

# animal welfare matters



2018 ANNUAL REVIEW

## Alexandrians Open Hearts and Homes to Transferred Animals

Soon after Hurricane Michael devastated parts of Florida last October, the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria (AWLA) received a call. The Jacksonville, Fla., animal shelter needed to clear out as many dog kennels as possible to make room for what was sure to be a deluge of dogs displaced by the storm. They wondered, could Alexandria take some?

Fortunately, the AWLA's Vola Lawson Animal Shelter had the space and resources to say yes, and on Oct. 18, as one of several stops in the region, a massive trailer from Jacksonville Humane Society delivered five dogs in need of shelter.

The AWLA's response continues a tradition of welcoming the transfer of animals in need, whether from Virginia or from even more distant places. It reflects the open hearts of the Alexandria community.

"We're fortunate that so many people in our area are eager to adopt an animal," said Joanna Fortin, Senior Manager of Community Programs, who oversees the transfer program. "And we're lucky they also provide us with the resources to help out so many animals."

Transfers of animals to the AWLA have nearly tripled in recent years: In 2012, just over 150 animals were transferred in to the shelter, but in 2018 more than 550 animals came in from other areas, some of them through the AWLA's role as one of the Humane Society of the United States' emergency transfer partners. The shelter's corps of volunteers has assisted with the

transfers in several ways, including transporting animals from other shelters in several states.

Earlier this year Hurricane Florence left the Danville, Va., shelter's dog kennels flooded, forcing the immediate evacuation of the dogs. The AWLA agreed to take five full-grown dogs and a puppy, most of them mixed breeds. All of the Danville dogs ultimately found homes in the Alexandria region. Not long after that, the AWLA also accepted 30 cats and kittens from an overcrowded shelter near the West Virginia/Kentucky border; many went to foster homes and then graduated to the shelter's adoption floor, where all of them were adopted.

The AWLA also routinely takes on complicated medical cases that might exceed the resources of other shelters. One of these was Benji, who was a 10-month-old Yorkie born with bilateral luxating patellas — displaced kneecaps that prevented him from straightening his back legs when he stood. Benji traveled to the AWLA in March 2018, and with the support of the AWLA community, Benji had two successful surgeries, one on each kneecap. He's now leading a happy life in Alexandria with his foster caregiver-turned-adopter, who nursed him through both surgeries and his recovery.

Some of the AWLA's transfer relationships are meant to relieve other shelters' daily crises of resources — and can go back years. A 20+-year relationship with Potomac Highlands Animal Rescue (PHAR) has transferred hundreds of animals into Alexandria, mostly from Hardy and Grant counties in West Virginia, where there are more pets in need of homes than potential adopters. *(continued on page 3)*



AWLA staff assists a dog after his long trip.

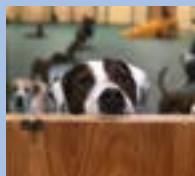


Mom and babies after a journey from West Virginia

AWLA matters at a glance



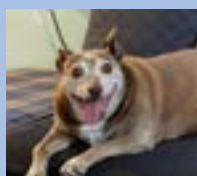
protecting animals



a dog's best friend



friends in fostering



happy tails



... and more!

**Board of Directors**

Jeff Lutton, *Chair*  
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**Hours of Operation**

**Monday** 9:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.  
**Tuesday** 9:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.  
**Wednesday** CLOSED  
**Thursday** 9:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.  
**Friday** 9:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.  
**Saturday** 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
**Sunday** 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

**Adoptable animals are available for viewing beginning at noon and online at [AlexandriaAnimals.org](http://AlexandriaAnimals.org).**

*From the Board of the AWLA*

As another year has come to a close, it's time for us to look back at the progress we've made, not just over the last year but over many, as we've worked to meet our community's mandate to make Alexandria a safer and better place for animals and their owners. As Chair of AWLA's board, I represent a team of passionate animal welfare supporters, and we're excited about the improvements we've made these past years, as well as the plans we're making for the future. In a little over five years, we've brought on a new Executive Director in Megan Webb, increased the number of animals we care for each year, and ultimately found homes for more animals in need.

