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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Paws to Celebrate...AWA's New Pet Clinic Open House & 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

VOORHEES, NEW JERSEY, November 26, 2013—Animal Welfare Association, Inc. (AWA) celebrates the opening of a new Pet Clinic on Wednesday December 11, 2013. After years of planning AWA's new 4,300-square-foot spay/neuter and pet wellness clinic, it finally comes to fruition on December 16, 2013 when the new clinic welcomes the community's pets for the first time in the new space.

The Open House begins at 4:00 p.m. with the closing of AWA's Time Capsule. New clinic and shelter tours will be held at 4:30 p.m. Voorhees Township Mayor Michael Mignogna will be on hand to greet guests along with AWA Mascot Scout and Santa at 5:30 p.m. The evening includes a tree lighting ceremony, holiday carolers to entertain visitors, and refreshments. At 7:00 p.m. AWA will draw a winner for their annual 50/50 raffle; last year the winner took home more than \$4000! The event is free. AWA welcomes everyone to visit and meet the staff.

"This is a transformative milestone in the history of AWA" says AWA board of director's president, Jonathan Furlowe, "We are so pleased that this day has finally arrived and we can provide even more high-quality spay/neuter and pet wellness services in this beautiful new facility."

AWA has provided spay/neuter and pet wellness services since 1974. "Ending our 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary year with the opening of the clinic is a great accomplishment for AWA," says executive director Maya Richmond. "We continue to look for new ways to do more to help our community's pets. I can't wait to begin the second phase of our building project (with the expansion of AWA's animal shelter)."

The new clinic building sits behind AWA's 1964 shelter and adoption center surrounded by 9 acres of wooded land. It includes three exam rooms, a three-bay surgery suite, separate dog and cat recovery rooms, each able to accommodate 20-40 pets per day, a spacious reception area, with a light filled pet memory corridor leads to a future education room.

For more information, contact Maya Richmond, 802-598-3658 or visit [www.awanj.org](http://www.awanj.org) or [mayar@awanj.org](mailto:mayar@awanj.org).

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The Animal Welfare Association ([www.awanj.org](http://www.awanj.org)), a private, non-profit, 501(c) 3 animal welfare organization, serves the people and animals of southern New Jersey. Through a variety of programs including adoptions, veterinary services, pet therapy, and humane education, 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. In 2012, over 16,000 pets were served through AWA programming. AWA is South Jersey's leader in progressive companion animal care.