Love Starts Here.

a quarterly publication of Helen Woodward Animal Center
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.”

Stay Connected
FB.com/ helenwoodwardanimalcenter
Twitter: @hwac
Pinterest: pinterest.com/hwac
YouTube: animalcntr6461
Snapchat: helenwoodwardac
LinkedIn: Helen Woodward Animal Center

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, visit animalcenter.org and enjoy this publication.

To see more adoptables, visit animalcenter.org

SURRENDERED PETS will receive a complete medical 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.

To see more adoptables, visit animalcenter.org

DIXIE
Catahoula Leopard Dog - Cattle Dog blend
I’m looking for a loving family with older teenagers to show me how to be the best I can be! I would love to be the only pet in your family, so that I can have all your attention and love! If I am the one for you, come on in and see me!

JACKIE
Domestic Short Hair Blend
Hello! I enjoy being pet and snuggled, and absolutely love to be held. So are you looking for love? Please come meet me and make me a part of your family!

GYPSI
Dalmatian - Boxer blend
Hello! I am a young and high spirited dog who loves to play with toys. I will do best in a home with owners who have had dogs. I will do best as the only animal in the home. Please come see me!

PURRITO
Domestic Short Hair Blend
I am very sweet and playful and can find almost anything to keep me entertained. However, my biggest joy is being with you. Are you looking for a best friend? Let it be me!
Dear Friend of the Animals,

Although it feels like we are on the tail end of COVID after almost two long years of isolation, fear, and overwhelming challenges, there are still many residual effects that many of us are facing around the world. No where is that more apparent than in the animal welfare world where organizations have had to close their doors throughout the pandemic for a variety of reasons, from financial hardships to staffing limitations due to illness and resignations. The end result for our animal friends is overcrowded shelters, premature euthanasia, and limited opportunities for a second chance. The areas hardest hit by these tragic situations continue to be found in the southern part of our country, so we are focusing our efforts there, particularly in Texas and Louisiana. In addition to the continuing impact of COVID, our partners have also been impacted by the recent hurricanes and are dealing with an increase in stray animals and owner relinquishment. We took in over 70 animals in preparation for Hurricane Ida and provided medical and behavioral support for each of them. Our transports from Texas continue in earnest, as do our efforts to bring in animals from all over California, New Mexico, and Arizona. We have even had two recent flights of kittens all the way from Maui where a massive feline overpopulation problem plagues the island. The need has never been greater but with your support we are able to be there for pets who are out of time and options.

Although we are always mindful of the number of animals we are saving, it is the individual stories that touch our hearts the most, stories of dogs like Curtis. Curtis came to us suffering from multiple gunshot wounds to his face and head, a fractured tooth, an untreated hip injury as a result of being hit by a car, and severe dehydration. After 50 years in animal welfare you might think that I am not deeply affected by these types of cases but in fact they impact me more than ever before. I am horrified that this beautiful dog was abused in this way, I am saddened at the horrors he has been through in his short life, and I am relieved that we are able to be here for Curtis in his time of need. These are the stories that keep us going and remind us why our lifesaving work is so important. I thank you for helping us to give Curtis and the thousands of dogs and cats like him that come through our doors each year a second chance.

Our work is never-ending and the need seems to grow by the day but with your commitment to creating a better world for our animal friends, we are making a difference. Thank you for joining us in this fight for those who have no voice.

For a more humane world,

Michael M. Arms
President and CEO

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Kids Get Creative to Help Critters

You are never too small to make a big impact in your community. Several local kids proved that recently, finding creative ways to raise lifesaving funds for the orphan pets at Helen Woodward Animal Center. Their gifts will go a long way to ensuring pets in need have the chance to find a forever home. THANK YOU!

**Painting for Puppies - Rylan**

Rylan is 14 years old and recently started a business painting street addresses on trash cans and curbs in his neighborhood. He generously donated 10% of his earnings to the Center and presented Mike Arms with a check for $709!

**Friends of Fido – Spencer, Jack, Sophie, Charlotte, Emmy, London & Ryan**

A group of friends in Carlsbad got to work over the summer to help dogs and cats find loving homes. They organized a lemonade stand and were able to raise $53!

