

Featured Story

In Memoriam

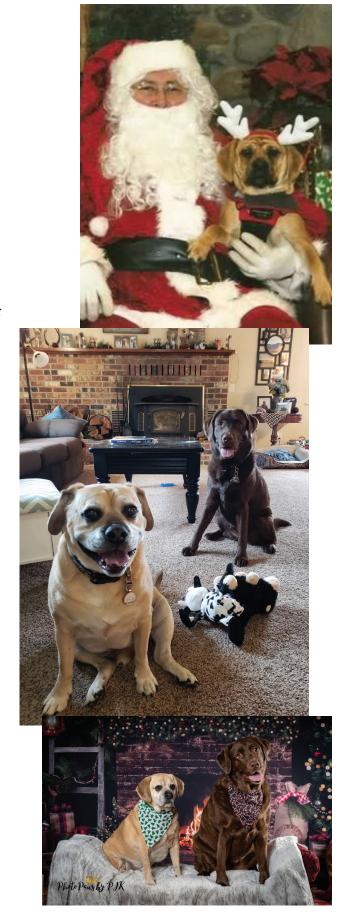
We recently heard from **Kimberlee Bell** about the passing of her sweet dog, **Bow**. She and Bow were regular attendees of Santa Paws, our annual holiday photo event around Christmas time, and never missed a year! Sadly, Bow passed shortly after his 2024 photo. We thought her story was touching and a great representation of our pets' contribution to our lives. Read more about Kimberlee's time with Bow:

"Bow was an energetic, curious, intelligent, snuggly puppy. I got him for my birthday when I turned 20 and he quickly became my best friend. Bow left a lasting impression on everyone he met, not only because of his adorable looks, but his sweet and caring demeanor. We often referred to Bow as our angel on earth. He had the ability to seek out the person in the room that needed the most love and then either snuggle them or be silly to make them laugh, but often it was both.

The last 14.5 years with Bow were spent exploring outside and snuggling on the couch. Bow loved to go for hikes in the woods and search for deer antler sheds. He found several in his time, including 2 matched sets. If we weren't hiking outside he was lounging in the sun or helping us dig carrots in the garden, one of his favorite snacks. His beagle nose was useful, but also got him into some mischief. When it was time go inside he loved to snuggle on the couch, keep watch out the window, and at bed time he had his special spot on the bed snuggling me. He even would burrow to the bottom of the bed under the blankets.

Bow never realized he was a dog. I truly believe that he thought he was a little boy. His first Christmas, we started the tradition of Santa pictures with SafeHaven and Christmas jammies. While the jammies did end after a few years, we never missed a year of Santa pictures at SafeHaven, even during Covid. Over the 15 years that we attended, Bow and I added my husband, a chocolate lab named Brinn and 2 little girls that Bow absolutely adored.

Bow was by my side through my highest highs and lowest lows the last 14.5 years. He supported and comforted me during tough relationships, the loss of grandparents, both my parents' cancer treatments, hard pregnancies, and a baby with extra needs. We also got to celebrate adding a 4 legged pup, marriage, my parents surviving cancer, and two amazing children that are both thriving. Bow was our angel on earth and he did his job very well. My family and I have a bond with him that will last an eternity. We have peace knowing that our angel will continue to watch over us and see us through all of our days here, both good and bad."



The Pet Press is a **free** quarterly magazine published by SafeHaven Humane Society in Tangent, Oregon.

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We are not affiliated with any other humane organizations and we do not receive any government funding or tax dollars.

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Become an Inner Circle Member

Each day, the animals in our care rely on kind-hearted people like you for food, medical care, and a chance at a loving home. By becoming a monthly donor, you provide consistent support that allows us to rescue more animals, provide lifesaving treatments, and ensure every pet gets the love and care they deserve. Even a small monthly gift can make a huge difference—turning fear into safety, hunger into nourishment, and loneliness into companionship. Join us today and be a hero for animals in need, one month at a time!

THE IMPACT OF YOUR DONATION

\$10 a month provides nourishing meals for 15 animals for one week.

\$25 a month provides vaccinations for two animals.

\$50 a month provides microchips for four animals.

\$75 a month provides lifesaving medical care for new arrivals at SafeHaven.

\$100 a month provides two spay/neuter surgeries to help with overpopulation.



