

THE COMPANION

PEOPLE HELPING ANIMALS AND ANIMALS HELPING PEOPLE



*the heart
of rescue*

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FURIENDS
available for adoption



CLIFFORD
Labrador Retriever - Cattle Dog blend
I am a very energetic dog that loves people but needs a lot of exercise to be the best I can be. If you are looking for an active best friend who also loves the great outdoors, I could be the one for you.



STARBURST & SKITTLES
Domestic Short Hair blends
Two cats are better than one! We are a bonded brother and sister who want nothing more than to find a couple laps to rest in. I (Skittles) am very playful and sweet, and am looking for a family that will help me to be the best cat I can



CHARLIE
Chihuahua blend
Hello! I am just a big sweetie pie with a huge loving heart. I am very affectionate and very willing to learn. So, are you looking for a best friend? Let it be me!

On the Cover: Foster Program Representative, Hannah Wilson has a moment our feature story orphan pet, Jingle.

To see more adoptables, visit animalcenter.org

CREATING A HUMANE WORLD FOR ANIMALS AND PEOPLE

Helen Woodward Animal Center is a unique, private, non-profit organization dedicated to saving the lives of animals and enriching the lives of people. For more than 48 years, our no-kill Center has provided humane care and adoption for orphan animals, as well as animal-centered educational and therapeutic programs for people. The Center is a dynamic, evolving institution that is an agent of change for the animal welfare world. Not only are we operating innovative and beneficial programs for animals and people, but we are teaching others around the world how to successfully market and promote their programs and stop the senseless death of thousands of animals. 🐾

Don't miss a single issue...

Every issue of Helen Woodward Animal Center's *The Companion* newsletter is filled with stories about the relationship between humans and the animals that we love. Four times each year *The Companion* keeps you informed about how you are helping us fulfill our mission of "people helping animals and animals helping people."

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Volunteer

Giving your time at any of our fundraising events, or donating your skills or experience to help on Center grounds are just some of the many ways you can help people and pets in need! Visit animalcenter.org to learn more.

Be Informed

Be in the know of events and fundraisers happening in our community, and across the globe. Subscribe to our e-newsletters, by visiting animalcenter.org and enjoy this publication.

SURRENDERED PETS will receive a complete veterinary examination for good health and temperament. A documented history is required for all owner-relinquished animals. Dogs under our care are exercised regularly and cats enjoy comfortable playrooms. Experienced staff screen potential adopters to help clarify needs and ensure a lifelong match. Once an adoption is complete, our staff is available for any assistance to make the transition a success.





Dear Friend of the Animals,

As this pandemic continues to go far beyond what anyone could have expected, I continue to marvel at not only the staff at Helen Woodward Animal Center, but also our volunteers and our supporters. Everyone on the team has truly gone above and beyond to save more lives than ever before, assist more people and pets in need of food than ever before, provide children with fun and enriching animal interactions when they need them most, and ensure the health and well-being of our community's cats, dogs, and horses during this stressful time.

Since COVID-19 **our transfer program that brings in pets from overcrowded facilities around the country where they are at risk of euthanasia has increased its numbers by over 30%** and we have rescued animals from Texas, Louisiana, New Mexico, and throughout California. Our team has met the demand for our life-saving support and the community has responded by opening their hearts and homes to these pets in need with an incredible turnout for adoption appointments.

Our **AniMeals Relief program has served an incredible number of individuals** who have lost their jobs and are unable to provide food and litter for their pets during this time. Thanks to our partnership with our wonderful friends at Feeding San Diego, we are able to provide people in need with human food as well. The program sees about 200 people each pick up and they are incredibly grateful to have this support to care for their families and their best friends during these troubling times. **Since we began the joint program, we have served close to 15,000 people and we are currently planning a holiday event through AniMeals Relief on December 23** with a Critter Drive-In visit and toys for the kids and the pets! We extend a special thanks to Gwendolyn Sontheim and Dan Shea for their support of this joint venture.

When schools did not reopen in the fall, I knew something had to be done for the children of our staff members and our community, so we opened a campus at the Center for children who were doing virtual learning and needed the support of a teacher to get through their long day online. **Thanks to the generosity of Sharron MacDonald we are able to offer this special program to the children of our employees through this school year** so that their parents can work without worry and the kids can do their most productive work. It is all about meeting the needs where we see them in these trying times.

