

THE COMPANION

PEOPLE HELPING ANIMALS AND ANIMALS HELPING PEOPLE

*it's
kitten
season*

FURIENDS

available for adoption



DUCHESS

Shepherd Belgian Malinois blend

I'm a sweet dog who would love to be in an adult only home. I'd really like to meet everyone in the home first too, including your dog, just to make sure that we'll be best friends for life!



MUFFIN

Domestic Short Hair blend

I like to take things slow. Once I feel at home, I will be seeking your attention for some love. I like to play with feather sticks and when we're done I'll probably need a "cat nap". Come on in and see me.



JORDAN

Anatolian Shepherd blend

I'm an energetic puppy and I love to run, jump, and play! If you have an active lifestyle and enjoy outdoor activities then I'm the perfect dog for you! Stop in and let me show you how much fun I can be! I would love a dog sibling to play with!



ALBERT

Domestic Short Hair blend

I have been told I am as lovely as they come and a real joy to be around! You see, my biggest joy is being with you. I hope to see you soon!

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 45 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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Instagram: @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, 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.



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Dear Friend of the Animals,

It is hard to believe that it has been almost a year and half since we broke ground on the new Helen Woodward Animal Center Adoptions building. As you can imagine, it has been a challenging time for our staff with temporary Adoption kennels, makeshift medical areas, and extensive growth and use of our foster family network. We could not be more proud of our team and what they have accomplished during this time — placing more than 2,700 orphan pets and expanding both the number of foster homes and our transfer program — to save more lives than ever before.



A recent snapshot of construction and progress, May 3, 2019.

As we prepare to open the new building with double the surgical and exam spaces and completely enclosed kennels, we have no intention of slowing down our efforts. In fact, we will be doubling down on our goals to continue expanding our foster network and increasing the number of shelters we are able to help around the country. The needs in places like Texas, Arizona and New Mexico are staggering, and we will continue working to save as many lives as possible in this region. As we help support animal welfare organizations through another busy kitten season, **please know that your support of any amount makes a difference.**



Mike Arms delivering our presentation at the recent HSUS Expo in New Orleans

The Center continues to share our important work around the globe by teaching “The Business of Saving Lives”. At the recent HSUS Expo in New Orleans we had a particularly gratifying presentation, and we look forward to upcoming trips to New York and Estonia. We continue to receive requests daily from all over the world including recently, from Romania and Portugal, to come and share this invaluable information. Everywhere we go people are hungry for information and ideas to save the

lives of the pets they love, and we are proud to be able to help them. There is truly no other organization doing this type of outreach like Helen Woodward Animal Center.

As always, none of this work would be possible without you. Your support for our unique mission and commitment to saving lives globally is what drives our success, and we are so grateful.

Yours for a more humane world,

Michael M. Arms
President and CEO

Leaving your legacy

REMEMBERING BARBARA RAKER

We are extremely grateful for those who have decided to include the Center in their estate plans, creating a living legacy at Helen Woodward Animal Center. There are multiple ways to give and you can find more information at the back of this publication or on our website at animalcenter.org.



Barbara's love for animals developed at a young age as a result of the many stories her dad, famed writer for the Saturday Evening Post, RG Kirk, wrote about his beloved dogs. Her dear “Tucker,” an English Bulldog that was at her side as a child, always held a special place in her heart.

Barbara and her husband, Jim, met in Santa Monica and their first rescue dog was named “Rivet.” Throughout the years Barbara was never without a dog by her side to spoil and walk on the beach. She gave countless hours and donations to shelters and animal welfare organizations to improve the quality of life for all animals.

She was feisty, fun, and always ready with a smile and a gentle hand for her four-legged friends.

Here at Helen Woodward Animal Center we are so grateful to Barbara for remembering the Center and our many orphan pets in her estate plans to ensure their health and happiness for many years to come. What a beautiful legacy for a dedicated animal lover. Barbara's plaque will be on display in the new Center Adoption building.

*Special thanks to Michelle Evans for sharing Barbara's story with us.

If you would like to know more about including a dedicated gift to Helen Woodward Animal Center in your estate plans or our plaques and pavers program for our new building, please contact Renee Resko at ReneeR@animalcenter.org or 858-756-4117, extension 347. You can also fill out the form at the back of this publication.



HELEN WOODWARD ANIMAL CENTER'S
COMPANION ANIMAL HOSPITAL DR.
ANGELA GAETO ANSWERS FREQUENTLY
ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT
RATTLESNAKE SAFETY.

When is rattlesnake season?