Executive Director Focus

Dear Friends,

As I was walking my dogs this morning I reflected on how truly blessed I am to be a pet mom to five beautiful, older, and exceptionally loving dogs and, as you might have guessed, each adopted from SafeHaven. Today they range in age from 8 to 13 years old and many would say they were the "harder to place" dogs as each has its own unique challenges and personality, but as I watch them play in the field and pond this morning with the sun shining down, I just smile because they are HAPPY. Gunner, Maggie, Josie, Teddy, and Wallace are family and, as much as I played a part in giving them a home by adopting them, they give me and my family so much more....every day! Do I worry that my time with them is shorter? Yes, but never having their love at all would be way worse on my heart.

Adopting older dogs or cats is truly special!

Let me explain why I am a strong advocate for adopting older dogs or cats.

When it comes to adopting a pet, people often envision a bouncy puppy or playful kitten, but senior pets have an incredible amount to offer. Adopting an older dog or cat can be an incredibly rewarding choice for both the animal and the adopter. Here is a great example from the North Shore Animal League of why you should consider adopting an older pet.

CALM TEMPERAMENT AND LOWER ENERGY NEEDS

Senior pets are typically much calmer than their younger counterparts. They've left behind the high-energy phases of puppy or kittenhood and settled into a steady, manageable rhythm. For adopters seeking a companion who's more inclined to relax by their side than to race around the house, seniors are an ideal fit. These older pets generally require less exercise and intensive play, making them especially well-suited to quieter households or adopters with busy schedules.

ESTABLISHED PERSONALITIES AND PREDICTABILITY

One of the main challenges of adopting a young pet

is that their personalities are still developing, which can sometimes lead to surprises. Senior pets, on the other hand, often have well-defined personalities, so adopters know what they're getting in terms



CHRIS AND TEDDY

of behavior, temperament, and habits. In addition, since older pets have already reached full size and weight, it takes a lot of guesswork out of choosing the right pet for your lifestyle and home. This predictability makes it easier to find the right match and ensures a smoother transition into a new home, with fewer surprises.

BUILT-IN BASIC TRAINING

Many older pets come with years of experience, either from living in a home or from professional training provided in their shelter environment. This means they're already familiar with basic rules and routines. Older pets are less destructive, and more disciplined and focused. Senior dogs, in particular, are often housetrained and may know basic commands, while senior cats are likely to be experienced with litter boxes. This built-in training can ease the adjustment period and reduce the time needed for correction or reinforcement.

EFFORTLESS RELAXATION

It is well-proven that owning a pet is relaxing and calming. It even lowers blood pressure! Senior pets tend to have a calm, mellow attitude. Meaning your time with your senior pet is a relaxing session from the beginning, with no need to expend a puppy's energy to get them to settle down.

Featured Pets

COMPANIONS FOR ANYONE AND EVERYONE

Senior pets make great companions for young and older adopters alike. Because their size, temperament, and energy level is well established, an owner of any age will find the right companion for them. Our Seniors For Seniors® Program can help bring a wonderful pet into the home of adults 60 and over at reduced adoption fees.

A TRUE ACT OF COMPASSION

Senior pets are often overlooked in shelters, as many people gravitate toward younger animals. Yet, by adopting a senior, you're making a life-changing difference for an animal who might otherwise be left behind. This compassionate choice not only gives an older pet a safe, happy home in their golden years, but it also frees up shelter resources to help other animals in need.

So, the next time you visit SafeHaven, pay extra attention to our senior pets...I promise you they have so much love to give! What greater good can we do as animal lovers than to ensure that senior pets' final years are filled with as much joy and happiness as I witnessed this morning on my walk with my dogs.

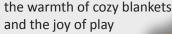
For the animals,

Chris Storm, Executive Director

Meet Some of Our Senior Pets

REGAN, AGE 7

Meet Regan, a delightful and charming soul on a quest for his forever home at SafeHaven! This talkative and independent gentleman is not just a chatterbox; he's also a master cuddler who relishes



time with toys.



POPEYE, AGE 9

Popeye arrived at SafeHaven from her previous owner as they were no longer able to take care of her. Popeye is here with her friend Nala hoping to find a nice quiet home to roam and sleep in.



DOZER BUTTERBALL BURGESS, AGE 9

With a name like Dozer Butterball Burgess, how could you not want to meet this lovable guy? This handsome boy may have some years under his belt, but don't let that fool you-he's still got plenty of love to give and is ready to be the best companion you could ask for!



