

HOMEWARD BOUND GOLDEN RETRIEVER RESCUE AND SANCTUARY, INC.

What's Inside

Our "Double the Gold Challenge" is underway. Generous donors have helped us build a "Fund of Love" that stands ready to match every dollar we raise during this challenge. We rely on the combined campaigns to cover the majority of our medical costs for the dogs this year. Your support makes this possible.

Our cover story is a touching tale of a Homeward Bound alum whose life was saved thanks to extraordinary care, and who returned the favor by seeing her "mom" through her cancer journey.

On page 6, Doug was a discarded dog who arrived in terrible shape. Adopted and nursed back to health, he is now helping to save the lives of other dogs as a member of the Canine Community Blood Donor Program at UC Davis.

Mark your calendars with some important dates! This month, join us for "Golf Fore Goldens" and the newly combined Reunion and Volunteer Appreciation Picnic. Then, save the date for our 16th Annual Kibble & Bids™ event, a Golden Gala! There is nothing we enjoy more than celebrating our successes with you. You are all, truly, the heart of Homeward Bound.

PLEASE PASS ALONG!

You can help us to expand our reach by sharing our newsletter with friends, family and co-workers! Thank you!



The Best Medicine

BY: Sarah Mantovani

Recently, a former adopter sent us an update on a dog she adopted in 2013. Surrendered at ten months of age with laryngeal paralysis and mounting costs, her former owners sought an assurance that we would not "put her down." Not only did we not do that, but she was adopted into a loving home. While waiting for her own surgery, her new mom wrote to tell us about the important role this sweet girl would go on to serve.

In my third year of veterinary school, I had to say goodbye to all three of my pets: my German Shepherd, Seidon, and fourteen-year-old cat, Ricky, passed within a few weeks of each other. Then, just as I had started looking for a companion for my five-year-old German Shepherd, Persey, she was diagnosed with leukemia. I had to say goodbye to her a few months later. That's when I ran across Guinevere, named Midge at the time. She was just over a year old and already looking for her third family. She was listed in Homeward Bound's special needs section as having laryngeal paralysis, a disorder where her larynx doesn't function properly, making breathing or eating difficult. Because

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Our Mission

Homeward Bound Golden Retriever Rescue & Sanctuary, Inc. is an all-volunteer organization which rescues and heals displaced, abandoned, and homeless Golden Retrievers and Golden mixes, regardless of their age or health. Homeward Bound secures safe, loving homes through a comprehensive adoption program, and also provides lifetime sanctuary for Goldens that cannot be adopted.

Homeward Bound also provides education on proper animal care and on the benefits of, and need for, rescue and sanctuary. In the event of a disaster, Homeward Bound will provide assistance to other rescue groups and the families of dogs impacted by the disaster.

Homeward Bound will continue to serve as a model rescue organization, addressing animal welfare needs throughout California and neighboring states, and strives to be a national leader in rescue, sanctuary and education.

DOGS RESCUED TO DATE IN 2016 103

VET EXPENSES TO DATE IN 2016 \$42.954





A Message From Our President

I've always been told: "Ask and you shall receive." Admittedly, I've never been great about asking. Mostly, I just focus on doing. But we have grown to a size that makes asking necessary – so ask I did. And guess what? My ask was answered - and then some!

We needed someone to oversee this year's special project: the regrading and remodel of Sugar Shack Acres. Adopter, Deb Niemeier saw our plea and came out to take a look. Did I mention that she is also a Professor in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the University of California, Davis? The heavens opened up in more ways than one, and she and her students were able to see our storm drainage issues first-hand! They have come up with a plan for Sugar Shack Acres and beyond and are busy drafting plans for the project which will begin in the early summer. Meanwhile, our ace facilities crew has already added a new corrugated roof over the patio, so our seniors can watch the weather float by.

Shortly after our four Korea dogs arrived, we began the last of the kennel remodel. And because when it rains, it pours – 13 new dogs arrived just as we removed the old "dorm rooms." Needless to say, we have been kept hopping this spring!

None of this blessed chaos – and the amazing adoptions that happened throughout it – would be possible without your help. This spring, a small group of dedicated donors came together to build a generous "Fund of Love." Their \$50,000 stands ready to match the donations of many during our "Double the Gold Challenge," now underway. Please help in whatever way you can, as these funds support a large portion of the dogs' medical costs each year.