As always, we can't do our vital work without you and I thank you for your generous hearts and love for our animal friends who need us more than ever. Please be safe and well this upcoming season!

For a more humane world,

Michael M. Arms
President and CEO



Humane Award recipient, Maggie Lawson poses for a photo with an orphan pup and Center President, Mike Arms.

Honoring a Friend to Orphan Pets

Helen Woodward Animal Center brought together friends and supporters for a socially distanced cocktail reception at The Inn at Rancho Santa Fe on October 24 to honor this year's Humane Award recipient.

The Humane Award is given yearly by Center President & CEO Mike Arms to an individual or entity that has made a significant positive impact on the world of animal welfare.

This year's award recipient, actress Maggie Lawson, was chosen for her years of dedicated work advocating for orphan pets.

Lawson is best known for her role as Detective Juliet "Jules" O'Hara in the TV show "Psych." She also held the recurring role of Nathalie Flynn on Fox's "Lethal Weapon."

Her love for animals dates back to childhood when she rescued her first dog. Since then, her home is constantly filled with three or four adopted dogs.

Lawson is the co-founder of the Tiger Frances Foundation, an animal rescue organization based in Los Angeles with the mission of ending animal abuse and homelessness through education.

Ahead of the award reception, Lawson toured the Center saying, "Seeing Helen Woodward Animal Center and the programs that you have in place and how many animals you have helped and also the people, to get an award from you guys is overwhelming."

The Center extends a special thank you to the Steve and Sharron MacDonald Family Foundation for their support of the Helen Woodward Animal Center Humane Award. 🐾

The Show Must Go On ... for Orphan Pets!

As 2020 rocked the beloved annual events held by Helen Woodward Animal Center sending them online, we found a silver lining - the incredible support of our animal loving community. The Center experienced an immense participation that even extended overseas because of the innovative virtual formats.



Surf Dog Surf-A-Thon Makes a Splash Worldwide

While the pandemic halted the Center from making a September splash at the most FUR-tastic event of the year at Del Mar Dog Beach, the Surf Dog Surf-A-Thon presented by Blue Buffalo prevailed virtually! Fans and contestants got to enjoy a one hour broadcast of the 2020 Surf Dog Surf-A-Thon from the comfort of their home on Sept. 13.

Nearly 90 entries came in from all over the country and world as far as Brazil, England and Japan with participants submitting video clips of their best wave surfed during the contest period.

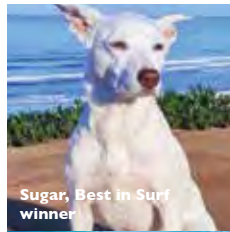
Titles were up for grabs for Best in Surf and the always impressive Freestyle contest where dogs can surf with their four-legged or human friends. Five weight division winners advanced to Best in Surf with judges awarding Huntington Beach surFUR Sugar the first place prize. In the Freestyle

event, the impressive seven PUPmariners made up of popular surf dogs took the win riding a wave aboard the Yellow SUPmarine.

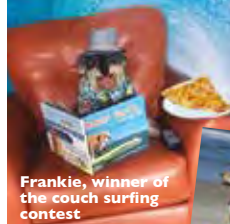
But the fun didn't end there, this year's virtual format opened the door for the Couch Surfer Photo Contest that even featured cats. Rescue dog Frankie wowed the judges with his take on the theme, taking first place.

While we missed the hundreds of fans that typically line the beach for the Surf Dog Surf-A-Thon, a brand new People's Choice Award online got fans voting for their favorite surFUR, awarding Surf Gidget the Pug the 2020 prize.

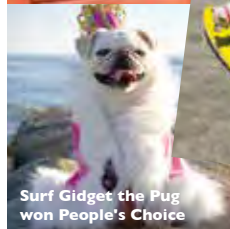
The unique event that at its core highlights the human – animal bond and raises life-saving funds for the orphan pets and programs at Helen Woodward Animal Center, received global media attention with coverage extending as far as Germany, Brazil, Italy and Vietnam.



Sugar, Best in Surf winner



Frankie, winner of the couch surfing contest



Surf Gidget the Pug won People's Choice

The Center extends a special thanks to Petco, Petco Foundation, Blue Buffalo and Naturally Fresh Cat Litter for their support of the 2020 Surf Dog Surf-A-Thon.