Meet Minerva! She is 17 years old with geriatric needs but none of that stops her from giving love to those who need it. She is a very sweet old girl who is looking for her new home to have a nice comfy spot or lap to lay on and people to love her just as much as she can love them!



Events





RESCUE ROUNDUP

SADDLING UP SEPTEMBER 27, 2025

This event includes a BBQ dinner, a live and silent auction with MANY items for you to bid on, and a honky-tonk time

Benefitting SafeHaven Humane Society!

AUCTION ITEMS NFFDFD

WE NEED YOU TO MAKE THIS OUR MOST SUCCESSFUL FUNDRAISER YET. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN DONATING AN AUCTION ITEM TO HELP RAISE FUNDS FOR THE ANIMALS, WE ARE NOW ACCEPTING ITEMS.

PLEASE EMAIL OUR TEAM FOR MORE INFORMATION. KATIES@SAFEHAVENHUMANE.COM

SPECIAL THANKS TO









Al & Dixie Sullivan

If you are interested in becoming a sponsor for this event, please email katies@safehavenhumane.com.

GATHER 'ROUND AT WWW.SAFEHAVENHUMANE.ORG/EVENTS

FOR MORE INFORMATION!

Happy Tails

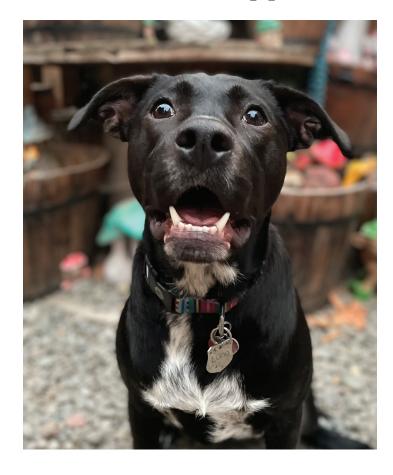
Luna

Harley Grell recently celebrated her one year anniversary of adopting **Luna** (formerly Hera). She emailed us with a very happy update:

When adopting Hera, we had decided to change her name to Luna. Since adopting Luna, she has been nothing but the light of our lives. Luna is the sweetest girl you'll ever meet. She has brought us so much happiness. She loves to sleep and cuddle! There is never a time in the day where she isn't wanting to snuggle up with her family! Luna loves her life and everyone in it. She has amazing doggie cousins who she loves to play and spend time with. Since adopting Luna we knew that things would take time and adjusting, but she had adapted quickly. Luna is really one in a million; she has forever changed our lives for the best and we love her dearly.

Luna also has a instagram with her cousins if you want to check it out! Just search @luna.missy.willow





Starsky, Hutch, and Sheba

If you've been following our website over the past year, you may have seen the story of **Starsky, Hutch, and Sheba**—three bonded senior cats. These sweet, beautiful, and shy kitties came to us after their beloved owner passed away. It's always challenging to find a home for one senior cat, but three together takes someone truly special.

Although we knew it would be tough to find them a home as a trio, we couldn't bear to separate them after they lost the only family they knew. To help them feel more comfortable during their wait, we reached out to one of our incredible foster parents, who generously opened her home to them.

After nearly a year, Starsky, Hutch, and Sheba have been adopted! Their adopter, **Karen Guevara**, shared, "We're confident they'll come out of their shells and be happy in our home. We will love them forever!"



Introducing E-Cards

Let's face it - life is busy! Not many of us have time to write a heartfelt, handwritten card to our loved ones but we still want to acknowledge special days, or even say "Hi" just because. SafeHaven now offers E-cards so you can send one to anyone, anywhere! Spread smiles and share the love with animals in need by making a donation in your friend or family members' name.

How it works:

Select the card you'd like to send in honor of your recipient, add your personal message, make your donation, and send! Recipients will receive the e-card immediately or you can schedule them for a later date.

www.safehavenhumane.org/support-us/donate/e-cards





Humane Education

Animal Welfare in Our Schools

A word from our **Humane Education Coordinator, Katie Bateman** (featured in photos)

"Our world is brimming with information. As adults, we can choose any number of different sources and tools to access it. We decide what we think is important and what we want to learn about. Funny things, sweet things, things that make us mad, and things that we can be passionate about. There's just so much! As children and young adults there's one primary source, apart from our parents, that the majority of our information comes from. School! Our educators take on the immense challenge of teaching us what we need to know to enter adulthood, and they don't have a lot of time to do it in. Priority must be given to the things deemed most important.

