

875 Oklahoma Avenue  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93405



(805) 543-9316 Phone  
(805) 543-9524 Fax  
www.woodshumane.org

## Media Advisory

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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### CONTACT:

Steve Kragenbrink  
skragenbrink@woodshumane.org  
(805) 543-9316 ext 19

# Woods Humane Society Turns 60

## *Woods Humane Society Celebrates Diamond Anniversary with \$60 Adoption Fees in the Month of July*

SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA (July 01, 2015) – As of July 2015, **Woods Humane Society** has now served homeless animals on the Central Coast for 60 consecutive years. From its humble beginnings in a Nipomo barn, to a shelter near the SLO Airport, to the current state-of-the-art facility on Oklahoma Avenue in San Luis Obispo, Woods Humane Society remains committed to providing top-of-the-line animal care for displaced dogs and cats. **In celebration of its 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and in honor of its founder, Frances Newhall Woods, Woods Humane Society is offering \$60 adoption fees for all animals and \$60 registration fees for Woods University Dog Obedience Classes throughout July!**

“We have so much to celebrate as our service to the community has grown and we have recently experienced a tremendous upswing in our adoption program,” states Jill Tucker, Woods Humane Society’s new Executive Director. “We believe that Frances would be immensely proud of this organization she set in motion 60 years ago and how we are saving the lives of so many dogs and cats in need of a second chance.”

Members of the Woods family have maintained contact with the organization over the past 6 decades with regular communication and support. In a recent message to the Woods staff, Prudy Noon Woods explains, “We are pleased to celebrate with you the sixtieth anniversary of the founding of the Woods Humane Society. Our grandmother, Frances Woods, would be gratified with the success of the adoption program. She wrote numerous letters to prospective households with the intent of placing animals in safe homes. That personal commitment in the placement of each animal is evident in your work today. We sincerely appreciate your continued efforts of enhancing animal welfare in her memory.”

### Adoptions Rise in 2015

Tucker reports that Woods Humane Society celebrates a 99% placement rate for all of the animals that enter its adoption program. Most recently, Woods Humane Society successfully placed 263 dogs and cats into loving homes over the past two months—double the number of animals placed during those same two months in 2014.

“Adoptions are our top priority at Woods,” Tucker says. “Each animal that enters our doors receives a comprehensive medical evaluation, behavior assessment, vaccinations, and spay/neuter surgery. Plus, once a dog or cat is placed into our adoption program, it receives countless hours of human interaction and an endless amount of love.”

### **Woods Opens its Doors to More Animals in Need**

An animal-savvy public with a strong demand for adoptable pets has enabled Woods to grow the adoption program to better serve the community. While regularly accepting dogs and cats from owners that are no longer able to keep them, Woods also maintains its longstanding commitment to working closely with SLO County Animal Services, transferring more than 300 dogs and cats from the county facility annually. Additionally, Woods has been able to increase its animal transport program, saving the lives of pets from high risk communities just a few hours’ drive away.

“Our community has been so generous in opening their hearts and homes to shelter animals. As we strive to make adoption the number one choice for acquiring a pet, we are pleased to see adoptions rapidly increasing as we broaden our reach to help more animals,” explains Tucker. “The community has responded well to having a variety of adoptable pets to choose from, helping all animals in our care find loving homes more quickly.”

### **Woods and County Animal Services Work Together to Enhance Local Animal Care**

For a time in its early days of operation, Woods Humane Society served also as the County’s Animal Services Department. Today, the two neighboring facilities have distinct responsibilities, but they share a common history and work together toward mutual goals.

Woods Humane Society is a privately funded, non-profit animal adoption center. Its primary objectives are dog and cat adoptions, humane education, and spay & neuter services. SLO County Animal Services is a municipal agency under the jurisdiction of the Health Agency—serving every city in the county while providing adoptions, lost & found, license issuance, enforcement of animal related laws, and animal facility permit issuance. Together, Woods Humane Society and SLO County Animal Services strive to reduce overpopulation of companion animals while enhancing the overall animal care community in San Luis Obispo County.

“The partnership and success we continue to share with SLO County Animal Services is a testament to a mutual commitment to SLO County dogs and cats,” Tucker says.

Woods welcomes the community to visit its adoption facility at 875 Oklahoma Avenue in San Luis Obispo, from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. daily, to meet all of the truly wonderful dogs and cats who are desperately seeking a home to call their own.

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Founded in 1955, Woods Humane Society has proudly served the homeless animals of San Luis Obispo County for 60 years. Woods Humane Society is an animal sheltering and welfare organization based in San Luis Obispo that annually places over 1,100 dogs and cats into loving homes. Woods Humane Society has performed over 25,000 spay/neuter surgeries since opening our surgical center in September 2007.

WHS’ adoption center is located at 875 Oklahoma Avenue in San Luis Obispo.  
Call us at 805-543-9316 or visit [www.woodshumane.org](http://www.woodshumane.org) to donate or learn more.