You have my heartfelt thanks and appreciation for your continued support. I hope to see you all at the combined Reunion and Volunteer Picnic this year where I can express it in person.

Sincerely,

Jody Jones, President



Continued from page 1

vet students can't resist dogs that need special care, and because I knew we would be her third and FINAL family, I immediately reached out. Guinevere needed us, and we needed her.

It took Guin a few months to warm up to her new family. I have had Goldens in the past, and I was used to them being very affectionate; loving their people and their ball! Guin was different. She didn't seek attention, at first, didn't want to cuddle or sleep on the bed (yes the bed!). She was very sweet but wanted her space. And we gave it to her. She quickly became best friends with our cat IT, but with us, it took her a little longer. Slowly over a few months, things changed. And I mean CHANGED. I like to believe that after she had realized we were her family for good, she quickly became the biggest cuddle bug I've ever had. It didn't matter if we had been gone the whole day, or

just woke up in the morning, she acted like she hadn't seen us in days and couldn't get close enough to her "people." She was happiest if she could be laying on us, licking us, or, at least, making sure some part of her body was touching ours.

At the end of my fourth year in vet school, because the universe has an interesting sense of humor, one more wrench was thrown into the mix. I was diagnosed with triple negative breast cancer: a highly malignant form that would require 20 weeks of chemotherapy, surgery, and finally radiation. Treatment was difficult, but we approached it with a drive to survive, and a sense of humor most didn't understand.

And Guin was there the whole time.

After a few sessions of chemo, my anxiety started to spike. The wonderful oncologists and nurses asked if I had a support animal I could bring to help keep me calm during therapy. I knew just the girl for the job. After this, Guinevere went with me everywhere. During my chemo appointments, she took care of me by doing her typical crawling on top of me and laying across my body like dead weight, watching me closely for signs of stress, and giving me a kiss when she sensed it, just to remind me she was there.

My brain is a little foggy from the chemo, so I'm having trouble writing this in a non-cheesy way. This experience would have been much more awful without her. Three years ago, Guin needed me. Now I need her more than anything. I just feel so lucky to have her; she's the best medicine I could ask for.

I am winning the battle and should be cancer free by June. I hope to bring her to the next "reunion!"

~ Sarah Mantovani, DVM UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine

We received this wonderful update from Sarah not long before we went to press: "I found out two days ago that the pathology report from my surgery showed no more cancer anywhere! :)))) I'm super excited (and relieved!)."

We'll be looking for you at the picnic, Sarah! Thank you for sharing your story, for loving Guin so, and for reminding us that rescue is always a two-way street. We get as much - or more - than we ever give.





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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jody Jones, President Jana Hook, Secretary Judy Kent, Treasurer Justina Codde, DVM, MS Candice Courtney Audrey Farrington Sara Floor Deb Haggerty Dominique Pollara

Here's Your Opportunity To Double The Gold!

Thanks to a matching fund created by generous Homeward Bound supporters, all donations made to Homeward Bound during April and May will be doubled in the 2016 Double the Gold Challenge. Hundreds of dogs count on us for help in meeting their medical needs each year, and with your help, we stand ready to answer the call.

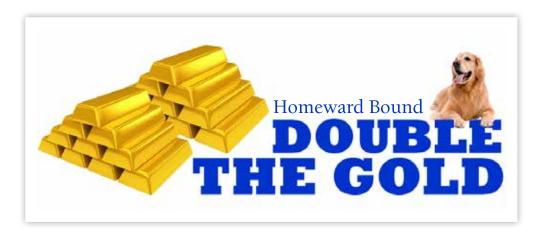
Every dog that comes into the care of Homeward Bound receives some measure of medical care. Last year was the year of the seizure dogs - all now home thanks to your support. Here are just a few of their stories:



Rear

When Bear, aka Honey Bear, came to Homeward Bound he could barely walk from all the medication he was on. He suffered from Cluster seizures – multiple seizures in a short period that can be life threatening. Medication helped to control them, but the same medication that was saving his life was robbing him of his full personality.

Bear would make eye contact, but it was an empty look with no real recognition in his eyes. He went home with one of our volunteers – her fifth seizure dog.