**Baking Up Love - Alison and Paige**

What do you get when you mix the love of animals and two sweet friends? Paw-print sugar cookies! Inspired by her dog Cash, a Center alum, Alison recruited her friend Paige to bake cookies and donate the profits of sales to the Center so that more pets in need can find a family. Alison can’t wait to turn 14 so that she can spend her time volunteering at the Center.
The longest running dog surf competition returned to Del Mar Dog Beach to close out the summer and raise life-saving funds for orphan pets at Helen Woodward Animal Center. More than 50 surfing dogs took to the waves for the 16th Annual Surf Dog Surf-A-Thon presented by Blue Buffalo. Reminding the world that “man’s best friend” can do phenomenal things, four-legged surfURs showed off their skills on the board, all while supporting the orphan pets and programs at Helen Woodward Animal Center. The family-friendly beach day featured furry athletes vying for a spot in Best in Surf and ultimately the title of Top Surf Dog, before a panel of judges consisting of surf pros and aficionados. The GromMutts were judged on the length of their ride, wave technique, enthusiasm and confidence on the board. This year, Best in Surf winner Petey made a splash winning the top honor in the competition. Derby took home the 2nd place trophy, and Rothstein placed 3rd.

The excitement didn’t end at the surfing competition. On the stage, costume-loving pups showed off their stuff on the catwalk with Sir Ruffles Von Vicious winning 1st place in the costume contest as Chicken of the Sea. Runner-up, Miss Sparkle took home the 2nd place prize.

The incredible sights at the Surf Dog Surf-A-Thon put the Center in the spotlight with views in media features throughout the country and even Vietnam, Russia, Latin America and Canada.

The Center extends a HUGE thank you to Don Horn, pet-parent of surf dogs Samson & Delilah for being the top fundraiser this year raising $3,140 for the pets and programs at Helen Woodward Animal Center! Thank you also to John Garcia, pet-parent of surf dog Rothstein, who raised $2,781!

Thank you to our presenting sponsor Blue Buffalo and BARKet Place sponsor Petco for their continued support of the Surf Dog Surf-A-Thon.
REMEMBER ME THURSDAY® INSPRES MILLIONS TO SEE THE LIGHT

Thursday, September 23, animal-lovers across the world united their voices for orphan animals by honoring Remember Me Thursday® (RMT). Social media postings using the hashtags #RememberMeThursday and #SeeTheLight, as well as candle-lighting ceremonies, proclamations and even flag raisings, reminded the world that orphan animals need our help to raise awareness of their plight. The campaign, started only nine years ago by Helen Woodward Animal Center, has touched over 190 countries and has made over 1.5 billion social media impressions.

For San Diegans, this special day was honored locally at Helen Woodward Animal Center’s outdoor education pavilion and included words from RMT founder and Center President and CEO Mike Arms, a reading of the official RMT poem, a heartfelt international candle lighting and a virtual ceremony featuring representatives from such countries as Puerto Rico, Japan, Croatia, Kazakhstan and Canada.

In addition to here in the United States, news networks picked up the story in Japan, Italy, Switzerland, Bulgaria, Monaco, Turkey, Ireland, Spain, Zimbabwe, Pakistan, Argentina, Azerbaijan, India, Canada, Netherlands, South Africa, Malaysia, Australia, Mexico, Singapore, Afghanistan, and the United Kingdom.

This year’s Remember Me Thursday® spokesperson, Brittany Aldean, wife of country music artist Jason Aldean, utilized her strong social media presence by promoting the 9th Annual Remember Me Thursday® (RMT) campaign to over 2M fans. Joining Aldean were over 100 animal-loving celebrities, bloggers, influencers and social media-famous pets creating personal and meaningful posts asking the world to participate on the special day.

Regarding her love of animals, Aldean stated: “To know that you have altered the course of an innocent animal’s life by giving them a chance to live happily and healthily is one of the best things you can do.”

The Humane Award is presented annually by Helen Woodward Animal Center President, Mike Arms, to a person or entity that has made a significant positive impact on the animal welfare world – devoting their time, energy and resources to improving the quality of life for orphan animals. Past recipients include Maggie Lawson, Bo Derek, DA Summer Stephan, Carrie Ann Inaba, Kristen Bell, Betty White, Jackson Galaxy, Tippi Hedren and Linda Blair.