The Seven 'PUPmariners' won the freestyle competition



PR Director Jessica Gercke and PR Manager Fernanda Lopez hosted the virtual fundraiser that brought in over \$300,000 to support orphan pets.

The Virtual Fling Gala Celebrates the Jewels of the Center

Helen Woodward Animal Center's largest fundraising event of the year, the Fling Gala celebrated the jewels who generously support the Center on Saturday, Oct. 17 with a creative and exciting evening virtual event and live auction.

Center supporters settled in and watched Jewels of the Earth — A Virtual Fling from the comfort and safety of their homes broadcasting live from a studio in Kearny Mesa. The night began with a special message from President and CEO Mike Arms about the Center's life-saving work amid the pandemic. The event continued with live comedy from James Hancock III and even a dance performance and lesson from the Arthur Murray Dance Studio.

The evening also included delicious home delivered meals for ticketed participants from the Center's restaurant partners Bluewater Grill, Dolce, Jimbo's, Panini Kabob Grill and Yummy Cupcakes, and wine provided by Brad and Sheila Jacobs.

Some of the most exciting moments of the night included the live auction with featured packages such as a Maui vacation donated by Keshif Properties and Peter Richter, a Seattle getaway with a Nordstrom shopping spree and spa day donated by Dick & Jan Hunter and Jeannie Nordstrom and a Peloton Bike+ Works Packages donated by Dianne Lefferts.

Rounding out the night, participants lent their support to the Center's transfer program for adoptions which has brought nearly 3,000 orphan pets to the Center just this year and found them forever homes. Also, highlighted was the Center's Pets Without Walls and AniMeals programs, which provide veterinary care and pet food to San Diego's low-income and homeless.

The Center extends immense gratitude to presenting sponsor, EDCO and to everyone who watched, donated and bid generously during the 2020 Virtual Fling helping to raise \$300,000 to support the orphan pets and programs at Helen Woodward Animal Center.

The event, broadcasted through Zoom, brought together 300 participants including animal organizations and advocates from 11 different countries including Estonia, Puerto Rico and Singapore.

This year, actress, producer and animal advocate Jennie Garth lent her voice as the 2020 Remember Me Thursday Spokesperson in a touching PSA and posted the message to her 1.2 million social media followers.

Joining Garth were nearly 200 animal-loving celebrities, bloggers, influencers and social media-famous pets posting beautiful displays about the importance of pet adoption.



Jennie Garth and her rescue dogs

We saw posts from the accounts of Tuna Melts My Heart, Sunglass Cat, Nala Cat, Ryan Newman, Kat Dennings, Andrew Knapp and Jackson Galaxy.

Despite the pandemic, animal organizations around the world held heartwarming socially-distanced candle-lighting ceremonies in parks and fields and lit luminaries to honor orphan pets. Remember Me Thursday was commemorated as far as Namibia, Indonesia, Guatemala and Croatia.

More than 6,000 people submitted their pet's rescue story to the Remember Me Thursday Contest, sharing the life-changing benefits of pet adoption.

Despite a year filled with uncertainty, Remember Me Thursday left an undeniable mark around the world with a potential reach of 1 billion people. 🐾



Remember Me Thursday® Inspires Millions to See the Light

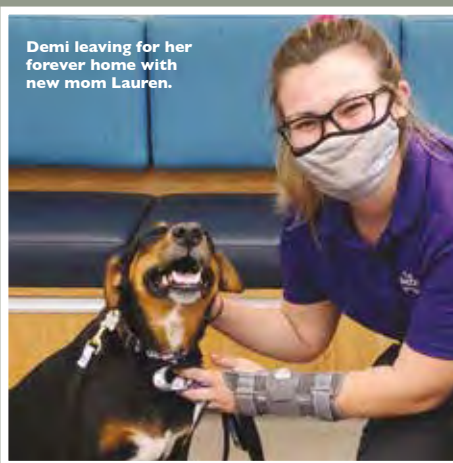
Commemorating its 8th year, Remember Me Thursday reached people all over the world inspiring them to see the light about the beauty of pet adoption.

The global campaign, started by Helen Woodward Animal Center President & CEO Mike Arms, aims to cut down the staggering statistic that every year more than 1 million orphan pets are euthanized before finding their forever homes.

In 2020, the campaign molded into our new virtual world with a first-of-its-kind global candle-lighting ceremony.



