COMPANION

PEOPLE HELPING ANIMALS

AND ANIMALS HELPING PEOPLE

The babies have arrived...

a quarterly publication of Helen Woodward Animal Center

animalcenter.org | spring 2023

COMPANION

FURIENDS available for adoption



CINNAMON **Domestic Short Hair** Blend

Hi, I'm Cinnamon! Im a 7-month-old brown Tabby with stunning tiger stripes. I am looking for my purr-fect forever family that will shower me with lots of attention and pets! I love to play with my toys and chase after bouncy balls. I will make the best furry companion.



CHOPO Labrador Retriever Blend

If you are looking for a charismatic and cuddly companion, I am your pup! I am Chopo a 6-month-old Lab Retriever blend who will keep you entertained. I love to be around people, be outdoors, go on long walks, and chase after toy balls. I have a fun-loving soul with an

irresistible personality!



PAISLEY Domestic Short Hair Blend

If I caught your eye, you have great taste! I will make the purr-fect compt anion for all of your snack breaks, but you will want to savor every special moment with my silly and sassy traits. I purr-fer to be the only pet with a cat-experienced family, but I will give you that unconditional love that you're craving!



WOODY **Labrador Retriever** Blend

Hi! I am Woody and I am looking for my forever family to spend infinity and beyond with. I have the fun-loving energy of a Lab, but I am also sweet, gentle, and intelligent. I love to play fetch outside, where you will see me express my happy zoomies!

COMPANION

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For information, call (858)756-4117 o



DEAR FRIENDS OF THE ANIMALS.

It is hard to believe we are already well into 2023, but when I reflect on the last few months I know how much has been accomplished here at your Center and I know that although time is flying we are making the most of every moment. Unfortunately, the need has never been greater for our assistance as we receive countless calls from around the country from overcrowded shelters with limited resources

who are begging for our support. We have a large rotation of shelters that transfer animals to Helen Woodward Animal Center and we do our best to make sure that every organization has an opportunity to bring cats and dogs to us on a regular basis. An average transfer can vary from 25-45 animals and can arrive to us from as far away as Louisiana and as close as San Diego County.

We know that across the country inflation is hitting everyone hard and unfortunately those who are most vulnerable are the ones with no voice... our animal friends. Families are relinquishing pets they can no longer afford due to the high cost of gas, groceries and electricity and it is a tragedy for the families and the pets. Here at Helen Woodward Animal Center we are doing everything we can to help alleviate the possibility of these beautiful animals losing their lives because of economics. They didn't deserve to be in a shelter and they certainly didn't deserve to lose their lives.

As the war in Ukraine rages on and escalates in frightening new ways, Helen Woodward Animal Center has not forgotten our friends working on the front lines to save the lives of innocent animals by risking their own safety to provide for their food and shelter. It is a source of great pride for everyone at the Center to see our logo displayed on the hood of a Ukrainian shelter's van. This van we purchased went to an organization called Happy Paw and allows them to bring large deliveries of food and supplies to animals in Ukraine and also allows them to transport animals out of danger. We are proud to say that due to the generosity of a very special donor we are going to be able to purchase a 2nd van for another shelter, Step, in the city called Brody, Lviv Oblast, Ukraine to ensure that additional food, supplies and animal transports are possible during these horrible circumstances.

This issue also includes Omid's story of bravery and resilience in the face of horrible cruelty and pain and one woman's journey to ensure Omid a beautiful new life in the United States. Although we are often faced with the ugly side of humanity with animal cruelty and neglect we are thankful that we can find many more examples of human compassion for our animal friends to share these stories with you - our dedicated

Thank you for keeping my faith in humanity alive with your kindness.

For a more humane world,



Michael M. Arms President and CEO

DON'T MISS A SINGLE ISSUE...

Every issue of Helen Woodward Animal Center's The Companion magazine 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."



Chloe

Chloe came to Helen Woodward Animal Center as a young Terrier blend from one of our partners. During her time at the Center, she was always sweet and cuddly but full of puppy energy! Chloe helped shy pups come out of their shells after playing with her. She was very warm and inviting to all her



Chloe, now Cookie, posing for a Valentine's Day themed photoshoot at the Center.

canine friends, but also to the Center staff. Chloe was well-loved by everyone, and we were all perplexed why she hadn't found her perfect family yet.