“In her efforts toward this campaign, Brittany Aldean has gone above and beyond anything we could have hoped for. She has a rescue dog of her own and genuinely lives the heart of this mission,” stated Center President Mike Arms, “We are honored to name her this year’s recipient of Helen Woodward Animal Center’s Humane Award.”

Brittney Aldean and family with her rescue dogs.
A Lesson in Forgiveness
and Finding Joy Through Tragedy

As soon as Center medical staff opened Curtis’s travel carrier, he leapt into their arms. This exuberant 4-year-old husky blend badly wanted attention, belly rubs and simply to feel loved. Given Curtis’s joyful personality, you would never know of his horrific past.

In late summer, Helen Woodward Animal Center’s adoptions director, Hella Tyler received an email from a local shelter asking if the Center could take in a dog named Curtis. Tyler said the email contained one of the saddest animal cases she had ever seen.

Curtis had been shot twice at close range with a high-caliber bullet. X-rays showed shrapnel in his mouth and neck. He had open wounds, an injury to his front leg and shoulder and he had lingering injuries from being hit by a car. He also walked with a limp.

Overwhelmingly, Tyler’s response to welcoming Curtis was ‘yes!’

Curtis arrived at the Center full of energy. “It’s unbelievable to see an animal that went through such horrific trauma and to see how happy he was and how full of love he was. He wanted to give everybody kisses and hugs. It was amazing,” Tyler explained.

While Curtis had already received care at his previous shelter, he received a full medical checkup from Chief Veterinarian, Dr. Patricia Carter. She determined that while Curtis was continuing to heal from his wounds, he was still severely underweight and needed surgery in his hip to give him the best possible life.

At Helen Woodward Animal Center, Curtis could get his new beginning, not only the specialized medical care and therapeutic recovery he deserved, but the love and attention he craved.

Shortly after arriving, Curtis underwent a successful surgery to repair his hip and regain comfort and mobility in his leg. While recovering, he continued to be his goofy self and deeply won the affection of Center staff and volunteers, particularly that of Dr. Carter’s.

“There are animals that touch you more than others and he touched my heart,” Dr. Carter said.

In early November, Curtis began his latest chapter when he was officially adopted into Dr. Carter’s family.

Curtis’s second chance is only possible thanks to incredible donors who support the specialized medical care of orphan pets arriving at the Center. Often, pets like Curtis are not afforded this opportunity at shelters due to limited resources. Arriving at the Center allowed Curtis the gift of a new beginning. ✽

Love Starts Here.
You Can Gift New Beginnings

As 2021 comes to an end, we are reminded of the nearly 4,000 beautiful orphan pets who have come through our doors at Helen Woodward Animal Center this year. We know that when these dogs and cats arrive at the Center, they will never again have to worry about where they will find their next meal, safe place to sleep or gentle touch.
Luck was on their Side

When a volunteer with one of our rescue partners happened to overhear the tragic story of three tiny kittens, she knew she needed to get involved.

The rescue volunteer was at a southern California shelter picking up orphan dogs to remove from the shelter and out of danger of euthanasia. That’s when she overheard a conversation. Someone had just found three helpless kittens in a dumpster. The good Samaritan said it was clear that their mom had been attacked, possibly by a coyote, and had not survived. Just weeks old, the babies’ time was running out. Without their mom and in horrific conditions, they would not survive alone.

The shelter told the good Samaritan that there was nothing they could do. They were full and already overwhelmed with animals. Nursing kittens would overburden their already stressed resources. If they stayed there, euthanasia was likely their only option.

But as luck would have it, our rescue partner was at the right place at the right time. Despite being from a dog rescue organization, she said she could take the kittens. She already had a plan in mind and immediately placed a call to her friends at Helen Woodward Animal Center.

The very next day, Coco, Cookie and Cam got the new beginning they desperately needed and arrived at Helen Woodward Animal Center. They were tiny, covered in dirt and hungry but had a mighty energy about them. Immediately the trio got full medical check-ups, they were cleaned up, started on preventative medicines and vaccinations. Then, they were off to get some rest at a loving foster home.

