Humane Society of Elmore County News – 22 Apr '24 Rea Cord Executive Director

This week is National Volunteer Appreciation Week and we certainly want all of our Volunteers to know how much we appreciate them! While our staff has animal care needs covered, our Volunteers help in SO many other areas that keep us going.

Our single largest income source is our <u>Tail's End Thrift Store</u> which is run entirely by Volunteers and we can never thank them enough. Our <u>Thrift Store</u> Volunteers work incredibly hard receiving donations, processing and getting donations ready for sale, and/or manning the sales desk. It takes a lot of physical work and time to keep our <u>Thrift Store</u> going and are indebted to each and every volunteer who make our <u>Thrift Store</u> possible.

Our Board of Directors are all Volunteers who take on the responsibility of ensuring the financial health of and the future of our Shelter and work tirelessly behind the scenes. We so appreciate their hard work and representation of our Shelter throughout the community.

Volunteers who help us exercise the dogs at the Shelter get lots of doggy kisses and muddy footprints and their dedication helps ensure the physical and mental health of our dogs - we are indebted to their willingness to get down and dirty by spending time with our dogs.

Fosters are also invaluable volunteers who save lives by bringing young & old, scared and shy pets into their homes until they are ready to find those new and forever homes. Fostering is simultaneously heartwarming and heartbreaking work as all fosters fall in love with fostered pets and then cry happy tears when they go on to new lives with loving families. Our fosters are side by side partners with our staff as we all work to help pets to new and better second lives.

Our Volunteer Photographers help us get our adoptable pets seen by a virtually unlimited pool of candidates as their photos are posted and shared all over the internet. We can promise that our pet adoptions are hugely successful because of their talent and dedication to doing all it takes to get those adorable and eye-catching photos of sometimes less than cooperative clients.

Volunteers also help us by by helping at off-site adoption events, by helping with the setup and running of Shelter events and so much more. Reality is that as a non-profit organization, our Volunteers are simply invaluable to us. Please during this National Volunteer Appreciation Week know how much we appreciate everyone who volunteers their time to help not only our Shelter but any organization in need of help. Our hats are off to Volunteers everywhere!