Dog owners, especially those with active lifestyles should be vigilant during the months of March through October when rattlesnake sightings are more prevalent and the risk of encountering one while enjoying outdoor activities is increased.

What can I do to keep my pet safe?

Preventing rattlesnake bites is key to keeping your pet safe. In order to prevent rattlesnakes from coming into your yard, areas should be made less friendly to the snakes. This includes removing areas where they may nest, such as wood or debris piles and removing rodents that they might eat from your property. It's also important to keep your pet nearby and on a leash while hiking or walking through brush and canyon landscape.

What other preventative measures can I take?

One of the best preventative steps we can take for our pets is to get the rattlesnake vaccine. The vaccine is made up of deactivated venom that can no longer cause negative effects but will allow the immune system to recognize the venom if it ever comes into contact with it again. The immune system will form antibodies that bind up venom so it cannot cause harmful effects. It will not prevent the pet from needing veterinary care but it will give you more time to safely get your pet to a veterinary hospital and it will decrease the negative effects of the venom. Ask your pet's vet about whether the vaccine is right for your furry friend. 🐾



The four puppies catch their close-ups before their big adoption day.

Putting the "Puppy" in Puppy Love

We could blame it on the time of year, but four Helen Woodward Animal Center orphan puppies had the world of social media falling in serious puppy-love this February!

The litter of insanely popular Havanese blend cuties came to Helen Woodward Animal Center after their mom—a small, white, pregnant Havanese stray—was found by a partner rescue organization. With months of needed care ahead for “Mamma Mia” and her four new babies, the Center was happy to assist and take the family into foster.

Even at one week old, and with eyes still closed, Marigold, Messini, Martha, and Mykonos had hearts fluttering. The super soft puppies with adorable markings immediately had social media abuzz and when they opened their eyes, it was a collective love-at-first-sight.

“We had never really experienced anything quite like this,” explained Helen Woodward Online Marketing Specialist Christina London. “I’ve been here for years and people are always excited to look at new puppies, but these puppies truly stole the hearts of everyone who saw them. They just radiated love.”

Just before the fluffy stars started their search for forever families on Cupid’s official day — February 14th — they performed a final act of love. Donning their best flower girl dresses and ring bearer tuxes, they headed to the county assessor’s office Downtown, where love was truly in the air for Valentine’s Day and over 100 couples were due to be wed.

Throughout the morning, the “Valentine Puppies,” posed for photos, melted hearts and gave plenty of kisses to the happy new couples!

“Puppies are simply love and magic with fur,” Jessica Gercke, Helen Woodward Animal Center PR & Communications Director explained. “We couldn’t think of a better way to provide the gift of love on such a special day.”

Upon their arrival back at the Center, Marigold, Messini, Martha, and Mykonos already had a line of eager adoptive families waiting to take them home. Deserving Mamma Mia was the first to find her forever family. 🐾



Above: Newlyweds pose with two of the precious pups. Below: Mia celebrates with her new mom.





WHERE are they now?

DOGGIE GRAS 5K & PARADE

Benefiting Helen Woodward Animal Center



RUNNERS, WALKERS, WAGGERS, AND REVELERS UNITE FOR ORPHAN PETS

In March, two of Helen Woodward Animal Center's most colorful events joined forces and hit the ground running... literally. Runners, walkers, and revelers took over EmBARKadero Marina Park North for the first ever **Doggie Gras 5K and Parade** presented by Blue Buffalo.

More than 500 animal lovers and their furry friends gathered for the Mardi Gras inspired event that raised approximately \$25,000 for orphan pets and programs at the Center.

On BourBONE Street, we saw an array of colorful costumes and parade floats, an incredible performance from the UCSD Pep Band, and special guests rescue goat Millie, the Ballistic Racers Canine Flyball Team, and Bamboo the Skateboarding Dog! Special thanks to Blue Buffalo, Animal Dermatology, Embrace Pet Insurance, K9 Dimensions, Mesa Rim, New Balance, Petco Foundation, Save This Life, SeaWorld, Smart Car and Mercedes Benz of San Diego. 🐾



LUCAS, formerly Silver Adopted November 2018

Silver became a staff favorite during his time with us. Everyone who worked with him saw the love he had to share, and they became instantly connected. They all fully enjoyed spending time with him on his walks and helping him find his forever family.

His enthusiastic and fun personality won over the Cooney family who recently sent us this update. "We love him! He's a character. He continues to do great, he's a lot of fun and we love him so much. He's been going to a fantastic day-care every couple of weeks where he has a stack of fun."




