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SPARKLES  
JOE  
MOBY & TUCKER

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GINGER

The dogs featured in the header are (L-R) Trevor, Trixie, Bug, Primrose, Adie, Celia Mae, and Bobby

## WE LOVE OLD DOGS!

In this issue you'll read about **Sparkles**, who is affectionate and lives up to her name; **Moby and Tucker**, resilient, forgiving, and full of love; and **Joe**, now happy and no longer lonely. Also included is a **report about the Walk for Old Dogs and Mail box**—showcasing mail ODH has received recently, news about the **2020 calendar release party**, and information about **ODH in the news**. As always, there is information about **dog activity** as well as **a message from our executive director Ardeth De Vries**.

## DOG-CENTRIC EVENTS SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER

### SEPTEMBER

**Sept. 7 (Saturday)**  
11:00 A.M.  
**Doggiestock Music Festival**  
Old Cascade Golf Course  
14319 436th Ave. SE  
North Bend

**Sept. 14 (Saturday)**  
9:00 A.M.  
**Harbor Hounds 2019**  
Donkey Creek Park  
8714 North Harbor Dr.  
Gig Harbor

**Sept. 14 (Saturday)**  
11:00 A.M.  
**Pet Central Carnival & Adoption Event**  
13004 SE Kent Kangley Rd.  
Kent

**Sept. 15 (Sunday)**  
12:00 P.M.  
**Puyallup Pups & Purrs**  
Sunrise Village PetSmart  
10309 156th St. E  
Puyallup

**Sept. 21 (Saturday)**  
10:30 A.M.  
**Covenant Creatures "Love a Pitbull Day"**  
10th Anniversary, Marathon Park, Deschutes Pkwy SW  
Olympia

**Sept. 21 (Saturday)**  
11:00 A.M.  
**Tacoma Mud Bay Meet & Greet**  
635 Division Ave.  
Tacoma

**Sept. 21 (Saturday)**  
11:00 A.M.  
**Vancouver Mud Bay Meet & Greet**  
2100 SE 164th Ave.  
Vancouver

**Sept. 29 (Sunday)**  
2:00 P.M.  
**ODH Benefit "Wags & Wine: Uncork and Unwind"**  
324 Custer Way SW  
Tumwater

### OCTOBER

**Oct. 19 (Saturday)**  
11:00 A.M.  
**Tacoma Mud Bay Meet & Greet**  
635 Division Ave.  
Tacoma

**Oct. 20 (Sunday)**  
11:00 A.M.  
**Seattle Volunteer Park Dog parade/Halloween costume contest**  
1132 10th Ave. E.  
Seattle

**Oct. 26 (Saturday)**  
1:00 P.M.-5:00 P.M.  
**Old Dog Haven Wine Tasting, Calendar Release, & 15th Anniversary Party Northwest Cellars**  
11909 124th Ave NE.  
Kirkland

(See page eight for more details.)



**MARLEY**

### About Old Dog Haven

Old Dog Haven provides assisted living and hospice care for senior dogs, as well as help in placing senior dogs in new, loving homes. We serve western Washington, with Final Refuge homes from Blaine to Vancouver. To find out more, see [www.olddoghaven.org](http://www.olddoghaven.org)

### How to Help

There are many ways to help! You can do anything from taking a Final Refuge dog into your home, to hanging a poster or two. Click on the [Donate/Help us link](#) on the Home page of our website for more information.

If you have feedback about this newsletter or ideas for future newsletters, please send them to [ardethdv@comast.net](mailto:ardethdv@comast.net)

### ADOPT!

All of the senior dogs you see pictured in the border that runs the length of the newsletter (see left) are available for adoption (as of 9/2) Many dogs are in shelters, living in cages, desperately waiting for a forever home; some are in foster care, and several are posted for individuals and other rescue groups. All of these amazingly resilient dogs are looking for forever homes. Go to our website ([www.olddoghaven.org](http://www.olddoghaven.org)) to find out more about these adoptable dogs.

## SPARKLES

*by Dale & Widya Shepardon*

We don't know much about Sparkles's early life except that she was found abandoned in a shed and only weighed 38 pounds (currently maintaining at 60 pounds) and it appeared she had recently had puppies.



When Sparkles arrived at our home she was really eager to get out of the car, but was a little overwhelmed with her new surroundings once she was out. I introduced her to our senior dog Crash in the front yard, they sniffed each other and they have gotten along great ever since. We took her on a tour of the house and yard and then let her explore on her own and settle in at her pace. The vet did an initial exam, started vaccinations and developed a treatment plan for her kidney health and ideal weight. Sparkles has responded wonderfully and is currently stable thanks to her vet and Old Dog Haven.