So, when someone takes the time to work animal welfare education into their curriculum, we see the value they're assigning to it, we appreciate it, and we jump on the chance! In 2024, we were invited to 18 local schools (pre K through high school) for 67 different classroom visits. We met the most wonderful students, teachers, and school staff. We got to talk about some of our favorite things (like animal safety, working with animals, and understanding animals so we can build successful relationships with them), and introduce some of our adoptable animals to some amazing humans. We gained volunteers, adopters, and friends. We got to see firsthand the difference a good school and a wonderful teacher can make in the lives of their students and their community. We learned so much and can't thank them enough!

Thank you to the educators working day in and day out to do more than we can imagine. Thank you for loving our community and making an effort to improve it for the humans and animals that share it. Thank you for your support and for making our hearts happy. We see you."





2024 Year In Review

Finding Homes

2,001 ANIMALS GOT A SECOND CHANCE LAST YEAR

One person's unwanted animal becomes another person's beloved family member. And that is the mission at SafeHaven Humane Society. You can hear it through the halls and around the shelter... "as long as it takes." That's because each animal that comes through our doors gets to stay until they find their forever home, no matter how long it takes.

These adoptions don't just happen, however. They happen because our supporters choose to tell their friends and family about SafeHaven and the wonderful animals available for adoption. They happen because our followers on social media engage and share the animals available. They happen because we have an incredible network of volunteers, foster parents, and donors who choose to give support to those who have no voice of their own. For so many reasons, SafeHaven is able to find a home for thousands of animals each year and, for each reason, we are thankful.

So, from the 2,001 animals adopted in 2024 that are now resting happily in their new lives, Thank You! Thank you to everyone who donated their time, dollars, or supplies to keep the animals well cared for. Thank you to anyone who has attended a third party fundraiser at one of the many establishments in our community that generously give back. Thank you for sharing our posts on Facebook and tagging your friends in our stories. We can keep going but, instead, let us say Thank You for thinking of the animals who needed us!



ATTICUS, ADOPTED FEBRUARY 2024



ANNABELLE, ADOPTED JUNE 2024



ALBERT, ADOPTED OCTOBER 2024

669 DOGS 1,317 CATS 15 SMALL ANIMALS



2024 Year In Review

Educating Minds

4050

youth participated in **Humane Education programs**

67 presentations in 18 local schools

Opening Hearts

1,690 Volunteers contributed 90,211 Hours of Service

19 adoptions resulting from 644

Doggy Days Out



Celebrating Love (And Other Feelings)







Valentine's Day Fundraising

We want to send a huge Thank You to everyone who donated and participated in our fourth annual **Valentine's Day Pet Drawing Fundraiser!** During the week of Valentine's Day, making a donation of at least \$20 to the animals at SafeHaven meant you would receive a portrait drawing of your pet by a staff member or dedicated volunteer.

We had a pool of willing artists standing by, eager to turn loved pets into a timeless work of art. The best part of this fundraiser is, you might get one of our extremely talented artists, or you'll get someone who can't draw their way out of a paper bag. But every artist puts their heart into their art! We're much better at rescuing pets than drawing them!

Together, you raised \$940 for the animals at SafeHaven while they wait for awesome owners who love them enough to want a custom drawing of their cuteness! **THE TRADITION CONTINUES** - keep an eye out next February for a chance at your pet's portrait!

Love Stinks

This year, we introduced a new way to celebrate Valentine's Day! For our **Love Stinks** fundraiser, we asked donors to send in the name of an ex or someone they thought deserved to 'stink'. In February, when supporters donated just \$5, they could nominate a special someone to be "buried" in an adoptable kitty's litter box. From there, well...we let the kitties do the rest!

We had 17 nominations made with a suggested donation of \$5 each. Some folks generously donated more than the suggested amount, and the total funds raised were \$175.10. Of the 15 cats and kittens that assisted in this fundraiser as "Cupid Kitty Helpers," 13 have been adopted!