That number has increased dramatically, from 1,036 animals adopted in 2012 to 1,500 in 2018. That's an increase of nearly 50%. Not only are more animals being adopted, but the time it takes for them to be adopted has greatly decreased. In 2012, it took an average of 33 days for an animal to find a home after arriving at the shelter. Now that number is 17 days. And for every day less that an animal is at the Vola Lawson Animal Shelter, we have one more day to take in another animal in need, on the way to finding a family of their own. Over the past years, we've updated our adoption process, grown our veterinary and behavioral evaluation procedures and expanded our promotional efforts, bringing more people into the shelter to meet more adoptable animals and providing better support before, during and after the adoption has taken place.

We've expanded programs in and out of the shelter. We've grown the number of active volunteers to more than 550 people in 2018, which means more exercise and socialization for animals, helping them decrease stress, stay healthier and show their best selves to potential adopters. To support animals with special health or behavioral needs, we expanded our foster program to care for 446 animals in 2018, more than twice as many as in 2012. More animals being cared for in homes across our community also allows us to accommodate more animals in the shelter, giving more animals the chance to be adopted from the AWLA at any time.

All of these modifications have helped the AWLA reach one of the community's biggest goals: to increase the *live release rate*, the number of animals who go on to healthy, happy placements after leaving the AWLA. In 2012, that release rate was 76%. In 2018, it was more than 94%! This means that 94% of the animals who come to the AWLA in search of new futures find them! This also means that the AWLA meets the definition of a no-kill shelter, one that euthanizes less than 10% of the animals that it takes in. We no longer need to euthanize animals because of lack of space or because their medical needs are too expensive or because

they have mild behavioral concerns. And we're not stopping at Alexandria's borders. The AWLA collaborates with other shelters in Virginia — shelters with live release rates closer to 10% — to transfer animals and help those shelters reduce their own euthanasia numbers, with the ultimate goal of making the whole of Virginia a no-kill state.

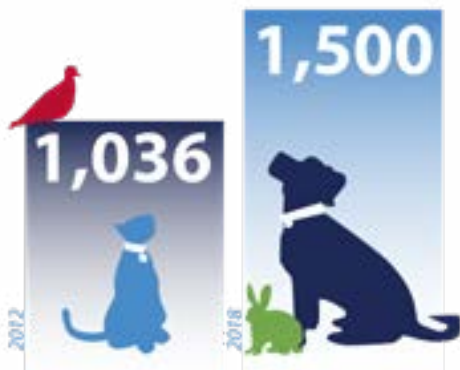
It's been a busy time, but we also think it's been a successful time, and we're just getting started! So follow our journey to see what's next for 2019, for 2020, and for 2025. We have big plans, and we're going to keep pushing forward to help animals — and their human companions — thrive across our community. ❤️



Board Chair Jeff Lutton and Tucker

Matt Mendelsohn

**ADOPTIONS**



**LENGTH OF STAY**



**LIVE RELEASE RATE**



(continued from page 1) Every two weeks, PHAR loads a van with homeless animals, and they travel 150 miles to Alexandria. The animals are evaluated, treated and ultimately adopted from the AWLA.

The AWLA also recently initiated a relationship with an animal rescue and transport group, Fur-Get-Me-Not, which transfers dogs and cats from shelters primarily in southwestern Virginia. In these regions, the shelters can overflow with animals that are not wanted or whose care the owners cannot afford to provide, and euthanasia rates of healthy, adoptable animals have historically been high. Every two weeks, the AWLA team meets the rescue group halfway between Galax, Va., and Alexandria, picking up dogs and cats and dropping off a load of donated pet food, toys and other supplies for Galax and the surrounding communities. AWLA executives also have shared sheltering strategies with Galax shelter officials to help them grow their programs locally.



Dogs from Jacksonville, Fla., arrive in Alexandria.

In recent years the AWLA has also

- Taken in dozens of dogs rescued from meat farms in South Korea by Humane Society International;
- Found homes for street dogs rescued from Syria;
- Accepted exotic species from other jurisdictions where they were not allowed as pets — ferrets from the District of Columbia, turtles and snakes from several other areas.

When the House Rabbit Society found itself with a crisis on its hands in February 2018, the AWLA stepped forward to help. In Las Vegas, people had been dumping unwanted pet rabbits in two locations, and hundreds of rabbits needed immediate help. Cross-country transports were organized by the rabbit society, the animals staying with volunteers overnight, and the AWLA took in about a dozen of these domesticated bunnies that had been released into the wild.

“The bunnies were surprisingly social, considering the circumstances they came from,” Fortin said. “All of them found homes here in Alexandria.”