HOW TO HELP US "DOUBLE THE GOLD!"

To donate by check:
Please mail it today in the enclosed envelope.

To pay by credit card:

Complete the authorization on the envelope, or...

Donate securely online by credit card or PayPal:
Visit our website at:
www.homewardboundgoldens.org and
click on "Double the Gold Challenge."

He has taken longer than most to adjust to his medications, but there are tiny steps forward.

He is comfortable with his canine siblings and has been accepted as part of the pack. His new people look for signs and celebrate each milestone as they wait for him to join the family fully. Who chewed up that roll of toilet paper? Bear? There must be a dog in there!





Teddy

Teddy came to us when his family could no longer deal with the seizures or the cost of his needed medications.

When we picked him up, he was groggy and staggering from the high dose of meds used to stop his seizures. Teddy went home with one of our volunteer dog walkers and her other Homeward Bound Golden, Doug. "He is finally adjusted enough to his meds that he has some energy and likes to run around and explore outside. It's wonderful to see him like this!!"

Homeward Bound can accept dogs like Bear and Teddy into our program because of the generosity of people like you. Most with extraordinary needs find homes with equally extraordinary permanent foster families; some find sanctuary at Homeward Bound. In all of these cases, the dogs' continuing medical care is provided by Homeward Bound.



Bentley

Gorgeous Bentley was adopted and then returned to Homeward Bound due to his seizures. When one door closes, another opens. He was adopted again and turned out to be just the angel his new mom needed. He continues to have occasional seizures, but the medications have them largely under control. He could not be more adored.



Paris

This beauty was only one-year-old when she was surrendered to Homeward Bound because her family had three young children who were frightened by the seizures. Smitten, she was adopted by a volunteer who just could not be without her. She and her husband have provided a great home, and Paris says, "Life is Très Jolie!"



Henry

Henry came to us by way of a small rescue group in San Diego. When this regal boy arrived at the age of only four, he was nearly comatose from all the drugs he was given to stop the seizures. Under our Doc's care, he came around and his happy golden personality began to show through. He is now living happily home and doing great!



Winston

Winston was adopted at the age of seven from Homeward Bound. Later, he started having seizures. When the family had to move for health reasons, he came back to stay with us. Now ten, his seizures continue, but have lessened, and we are delighted to report he has gone home to live with Bear! Yes - that makes him our volunteer's sixth seizure dog!



Gig

Surrendered at the age of eight because of her seizures, Gigi charmed us all from the start. A favorite of our volunteers, we had a hard time giving up this snuggly girl. But her sweet personality and happy smile won her a new and loving home where she is doing well with only occasional episodes now.

You Can Help!

Last year, our medical expenses exceeded \$175,000. We are committed to providing each and every dog with the care it requires to complete its journey home.

Making a donation to Homeward Bound during our "Double the Gold Challenge" will help provide hundreds of dogs rescued this year with the best care we can give them on their journey to a wonderful forever home and a life filled with good health and love.

Please give generously to support Homeward Bound in its mission. Every dollar donated during the months of April and May will be matched by our "Fund of Love" and will be 100% dedicated to veterinary expenses for wonderful dogs who desperately need all of us.

On behalf of Bear, Teddy, Bentley, Paris, Henry, Winston, Gigi, and countless more - Thank You!!

From Discarded to Life-Saving Donor

BY: Audrey Farrington

Dogs need transfusions, just like people – but the blood products can be much harder to secure. Our pets are often subject to the same diseases and problems as people and will use blood products for anemia, clotting deficiencies, and to replace blood lost during a traumatic injury or surgery.

One of Homeward Bound's alums, Doug, donates his blood regularly through the UC Davis Community Donor Program. When Doug arrived in 2014, you would never have believed he would become a healthy candidate for blood donation. Doug was found roadside on the I-5 free-

way. Microchipped, his owner said he no longer wanted him due to his skin condition. Doug had simply been thrown away. His skin issues were severe, most of his coat was gone; what was left was shaved off to allow his festering wounds to heal. Shortly after he arrived, he met Gwen Arnold, one of Homeward Bound's dedicated dog walkers. It was love at first sight. She took him home – first to foster, and then to keep.