Finally, we rang in the new year, and luck was on her side! At 7 months old, the perfect family and canine sibling came to meet her and the rest is history. Chloe



got adopted and began her new beautiful life! Since her forever family has been very grateful for Chloe. they updated us on her new amazing

"Cookie (Chloe) is having lots of fun. She likes playing with her new toys and her dog brother Lucky. Lucky and Cookie were a little

skeptical when they first met but now they chase each other in the backyard, play tug-of-war, share their food, and take naps together. It was really nice to

see how quickly Cookie settled in and became part of the family. And of course, she gets lots of love and affection from everyone. We all absolutely love her."



Cookie is enjoying her new life and soaking up the sun with her new dog brother, Lucky.

3

To see more adoptables, visit animalcenter.org

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 50 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.

CREATING A HUMANE WORLD FOR ANIMALS AND PEOPLE

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/









VOLUNTEER STAY CONNECTED

Facebook: Helen Woodward Giving your time at any of our **Animal Center** fundraising events or donating Twitter: @hwac your skills or experience to help Instagram: @hwac at the Center are just some of TikTok: @hwanimalcenter the many ways you can help YouTube: @hwac pets in need! To learn more, visit LinkedIn: Helen Woodward animalcenter.org/volunteer Animal Center

animalcenter.org

HOLLYWOOD BEAUTY AWARDS

Rescue Pets Take the Red Carpet

Thanks to founder & CEO Michele Elyzabeth, an avid rescuer and believer in the ability of pets to make the world a more beautiful place, Helen Woodward Animal Center was honored once again as the beneficiary of the 8th annual Hollywood Beauty Awards, on March 9, 2023, at the Taglyan in Los Angeles. The star-studded award show has become one of Hollywood's topmost celebrations, drawing major stars and celebrities such as Chaz Dean, Charlize Theron, Anne Hathaway. Andie MacDowell. Malin

Hollywood Beauty Awards, Michele Elyzabeth.

Akerman, and Sofia Vergara to the glamorous ceremony to recognize the talented artists in hair, makeup, photography, styling, and more.

Chaz Dean with PAWz Dean.

Sofia Vergara playfully running



Terrier blend who came from rescue partners in Los Angeles, and PAWz Dean, a 15-week-old Schnauzer blend who arrived from an overcrowded shelter in Houston, Texas received all the love from

This year, Sofia FURgara, a 1-year-old

Also aligning with the Center's mission this year was the Global Ambassador for the award ceremony. Chaz Dean. Renowned as a hairstylist and founder of WEN Hair & Body Care, Dean is also an animal activist who established truly cruelty-free hair products. In addition to

requiring that no testing of finished products or ingredients is done on animals, the WEN products require that their suppliers and any third parties do no animal testing and WEN products are not sold where animal testing is required by law.

Lionel Richie, Chaz

Dean, PAWz Dean

Rainey Qualley

holding PAWz Dean) and her

(Timeless Beauty

mother Andie

MacDowell

Honoree).

Recently, he even added pet products to his haircare line.

(right) PAWz Dean was

adopted by Rainey and is

in honor of his own beloved canines. Orphan pup PAWz Dean was named in honor of the special ceremony Ambassador who keeps the furry ones in his focus.

The exposure and reminder to adopt at this year's Hollywood Beauty Awards are especially important to Helen Woodward Animal Center as the need for

adoption skyrockets across the country. The pandemic's lasting effect on the shelter world can be seen in a large number of available animals, a direct result of the drastic drop-off in the number of spays and neuters performed throughout 2020 and 2021 and the rise of inflation.