The AWLA’s doors are open to all kinds of animals in need, but it’s the Alexandria community, welcoming them with open hearts and homes, that completes the shelter’s mission. ❤️

## Introducing Alexandria’s Animal Services

The dog catchers. The pound. Animal Control. These are names that have been used in the past to describe the entities who rounded up loose or dangerous animals on the streets. These functions are still important, but in the City of Alexandria, Animal Services does so much more. The city contracts with the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria (AWLA), a nonprofit organization, to operate Animal Services. These officers are employees of the AWLA and have the powers of an animal control officer as outlined by the Code of Virginia, as well as the power to enforce the provisions of the articles under title 5, chapter 7 of the municipal code.

In May 2018, Tammy Doran was appointed by the City of Alexandria City Council as Chief Animal Services Officer. Before her appointment to Chief, she had 15 years of animal control experience, including serving for three years as Sergeant in the AWLA’s Animal Services Department and a combined seven years at the City of Richmond Animal Control and Richland County Animal Care and Control in South Carolina. Doran has handled multiple felony-level animal abuse and neglect cases, including several dog-fighting cases that led to convictions of the accused.

Doran says she and her Animal Services Officers are not the “dog catchers.” Instead, they are investigators, educators, connectors, supporters and much more. They work closely with the residents of the City of Alexandria to improve the lives of animals and the people who live with and around them.

“A lot of the job is educating people about the best ways to help animals, like the wildlife that inhabits their backyards,” says Doran. “The residents of Alexandria are often very concerned about animals and want to ‘rescue’ them, but taking baby wildlife away from their area can often be the worst thing to do. We help residents learn that there are other actions they can take that are more effective.” For example, Animal Services Officers will show residents who find baby squirrels that their best chance of survival is to return them to where they were found and will play a video of a baby squirrel crying from their phones. They can observe from a safe distance as the mother will come near to look for the baby, pick it up and carry it back to the nest. “It is always best for mom to take care of the baby. Rehabilitation by a human should be the last resort,” clarifies Doran.

Other times, the Animal Services Officers perform the role of counselor to help a person through a difficult time. People facing the most serious crises, such as becoming homeless or coping with a serious illness, will often name the care of their pets as their main concern. In the case of a pet owner who has to be hospitalized but does not have anyone who can care for their pet, Animal Services will work closely with the individual and/or their social worker to enroll them in the AWLA’s Crisis Care Program. The AWLA will care for their pet for a period of time in order to reunite the pet when the owner has returned from (continued on page 4)



Ofc. Doran responds to a call.



## Animal Services Tip #21

Preparing for winter storms? Don't forget your pet! Make sure you have

- Food and water
- Blankets
- First aid kit

Check out our Pet Emergency Preparedness Kit at [AlexandriaAnimals.org/PetKit](http://AlexandriaAnimals.org/PetKit).

*Photo courtesy of Shelley Castle Photography*

financially, Animal Services can offer extra bags of dog and cat food and other supplies and can connect residents with the free AniMeals program for more assistance. Animal Services Officers also help connect residents with AWLA's spay/neuter voucher program for low-income citizens or the AWLA's free behavior hotline. A successful day for Animal Services is one in which they help a citizen to keep their pet at home.

Some of the toughest calls the Animal Services team receives are those about the suspected abuse of animals. Statistics show that individuals capable of hurting animals are also at a higher risk of hurting humans. Animal Services coordinates closely with the Alexandria Police Department, the City Attorney's Office and the Alexandria Commonwealth's Attorney to investigate and address these cases. When evidence exists of abuse, seizure of all of the animals in the home can occur, along with criminal reports, evidence gathering and even criminal charges. Animal Services will also work with Child Protective Services if children live in the home and with Adult Protective Services if a vulnerable adult is involved.

That said, Doran is careful to stress that not all suspected cases are abuse or neglect: "It is a relief when we find that a barking dog is just howling because he is bored, not because he's in pain." The officers can educate the owner on ways to keep their dog's mind engaged to mitigate barking, like puzzle treat toys that can last all day. "We don't want to seize pets when they are in safe and loving homes," Doran says. "If there's another way we can help, we certainly want to try." Doran looks forward to seeing her team's role continue to expand in the community, working not only to protect citizens but also to connect with citizens to support people and animals of Alexandria. ❤️



Ofc. Doran checks out a stray dog.



