neuter Scooter can perform each visit. Because the unit requires a balanced mixture of species and sexes, expect about a two month wait to get an appointment for females, both dogs and cats. Unfortunately, fewer people choose to neuter their male pets, so males of both species can often be worked in sooner than that.

Applications for spay/neuter services are available at the shelter. Proof of income or public assistance must be presented to qualify for the low income discount, and payment is due when the appointment is made.

# Canine ambassadors: our pups stepped up and stepped out at Run for the Animals



To help our dogs master some of the social skills they need to make them more adoptable, we have begun taking some of them to public events where they have a chance to meet people and other dogs in a real life setting. The Run for the Animals was an introductory step in this new program.

*(Top) Beth Ann Sabo (left) of Eastern Shore Dog came to the shelter to work with the dogs, staff, and volunteers who would be attending the Run for the Animals.*

*(Bottom left) Five of our dogs and their handlers showed up in support of the Run for the Animals, which benefits homeless animals on the Eastern Shore. From left are Tripper and Helen, Dani and Jeannie, Fritz and Maureen, Tug and Sheila, and Muffin and Rodger.*

*(Bottom right) Shelter Manager Sheila gratefully accepts a check for \$4,100 from Andrea Derby, event organizer.*



## Summertime safety: be aware of your pet’s special needs

*Continued from Page One*

furry companion. Dogs most at risk of dehydration or heat stroke are short nosed breeds like pugs, bulldogs, and Shih Tzus; dogs with dark coats; and dogs that are overweight or that have pre-existing heart or lung problems.

Of course, if your pet spends time outdoors, make sure it has shade and access to fresh water at all times.

Finally, just like people, dogs and cats—especially white and short haired/hairless pets—can get sunburned, and it can lead to the development of cancer later on just as it can in humans.

### SIGNS OF HEAT STROKE

- increased heart rate
- elevated body temperature
- excessive panting or drooling
- listlessness
- confusion or disorientation
- dark or bright red tongue and gums
- vomiting or diarrhea
- collapse, seizure, or coma

## 2014 Neuter Scooter Schedule

**June 26-27**

**July 24-25**

**August 21-22**

**September 18-19**

**October 23-24**

**November 20-21**

**December 11-12**

*If you have questions or want to schedule an appointment, call the shelter at 757-787-7385.*



# Local artisans plan auction to benefit SPCA animals



(Left) As she sits in Ten Good Sheep's booth at the Barrier Island Center's Art on the Farm event, Karyn Belknap works on spinning the yarn that she will weave into a shawl to be auctioned off to benefit the SPCA Eastern Shore shelter. (Top right) A close-up of the yarn that will be used in the shawl. (Bottom right) Mark Belknap works on carving a shore bird as he talks to a customer at the event.

Karyn Belknap was a young child on a field trip when she watched a woman demonstrating how to spin yarn.

Belknap was fascinated, and as she watched, a dream was born. Someday, she decided, working with wool would be her life's work.

And from a little girl's dream eventually grew Ten Good Sheep, Belknap's artisan owned company here on the Eastern Shore which produces unique handcrafted woolen items marketed from coast to coast in the United States as well as in Canada.

Now Belknap is planning to use her artistic talent to benefit SPCA Eastern Shore. Over the summer, as she and her husband Mark, a wood carver, manage their booth at the Onancock Farmers' Market, she will be first spinning yarn and then later using it to weave a shawl that the couple plans to auction off to benefit the SPCA Eastern Shore shelter. She's even convinced Mark to carve a yellow legged shore bird decoy which will be auctioned off with the shawl.

The yarn will be spun from 100% reclaimed fibers of silk, bamboo, and merino over the course of the summer. Belknap chose the colors, a combination of soft blues and greens, so that the completed shawl will coordinate well with outfits of a wide variety of colors.

Belknap says that she will be working on the shawl every Saturday at the Farmers' Market in some form or another until it's completed. Because she wants to spin a fairly lofty yarn with some character, it will take her quite a while to do the hand spinning for the project.

