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**Contact:**  
**Elena Bicker**  
**925.296.3116**  
**ebicker@arf.net**

**MUCH MORE THAN A SHELTER**  
***Tony La Russa's Animal Rescue Foundation Opens Into Its New Home***

WALNUT CREEK, California – August 21, 2003 - A long time dream comes to fruition when Tony La Russa's Animal Rescue Foundation (ARF) opens the doors of its new Adoption and Education Center for the first time today! ARF's new shelter is located at 2890 Mitchell Drive in Walnut Creek at the corner of Mitchell Drive and Oak Grove Road and is the first No-Kill Facility in Contra Costa County.

The privately funded ARF campus features an adoption center, spay/neuter clinic, learning center and dog training pavilion. The new facility will reach out to the community, bringing people and animals together. The grounds have been carefully designed and the landscaping will feature a family-oriented park-like setting. Dog exercise yards, courtyards and meandering paths will round out the design, making it an magical experience for young and old, animals and people alike.

ARF's new 37,700-square-foot facility will draw thousands of human visitors each year who want to experience first hand the wonderful connection between humans and animals. It will serve as national headquarters for innovative programs that bring the healing touch of animals to people in need.

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P.O. Box 30215 • Walnut Creek, California 94598 • 925-256-1ARF • Fax 925-977-9079 • [www.arf.net](http://www.arf.net)