## Who You Gonna Call?

Most animal emergencies, such as an injured animal or suspected animal abuse, should be reported to the Alexandria Police Dispatch line at 703-746-4444, which is answered 24 hours a day; Animal Services will then be contacted by the Police as appropriate. For queries about lost/found pets or pet licensing, please call the AWLA directly at 703-746-4774.

# Recognizing Our Supporters

## Shelter Canines Find Loyal Buddies at 'Your Dog's Best Friends'

Lucky Duck was an energetic white-and-brown pointer who arrived at the AWLA from the Portsmouth, Va., Humane Society in September 2017. He quickly became known for his tendency to chew everything he could get his mouth on, and the AWLA staff determined that he could use some specialized attention for his training and manners.

The solution: [Your Dog's Best Friends](#), Alexandria's "positive playcare" for dogs. The facility previously fostered other shelter dogs who needed longer-term training, and the AWLA realized that a stay there might be just what Lucky Duck needed to grow into the charming and sociable dog they knew he could be.

"Lucky Duck's biggest problem was that he would get so excited to greet visitors that he would throw himself into the door of the kennel," recalls Your Dog's Best Friends owner Paul Haire, a former porpoise and horse trainer who has been leading the daycare team since he opened the facility in 2005. "We helped Lucky Duck learn that when he was calm, we would reward him with opportunities to play his heart out. Once he figured out that if he got too excited, the play stopped, his behavior shifted and he became not only calmer but more confident." *(continued on page 5)*

(continued from page 4) When he arrived, Lucky Duck was quickly assimilated into the beating heart of the facility, two large separated rooms where the dogs socialize freely with each other. The 40 or so dogs on each side run and play hard but have two distinct play styles the staff call “sweet” and “salty.”

“Dogs on both sides love to socialize and romp, but the dogs on the ‘salty’ side tend to bump and wrestle a bit harder,” said Assistant General Manager Felicia Sasfai. “The truth is the dogs on the salty side are just as cuddly.”

Experienced trainers watch over both groups, using soft but firm voices (“woofs rather than barks”) to halt disturbances or bullying. When a little extra calm is needed, they release a floral fragrance that’s soothing to canines throughout both rooms.

Rather than using punishment tactics, behavior training at Your Dog’s Best Friends favors rewards, emphasizing loving attention from the staff and focusing on the dogs’ desire to be accepted by their community, explained Kevin Sasfai, Your Dog’s Best Friends’ head trainer. “Dogs who become physiologically aroused and begin to play too roughly are quickly escorted into side pens for brief time-outs,” he said. “We need them to see that the reward of getting to play is earned by playing appropriately.”

The nearly 40 staff members work to create an “empathy-based bond” with each dog. That dedication led the team to pioneer “bedroom boarding,” a slumber party for dogs and a staff member, held in a room with a king-sized bed and big-screen TV. “Our dogs are precious to us,” Haire says. “Some of them spend more hours with the other dogs here than they do with their own people.”

Your Dog’s Best Friends has been a loyal friend to the AWLA over the years, hosting adoption events and dedicating donation boxes to the nonprofit, as well as fostering several dogs. This past September, a one-year-old pit bull from the AWLA named Blitz had a two-week vacation there and was adopted into a new home by month’s end.

“The rare form of peer-influence immersion we offer can be key to bringing out the natural, better behavior in a dog like Lucky Duck,” said Haire. Over an extended stay of several months, the dog transformed into a congenial and well-behaved pup, and in May, through adoption efforts, found a family of his own. A Lucky Duck indeed. 🐶



Lucky Duck at Your Dog’s Best Friends

## Volunteering Couple Has a Secret Weapon

**Katie Dobrinska** and her husband, **Mark Bolla**, are AWLA super-volunteers. They socialize cats and introduce them to potential adopters in the cat room. They walk dogs who are waiting to be adopted. Dobrinska helps to manage some of the scheduling for other volunteers who are fostering animals in their homes. She also helps out at special adoption events. And, most impressively, the couple has fostered 15 cats and two dogs in their townhouse in Old Town.

But they have a secret weapon in their foster efforts: A gray-and-white, seven-month-old cat named Mimi who the couple first met when she came to the AWLA in May after someone witnessed her being thrown from a car. Petrified and weighing only a pound, the kitten needed special care that only a foster home could provide. 446 animals spent time in foster homes in 2018, twice the number the AWLA had just five years ago.