Kisses and Kimmy! Adopted February 2019

Kisses had a very special story that touched our hearts. She came to us blind with her mom and two siblings. Immediately it was apparent that Kisses depended largely on her mom Kimmy to feel comfortable getting around and that Kimmy lovingly cared for her daughter.


The McNamara family welcomed both mom and daughter into their home and sent us this adoption update: "Kisses and her mom Kimmy are doing amazingly well in their new home. They love to snuggle, explore and play. It did not take Kisses very long to become used to her new environment. She is a very smart cat and uses all of her senses to help her navigate new places. The two cats love meeting new people and enjoy play time with our 9-year-old son. They have adjusted beautifully!"

IT'S COSPLAY FOR A CAUSE!



Helen Woodward Animal Center brings you

PAWMICON



at the Comic-Con Museum

Presented by Embrace Pet Insurance

Sunday, July 7
11 a.m. to 3 p.m

You won't want to miss this dog-friendly celebration of heroes big and small!

VISIT pawmicon.org



GOOD GROW

New transfer partnerships in bloom

New beginnings are among us at Helen Woodward Animal Center with the start of spring. More than ever, we're welcoming orphan pets from overburdened shelters suffering from low adoption rates all over the country.

Over 90% of the orphan dogs and cats at Helen Woodward Animal Center come to us through transfer partnerships with rescues and shelters throughout California, Arizona Texas and Hawaii. Most recently, new partnerships have bloomed in New Mexico and Kauai.

On average, orphan pets coming from out of state travel more than 1,200 miles to Helen Woodward Animal Center to find their forever homes. These transports to the Center not only significantly speed up an orphan pet's adoption journey, they are often life-saving.

With a staff of just over a dozen people, our newest transfer partner is a county shelter

in rural New Mexico. Every week, more than 100 homeless, abandoned and owner surrendered pets, including numerous puppies, are dropped off there. Despite working tirelessly to find homes for these beautiful furry family members, the shelter is overburdened, struggling to gain momentum on spay and neuter efforts, and running out of options for many of these loving pets.

Helen Woodward Animal Center's Adoptions Services Manager, Dora Dahlke recently traveled to New Mexico for our first transport of a couple dozen dogs and puppies from this shelter. She she immediately noticed the shelter staff's passion for animals and felt their sigh of relief and gratitude knowing we were giving their homeless pets a second chance at a happy life by bringing them to San Diego.

"I feel proud and grateful to be part of a team that is able to help other organizations save as many animals as possible," Dahlke said.

After hitting the road, these pets arrived at the Center to a team of medical staff waiting to complete their health exams and vaccinations. Then, the Center's foster department finds them loving temporary homes while their spay and neuter surgeries are scheduled and puppies are old enough to be adopted.

In fact, just last year more than 2,000 orphan pets stayed in a foster home at some point in their adoption journey.

The road to a loving family is long for many of our orphan pets, but life-saving.

Donations help fund these incredibly important transports. Your help is needed in order for the Center to be able to reach more shelters and rescues and save more lives. 🐾

Fostering these orphan pets or spreading the word about our foster volunteer program is also a way you can help. To find out more about our foster program or to apply, visit: animalcenter.org/foster



Left to Right: One of our faithful transfer partners delivering an intake of precious pups; A recent puppy during intake; and Helen Woodward Animal Center staff taking great care in examining the next group of orphan animals.

The start of spring brings new beginnings and here at the Center we are booming (or should we say "blooming") with new births, new partnerships and renewed needs. Now – more than at any other time of year – we invite people just like you, to step up and join us in helping these precious orphan animals get the help they deserve. By donating your time, through fostering, purchasing items for our "kitten shower", or otherwise donating to the Center, we can continue the "good growing" of spring and help bring a happy and healthy new season to animals everywhere.

SPRING!

Tis the season for kittens

Deliveries of budding newborn kittens are rapidly arriving at Helen Woodward Animal Center, an indication that Kitten Season has indeed sprouted. Every year, Center staff sees a big influx of kittens and pregnant mamma cats come through our doors.

A sweet 3-year-old longhair cat sprung us into the feline frenzy early in the season. Found as a stray apparently abandoned at an apartment complex, Azul was in sad shape. She had a skin infection, needed dental care and to top it all off, she was pregnant.

A rescue partner asked us if we could care for this beautiful girl with a striking long gray coat. We welcomed her and her growing bundle and after spending some time with our medical team, she settled into a foster home. About a month later, she birthed three colorful babies.