Once the fibers have been hand spun, they'll be woven on a triangle frame loom which will make the shawl self-patterning and triangular in shape. Belknap says that if she can fit the loom in

their booth at the Farmers' Market, she will bring it with her on Saturdays and weave the shawl there.

Belknap came up with the idea for her project "because we love the mission of the SPCA and have adopted one of our kitties (Tucker) there. ...Our wish is that every stray and abandoned animal would find [shelter] there until they're adopted into a loving home.

"We know that's not possible, but every donation would move the SPCA closer to that ideal. Our shawl is a drop in the bucket, but if it makes a difference for one animal, it will be a very worthwhile summer project."

At the end of the summer, the Belknaps will be among the artisans exhibiting in Onancock at the Festival of the Arts at Ker Place on Sept. 12 and 13. The event is a joint venture of Ker Place, the Eastern Shore Artisans' Guild, and the Eastern Shore Art League.

Ten Good Sheep is already signed up for the festival, and Belknap plans to have a mini silent auction for the shawl and the shore bird decoy at their booth there.

"Folks would be able to bid during the event. All proceeds will go to the SPCA, and we're so happy to do this! We're hoping that since it will be a part of this event that there will be a lot of generous SPCA supporters there to generate some funds for the needy pups and kitties."

*If you go to the Onancock Farmers' Market this summer, look for the Belknaps at the Ten Good Sheep booth and watch the progress on the shawl. Then visit their booth at the Festival of the Arts at Ker Place on Sept. 12-13 and place your bid for this beautiful and unique item.*

## Summer's a great time to adopt. Look who's waiting to share doggie or kitty kisses with you!



Tug

Lucy

Sassy

Bill

Lizzy

Spree

Elmo

Dorothy

*Hopefully, some of these pets will have already found their forever homes by the time you're looking at this. Please call the shelter or check our listings on [Petfinder.com](http://Petfinder.com) to find out who is currently available.*

# MEMORIALS

## In Memory Of

**Lisa Bowden** Mr. Ingo Lohse  
**“Roscoe” and “Henry” Sendall** Mr. and Mrs. George Sendall  
**Mrs. Eleanor Lohse** Mr. Ingo Lohse  
**“Casey” Kerns** Mr. and Mrs. Robert Kerns  
**Audrey “Lynn” Prettyman** Mr. and Mrs. Robert Leath-erbury  
**Laraine Cramer** Insurance Professionals of PGH BR Local Chapter of INTL N.A.I.W., Ms. Margaret Zanot-to, Ms. Patricia Stueben-Way, Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Sypien  
**Pearl Littleton** Captain and Mrs. W. E. West, Peter Wolfe, Maury Wolfe  
**Dan Meldrum** Ms. Sev Burkhead  
**Sasha Longley** Ms. Ann Ober  
**Nancy Totty** Eastern Shore Community Services Board, Mr. and Mrs. John Barnes, Jr.  
**“Kylie” Whittmann** Mr. and Mrs. Gary Mackey  
**“Fritz”** Ms. Shirley Dougherty  
**Lori Small’s Mother** Brooke and Ethel Layton  
**Audrey Belote** Cindy and Larry Custis  
**Margaret Grinnalds** Keith and Lori Colonna, Town of Onley, Mrs. Nancy Prettyman, Mr. and Mrs. John Char-rier, Ms. Penny Young, Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Herbert, Mr. and Mrs. W. Revell Lewis, III, Mr. Darryl Matthews, Mr. and Mrs. Donald Jamison  
**“Roxie” Jackson** Janet Hotcaveg