Dobrinska says Mimi’s fears were soon overcome by their menagerie, a cat named Makeo (also known as the Godfather) and two dogs, Zoey and Rupert. The kitten bonded with all three of them, and Dobrinska and Bolla quickly realized that she belonged as a permanent member of the family.

This was a menagerie with a mission. As the couple continued to foster cats, the four animals became an official welcome wagon, showing the way to the new arrivals once they were allowed to mix, joining up to run through the house and even sleeping together on the couch, the dogs and cats grooming each other. In the lead recently has been Mimi.

“Mimi’s very welcoming of other fosters,” Dobrinska says. “With new kittens, she’ll play with them just like she’s four weeks old again. We have a shy cat named Ricky now who hides under a chair downstairs, and Mimi will go and just sit with him for long periods.”

Bolla, an airline pilot, and Dobrinska have always been “animal people.” When they moved to Alexandria, Dobrinska decided to work only part time — she’s employed by Senior Services of Alexandria — so she could spend more hours volunteering. The AWLA has been a perfect fit for her. Besides walking dogs and socializing cats, she and her husband help out preparing dog treats, doing laundry and washing dishes.

“I’m really glad to be part of a shelter that’s run so well,” she says. Dobrinska is also a Vola Lawson Animal Friend, having contributed more than 500 volunteer hours in 2018, and Bolla is considered an Animal Companion for donating more than 250 hours of his time to help animals.

The hardest part of fostering cats and kittens, Dobrinska says, is taking them to the shelter when they’re ready to be adopted. “But there are more animals who need our help,” she says, “and our ‘team’ is always ready to welcome a new friend into our home.”

Dobrinska and her sister chronicle the journey of fostering on Instagram at @Zoeybostonlife. To learn more about the AWLA’s foster program, visit [AlexandriaAnimals.org/fostering](https://AlexandriaAnimals.org/fostering). 🐶



Murphy with his foster family

Shelley Castle Photography

## Stocks and Bonds for Friends with Paws

Donating investments — especially appreciated securities — instead of cash can be an effective and tax-efficient way to support the charity of your choice. In fact, if your assets have appreciated in value, it might be better NOT to sell securities to generate the cash you need for a donation.

You can usually deduct the full fair market value of appreciated long-term assets you've held for more than one year, such as stocks, bonds or mutual funds. Contributing appreciated assets may enable you to eliminate capital gains taxes on the sale, enjoy a current-year tax deduction (if you itemize deductions) and allow charities like the AWLA to receive more of your donation, in comparison to selling the stock and donating the after-tax proceeds.

Please remember that the deduction is limited to 30% of your adjusted gross income (AGI). This differs from the 60% limit

### *Donating Is Easy!*

Call JoAnne Dorris at the Caudron Megary Blackburn Wealth Management Group of Wells Fargo Advisors at (703) 739-4536 for more information on how to transfer stock into the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria account.

for donations of cash, but you can still carry forward unused deductions for five years. If you're planning a large contribution that's close to or exceeds these AGI limits, please speak with your tax professional first.

## HOWL-O-WEEN



A Bantha, a sheriff and an angel all walk into a canine costume contest... it's Howl-O-Ween! Our 2018 canine costume contest was as ghoulish as ever, packed with adorable moments, smiling pups and wagging tails. This year's participants gave attendees the chance to meet several superheroes, two pups found guilty of stealing hearts (and maybe a few appetizers) and our grand prize winner, Dakota, an adorable Bantha, complete with a Tusken raider! Runners-up Mona and Belle dressed as an angel/devil duo (though they both seemed pretty angelic to us), followed closely by Sheriff Eleanor, in charge of rounding up squirrels and keeping the peace

at the treat bowl. 2019 Animal of the Year Crandon even made an appearance to celebrate the unveiling of his calendar cover. Thank you to Lena's Wood-fired Pizza & Tap for hosting this year's event and to everyone who attended and supported Alexandria's Animals. If you haven't picked up your 2019 calendar yet, stop by the AWLA to take advantage of our new year's bargain: 1 calendar for \$10 or 3 for \$20! *Photos courtesy of DeSilva Studios, LLC.*