Azul and her three little blossoms

activated the Center's kitten foster network. Right now, all hands are on deck to respond to the influx of little furry fighters.

While some of these budding feline visitors arrive with their moms, some, like kitten Greg, come solo. His rescuer (and namesake), Greg followed his tiny but mighty calls to a car's fender well. Being just a couple weeks old at the time, little Greg needed extra love, care and attention from medical staff and foster volunteers.

Week after week, through the spring and summer, we'll continue to see stories like Azul's and Greg's. More kittens and cats means more mouths to feed and tiny bodies to keep cozy. 🐾

Help us make sure our feline friends are stocked up on everything they need by donating funds or purchasing from our kitten wish list at www.animalcenter.org/kittenshower.

All kittens are born with blue eyes.

Cats can have three litters of kittens in a year.

A group of kittens is called a kindle.

Cat noses are like our finger prints; no two are the same.



Mom Azul, receives some TLC from a staff member.



Greg the kitten during one of his check ups.



Your tax deductible donation can be made at animalcenter.org – click the "donate" button.





making memories for Maizy

Helen Woodward Humane Education Critters Connect Special-Needs, Adopted Child with Classmates

The story of a very special little girl's visit to Helen Woodward Animal Center's Humane Education program touched our staff and supporters throughout San Diego this spring.

A beloved, adopted daughter named Maizy celebrated her "Gotcha Day" surrounded by family, fuzzy faces, and new friends. The Center's Humane Education curriculum, created to form a bond between young people and animals, became an even more important bridge between Maizy and her first grade class, as they celebrated her special day.

Lise Flocken, mother of Maizy, wrote to the Center's Humane Education program to request a unique party for the daughter she had adopted from China. In her very young life, Maizy had already experienced seven life-saving surgeries with four more scheduled.

Oxygen deprivation had resulted in damage to Maizy's brain stem leading to struggles with academics and trouble connecting socially. In an effort to help Maizy connect with her

Animal Encounter. She invited other children to meet Maizy in a more relaxed arena, surrounded by cuddly creatures for the children to bond over.

She worried Maizy's classmates would not be able to join her and wrote their parents a heartfelt letter about empathy, acceptance and diversity.

On Maizy's "gotcha day", Flocken was overjoyed to welcome a dozen of Maizy's classmates for her special Animal Encounter. Touched by this family's story, the Center was honored to waive the program fee, and provide a beautiful animal-themed cake, fun activities and gifts to Maizy. She and her classmates met Tasha the parrot, alpacas Kuzco and Kronk, Fable the mini horse, Friar Cluck the chicken, and Pancake the rabbit.

"To have Helen Woodward [Animal Center] reach out and surprise us (was) above anything we ever expected," explained Flocken. "Thank you for making Maizy feel special."

"Humane education has been a part of the Center since its founding in 1972," explained Mike Arms, Helen Woodward Animal Center President & CEO. "Helen knew that animals had incredible abilities to connect with mankind. Creating new friendships between Maizy and her classmates is a beautiful example of the magic they can do."



new first grade classmates, Flocken requested a special Interactive

My child may not reach all of the milestones your child will reach
My child was given more challenges than most people
My child will teach your child about diversity and that diversity takes many different forms
My child will foster compassion for others with limitations
My child will show them families are created in many ways
My dream is that our children laugh together
My dream is that our children create a friendship they remember
My child is Maizy Bolt and I am her forever mommy Lise Flocken.
I would like to extend an invitation to meet Maizy and celebrate her 'Gotcha Day' (the day we adopted her).

From top: Maizy meets Friar Cluck one of our resident chickens; Education instructor Justin introduces the children to Tasha, our African grey parrot; and Maizy gets to steal a hug from mini horse Fable.

Inset: a portion of Lise Flocken's invitation for Maizy's special day at Helen Woodward Animal Center.