We are excited to announce that both corresPAWdents got adopted and are now



Founder & CEO of the

Woodward Animal Center, they are simply touched that the glitzy award ceremony recognizes a different kind of beauty. Thank you to the Hollywood Beauty Awards for honoring us as a beneficiary and helping us shine a light on rescue pets! 🏖

Shepherd, Zeus.

living a beautiful life with their new

families! PAWz Dean got adopted by

Rainey Qualley who was in love at first

sight and had an immediate connection

Abergel and his husband Marcelo Freire

PAWz Dean felt so comfortable in her

arms that he fell asleep on her. Adir

were both lovestruck by the sight of

Sofia FURgara and her beautiful red

dress. They were immediately drawn

to her calm demeanor and knew she

would be a perfect fit to their family

and be a great sister to their German

As for the rest of the furry friends at Helen



Cassandra Freeman, Larry Sims posing with PAWz Dean.

Recipient of the Mark Coulier Makeup Award, Anthony Nguyen, holds PAWz Dean with his award.







Hiyari Paris Founders, holding Sofia FURgara.

(above) Adir Abergel's

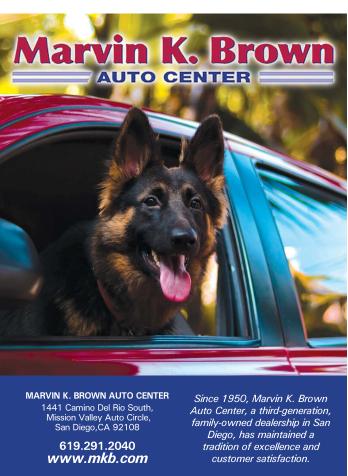
husband, Marcelo Freire

adopting Bianca aka

bergel

-URgara at

he awards





Animal Care Technician Katerina Krautheim carries Cricket at her intake to the



van after crashing in Longview Texas.





Cricket going home with her

dog Bella was one of

several pups to spread

love at Sharp.

Heart-Happy Healing for

Healthcare Heroes:

Hospital Workers Get a Special

Valentine's Day Visit

There is nothing to make a heart swoon quite like the soft snuggle of a furry friend, and this Valentine's Day, Helen

Sharp HealthCare ICU and emergency room medical staff.

in the air! 🏖

Volunteers from the Center's

Pet Encounter Therapy (PET)

dogs and cats, complete with

The cards featured adoptable

cats and dogs from the Center.

visited nurses and doctors

with fuzzy therapy cupids,

Woodward Animal Center delivered extra love to the

Misfortune to Miracle: Puppies Involved in Crash Find Healing

It was dark and early when Center staff got a call that one of our dedicated partners from Louisiana crashed in Longview, Texas while on their way with forty rescue puppies. A heart-wrenching miracle, 38 of the 40 puppies survived, and the driver was unharmed. Center staff knew they would all need extensive help to rebound, especially one pup who was injured most severely named Cricket.

When she arrived, Cricket was brought in right away for x-rays, which confirmed her front left leg was broken. She was put into a cast by a vet in Texas, but Center staff knew she would also need help to overcome her fear. Cricket was placed into a long-term foster home, where her leg could heal, and her heart.

After weeks of rest, love and affection, Cricket was getting stronger. When she came in for her check-up, staff noticed a difference about her. Not only was her leg healing, but she was no longer scared.

"When she first came to us at 3-months-old, Cricket was very shy and very quiet. In the time she has been in foster, it has been sweet to see her ease into what life can really be," said Registered Veterinarian Technician Breanne Sneddon.

When Cricket was finally cleared for adoption, a special family had read her story on the Center's social media, and they hurried over to meet her.

"I follow them on Instagram so that's where I first saw the story of Cricket," said Cricket's adopter Ani Ortiz, "The fact that the Center brings dogs from different states to help them means a lot."

Cricket was the last of the 'miracle puppies' to find her perfect home, and although her journey was long and winding, the Center is honored to help and provide healing along the way.

Sharp Healthcare workers pet therapy dog Biggie

and delivered paper Valentines created by the Center's orphan actual PAWtographs. Love was

PR Director Jessica Gercke and orphan pup sign Valentine's Day cards for healthcare workers.



SPEND YOUR SUMMER WITH ANIMALS!

Experience animals in a whole new way this summer at Critter Camp! Voted San Diego's best animal camp for kids Preschool-8th grade, Summer Critter Camp allows kids to connect with animals and their peers in a fun and unique way. Each camp day consists of up close animal encounters with a variety of species, such as large and small mammals, reptiles, birds, and invertebrates, creating crafts, and hands-on STEM activities that tie into each daily lesson theme. At Critter Camp your little ones will be inspired to be animal advocates and to be a voice for compassion for all living things, all while having fun.