Gwen teaches at UC Davis in the Department of Environmental Science and Policy. "I found out about the donation program because the dog I moved here with got sick and spent a lot of time at UCD," Gwen told us. "He needed a transfusion, and the vet explained that it can be hard to get dog blood." In response to the need, UCD developed the Community Donor Program.

Animals, like humans, have different blood types which are species specific;



dogs can only give blood to dogs, cats only to cats, etc. Dogs have 13 different blood types, which means that donor blood is always in demand.



"I decided that if I got another dog, and that dog seemed like he would want to help, then we'd do the community donor program," says Gwen. "Doug, by definition, always wants to help very much, so he's been enrolled in the program for a year and a half now. He was so awful looking when he came to Homeward Bound; it seems crazy that he has recovered enough to give blood."

The Veterinary Blood Bank, which began community screening in 2008, collects, processes and stores canine blood needed for transfusions. Dog donors must be

1-8 years old, in excellent general health, 55 pounds or more, current on vaccinations and flea & tick heartworm preventatives, of good temperament, and never have had a blood transfusion.

The donation is minimally invasive. During the first visit, dogs receive health examinations, have their blood typed, and are screened for infectious disease. If cleared for donation, the dog is invited to become a member of the canine blood donor program. Dogs can donate as often as once a month, and while each visit lasts about 30 minutes, the actual blood draw only requires

5-7 minutes.

Results from the annual blood screening remain on file at the hospital and can be made available at any time to the dog's regular veterinarian. If any health problems are detected, the owner will be advised to follow up with the dog's regular vet – an added benefit for owners.

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One of the disorders requiring blood donations is Von Willebrand's disease (vWD). vWD is a blood disease caused by a deficiency of an adhesive glycoprotein in the blood required for normal clotting. Similar to hemophilia in humans, the condition can lead to excessive bleeding following an injury. vWD is the most common hereditary blood clotting disorder in dogs and occurs most frequently in certain breeds including Golden Retrievers. "Doug's blood is helping other dogs and contributing to education," says Gwen. This thrown-away dog is helping to save the lives of dogs whose medical conditions are educating residents and students.



We take it for granted that when our dog is injured or needs surgery, blood will be available. That's not a given without community participation. Please consider becoming a member of the Canine Community Donor Program at UC Davis. You'll find all of the information here: http://www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/vmth/lab_services/Trans_med/donors.cfm



Planned Giving: A Gift to Protect Our Golden Friends

If you are reading this, chances are that you already understand the impact that our mission of rescue and adoption has on Golden lives and families. Estate or planned gifts to Homeward Bound Golden Retriever Rescue are excellent opportunities to create a legacy ensuring that more Golden lives are saved. You can also provide for the care of your pets in your estate plan – an important consideration for all of us.

Planned giving is an option for donors of all incomes and may allow you to make a larger gift in the future than you otherwise could from current assets. A planned gift can also help you reduce capital gains or estate taxes on your heirs. You'll find information to discuss with your financial advisor on our website, as well as a guide on pet guardianship to ensure that your four-legged family members are cared for when you cannot.

Please visit here: www.homewardboundgoldens.org/how-tohelp/planned-giving.html

Cherry Creek Veterinary Hospital

7955 Watt Avenue, Antelope, CA 95843 Phone: 916-349-2755 | www.cherrycreekvet.com Justina Codde, DVM, MS

A full-service veterinary medical facility, providing excellent medical, surgical and dental care to our patients while promoting responsible pet ownership, preventative health care and health-related educational opportunities for our clients.



A Gift For a Lifetime

BY: Diane James

On Saturday, December 6, 2003, I had an appointment to see several dogs available for adoption. I met Jody at Homeward Bound, my heart beating with anticipation of going home with a new family member.

Jody said she'd first like for me to meet Chandler, the last puppy of five from the Friends litter. Themes are often chosen for puppy names at Homeward Bound. This litter was named after the "Friends" television characters. Jody opened the sliding glass door and out came an energetic, racing ball of fluff - a bundle of joy that I instantly scooped into my arms. I buried my head in his fur; he rested his head on my shoulder. Love at first sight. And he already knew how to play ball! Bounding across the yard like the energizer bunny, he returned the ball like, well, a Golden Retriever.

I learned that Chandler was supposed to be spoken for. Lucky for me, the family failed to keep their appointment. Jody said, "He's yours." I began sobbing tears of joy, elation, and gratitude.

