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AWA WELCOMES NEW BOARD MEMBERS

To help continue its growth and drive its mission for the next 70-years, the no-kill shelter expands its board

Voorhees N.J., January 11, 2019- Today, the Animal Welfare Association (AWA) expanded its [board of directors](#) to 14 by welcoming five new members from the South Jersey area. The board is responsible for safeguarding the organization's vision, mission and values. They drive AWA's strategic and long-range goals and ensure AWA's strength and financial integrity.

Tim Ammon is the Chief of Business Development for The TransPar Group of Companies where he is responsible for coordinating marketing, sales, and communications activities across the company's global client base. He graduated from American University with a Master of Public Administration and from Salisbury University with a degree in History. Ammon is a pilot who has previously flown for PilotsNPaws and Animal Rescue Flights delivering a variety of animals from shelters to new homes. Along with their three dogs, Ammon and his wife just welcomed a new baby girl. Ammon resides in Cinnaminson.

Holger Baeuerle is a private real estate investor. He most recently was SVP Head of Procurement and IT with MEDCO Tools in Philadelphia. Prior to this, Holger was SVP Head of Global Procurement with Moody's in New York City. Holger and his spouse, Lauren Bell, have one child and are the proud owners of AWA adoptees. Holger resides in Haddonfield.

Carolyn Bekes, M.D. is a critical care physician who is currently a Professor of Medicine at Cooper Medical School of Rowan University. Dr. Bekes has served as the President of the New

Jersey Chapter of the Society of Critical Care Medicine, the Chair of the American College of Critical Care Medicine, and Chair of the Critical Care Education and Research Foundation. A resident of Cherry Hill, Dr. Bekes is on the board of directors for Animal Welfare Association, and has been a foster mother for two Vietnamese children, and has had many cats and a dog – all rescues.

Kenneth M. Morgan is an attorney practicing in New Jersey and Pennsylvania through Morgan Law LLC, a firm he founded in 2015. He grew up in Cherry Hill and has resided in Southern New Jersey his entire life. Morgan and his wife Suzanne are the proud parents of two daughters. He loves having Penny, a 7-year-old Belgian Malinois, help him root for the Eagles. Morgan lives in Medford.

Jules K. Thiessen is a resident of Mt. Holly and was a member of the planning board. Additionally, he was the former mayor of Mt. Holly and now serves as a councilman. He is the Executive Director of Sales with Test America Laboratories, Inc. Mr. Thiessen is a world traveler and has many trips on his passport. Jules and his wife Kathryn, love cats and dogs have one dog, three indoor cats, a feral colony of six, and own two horses.

Late last year, AWA announced the construction of a new 15,000 square foot shelter on the current Centennial Boulevard site. The ambitious 18-month, \$2.5 million capital campaign, ***Building a Place Where Happiness Begins***, will replace the outdated 5,000 square foot shelter and allow for contemporary programming. Modern animal sheltering saves the lives of the most in need pets, keeps pets in homes through programs like an animal food pantry and offers public activities like summer camps or reading to animals. It strengthens the pet-person bond through programs like pet therapy.

The new adoption center will allow AWA to continue to service the community and its animal needs by:

- Having twice the space dedicated to adoption services
- Providing twice the medical space to care for ill or injured animals
- 42% increase in the number of pets housed and cared for daily

- Rehabbing 80 more cats and dogs, and 80 more neonatal kittens every year
- Having classrooms/training space for human education and volunteer programs
- Housing a pet food pantry.

The Project

In 2010, AWA developed a two-phased master plan. Phase one was completed in 2013 with the construction of a pet clinic to increase the spaying/neutering of animals and to provide low cost wellness services. The new adoption center is phase two of the plan and will require \$5 million to construct. AWA has already obtained pre-campaign commitments and financing for the first \$2.5 million needed and is announcing the capital campaign for the additional funds. The new center is expected to open by the summer of 2020. AWA will remain in operation during the nine-month construction.

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About AWA

Animal Welfare Association, a private, non-profit, 501(c) 3 animal welfare organization, serves the people and animals of southern New Jersey. AWA is dedicated to eliminating animal suffering, promoting the importance of the human-animal bond, and improving the role of animals in the well-being of people. Through a variety of programs including adoptions, veterinary services, pet therapy, and humane education, in 2017 over 23,000 pets were served through AWA programming. AWA is South Jersey's leader in progressive companion animal care.