> Join us for one or both of our alternating weekly camp themes! Discover the relationship humans have had with animals during the past, present, and future with our "Animals Through the Ages" theme or discover all the amazing connections animals have with art, literature,

and more with the "In Your Wildest Dreams" theme. We also offer a 7th-8th grade camp on select weeks that focuses on careers with animals. Daily and weekly sign-ups are available, plus extended care hours, discounts, hot lunch options, and scholarships.



PreK \$75/child/day, 9am - 1pm

Kinder - 8th Grade \$95/child/day, 9am - 3pm

Register for 5 days in the same week and get the 5th day FREE!



Visit animalcenter.org/education for full details and online registration. Questions? Call us at (858)756-4117 x318 or e-mail education@animalcenter.org.



It's raining CATS & DOGS in San Diego...



It is a perfect storm; veterinarian offices closed during COVID and a lack of spay/neuter surgeries across the country, the public surrendering pregnant animals, and a significant decrease in foster homes since the end of the pandemic has bringing people back to work and school. As a result of all of these factors this spring is expected to be a record-breaking baby season. Fortunately, with your help Helen Woodward Animal Center is leading the charge to protect these young lives through our incredible transfer program that is rescuing pregnant and newborn animals from across the

Cats like a sweet mama, Penelope, who came to us from the Volunteers in Defense of Animals and turned out to be pregnant. She received the special pre-natal care she deserved here at the Center and gave birth to five beautiful kittens, Palmer, Piglet,

Paisley, Paprika, and Porsha. When she is done nursing and her kittens are big enough they will all return to Helen Woodward



Rain making sure her babies are okay, she is a great mom



Our staff members are very gentle while handling these babies.



Hershey looks at the camera inquisitively as he waits for his check-up.



Newborn Wendell is bottle-fed by Center staff.

Animal Center from their foster home to be vaccinated and spayed and neutered and begin the search for their forever homes.

Then there are tragic stories of sweet little bottle babies that come this time of year – completely helpless and in need of round the clock nourishment and support. They are found without their mothers who may have gone to try to find food or water and were hit by a car or attacked by a coyote leaving their defenseless babies without a chance at survival unless rescued by a good Samaritan. They are so fragile they require a significant level of care that few organizations are able to provide. Here at the Center their health and well-being is paramount. When this trio of little kittens arrived from Little Lions in Los Angeles County, we found them fosters keep to committed feeding schedules and weigh-ins, as well as regular medical check-ins. Kazoo, Kelly



Frida and one of her puppies, Finley.



Frida's puppy Fig.





Kazoo, Kelly, and Kiwi are the cutest trio!

and Kiwi are thriving with their temporary families and will be returning to the Center for regular check-ups and eventually their spay/neuter procedures before finding their forever homes.

And it is not just cats and kittens that are coming through our doors from around the country, but sweet mom dogs like Frida. Poor Frida is only 15 months herself and came to us from the Volunteers in Defense of Animals with her own litter of puppies. Frida gave birth to Freedom, Fig, and Finley and is an excellent mother to her young pups. The frightening reality is that these young dogs that have not been spayed are only just beyond puppyhood themselves when they start giving birth to litters of puppies. Thankfully this mom dog ended up at Helen Woodward Animal Center where she and her puppies will receive the best care possible including regular check-ups and vaccines until they are big enough to be spayed and neutered and find their forever home.

These beautiful babies touch our hearts in a big way and there are so many ways you can help them to get the best start in life:

- 1. Make a donation on our Baby Shower page.
- 2. Go to the Amazon wish list and order items needed for the pets in our care.
- 3. Foster!!! We are always looking for individuals willing to help us provide temporary homes for pregnant moms, newborn babies, and bottle babies.

Scan to donate:



Scan for our Amazon Wishlist:



Scan to become a Foster:







Penelope shown on the left and her kittens Palmer, Piglet, Paisley,
Paprika and Porsha.