## Happy Tails: Adoption Edition

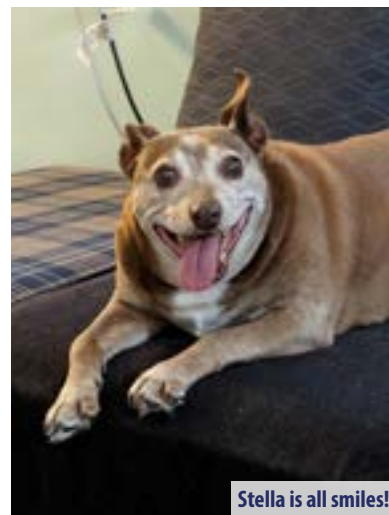
### *How Stella Became a Star*

*By special guest writers and AWLA adopters Lindsey and Pete*

I went to the shelter one day last winter, just to visit and pet the dogs as I had done many times before. But when I saw a dog they were calling Zola for the first time, she captured my attention immediately. I was struck by how she was the only dog not barking; she was just quietly looking at me with big eyes, giant ears and a crooked, toothless smile. I knew I had to take her home.

The staff at the AWLA was extremely friendly and helpful. They were very dedicated to making sure that Zola was going to a good home, and that she was a good fit for my family.

At home, we decided that the name Stella suited her much better; we could already tell she was going to be our star. She was very timid at first, but her goofy personality quickly started to show through. When she's ready to sleep, she puts herself to bed and doesn't get up until she is ready, rarely before 7 a.m. She never stops wagging her tail and has only barked a handful of times; at first, I honestly wasn't sure she could bark. When she gets excited, she does a happy dance where she spins in circles, ultimately collapsing for a belly rub. *(continued on page 7)*



Stella is all smiles!

(continued from page 6)

Stella has learned a lot since she was adopted. She has learned that she doesn't need to steal food from her dog brother (or cat sister). She has mastered the stairs and become much more flexible; she can even scratch her ears with her back legs now! She has learned how to walk on a leash, and while she chooses to take it slow, she enjoys walking to the park. She is very popular in the neighborhood, and everyone who meets her falls in love with her. And as her picture shows, she loves wearing sweaters and being pampered.

Stella has been such a great addition to our family, and I thank the AWLA for bringing her into our life. I only wish I could have found her sooner, so we could have even more time with our goofy, gorgeous girl! ❤️



Stella showing off her style

## Tribute Donations

Thank you to everyone who donated in memory or honor July 1, 2018 - December 31, 2018. AWLA mails a card to the recipient; donations of \$250+ are recognized here.

### In Memory Of

**Ann Davis** by Anne Connal Biron, Marilyn Cottle, Selma Goldenberg, Edith Hartong, Eloise Hunt, Beckett Jordan, Janice McCue & Kenneth McCue Sr., Marie McElligott, Isadora Palmore, Diane Steiner, William & Mildred Stevens, Dennis & Ruth Upright and Katura Weatherspoon

**Baxter Pulzone** by Marie Carol Pulzone

**Bismark Robinson** by Joyce Robinson

**Brian "Slip Knot" Murphy** by Laura Garza-Wilt, James Hunter & Lorraine Murphy, Robin Lowe, Nancy A. McClintock, The Mount Vernon Hash House, Mark & Jennifer Shafer, Sara Smiley and Gregory Ulma

**Buster & Miracle Winiarski** by Josephine & Edward Winiarski

**Cricket DeJong** by Samuel DeJong

**Ginger & Casey Williams-Altman** by Anna Williams & Jonathan Altman

**Keith Rutson** by Victoria Rutson

**Kristina Anstrom** by S. Decker Anstrom & Sherron Lynn Hiemstra

**Loki** by Marylee Carter Rabasa

**Melissa Ann Drisko** by James Baker, Gail Blatt, Susan Brancato, Mary Goodwin & John J. Goodwin III, Jane Johnston,

Lori Kreger, Catherine Oemig, K.W. Rosenkranz, Lara Sanford, Terry Wilton, Benjamin Wood, Patrick Goss and Melanie Rowland & Roy Apseloff