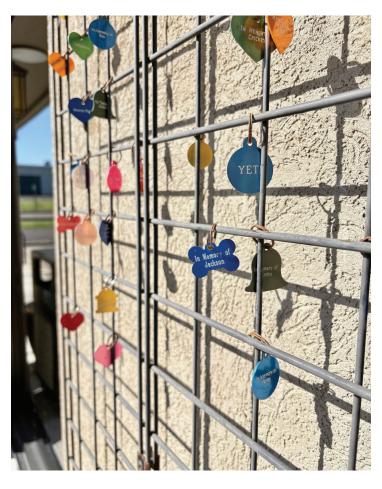
Memory Wall & Featured Pet

In Memory

For us, a pet is not "just a dog" or "just a cat," but rather a beloved member of our family, bringing companionship, fun, and joy to our lives. We recognize that losing this family member can be one of the most painful times in someone's life. That's why we created the Memory Wall at SafeHaven. Honor your pet's life with a tag to be displayed at SafeHaven for decades to come.

A memory wall tag is a beautiful, permanent way to honor or memorialize a beloved pet. With a donation of \$100, a pet I.D. tag can be engraved in memory of or in honor of a cherished pet and featured on the display near the front entrance of the shelter. You and your loved ones can visit the shelter to see your tag and the animals your donations have helped!

Once your tag and donation is submitted, we will create and hang your tag and email you with a photo of the finished product.



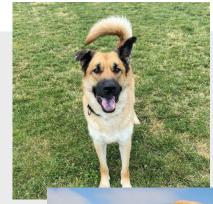
Learn more: www.safehavenhumane.org/support-us/donate

Aries, Long Term Resident

6-year-old Shepherd Mix

Hi, my name is Aries! I am a big boy with a heart of gold, but it does take me a minute to see if we should be friends...I choose my friends wisely. I was left tied to a door at SafeHaven and after working with Linn County Animal Control, SafeHaven said I could stay, promising to help me find a new home! I am working on my leash manners, and am still learning how best to play with others.

I am eager to be placed in playgroups, but I can be intimidating due to my size. It's just 114 pounds of pure love! I am always excited to meet new friends, and would love for you to be one of them. I promise to be the best boy I can. Come by to see me today!





Community Outreach

Clyde's Story

As told by owner, Charlotte Davis

"At SafeHaven, Clyde was named Reality. He was member of the Movie Themed litter from Warm Springs Reservation. On August 1, 2023 we made the trip to SafeHaven with our 2 year old Jack Russell Terrier named Lucy. Because of Lucy's age, combined with her exuberance, typical of a Jack Russell, we decided that we wanted some balance. We landed on the goal of finding a male, low key pup, maybe a lab/Shepard mix of some sort. Somewhere in the vicinity of 50 pounds.

A SafeHaven staff member guided us the to the kennels where the "Movie" puppies were. All of them were pretty reserved and had packed themselves into the far corner of the kennel. I walked in and sat down hoping that one would be curious enough to approach, but not one dared.

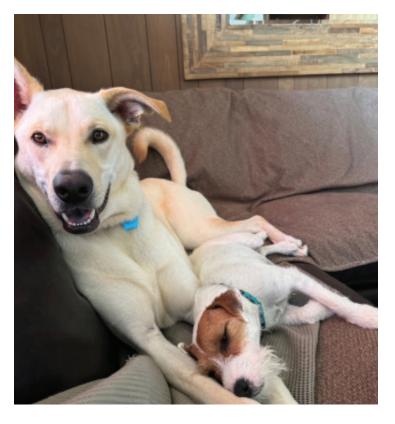
We went to the next kennel and found the same situation until a blond pup approached us, he sat down and pressed himself to the chain link, and looked up at us. He had the most beautiful amber eyes. He already weighed 44 lbs and was only 4 months old. We knew that he would certainly exceed our 50 pound goal. My husband asked how big I thought he would grow to be. I told him probably around 80 lbs. We questioned if we should even go in to meet him, but in we went. We sat down and without hesitation, Reality crawled into our laps.

What could we do? It was a done deal, and we knew that he was coming home with us. We looked at each other, shrugged and decided that 80 lbs was not so big. Next, Reality met Lucy and it was love at first sight. We were on our way home with a new family member.

Clyde was overwhelmed by the ride home, and by going into our home for the first time. His new best friend, Lucy, was overjoyed to help him learn the ropes. Lucy showed him how to climb up stairs and then to walk back down. She helped him learn where the dog door was and how to use it. After taking a few days to settle in, Clyde started to come out of his shell. He and Lucy quickly became overly exuberant playmates.