COMPANION



Seeing with Renewed Hope

Center Announces Surgical Success for Abused Canine from Iran

Omid, a fifteen-month-old shepherd-blend abused in Iran, first arrived at Helen Woodward Animal Center in March after a San Diego woman made it her mission to help Omid find recovery and a forever home. Moloud Rabieyousefi supports Iranian animal rescue workers who found Omid in the streets after she was allegedly attacked

by homeless addicts with acid to her face when she was just a puppy. For months, Rabieyousefi worked with the CDC to transport Omid to the United States. When she asked if Helen Woodward Animal Center could help



an abused stray.

After a thorough exam when Omid arrived at the Center, the team was

Omid, staff members were honored to

thrilled to learn that a local veterinary eye specialist could perform a surgery to give Omid an eyelid. The complicated and detailed surgery was performed on April 4, 2023 and Omid came through with flying

colors!

"This is a better outcome than anything we could have dreamed," stated Helen Woodward Adoption Services Director Kendall Schulz. "Omid has a smile for everyone she meets. She has known such cruelty but she



Omid bandanged after



Omid arriving to San Diego, California.

can begin the search for her forever family."

The search for Omid's family should begin sometime in spring after her recovery period, which is expected to last 4-6 weeks. Due to her traumatic history, the perfect home for Omid will include a calm household with a yard and space to relax. Stay tuned to AnimalCenter.org and the Center's social media pages to find out when Omid will be available for adoption.



(Right) Omid is

from her eyelid

(Left) Omid econstructive surgery at VCA Eve Clinic for





Omid getting to know Center RVT

Omid and VCA Eye Clinic for Animals Staff.





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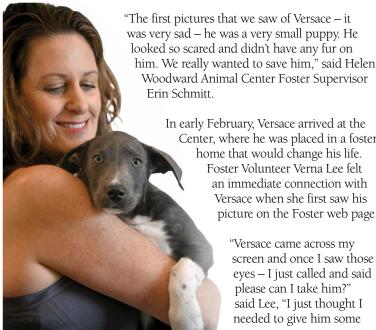
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A Stepping Stone to a Forever Home Puppy Found in Dumpster Finds Healing in Foster Care

Found abandoned in a dumpster as a puppy, Versace's life was in shambles before it even had a chance to begin. At 2-months-old, this sweet, vulnerable Labrador Retriever-Terrier blend barely weighed 8 pounds. He was extremely emaciated, to the point that his front legs were starting to bow, and nearly his entire body was covered in a skin infection. Thankfully, our rescue partners in Oklahoma who found him reached out to the Center for help.



In early February, Versace arrived at the Center, where he was placed in a foster home that would change his life. Foster Volunteer Verna Lee felt an immediate connection with Versace when she first saw his picture on the Foster web page.

> "Versace came across my screen and once I saw those eyes - I just called and said please can I take him?" said Lee, "I just thought I needed to give him some

love and some cuddles and let him see what it's like to be in a real family. He just dove in. He was so snuggly and happy." Because of his medical condition. Versace needed a longer stay than most foster pups. For several weeks, Versace benefited from the affection of his loving foster family. Plus, he loved playing with Lee's 4-month-old puppy Maui.

When Versace returned to the

Center for a checkup, staff



underweight, being held by rescue partner.

described him as a "completely different dog." He had put on weight, his legs were straight, and his fur was coming back – along with his happiness.

"Fostering played a huge role in his healing process. It taught him to trust again, and to be a puppy again," said Schmitt.

"It's a big deal for all the animals that come to us because it's truly life-saving. Their lives begin when they come to us. When they're in foster care, they get that extra love and care they need. For me, this is such a way to give back," said Lee, "It's just the most rewarding thing. You get to see them thrive, and then they go off and get adopted, and there's nothing better."

You can change lives, too. To become a Foster Volunteer, simply apply online, attend orientation and complete a virtual home check to begin your foster journey. Learn more at AnimalCenter.org/ Foster. 🏖





Versace and foster fur sibling.