Sparkles was underweight, but we immediately started her on prescription kidney care food to build her weight back up and stabilize her kidneys. Besides her kidney failure, she is also mostly deaf—so we use hand signals with her. She can sometimes hear upper range sounds, so a loud clap is the only way to get her attention if she is facing away. We started her on an exercise program that started with short walks and gradually built up distance.



Each foster dog has a unique personality and Sparkles in no exception. She has a very sweet and loving personality with humans, but probably wasn't socialized well with other dogs. Since Sparkles already had a name from the shelter, she kept it. It turns out her name fits her personality. She prances on walks as if to say, "this is how a lady walks." She loves to greet people and is really affectionate. On the other hand, she can be quite obstinate while frequently stopping to smell the roses, grass, weeds, bark dust, pavement, etc. Being a bully breed, she has broad strong shoulders, which she uses to great effect to plant herself while she snorts like a pug until she has thoroughly inspected an area and decided to move on. At mealtime and walk time she is not afraid to let us know her desires. She will walk to the harness rack and loudly proclaim it is walk time. Same thing with mealtime; she will go to the pantry door and wait. When we open her food bin, she starts bucking like a bronco at a rodeo and bucks over to her food and water station.

What we have learned from Sparkles is no matter how badly a human has treated them, dogs forgive and love us humans despite our faults. Sparkles truly lives in the moment. She is a fighter!

**Thank you Dale and Widya for giving Sparkles an opportunity to be a happy dog.**



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## MOBY & TUCKER

by Kelly Marlo

This spring I saw a posting for two Shih Tzus in need of a foster home. The dogs had been living on a small backyard porch for over ten years, groomed once a year and were only allowed indoors at night to sleep in a crate. Everyone was hoping someone would offer to take them both so they could stay together, but after a couple of weeks, these poor guys had few options. In that time, two of my long-time foster dogs passed away ten days apart from each other, and it seemed like a sign that the two Shih Tzus were meant to be part of our family.



One of our fabulous transport volunteers, Michele, met me with the boys and we brought them home to our pack. Tucker and Moby, otherwise known as "The Twins," were sweet, gentle and very confused as to why they were allowed in our house and up on the couch. For the first few weeks the boys decided to spend most of the day and every night retreating to our laundry room and away from everyone. After ten years of living outdoors, they had no idea how to live with people inside a house.



Then they started to understand that this was their new home, and once they started to settle in, their personalities came out. They started play fighting each other, chasing each other through the house and napping the day away on the couch. They both love people and dogs and love to curl up on your lap and snuggle. Moby is very funny and loves to explore outside, eating apples in the orchard and smelling lavender bushes.



Playing with son, Sam.

His brother, Tucker, loves to run through the pastures and then run inside to claim his place on his favorite couch. Tucker is very affectionate and cannot get enough pets and scratches. It has been a joy to watch these two soak up the love and attention they lived without for all of their lives.



This dynamic duo has taught me to live in the moment and enjoy everything you have. They are so forgiving, resilient and full of love. Because of Old Dog Haven, Moby and Tucker are now part of a family that truly loves and adores them!

**Thank you Kelly, Per, and Sam for showing Moby and Tucker what it's like to be loved and valued as members of the family.**

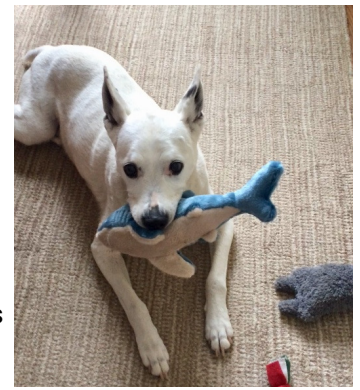


**REX**

## JOE

*By Karen and John Jackley*

With three senior dogs at home, we liked to joke that we already had our very own Old Dog Haven. We'd long supported and followed ODH and thought we'd foster someday when we had more room at the inn. Sadly, someday came much sooner than expected when we lost our two Australian cattle dog boys just 10 days apart due to cancer and a suspected tumor. Our remaining chiweenie girl was lonely and sad without her brothers, and because she is so picky about her friends, it was hard to imagine we would find another dog that would fit our family again like our perfect little pack.

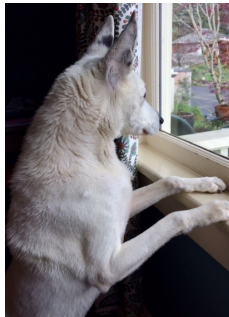


**At the shelter**

After nearly a year, we slowly started looking around for a new family member. We decided an older male cattle dog might fit the bill, and then I saw Joe's photo on the ODH Facebook page. Something about his sweet face touched me, and on a whim, I sent off an email.

