



There's No Friend Like an Old Friend: Adopting senior animals

Last year, Jenny went to [aspcanet.org](https://www.aspcanet.org) to search for the next love of her life. She was specifically looking for a senior pet.

"Older dogs usually get looked over," Jenny says, "which is really sad to me because they have so much love to give."

Jenny quickly found Ella, a 10-year-old pit bull mix. She filled out the adoption application and a day later our matchmakers reached out, inviting Jenny to come meet Ella.

What a joyful day that was. Due to her age and some health issues, Ella had spent almost nine months in our care. Though just as in need of love as her younger counterparts, it wasn't until Jenny came along that Ella finally found someone to see her for the loving dog she is.

Ella adjusted to her new home immediately. She curled up next to Jenny the very first night and has slept in the same place ever since.

"It's always that moment when you bring an older pet home—when they realize they're safe and loved and finally home. That's the best moment in the world," Jenny said.




Ella has had some health issues that sometimes go with being a senior dog. But nothing detracts from her love for life—or for Jenny.

"She makes me smile for no reason," Jenny says. "She reminds me how important it is to appreciate all the little things. The first time a firefly lit up in front of her face, I wish I had a picture of her reaction! It was surprise, delight, curiosity and wonder all rolled into one. That's how she lives her life and that's how I'm learning to live mine."

When you make an additional gift to the ASPCA®, you support all the animals in our care, from the youngest puppies to the oldest cats. Thank you to all the people who foster, adopt, and support animals, young and old!

SHARE YOUR GUARDIAN STORIES

We love to hear from our Guardian members about their reasons for giving.

 *"Since I am unable to live my dream of running a rescue ranch, I am doing the next best thing ... I am a PROUD ASPCA GUARDIAN. Thank you, ASPCA, for all you do to help the fur babies. So much love for the ASPCA!!!"* —Deana F.

 *"I've adopted Dachshunds since 1993, and they've all been extremely different. The Dachshund I have presently, Buddy, came from an abused situation and has a deformed foot. I felt that no one else would adopt this dog, so I did, and he has been a blessing in the 3+ years I've had him! What a companion! I joined ASPCA a few years ago so other animals could have the life that Buddy has. You guys rock!!"* —Gary P.

If you would like to share your Guardian story, please visit [aspcanet.org/story](https://www.aspcanet.org/story). Whatever your reason may be for giving, we are grateful for your support.



LEGISLATIVE ALERT: Let's pass a Farm Bill that benefits animals

Congress is preparing to work on the 2023 Farm Bill, and we need your help to make sure they use this opportunity to benefit animals.

Renewed every five years, the Farm Bill identifies national agricultural priorities and reaffirms the responsibilities of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). Critical animal welfare matters like protecting horses, preventing puppy mill cruelty, and building a more humane system for farm animals come up in this bill.

First passed in 1933, the Farm Bill has evolved to dictate how our food and farm systems operate and how funding is allocated. **But over time, the lobbying power of industrial agriculture has manipulated Farm Bill spending to benefit its own bottom line.**

As a result, the Farm Bill has a reputation for underwriting corporate profits instead of funding worthy and environmentally friendly food systems from healthy and more humane sources. Even programs like the Environmental Quality Incentives Program, created with the intention of helping farmers protect the environment, have been implemented in ways that continue to support and fund factory farms that pollute the earth and often use inhumane practices.

This year, Congress can include life-changing protections for animals, including Goldie's Act, which would help dogs in puppy mills and other commercial animal facilities, and the Farm System Reform Act, which offers a roadmap for a better world for farm animals.

It's crucial that you make your voice heard. To support a humane Farm Bill and other key issues, please visit aspca.org/advocacy

A Note from Matt Bershadker

Friends, it's such a delight to bring you this newsletter today. Your ongoing impact is shown through every story!

Everything the ASPCA® achieves is made possible through the generosity of committed Guardians like you.

You might not meet all the animals whose lives you change. You might not see their moments of joy as they meet their new humans, give their first slobbery kisses, or curl up in their new beds knowing they are safe. You might not see all the results of your tireless support and advocacy.

But Ella and so many others have you to thank for the incredible homes they've found and the lives they're living.

I hope that if you have an animal in your life, each time you give them a pet or a scratch behind the ears, you'll be reminded of your connection to our work. You're that powerful. Thanks for all you do, and all you give, to help animals!

Sincerely, 
— Matt Bershadker, President & CEO



Important Information

ASPCA Guardian
Member Support
(800) 628-0028
guardians@aspca.org

ASPCA Guardians Website
aspca.org/guardians
Check out our exclusive
Guardians page to see your
support in action.

ASPCA®

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