Versace and Center foster,



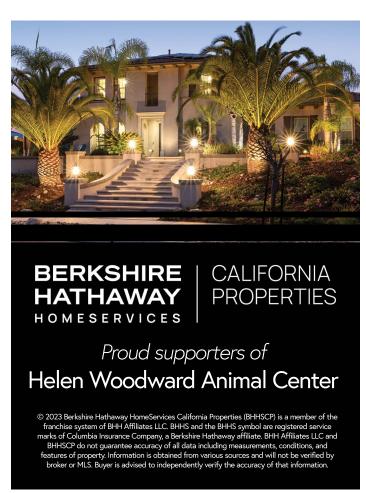
Business Buddies

Looking for the ultimate experience for corporate wellness and engagement? Our Business Buddies program aims to bring mood enhancing, morale boosting connections to each and every event, reduce stress and increase productivity through interactive

time with puppies in a comfortable, fun setting. Best of all, 100% of all proceeds go directly to Helen Woodward Animal Center's pets and programs to support operations and helping animals in need. Everybody wins! When you work with us, you're also giving back – helping to increase adoption awareness and the possibility of finding our rescue puppies forever homes.

To book an event or learn more visit: animalcenter.org/get-involved/









Monika Son

Estate gifts or gifts that individuals include in their will or trust are extremely impactful so we like to take the opportunity to recognize them and provide them with the appropriate appreciation even if we never have the chance to meet the donor in person. Monika Son left an amazingly generous gift to Helen Woodward Animal Center so we reached out to her former boss and dear friend, Tod Firotto, to find out more about this special woman. Monika never married or had children so pets were a major focus for her life and she dearly loved her devoted yellow Labrador, Bailey. She spent 30 years working

for San Diego Restaurant Supply and handled all of their accounts for institutional agencies including prisons and even some organizations working with the military. She came to the position after finishing her degree at Long Beach and San Diego State. Her lifelong love of animals developed while she was growing up in Long Beach when she and her mom and sister had a Basset Hound named Sammy and two turtles, Pokey and Gonzales. Monika loved boating and scuba diving and Catalina was a favorite destination for her. She was known to have a wonderful sense of humor and was an outstanding cook. Her generous gift will help Helen Woodward Animal Center saves thousands of lives in the years to come and we are so grateful for her kindness.

Special thanks to Tod Firotto for the biographical information. *

May is National Pet Month!

How are you celebrating the animals in your life? Creating a community free of neglected animals begins with caring for our four-legged friends. In your estate plans, you can designate a guardian for your pets and make other arrangements for their care and well-being, so they are always protected and loved.





HOW YOU CAN HELP

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

DONATE TODAY! Contact 858-756-4117 x358 or KristineF@animalcenter.org

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 at animalcenter.org/ IRememberYou/.

MONETARY DONATIONS

Helen Woodward Animal Center relies heavily on private donations to fund our programs. A gift from you can help support the pets and programs at the Center. Please consider making a gift today on our website at animalcenter.org.

BECOME A 'PAW PAL'

Monthly donors support our work throughout the year with recurring gifts. Join "Paw Pals" and know your monthly donation saves more lives. Visit animalcenter.org/PawPals to join today!

IN-KIND DONATIONS

To help reduce costs, our programs are always in need of items to support their activities. Visit animalcenter.org for our 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, holding your own AniMeals pet food drive or participating in our HOPE Telethon. Contact Barry Siegel: 858-756-4117 x312 or email BarryS@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.





ESTATE GIVING

I would like to know more about the pet guardianship policy.		
\square I would like to know more about including the Center in my will.		
\square I would like to be invited to an informational estate planning luncheon.		
\square I have already included the Center in my estate plans.		
Name		
Address		
City		Zip
Phone		-

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



CREATING A HUMANE WORLD FOR ANIMALS & PEOPLE



EVENT CALENDAR

26-29 Orphaned Objects Memorial Day Sale

JUNE

6/5-8/25 Summer Critter Camp

24. Foster Orientation

JULY

21-23 Orphaned Objects Summer

AUGUST

25 Summer Critter Camp Ends



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A 20 Year Supporter of Helen Woodward Center... our dogs, Maxx and Gus, were rescued from HWAC!

I'm here to help you find a home for you AND your pets!