When you love what you do...

by Jill Mollohan, Executive Director

I am a year into serving as the Executive Director at LHS and let me tell you, it has flown by. In fact, the 13 years I have worked at LHS has flown by as well. I think that is what happens when you love your job, the organization you work for; and deeply believe in the mission.

What do I love the most? I love that we help others, including pets, people and other organizations.

I love that we have always been committed to helping other shelters with pets that are at risk of euthanasia, but this year we are focusing as much as possible on Campbell County. They are doing such a great job, and they don’t have far to go to join Bedford County and the Lynchburg Humane Society as a “no-kill” shelter. We are working to help them reach a 90% save rate, and they don’t have far to go.

I love that we are able to keep pets with their owners by offering resources to keep the pets home and out of the shelter. A huge part of our jobs are helping people, because when we help them, we help the pets they love. Like the family that came to us when their husky, Aspen, was very sick with the deadly parvovirus and they couldn’t afford to have him treated at their vet. We brought Aspen into our care and provided supportive medical treatment until he was ready to go home. He is now healthy and at home with his family where he belongs.

I love that we live in such a supportive community. From fosters to volunteers to adopters to donors, we are so fortunate to have YOU who allows us to be able to continue our lifesaving work.

But the thing I love most of all about my job at the Lynchburg Humane Society is our staff. Our team is the hardest working, most caring, talented group of people that you will meet. It takes a very special person to do the work we do here. And I am grateful for each and every one of them. Without them, the Lynchburg Humane Society wouldn’t be able to do the work we do.

I am looking forward to yet another wonderful year of loving my job!

Jill Mollohan  Executive Director

Staff Highlight - Kristen Brown

Meet Kristen Brown, you may already know her from attending one of our awesome, new training classes! Kristen is our Behavior and Training Manager here at LHS. Kristen oversees the behavioral status and behavior plans for all of the pets in care, at the Center for Pets, and in foster! This includes helping pets that are shut down, fearful, or have energy or behavior needs. Kristen said her favorite part about her job is using her knowledge and understanding of behavior and training to open up communication with the pets, “Dogs and cats are always communicating with us and with one another through body language, so once you learn their cues you find out quickly that they have a whole lot to say! And in response, I get to tell them that their excitement, comfort level, or nervousness is heard and will be given the best outlet or training plan to help them feel better while they’re in our care.” Kristen’s dedication to the pets, staff, and community at LHS is undeniable. This is the reason why she was named our employee of the quarter for the first quarter of 2023! If you’re interested in attending one of Kristen’s classes with your dog you can visit our website. www.lynnchburghumane.org/services/training-and-behavior/
Kitten Season

Kitten Season is in full swing at LHS and shelters across the country. Kitten Season is known as the time that unfixed cats are most likely to have kittens. Cats can have litters any time of year, but in the warm months, the number of kittens born alarmingly increases. This time of year at LHS dozens of underage kittens come through our doors daily, needing help, whether that be kittens with mother cats, or orphaned kittens in need of bottle feeding.

One of those kittens is Hozier. A caring community member brought Hozier to us for help after seeing no sign of a mom or siblings. Hozier was very sick. He was dehydrated, underweight, and fighting an upper respiratory infection. Hozier spent a week with overnight care from our staff, recieving meds and a round of injected fluids. Hozier is now in a loving foster home with his finder! He will finish up his treatment with his foster family and finally get the chance to grow and thrive. His foster family is planning to adopt him once he is old enough!

Another kitten that found himself at LHS needing help is little Snape. Snape was found outside by a Trap-Neuter-Return organization, Stray Cat TNR, in need of a new beginning. Snape is too little to be on his own and young enough to still have a chance at being socialized around humans. Snape went into foster and his foster family fell in love with him and are planning to adopt him as soon as he's old enough!

We are in dire need of fosters to help care for kittens. Orphaned kittens like Hozier and Snape, litters of older kittens that can eat on their own but aren’t old enough for adoption, and moms with their kittens (most moms do all of the hard work!). If you’re able to open up your guest room, bathroom, or even a small corner of your house to these kittens in need you can fill out a foster application on our website under the “get involved” tab or email foster@lynchburghumane.org.

Did you know? LHS offers affordable Microchips and End-of-Life Services for our Community.

**Microchips**

A microchip is a tiny piece of technology that carries a unique identification number. It is about the size of a grain of rice and is implanted with a needle under a pet’s skin, permanently. Each chip is registered with an online database where owners link their contact information as well as their pet’s attributes. When a lost pet is found, it can be taken to a veterinary office or animal shelter where the pet’s body is scanned for a microchip. When one is present, the number appears on the scanner and is searched within the online database. The provided contact information is then used to reunite the pet with its owner! Having your pet microchipped greatly increases the chances of relocating them if ever lost. Keep in mind that every LHS pet receives a microchip prior to adoption, so join us! Microchipping allows our community to boost the likelihood of reunification between lost pets and their families. Most veterinary offices offer microchipping services and so does the Lynchburg Humane Society! The procedure is quick and provides peace of mind knowing your pet has a permanent form of identification. Bring your pet to LHS on a weekday between 4:30 and 5:30 to have a microchip inserted for only $25.