As I was getting my pup into the car, Jody asked me if I was going to keep his name as Chandler. I said 'no,' I was going to name him Cody or Shasta. She responded, "Well if it helps with your decision, his litter came from Lake Shasta." Off I went singing down the road with my new best friend, Shasta Chandler James.

The first thing I did when we got home was to wrap Shasta in a soft blanket, hold him to my chest, and gently rock him in the recliner. He melted in my arms and fell sound asleep. As the years went on he continued to be my lap dog, despite his 45 pounds, sitting and rocking in the recliner with me.



Throughout our years together Shasta acquired several nicknames, due to his unique appearance. Yes, he was a golden color, had a pure heart of gold, and a beautiful long tail. "The Midget Man" was only knee high since he was part terrier. "Shasta Roo-Roo" had eyebrows as bushy as Andy Rooney's. He was also part sheepdog, hence "Box Head Square Butt." And the hair on his head? The same barber as Donald Trump!

Shasta was a happy-go-lucky guy, friendly to everyone. No matter who came to the door - friends, family, electrician, gardener, or strangers - he'd go through the same routine: spin, turn, flop on his belly, and run to present one of his toys as a gift.

Shasta and I did everything together; traveling, camping, gardening, and boating. He was my shadow - always with me. We were best friends and great companions.

In early August 2015, Shasta began to lose his appetite. I immediately took him to the vet, and he was given some medication. He improved some, but just didn't seem to be "himself." We went back to the vet for blood work which showed normal results. Shasta still didn't have much of an appetite, lacked spunk, and had no desire to fetch the ball. We were scheduled for more tests on August 27th at 8:00 a.m. I helped Shasta into the vet office, repeat-

ing over and over again: "We're going to be brave, we're going to be brave." I kept my arms around him never letting go as I had done when I brought him home on our first day together. I held onto his oxygen mask, but within minutes, he died in my arms.

Shasta lived exactly eleven years and eleven months. He had a rare and untreatable cancer in his lungs that could not be easily detected.

I'm approaching six months without Shasta. My heart aches so much sometimes it feels like six hours. Thank you, Homeward Bound for Shasta, a gift for a lifetime.

"Shastas"

There are Shasta's that we all know, Look at Mount Shasta all covered with snow. And there's Lake Shasta where the rivers flow, It's a fun, great place in the summer to go.

Now there's Shasta, the dog so sweet, Who will sit for you when given a treat. His mama and papa we don't know, He's a mystery in any dog show. Love and kisses to my sweet boy. 2015

~ Diane James

Please Don't Eat the Daisies!

BY: Audrey Farrington

The garden calls to us at this time of year. But between drought, digging dogs, and toxic plant concerns, what is a gardener to do? In the Homeward Bound Memorial Garden, we have combined drought tolerant perennials, California natives, hardy trees, and walking paths – keeping water and dog safety in mind.

With some careful planning, you can do the same in your garden space.

Structure:

Homeward Bound dogs are on leashes in the garden, which keeps trampling to a minimum, and eating is strictly forbidden! Consider raised or fenced beds at home to protect plants from paws, claws and chomping mouths.

Provide soft paths, but avoid deadly cocoa bean mulches; dogs are attracted to its chocolaty smell, but these mulches contain theobromine, which is toxic to our canine friends.

Gardening is always about compromise. In the Memorial Garden, we plant a little extra for bunnies, snails, and slugs. Because dogs will be dogs, consider a few concessions at home. Leave a path and plant-free "patrolling" area around the perimeter of your yard; dogs instinctively cruise boundaries and fence lines. For the determined digger, consider an approved digging pit, preferably in a shady location. Train them to use it by lightly burying a treat-filled Kong while they watch. They will quickly figure it out!

Trees and Shrubs:

Tannin is contained in almond and walnut hulls; cherry trees have toxic bark, and some stone fruit trees like apricots and



Photo Credit: Rob Kessel

plums can create obstructions with indigestible pits. Yews, Sago Palms, and Hydrangeas are beautiful but deadly to your dog. Don't overlook trees and shrubs when considering plant safety.