Luminaries across the social landscape shared their heart for rescue on Sept 24th.



Demi leaving for her forever home with new mom Lauren.

Where are they now... Demi

Demi arrived at Helen Woodward Animal Center early this year wearing the biggest smile despite her troubled past. The Center arranged for Demi's transfer from Galveston, Texas where she was left abandoned at a shelter with her eight newborns. She had a broken femur and was heartworm positive.

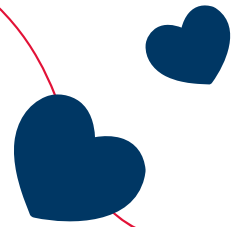
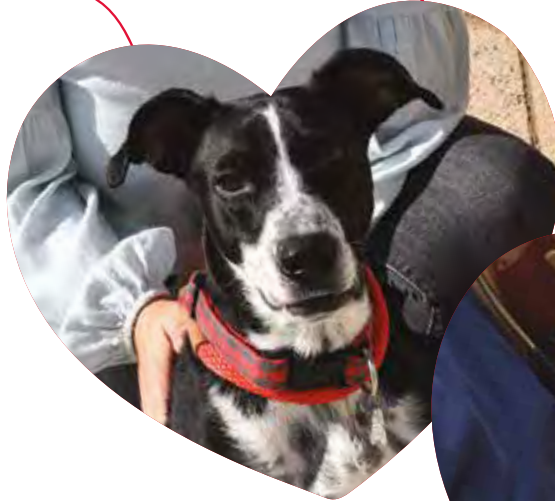
Over the course of six months, Demi received dedicated medical care at Helen Woodward Animal Center, including surgery to remove her leg that was causing pain and discomfort which was beyond repair and months of heartworm treatment.

In July, still sporting her bright smile, she began her search for her forever home. It wasn't long until she found Lauren and started her new life. Her new name is Winnie.

"Winnie is loving life," Lauren said. "She's super sweet and playful. She loves to play with her sister Ziva. She loves snacks and belly rubs and to give kisses." 🐾



Demi, now Winnie, living her best life.



A Tale of *Two Hearts*

As the year comes to a close, we're reminded how much heart and dedication 2020 demanded. While we collectively experienced so much uncertainty, at Helen Woodward Animal Center one thing was always for certain – we go above and beyond to help orphan pets in need, no matter what.

This fall, two special dogs arrived at Helen Woodward Animal Center individually, but their current hardships unite them in a unique way. In our care, their futures are finally looking bright.



Melody receives some tender care at the hands of Center Medical staff Celeste Gale and Angelica Otero

Melody Fills *Our Hearts with Song!*

We welcomed Melody in a life-saving van transport from Concho Valley, Texas. Rescued from the streets and uncertainty, Melody, an Australian Cattle Dog and Blue Heeler blend instantly made us smile with her wagging tail and affectionate personality.

Like all of the pets who arrive in our care at Helen Woodward Animal Center, Melody was immediately seen by Center medical staff and veterinarians. It was clear that something was very alarming about her heart.

Our medical team immediately scheduled Melody a visit to a cardiology specialist at the renowned UC Davis Veterinary Medical Center in Sorrento Valley. Her diagnosis revealed Melody has a heart condition called pulmonic stenosis that dangerously threatens to shorten her life.

Since Melody has lived with this condition since birth, left untreated and now three years old, it has worsened and caused even further heart issues.

Veterinarians determined that the valve that passes blood from the right side of Melody's heart is too narrow. The constricted passage has caused a severe strain on Melody's heart which is working harder to push blood through and even impacting how much blood her heart can hold.

With the expertise of cardiology specialists, our medical team developed a thorough plan for Melody's treatment. So far, she's getting medication to reduce pressure to her heart. A surgery will be scheduled where cardiologists will insert a balloon apparatus into her valve to create a bigger opening and alleviate the strain on her heart.

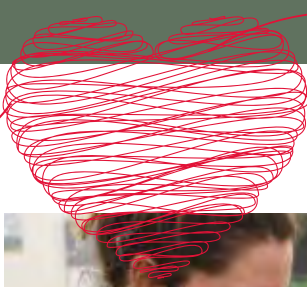
This operation is a life-saving second chance for Melody. Veterinarians are hopeful this sweet girl will start 2021 with a renewed outlook and the prospect of a forever family. 🐾



Adoptions Veterinarian Dr. Tran reviews X-rays of Melody's enlarged heart.