**Michael & Ginny Royal**

by Mary Aronov

**Misha & Lexi Bisson**

by Robert & Sabine Bisson

**Mitzy Webb**

by William & Ann Webb

**Monty Baxtresser**

by Martha Baxtresser

**Nancy Syren**

by Bonnie & Eric Linden

**Our 13 dogs (12 were rescues)**

by John & Helen Dell

**Peaches** by Dr. Karen Leigh Blunk

**Ping the Cat** by Frederick &

Jacqueline Knoop

**Quincy Stover**

by Patrick & Linda Stover

**Sable Pierce** by David Pierce & Lilly

Doggendorf-Pierce

**Sadie Jones** by Mary Jones

**Shannon Swanson** by Jerome &

Joanne Thomas

**Shelly & Buford Wietecha**

by Annette Wietecha

**Shimmer Giza** by Laura Giza & Harley Thronson

**Sir Charles Fawcett** by David Fawcett

**Smokey & Teddy** by Bruce Butterworth

**Snickers Ellsworth** by Barbara Ellsworth

**Willie Vanhoek** by Robert Vanhoek

**Zoey Reid** by Ann Reid

### In Honor Of

**Alex Nagy** by Dennis Nagy & Gaetana Saletta

**Annie Rutherford** by Scott & Lisa Rutherford

**Beaufox Vannucci** by Sharon Vannucci

**Butchie Prokop** by Edward & Diane Prokop

**Dr. Misha Katz** by John & Jennifer Keyser

**Heather & Charlie Canellis** by Heather Haines

**James Pierce** by Deborah & Mark Settle

**Maddie Mott** by Traci Mott

**Mischa** by Rosita Kerr Mang

**Petey Knihnicki** by Edwin & Marion Knihnicki

**Reese (AKA Maddy) Ward** by Katherine Ward

**Rutherford** by Bruce Butterworth

**Ryan Walker** by Theresa & Randall Walker

**Sunflower Murray** by Sally Murray

## 2018 Vola Lawson Animal Advocates

### ANIMAL GUARDIANS

\$25,000+ financial/in-kind donations or 5,000 volunteer hours: The Anne Cabaniss Trust, Rosemary Hayes Jones and Stan Jones, H.N. (Jay) Hoffman III & Arline Hoffman, and the Estates of Deborah Rubie DeSantis, Roberta Hufty, Ruth Hummel, Charlotte Ryerson, and Betty Joan Tackett, along with



### ANIMAL CHAMPIONS

\$10,000+ financial/in-kind donations or 1,000 volunteer hours: Kirk Fedder, Rosemary Harris, and the Estates of Daniel T. & Barbara Chapman, and Suzanne Fedder, along with



Thank you for supporting Alexandria's Animals!

More information about the Vola Lawson Animal Advocate program, including our Friends, Companions and Advocates, can be found on page 8.

# VOLA LAWSON ANIMAL ADVOCATES

January 1- December 31, 2018

The AWLA commends our Vola Lawson Animal Advocates (VoLAAs) for contributions made from January 1 through December 31, 2018. Thank you to the City of Alexandria, which allows us to continue to provide care, control and sheltering services to Alexandria's Animals.

Vola Lawson Animal Advocates (VoLAAs) are recognized individuals and businesses who give support at the highest levels. The program includes several levels of recognition for monetary donations and volunteer hours as well as in-kind donations made fiscally. **Animal Guardian** — \$25,000 or more financial or in-kind support or 5,000 volunteer hours; **Animal Champion** — \$10,000 or more financial or in-kind support or 1,000 volunteer hours; **Animal Friend** — \$5,000 or more financial or in-kind support or 500 volunteer hours; **Animal Companion** — \$2,500 or more financial or in-kind support or 250 volunteer hours; and **Animal Advocates** — \$1,000 or more or 100 volunteer hours.

For more information about becoming one of Alexandria's Animal Advocates, contact [development@alexandrianimals.org](mailto:development@alexandrianimals.org).

## Animal Friends

Christopher Auotto  
S. Decker Anstrom & Sherron Lynn Hiemstra  
Robert & Sabine Bisson  
Katie Dobrinska  
Mary S. Hall  
Dustin Harwood  
Estate of Joseph Laird Horrel  
Jodi Horton  
Latham & Watkins, LLP  
Jennifer O'Boyle  
Heather Peeler  
Carol Ramkey  
Marti & Will Roper  
Jennifer Salan  
Schwab Charitable Fund  
The Estate of Priscilla Jane Taylor  
Yates Service, Inc.

## Animal Companions

James Adams, Jr. & Ynette Shelkin  
Tracey Averett  
Courtland R. Babcock II  
Dan Bernstein  
Karen Leigh Blunk  
Mark Bolla  
John & Elizabeth Brigden  
Cameron Burger  
Gail Chagnon  
Thomas & Linda Clark  
Danielle Cotton  
Martina Cotton  
Laurette Crum  
Jeff Damrow  
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