Annuals and Perennials:

Nature's attention getters - annuals and perennials - provide color, fragrance, and are beneficial hosts to bees, butterflies, and more. But choose wisely for water savings and pet safety. For summer-long color with drought and dogs in mind try these sun lovers:

Cosmos Sunflower Bee Balm China Aster Coreopsis Cone Flower Penstemon Lavatera Catnip

Many commonly planted vegetables can be harmful. Construct fixed barrier around plants like eggplant, tomato, onions, rhubarb and potato; as well as flowers like Foxglove, Deadly Nightshade and Larkspur.

Visit the ASPCA website for a comprehensive list of toxic plants for dogs: http://www.aspca.org/pet-care/animal-poison-control/toxic-and-non-toxic-plants

Pest Control:

Do not use snail bait containing metaldehyde or methiocarb which are highly poisonous to dogs and cats. Ground coffee beans and broken pine needles can make scratchy and effective barriers, or plant repellent plants like Lavender, Thyme, Sage, Geraniums and Mint in between snail favorites.

And Don't Forget:

A lawn mower can make a projectile out of a stick or rock that can injure your pet. Put your pup inside when mowing. Store plant food or chemicals out of reach and in their original containers. If there is a toxic exposure or consumption, call your veterinarian immediately with the information from the product label.

With a little planning, you and your pet can peacefully co-exist in a safe and beautiful garden – even in a drought!



Save the Date! And Get Ready for Kibble & Bids™ 2016

Mark your calendar now and save the date for Kibble & Bids 2016!

We're back at the California Auto Museum this year for a fun-filled evening full of fine food, wine - and yes - the beer is back! There will be amazing live and silent auction offerings, a raffle, and fun activities for all - not to mention our gorgeous Golden Greeters!

Look for all the details on our website soon at: www.homewardboundgoldens.org.

We hope to see you there!





Newly Combined! The Reunion & Volunteer Appreciation Picnics

Meet old friends - and new! What a great opportunity to gather together Homeward Bound Alum - and all of the volunteers who make those "going homes" possible!

Join us at Tahoe Park in Sacramento for a casual day of fun and golden companionship. All well-behaved HBGRR alumni (and humans!) are welcome!

For more information, please email us at events@homewardboundgoldens.org.

For Info Contact: events@homewardboundgoldens.org

BOUND Golden Retrieve



Turn KIBBLE INTO CASH for the pups at Homeward Bound!

For every large bag of Nature's Select Premium Pet Food purchased, Nature's Select will donate \$3.00 back to Homeward Bound. Nature's Select provides FREE HOME DELIVERY in the greater Northern California area. It's all-natural, holistic pet food from a local, familyowned and operated company.

"The Homeward Bound dogs are doing great since we started feeding them Nature's Select. We love the convenience of having the food delivered to us, as well as the generous donations the "Kibble Into Cash" program provides."

- Jody Jones, President, Homeward Bound Golden Retriever Rescue & Sanctuary

916-480-0900 www.nsnorcal.com



How to Reach Us

Your help and ideas are always welcome! Contact team leaders below if you are interested in helping in any of these areas:

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Dates To Remember

Double The Gold Challenge - Now Underway!

Golf Fore Goldens - May 2, 2016

Reunion & Volunteer Appreciation Picnic - May 22, 2016

Kibble & Bids™ - September 10, 2016

Help Wanted

Volunteer Positions Currently in High Demand:

- Taxi Drivers: Start a dog on its journey home!
- Feeders: A dog's best friend. Physically demanding, but so rewarding!
- **Walkers:** Build bonds of trust through walking, playing, training, and grooming. Help prepare the dogs for their forever homes.

Our Golden Wish List

You can also shop our Amazon Wish List. You'll find the link on our website!

For Our Goldens:

Nature's Select Dog Food (donate with your online purchase)

Large Pill Pockets Dog Cookies

Rubber-backed Rugs

Petco & PetSmart Gift Cards

Office Supplies

Postage Stamps 8 1/2 x 11 Copy Paper

Professional Printing Services

General Maintenance & Laundry

Paper Towels

Garbage Bags (heavy duty & extra heavy duty)

Pooper Scoopers

Facilities Supplies

Lowes or Home Depot Gift Cards

For Landscaping & Our Memorial Garden

Green Acres Nursery Gift Certificates

Shredded Cedar Bark/Mulch