Center Animal Health Manager Angelica Otero weighs Jingle and reviews X-rays.



Jingle putting on his bravest face as employees take a listen to his heart beat.

Jingle Pulls at our Heartstrings

Sweet little Jingle makes our hearts sing with his playful puppy ways. But, he needs our help now more than ever.

We arranged for Jingle's journey to the Center in early October at just three months old. This tiny beagle blend traveled to us from Calexico where due to limited resources, his chances of getting the care he desperately needed were slim to none.

As soon as Jingle was carried off the transport van, our medical team performed a complete medical check and as they listened to his little heart, they recognized something was very wrong.

Our medical staff scheduled Jingle an echocardiogram with cardiology specialists at the UC Davis Veterinary Medical Center.

Jingle's diagnosis showed his heart murmur is a result of what's called patent ductus arteriosus (PDA). His condition is a birth defect in which the blood vessel that bypasses the lungs before birth fails to close after birth leading to the heart having to work harder to make sure oxygenated blood is getting to the body. If left untreated, Jingle's condition could result in heart failure.

Due to his small size, Jingle will need some time to grow bigger and stronger before he can undergo surgery to correct his condition.

His surgery will be scheduled in the next couple of months, but until then, he will receive dedicated medical attention and lots of love to ensure he's staying well and happy.

Despite his small size, a big team is staying on top of his care. Meanwhile, he's staying on top of keeping up his playful ways for when his chance arrives at a family of his own. 🐾

They need YOUR HEART

The medical care that Melody and Jingle are receiving is life-saving. These precious pets deserve to live happy and healthy in a loving home and it's Helen Woodward Animal Center's mission to ensure their success.

But, this life-saving medical treatment is only possible with your support. Each of Melody and Jingle's numerous specialist visits and echocardiograms cost more than \$400. Their upcoming surgeries will top \$8,000 each. We won't stop providing top-of-the-line medical care until Melody and Jingle can walk out of the Center with wagging tails into their forever homes.

Your donation today fills our hearts with gratitude and ensures pets like Jingle and Melody have the chance to fill homes and hearts with love. You can make an impact today before the year ends.

Send in your gift or head to animalcenter.org/heart to make a life-saving difference for orphan pets in need.



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We would like to take this opportunity to honor our special Forever Friends who included Helen Woodward Animal Center in their estate plans to help support our life-saving work in perpetuity. For more information about estate planning or our pet bequest program, please call Renee Resko at 858-756-4117 extension 347.



GILLIAN WIGHT

The following was written with love by Joanne Stewart, Gillian's sister. "Please adopt."

Gillian was raised in Burbank and Glendale CA, along with a younger brother & older sister. We had pets since the mid-1950's starting with Woofie, a Standard poodle. We were petless for a few years in the early '60s when our parent owned a motel in Burbank, near the studios. Helping those in need & developing a strong independent work ethic was instilled in us during these years. Our next dog was a Scottish Shepherd named after

'Skipper' on Gilligan's Island, followed by Chico, a rescued Shih-Poo.

Gillian started volunteering shortly after moving to Oceanside in the early 70's. I found a letter in her files saying "we asked if someone could do this one step, unexpectedly, Gillian did the entire project, thank you for generously volunteering your time." Because Gillian gave 120% of her time to her employers also, she had cats until she retired and decided to get a dog. She was set on adopting a senior dog, knowing the need for adopters for older dogs. She was happy to find an 8-year-old dog available at a local San Diego shelter. When she arrived to request the dog, she discovered he had already been adopted. Gillian asked for the next 'oldest' dog available. Ralphy was a 10-year old Terrier abandoned by a local couple needing senior care. Ralphy was the center of Gillian's universe along with delivering meals to homebound seniors. Then cancer stepped in and took over; Gillian lost that battle in June. Sadly, Ralphy passed 10 weeks later at the ripe old age of 15. He had been in the care of loyal friends, who are devastated at losing two extended family members.



JOHN MARTIN

John Martin grew up in Helena, Montana and spent many years of his youth horseback riding and camping with his family in the wild and beautiful forests and valleys of the area. After several years in the Air Force, John eventually moved to New York City where he lived for many years in Little Neck, Queens. For a Montana country boy, this move was quite a change for John but he grew to enjoy the excitement

and opportunities in the big city. He became employed by the city of New York and worked for many years as a parole officer. In this career, he learned a lot about human nature and the possibility of redemption for people who make poor choices. In the early 1990's he moved to La Jolla with his partner Jim and settled down in a small bungalow which he purchased near La Jolla High School.