Other the last several weeks Coco, Cookie and Cam have weaned off their kitten formula and are quickly gaining weight and strength. Thanks to the dedicated care of the Center’s medical team and their foster family, they are thriving despite their troubled start to life and getting the second chance they deserve. Soon, they will receive their spay and neuter surgeries and start their search for forever families.

Orphan animals NEED YOU

Curtis, Coco, Cookie and Cam could not have received a second chance without the dedicated support of donors who give generously to Helen Woodward Animal Center. You can gift new beginnings to more orphan pets like Mama Lily and Wolfgang (pictured here) this holiday season. Send your gift today or give at animalcenter.org/gift2021. Thousands of animals are depending on you. Thank you!

Send in your gift or visit animalcenter.org/gift2021 to make a life-saving difference for orphan pets in need.
This holiday season, you can give a gift that saves lives. With 14 unique programs at Helen Woodward Animal Center all supporting the mission of “people helping animals and animal helping people,” there’s something to spark joy in everyone!

The Natural Litter for Their Natural Instincts

Made from all-natural walnut shells, Naturally Fresh is an eco-friendly, biodegradable litter that’s good for your cat and the planet. It has the organic ability to neutralize odors better than clay, pine, corn, and wheat, while remaining free of perfumes, toxins, and silica dust.

The Natural Litter for Their Natural Instincts

Naturally Fresh is the trusted litter brand of Helen Woodward Animal Center.

2022 Calendar

The Superhero Sidekicks Calendar makes a great gift for any pet lover in your life. Featuring a SUPER adorable pet for every month of the year, the calendar also supports the orphan pets at Helen Woodward Animal Center.

Rescue Tee Shirts

If you’re looking for a gift for a special someone with a heart for rescue animals, these t-shirts are worth a wag! Part of Helen Woodward Animal Center’s official merchandise, these fashionable tees come in a variety of colors, styles and sizes for under $30! Check them out.

Sit, Stay, and Relax at Club Pet

Club Pet is the place your pet wants to be when they can’t be with you! This holiday season, gift a stay at our boarding facility or a doggie daycare experience to a loving pet owner in your life! A variety of bundles are available to make sure all pets have the time of their lives. Call the Club Pet front desk directly to purchase your gift at 858-756-4117 ext. 2.

Alternative Holiday Gift Card

Give a gift that saves a life. Helen Woodward Animal Center’s alternative holiday gift cards allow you to make a holiday donation in honor of an animal lover in your life. We’ll send the recipient a digital card letting them know that a gift in their name has been made and is helping to save the lives of orphan pets at the Center.

Orphaned Objects Gift Card

This holiday season, a $25 gift card to Orphaned Objects Designer Resale sparks joy and helps orphan pets! Shop designer styles and home furnishings at a great price! All sales benefit the orphan pets and programs at Helen Woodward Animal Center.

Veterinary Camp Experience

This holiday season, give the gift of an awesome experience with animals! Kids will have a blast at animal camps, which offer a rare opportunity to practice veterinary skills, interact with animals and gain experience with animal equipment. Contact Humane Education at 858-756-4117 ext. 318.

These Gifts that Save Lives Plus More Are Available at animalcenter.org/giftguide OR SCAN QR CODE ABOVE.
Love them like family
Feed them like family.*
BlueBuffalo.com

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**Where are they now...Roo**

Roo arrived at the Center in late 2020. She was just a few months old and was overall unwell. She was diagnosed with a fungal infection that threatened her life. Over the last year she underwent specialized treatment and received dedicated care. This fall, she found her forever family and is loving life. This is what her new pet parents had to say...

"Roo was very timid for the first week, but she’s gained a lot of confidence since then! We learned that her favorite toys to play with are the feathers and string, lasers and a ball with a string. She has learned the times we feed her, so when the time comes close, she meows at us and rubs against our legs which is very cute! Roo is very sweet and we are very lucky to have her be a part of our family."

**HOME 4 THE HOLIDAYS KICKS OFF WITH MASSIVE GIFT!**

The Annual Home 4 the Holidays campaign is celebrating its 23rd year of finding homes for millions of orphan pets.