**Peggy Fitch** Mr. and Mrs. Franklin Mapp  
**Franklin Garner** Mr. John Kolbush and Family; Stephanie, Jeff and Brynna Burchett  
**Wilson Custis** Ms. Shirley Harrison  
**David Belote** Ms. Carol Brooks, Mr. and Mrs. Rex Williams, Ms. Patricia Christian, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Parks, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Kerns, Ms. Carla Lloyd, Ms. Julie Bad-ger, Mr. and Mrs. William Sewart  
**“Emma’ Budd** Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Bongiovanni  
**“Luca” Good** Ms. Gwendolyn Coghill  
**Grace Taylor** Mr. Charles Brimer  
**“Cindy”** Mr. and Mrs. Stewart Farrell  
**Richie Solem** Mr. and Mrs. Stewart Farrell  
**Mrs. Bernice Kenney** Mr. and Mrs. Rupert Humer  
**“Kelly” Hicklin** Mr. and Mrs. Peter Hall

## In Honor Of

**Mrs. Joyce Foster** Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Foster  
**Henley Sandidge and Sally Batz** Mr. and Mrs. Ver-non Bell  
**Betty V. C. Beasley** Mr. and Mrs. Scott Callander  
**Lynn Schreiber** Scott and Sara Schreiber  
**“Winnie” Hotcaveg** Janet Hotcaveg  
**“Oakie” Houser** Mr. and Mrs. Orin Houser  
**B. J. Branch** Ms. Betty Bell Branch  
**Justine Shields** Ms. Liz Butler

## A lasting legacy: exercise your ‘will’ power

Your membership dollars and donations, such as those in memory of or in honor of some special person or pet or those to Murphy’s Fund, mean a lot to us, and we and the animals are grateful for every penny. But there’s another kind of donation that you may not have thought of.

Please consider including a bequest to the SPCA Eastern Shore in your will.

SPCA Eastern Shore receives no funding from any government agency aside from \$921 from Accomack County to support our spay/neuter program. Other than adoption fees, some fundraiser events, and grants that we are able to secure, like the Mapp grant which underwrites our low cost spay-neuter program, we rely entirely on the generosity of you, our supporters, for money to keep the shelter open.

Since we are a registered non-profit 501(c)3 organization, your gift to us is non-taxable, so we receive the entire amount of your bequest. We rely on the investment income from these monies to help provide the day-to-day operating expenses of the shelter as well as to help pay for occasional larger capital projects.

So when you sit down to do your estate planning or update your will, please consider the lasting legacy of a bequest to the SPCA Eastern Shore shelter. The Eastern Shore’s homeless animals for generations to come will benefit from your thoughtfulness.



## 2014 SPCA Membership/Donor Form

SPCA Eastern Shore, PO Box 164, Onley, VA 23418

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

### Membership Levels

Individual \$25 \_\_\_\_\_ Family \$40 \_\_\_\_\_ Sponsor \$100 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Patron \$500 \_\_\_\_\_ Benefactor \$1000 \_\_\_\_\_

If you’d like to donate in memory of, or in honor of, a loved one, you can give their name and address below. Thank you.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Members and Donors are a Special Breed !



SPCA Membership makes you part of a society committed to the care and humane treatment of animals in YOUR community.



## Support Murphy’s Fund

### Extraordinary Medical Needs for Dogs and Cats

Murphy’s Fund was created so we would have money in place for extraordinary medical needs here at the shelter. Since we never know when those needs may arise, it’s important that the fund always have money available.

The most common need is treatment for dogs who are positive for heartworms, making them more easily adoptable. The average cost of treatment is around \$500 per dog, a hit that our normal budget just can’t absorb.

Murphy’s Fund covers this and other medical needs requiring vet attention, as it has done recently for major surgeries for both Dale, a beagle, and Dumplin, a Pomeranian mix. Pups Ginger, Muffin, and Rose also had issues that required profes-sional veterinary services.

Vet care is expensive, and each time we need to take an animal to the vet, our funds

for this kind of specialized care are de-pleted. It’s im-portant to re-plenish them so that it won’t be necessary to mount an emergency fund drive and wait for money to be available before we can obtain treatment for an animal who needs it.

If you’d like to make a donation and know exactly how the money will be used, consider donating to Murphy’s Fund. You’ll be helping to pay for the extraor-dinary medical needs of a dog or a cat for whom we otherwise wouldn’t be able to provide this exceptional level of care.



Dumplin

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