After his partner fell ill and became bedridden, John dutifully cared for him for nearly 15 years prior to his death. John came to realize that he himself needed companionship and emotional support and ended up adopting two Borzois. These beloved Russian Wolfhounds not only lived with him all the time; they also traveled with him wherever he went. Many locals recall spotting John walking around downtown La Jolla with his Borzois in tow. They also had a special seat in the rear of his baby blue Rolls-Royce Corniche. He and his Borzois added to the ambiance of the village in the 1990s. They will be sorely missed.



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HOW YOU CAN HELP

There are so many things you can do to help animals and people in need in our community.

MEMORIAL GIFTS

We have a beautiful program called "I Remember You" to memorialize pets online, by "lighting a candle" and sharing a story and photo. If you have any questions please call the Center, x350 or visit the site to light a candle.

old.animalcenter.org/irememberyou/

MONETARY DONATIONS

Helen Woodward Animal Center relies heavily on private donations to fund our programs.

BECOME A 'PAW PAL'

Monthly donors support our work throughout the year with recurring monthly gifts. Join "Paw Pals" and receive a commemorative pin to show your support.

IN-KIND DONATIONS

To help reduce costs, our programs are always in need of items to support their activities. Visit animalcenter.org for our current wish list of specific needs.

ALTERNATIVE GIFT CARDS

Give the gift that saves lives! A gift to help the animals is a great way to celebrate a birthday, graduation, or the upcoming holidays. We will send a personalized card notifying the recipient of your gift.

VEHICLE DONATIONS

Take the hassle out of selling your old car, truck, motorcycle, or other vehicle — donate it to Helen Woodward Animal Center! Our simple, hassle-free program will take care of all the paperwork, pick up your vehicle, and send you the documents needed for a tax deduction, while providing valuable funds to help the animals! **Call 844-854 PAWS to donate.**

PLANNED GIFTS & PET BEQUESTS

Including Helen Woodward Animal Center in your will or trust will create a lasting legacy to help pets and people in need for years to come. Make provisions to ensure your pets will be cared for in the event of your passing.

Contact Renee Resko: 858-756-4117 x347 or email ReneeR@animalcenter.org

SPECIAL EVENTS

The Center holds a variety of exciting fundraising events throughout the year from our Surf Dog Surf-A-Thon to our Fling Gala. **Visit animalcenter.org for more information.**

CORPORATE AND BUSINESS PARTNERSHIPS

Get your company involved to raise funds for the animals by sponsoring an event, running your own fundraiser, or participating in our HOPE Telethon.

Contact Marilyn Martinez: 858-756-4117 x312 or email MarilynM@animalcenter.org

VOLUNTEER

Our work depends entirely on the support of our dedicated volunteers. Many opportunities are available for youth, adults, and groups in our various programs and events.

Contact Megan McCarty: 858-756-4117 x305, email MeganM@animalcenter.org or sign up at animalcenter.org

THANK YOU to the following generous supporters who remembered Helen Woodward Animal Center in their estate plans.

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Belina Lee Lazzar Trust
John Edward Martin Trust

Michael P. Mitchell Living Trust
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Thelma Sue Tinsley Trust
The Gillian D Wight Revocable Trust



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For more information, please detach and return completed form in the provided remit envelope.

- I would like to know more about the Center's pet bequest policy.
- I would like to know more about including the Center in my will.
- I would like to be invited to an informational bequest luncheon.
- I have already included the Center in my estate plans.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____



HELEN WOODWARD ANIMAL CENTER

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Our new building is open but you can still purchase commemorative plaques and pavers. These opportunities allow you to make a gift in memory of, or in honor of a beloved pet or family member, and give you a chance to leave your legacy.

Visit animalcenter.org/future TODAY to customize your gift for the new building and help us give the animals the new facility that they deserve!

Renew or upgrade your GIFT CLUB MEMBERSHIP:

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Make a one-time gift club membership donation OR divide your gift into 12 monthly payments by joining Paw Pals monthly supporters.

If you have any questions, call the Development Office at 858-756-4117 x350