Although Clyde had warmed up to us, he was quite shy with others, so our initial training priority was to provide him with frequent opportunities to experience the world. It was important for him to learn how much fun he could have once he gained confidence in himself. At that time he was very wary of new people, new places and new experiences.

All four of us took baby steps together, and slowly he began to gain confidence, and show curiosity in new situations. After a



few weeks he started to look to people for attention. I began to see him as a potential therapy dog when we stopped to talk with a man who asked abut Clyde. As the conversation continued, the gentleman shared that he had recently lost his beloved Labrador. Talking about his loss was an emotional struggle. Clyde walked over to the man and leaned against him. Clyde offered comfort and he happily received pets and affection from someone that he just met.

Our new life with Clyde was off to a good start. We attended puppy classes at the Humane Society in Salem. We also participated in 4H obedience classes, where he did very well. Clyde was, and continues to be, an excellent student; he enjoys learning and is so happy when he performs a new skill and I tell him that he is the very best boy ever! Last summer Clyde and I were accepted into the Paws for Love therapy dog program. His first task was to earn his AKC Canine Good Citizen certificate, which he did.

We were officially on our way to becoming a certified Pet Therapy Team. After completing all the requirements, Clyde and I graduated last November! He likes his library visits best. He gets to lay around and listen to kids read library books to him.

Clyde's time doing therapy work is minimal compared to his life just enjoying being a much loved family dog. Camping, digging, splashing in puddles, sleeping on the couch are a few

Clyde's Story Continued

of his favorite activities. Always, there is playing with Lucy, then more playing with Lucy, then crashing with Lucy on the couch, until they are both rested enough to play some more.

Like all of our dogs, Clyde is special in his very own way. He is everything we wanted in a dog. He is calm, and quietly takes things in before he decides if he needs to take action. A squirrel requires action, a knock at the door can be ignored. He is loyal and loving. Following us around all day is perfectly fine with him. Ask him if he wants to go for walk, and he jumps up to let you know that a walk is exactly what he wants to do. Clyde is practically perfect in every way. Thank you SafeHaven, for all you do to help pets find the people who will love them."

Gift and Thrift

Spring into Style

As the days get longer and the weather gets warmer, spring is the perfect time for a wardrobe refresh and home organization. But what if you could spring-clean in a way that not only benefits you, but also helps animals in need? The Gift & Thrift locations, offering TWO unique thrift stores, do just that—donating 100% of proceeds to support SafeHaven.

1. Thrift with Purpose: Supporting Pets

Thrifting does more than just save you money—it directly supports the care and wellbeing of animals in your community. Every purchase made helps fund shelter programs, animal adoptions, medical care, and more. Thrift stores like this provide a sustainable way to care for the planet and its furry inhabitants. By supporting the Gift & Thrift, you're making a difference in the lives of animals while also contributing to the circular economy.

2. Spring Wardrobe Refresh: Thrift Finds for the Season

Spring is all about light layers, fresh colors, and an overall cheerful vibe. But why pay full price when you can find stylish, gently-used pieces at thrift stores? Here are a few ideas on how to build a spring wardrobe on a budget:

- Lightweight Jackets & Cardigans: The spring weather can be unpredictable. Look for lightweight jackets, cardigans, and denim pieces that can be layered over your outfits for both warmth and style.
- **Bright Accessories:** Add some color to your spring outfits with vibrant accessories that will help bring new life to older pieces.

3. Thrifted Home Decor: Refresh Your Space for Spring

Spring cleaning is the perfect time to refresh your decor. Thrift stores offer a variety of home items, from unique vintage finds to modern decor, at prices that won't break the bank. Some items to keep an eye out for this season:

- Vases & Planters: Pick up a unique vase or planter for your spring blooms and succulents.
- Art & Prints: Thrift stores often have beautiful, affordable art that can give your walls a fresh look.

4. How You Can Get Involved Beyond Shopping

Support goes beyond just shopping at the SafeHaven Gift & Thrift. You can donate your gently-used items to the store, volunteer your time, or spread the word about SafeHaven's mission. Every little bit helps the shelter continue its work and provides a chance for animals to find their forever homes.

Thrift shopping this spring allows you to look good, feel good, and do good all at once. Whether you're updating your wardrobe, redecorating your home, or simply supporting a worthy cause, shopping at the Gift & Thrift gives you the chance to make a positive impact!

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