The campaign, started in 1999 by Helen Woodward Animal Center President & CEO Mike Arns, has helped place more than 18 million pets (from over 4,000 participating global rescue partners) into loving homes. The program seeks to encourage families to find their four-legged family members at a shelter, rather than a pet store or breeder, during the holiday season when more families choose to bring home a new pet than any other time of the year.

To kick off the three-month campaign, Blue Buffalo, the title sponsor of Home 4 The Holiday, provided animal rescue organizations and shelters on both coasts of the country a very special holiday gift. The big-hearted company unloaded 70,000 lbs of free pet food in San Diego and New York City. At the same time, Naturally Fresh also provided free pallets of their premium kitten litter.

Blue Buffalo has supported Helen Woodward Animal Center’s holiday campaign since 2013. Last year, the campaign resulted in more than 1.2 million orphan dogs and cats united with loving families and is on track to do that again in 2021. To celebrate the 23rd year of the campaign, the pet-loving company is once again providing holiday meals to orphan pets from coast to coast.

Many animal welfare organizations struggle with limited funding and many hungry mouths to feed, while juggling budgets with supply costs and medical expenses. The Coast-to-Coast Blue Buffalo Food Drop takes a big bite out of that burden; enabling shelters to focus on matching pets with loving families.

Blue Buffalo delivered several semi truckloads of foods each, to Helen Woodward Animal Center and Paws Crossed Animal Rescue in New York. The much-needed holiday meals were being distributed to approximately 60 pet rescues through those locations. Locally, those groups included; Lionel’s Legacy, Second Chance Dog Rescue, Volunteers in Defense of Animals (VIDA), Rescue House, Spay and Neuter Action Project (SNAP), SPOT and many others.

**EDUCATION CORNER**

As the weather’s cooling down we all know winter is on the way! What better way to spend it then crafting all day? Be kind to the environment with this repurposed TP tube snowman, so cute. He’ll brighten up your décor with some quality family time to boot!

We might not get much snow in this area to make real snowmen, but our crafts can still turn out great, and help the environment! Follow these simple steps, and learn a little along the way.

**What you need:**
- toilet paper tube
- white paper
- scrap fabric
- pipe cleaner
- pom poms (2)
- markers
- hot glue
- scissors

**Instructions:**

1. Begin by wrapping the toilet paper tube in white construction paper. Measure the length of the tube and cut the paper to size. Secure it to the tube with hot glue. If the tube you are using is already white you can skip this step!
2. Next, cut your fabric into a rectangle, about ½ inches by 10 inches. Wrap it around the snowman, securing it with hot glue. Tie the two ends of the scarf together, and trim off any excess fabric that hangs longer than you would like.
3. Using your markers, decorate the snowman.
4. Draw on eyes, a carrot nose, a smile, rosy cheeks, and buttons.
5. Next, cut a piece of the pipe cleaner about 3 inches long. Secure it to the top of the snowman’s head using hot glue.
6. Glue the two pom poms onto each side of the snowman’s head to give him earmuffs!

Now that you have your snowman, make sure you don’t place him in front of something white or else he’ll blend in! Many animals that live in snowy and icy places are at least partially white in color for these exact reasons, that way they can camouflage into the snow and ice. Some animals, including the snowshoe hare, arctic fox, and ptarmigan, are seasonally camouflaged. This means their fur or feathers are white during the winter to blend in with snow, and brown during the spring and summer to blend in with the dirt and rocks that spring time snowmelt reveals in their habitats.
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 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

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

The Amptman Trust
Estate of Victoria Fowler
Beverly Kirby/ Richard Kirby Revocable Trust
Belina Lee Lazzar Trust
John Edward Martin Trust

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

PLANNED GIVING

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 __________
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Leave them in good hands
Renew or upgrade your GIFT CLUB MEMBERSHIP:

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- The Faithful Friends .................................... $250 - $499
- The Loyal Companions ............................... $500 - $999
- The Helen Woodward Society, Bronze Circle ........................................ $1,000 - $2,499
- The Helen Woodward Society, Silver Circle ........................................ $2,500 - $4,999
- The Helen Woodward Society, Gold Circle ........................................ $5,000 +

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

ONCE IN A LIFETIME NAMING OPPORTUNITIES

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!