We were told Joe had severe separation anxiety, so bad that he needed daily medication. Because we have flexible work schedules and are often not away from home for more than a few hours at a time, we seemed like a good fit for a dog without a whole lot of options. Joe's list of issues was pretty long, so we were allowed to meet him at the shelter and talk to the staff to see if we thought we could take him on. He was so full of joy and just wanted affection! He crawled into John's lap and curled up against him. We liked him instantly.

It's amazing how well Joe has fit into our family. From day one there have been no issues at all. After all we'd been told, we were prepared for some challenging times, but it was the smoothest transition of any new dog we've experienced. I honestly think he was meant to be here. We set up a crate for him to sleep in at first, to have a safe cozy place. On the third night, he hopped up onto our bed, curled up on my feet, and that was that.



I was so worried to leave him alone that first week, even just for an hour or two. We came up with a plan for leaving the house and set up a time-lapse video to help us manage his separation issues. I drove one house away and listened for barking, then called the neighbor to let me know if she heard anything, but all was quiet. All the video showed was that Joe looked out the window a bit, then laid down on the rug next to Little in her bed. We moved his bed next to hers, and that's how they've been ever since.

We learned Joe had been left completely alone for 10 to 12 hours a day tied up outside, never went for walks, and reportedly didn't play with toys or other dogs. Now with a constant canine companion, a consistent schedule with his people in and out for short periods, daily walks, and lots of toys that he loves to play with, Joe is completely off medication. Pretty much everything we were told about him turned out to be wrong. He was just misunderstood and really lonely. I wish we'd found him sooner; the thought of him being sad for so long pains me, but he's happy now, and now is what counts.

Joe and Little are best buddies. They nap together, watch TV with us side by side, share toys, run around the yard, and clean each other's bowls after meals. I think they needed each other. It's so heartwarming, and Joe has made our family complete again. We adore our Joe-Joe and are so glad to be his forever home.



**MACK**



**Thank you Karen, John, and Little for welcoming Joe into your home and hearts.**

# 2019 WALK FOR OLD DOGS BREAKS ALL RECORDS!

What a day! Over 500 people and their dogs strutted their stuff at ODH's 8th annual Walk for Old Dogs on July 21. Thanks to generous donors, sponsors and participants, over \$120,000 was raised to help our dogs.



Dogs of all ages, breeds, sizes, and mobility enjoyed an afternoon in the park with the people who love them. They competed in contests, had free massages, nail trims, scarfed down goodies from the Seattle Barkery, socialized, met new friends, splashed around in the wading pools to keep cool, and just loved being there.

## Contact Us

Website:  
[www.olddoghaven.org](http://www.olddoghaven.org)

Phone:  
(206) 280-7614

Inquiries about fostering and adoption  
[office@olddoghaven.org](mailto:office@olddoghaven.org)

Help with placing your dog & social media  
[placement@olddoghaven.org](mailto:placement@olddoghaven.org)

Corporate giving, Walk for Old Dogs, marketing & PR inquiries  
[development@olddoghaven.org](mailto:development@olddoghaven.org)

ODH participation at your event & benefits  
[events@olddoghaven.org](mailto:events@olddoghaven.org)

End-of-Life decisions & grief Counseling  
[ardethdv@comcast.net](mailto:ardethdv@comcast.net)

Address changes & donor inquiries  
[donations@olddoghaven.org](mailto:donations@olddoghaven.org)

Website questions/Issues  
[ODHWeb@olddoghaven.org](mailto:ODHWeb@olddoghaven.org)

Volunteer Opportunities  
[volunteer@olddoghaven.org](mailto:volunteer@olddoghaven.org)

Other inquiries  
[office@olddoghaven.org](mailto:office@olddoghaven.org)



**The newest permanent foster family in attendance (less than a month) Megan D'Anna and Joel Peterson** were introduced along with their foster dog, Trixie.



**The oldest dog in attendance** was our very own KayCee, Old Dog Haven's longest resident dog. Kay Cee is 21 years old and is still healthy and beautiful. She's blind, but she sees with her heart.