**Low-Cost End of Life Services**

Our pets are part of our families and saying goodbye to them is one of the hardest things to do. During this emotional time, the last thing you want to do is think about the cost of end-of-life services or wonder where you will need to go for these services. Our end-of-life services are affordable and always performed with love and respect from our professional and caring staff. The cost of euthanasia at the Lynchburg Humane Society is $35 for small pets (rabbits, hamsters, guinea pigs, etc.) and $50 for dogs and cats. Our cremations services are performed right here at the Lynchburg Humane Society Center for Pets in Lynchburg, Virginia. Knowing your beloved pet is not taken to another facility for cremation is something we believe is a comforting factor in this sad process. The cost of cremation at the Lynchburg Humane Society ranges from $125 for a private cremation to $50 for a general disposal fee (no remains are returned).

Read more of our “Did you know?” blogs by visiting www.lynchburghumane.org/blog
Camp Happiness

Have a junior animal lover in your household? Check out our upcoming camps! Kids ages 7 through 12 are invited to our upcoming Summer Camp Happiness weeks!

July 10th - 14th
July 17th - 21st
July 24th - 28th

Sign up on our website at www.lynchburghumane.org/camp-happiness

Is your pet destined to be famous?

Enter your pet in our 2024 calendar contest! The top six cats and top six dogs will fill the 2024 Lynchburg Humane Society Calendar’s pages. Enter now and share with friends and family to get votes for your pet! Visit our social media pages or www.lynchburghumane.org/events to enter your pet or vote in the calendar contest.

LHS Pet Wishlist!

Our pets are always in need of items that you can pick up on your next trip to the store! Here are a few of our most needed items:

- Purina Chow Products: Dog, Puppy, Cat, and Kitten
- Canned Cat and Kitten Pate
- Breeder’s Edge Kitten Formula
- Baby Wipes and Gerber Poultry
- Baby Food
- Dog Treats
- Blankets, Towels, and Sheets
- Dog and Cat Beds

You can always check out our needed supplies and links to our Chewy and Amazon wishlists at the QR code here.

Thank you donors of $1,000+
Fiscal Year to Date 2023

Addison Animal Hospital
John and Anne Alfieri
Dannele Mason and Allen Hamblen
Arc Thrift Stores
ASPCA
Bobby Babcock
Thea Backstrom
Bank of The James
Deborah Bauer
Beacon Credit Union
The Benevity Community Impact Fund
Berglund Toyota
Best Friends Animal Society
Bissell Pet Foundation
Deborah Blanchard and Eric H. Smith
Steve and Jane Blickenstaff
Carolyn Bowling
Mr. Mark Branch
Victoria Brewer
Fran D Briley
Betsy and Mike Brogan
James and Valerie Burruss
Calaeb’s Canines
The CarMax Foundation
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Dennis and Regina Carter
The Cavalier Store
Centra Health
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Lynching Humane Society 1211 Old Graves Mill Road, Lynchburg, VA 24502
Titan’s Second Chance

Titan was one of our longest-stay dogs. As a 118-pound Rottweiler, Titan may look like a big tough cookie, but truthfully, Titan is the one feeling scared. After growing up in one house with one family, he found himself here in June of 2021. His world was flooded with new sounds, environments, and people. For any dog, a shelter environment can be stressful and scary, but for Titan, it was even harder. While Titan had slowly built a bond with our Behavior Team, introducing him to new people was still a challenge.

In February, our community raised $2,000 to send him to a training program at Muddy and Co with his new friend Jeff and other dog buddies to help him learn the skills and confidence he needed to get adopted. Titan spent his time with Jeff and blossomed! He started meeting people confidently, play bowing and barking at big trucks, and was a gentleman to all of the other dogs at Muddy & Co. Our big boy has a beautiful, gentle personality that started shining brightly when he was out of the shelter environment and was able to relax and be his true self.

The task wasn’t over. Titan developed the tools he needed to find happiness, but now we needed to find his new family. Guess what? We finally found them! Titan is ADOPTED and now looks forward to a life of adventure with people who love and understand him! As his trainer said, “Every dog finds their person when they are given the chance.” Titan was provided the support he needed and a chance at a new life. This lucky dog is in for lots of new adventures!

We have more dogs at LHS that aren’t doing well in the shelter environment and would benefit from this program. Please help us give these dogs a second chance by supporting our Happiness Academy fund by scanning the QR code and donating to help these pups get the second chance they deserve.