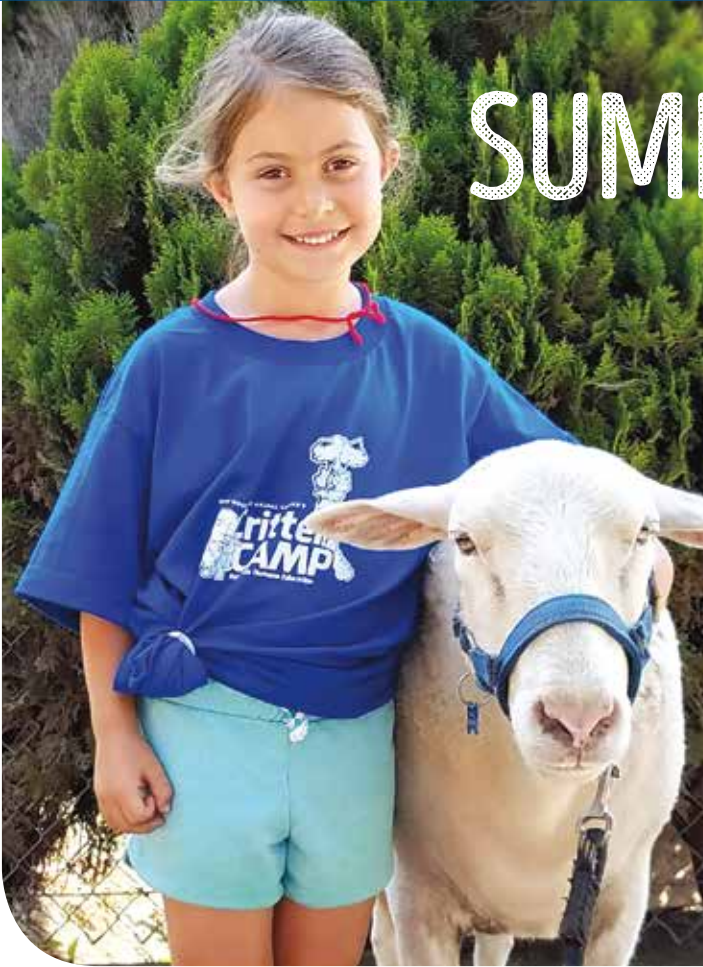
SUMMER FUN FOR EVERYONE!

Summer Critter Camp runs from June 10-August 30 and is perfect for kids in Preschool through 8th grade.

There are so many exciting events coming up this summer in the education department and they all involve awesome animals! Summer Critter Camp runs from June 10th-August 30th and is perfect for kids in Preschool through 8th grade. This camp offers parents peace of mind because it is a safe and fun environment where kids can experience the things they love: hands-on animal interactions, fun games, silly songs, unique crafts, and more.

While camp is just for the kids, your whole family can enjoy time together during our brand new program called **Critter Cinema**, which takes place on 6/22, 7/13, and 8/10. You and your loved ones can enjoy an outdoor, kid-friendly movie in our large, covered pavilion AND experience amazing animal encounters. We can't wait to see you there! 🐾

For more information and online registration, please visit animalcenter.org/education or call us at (858) 756-4117 x 318.



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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.

DONATE TODAY! Contact 858-756-4117 x350, or JessicaF@animalcenter.org

MEMORIAL GIFTS

The Center has always been a place where people can memorialize the pets of their friends and family with special gifts of support to help the orphan pets in their honor. One of the most visible programs we have had is the Tree of Life. Due to the new construction we have moved the Adoptions Tree to Club Pet. There will be three Trees over there, but the Trees are going to be quite full with leaves so we have decided to discontinue the program. All the current leaves will find a home on one of the trees.

In lieu of the Tree of Life, we have a beautiful program called "I Remember You" to memorialize pets on-line, 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!

PLANNED GIFTS AND 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 a 5K to a gala.

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 or email MeganM@animalcenter.org

BECOME A FOSTER PARENT

Some pets just need time in a loving, comfortable home before they are ready for adoption. We are in great need of more volunteers willing to open their homes to these orphan pets.

Contact Morgan Hamm: 858-756-4117 x375 or email Fosters@animalcenter.org



Leave them
in good hands

PLANNED GIVING

- 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 _____

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



HELEN WOODWARD ANIMAL CENTER

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CREATING A HUMANE WORLD
FOR ANIMALS AND PEOPLE

event calendar

MAY

24-25

Animals for Armed Forces –
Military Pet Adoption event

1-31

Spring Tails
Education Program

JUNE

8 Spring Fling Gala –
Our Extravagant World Tour

JUNE 18- JUNE 21

United in Saving Lives,
International 3-Day
Conference

JUNE 10- AUG 30

Summer Critter Camp

22 Critter Cinema

JULY

7 PAWmicon

14 & 29
Surf Dog Lessons

13 Critter Cinema

AUGUST

1 to 31
Orphaned Objects Sale

10
Critter Cinema

11 & 25
Surf Dog Lessons

17
Volunteer Orientation



SEPTEMBER

8
Surf Dog Surf-A-Thon

26
Remember Me Thursday

COSP0519



ONCE IN A LIFETIME NAMING OPPORTUNITIES

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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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