**The top three individual and team fundraisers** were awarded ribbons and prizes:

### Individual Fundraisers



**1st Place: Peabody Johanson (\$11,270)**



**2nd Place: Meredith Moses (\$5,410)**

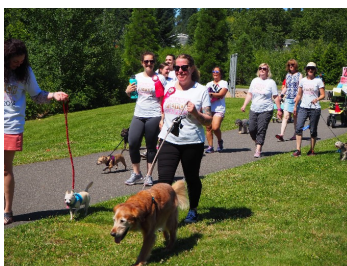


**3rd Place: Wendy Giberson (\$4,210)**

### Team Fundraisers:



**1st Place: The Whoville Misfits (\$16,235)**



**2nd Place: Make Fetch Happen (\$3,505)**



**3rd Place: Geriatric Canine Liberation Front (\$2,580)**

**1st Place:**  
**Frank (Shark attack)**



**Best Costume**

**2nd Place:**  
**Otter (Rainbow bridge)**



**3rd Place:**  
**Chancellor (Elton John)**



**1st Place:**  
**Cooper (Chasing feathers)**



**Best Trick**

**2nd Place:**  
**Fitz (Gumball machine treats)**



**3rd Place:**  
**Oreo (Playing dead)**



**Musical Chairs Winner**

**Terri and Ginger**



**ROMA**

**Thank You to:**

**Paula Moreschi**—Walk Coordinator,  
**Joe Myers**—graphic design, assistant coordinator,  
**All of our sponsors** for being such dedicated supporters of ODH,  
**Forrest Giberson**—Walk Manager and his volunteers,  
**All of the individuals and businesses who donated prizes**,  
**Dawn Ford and Kelly Marlo** for contacting donors, and collecting and putting together prize baskets,  
**Kelly Marlo** for arranging for raffle prizes,  
**Photographers** Julie Austin, Bev Bowe, Joe Myers, Anne Williams, and Rebecca Murlless,  
**Pageant judges:** Shelby Axtell, Dr. Victoria Jones, and Erica Stewart,  
**Rick Olson** for providing the sound system and announcing,  
**Everyone** who donated, registered and supported the Walk in some way, and  
**All of the dogs for helping us celebrate your importance in our lives!**

**Special thanks to vendors and food trucks who either donated money for booth space and/or donated a percentage (or all) of their sales to ODH.**

## Newsletter Team

**DeeAnne Matz**  
(Distribution/Web access)

**Judith Piper**  
(Statistics/Resource)

**Contributors:**  
Dale & Widya  
Shepardson  
Karen and John  
Jackley  
Kelly Marlo  
Paula Moreschi

**Proofreader**  
Montreux Rotholtz

**Editor**  
Ardeth De Vries



## Forward to a Friend

Know somebody who loves old dogs? The more people who join our network, the more old dogs we can help!

If this email was forwarded to you, and you'd like to receive it in the future, send an email to [donations@olddoghaven.org](mailto:donations@olddoghaven.org)

To stop receiving this newsletter, send an email to [donations@olddoghaven.org](mailto:donations@olddoghaven.org)

To have this newsletter sent to a different email address, send an email to [donations@olddoghaven.org](mailto:donations@olddoghaven.org)

## MAIL BOX

We love hearing from people who have adopted senior dogs through our postings on Facebook and are happy to share their stories. Thanks to all of you who share the postings!



"It has been a year now since we have adopted **Bo**. He is such a joy in our family. The funniest thing he does is allowing everyone in the door and excited to get his attention. But, when anyone goes to leave, he barks and growls at them. We laugh in that if we are ever robbed, they may get in but will not be able to leave! Here is a picture of him enjoying the late afternoon on the patio. He is a blessing to me." *Kathy*



"I saw on Facebook that you're asking for adoption updates and would love to share about my time with **Keela**. I adopted her through an Old Dog Haven posting in October 2017 and she has been the best gift to my life!

"Despite her age and some health issues, Keela is the most loving and happy dog I've ever known. She jumps up and down with excitement to go on walks and loves being near me at all times. She moves slowly these days, but nothing gives her more joy than smelling lots of smells outside!

"We love going camping together and taking short hikes. She also loves car rides and going with me to Frisbee games around Seattle.

"I'm Keela's 4th (and final!) owner and despite a hard life she has so much joy and love to give. She's been a true light in my life and I'm so grateful that I was able to welcome her into my home. Thank you for all that you do at Old Dog Haven!"



"Calliope Anne Snoopypants came to me from an ODH post as Snoopy. She was such an incredibly feminine girl she just had to have a more girly name and she chose Calliope, which I shortened to Cali. I was so incredibly lucky to have Cali for three years, one month, and 39 days. Every day was a joy with her.



"She was healthy, energetic, and had a warm loving spirit. She passed in early March, and she is buried under a baby cherry tree surrounded by roses and sweet smelling white flowers to match her coat.

"She meant the world to me, and I to her I believe. She's missed on a cellular level. She was my most perfect girl."

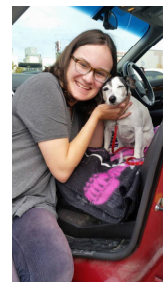
*Marsha*

## TRANSPORTERS NEEDED



Volunteers are needed to help transport dogs from shelters to ODH foster homes, **especially on weekdays**. If you'd like to be a part of our Dream Team of volunteers who represent the first lap of a dream come true in an old dog's new life, please contact:

[volunteer@olddoghaven.org](mailto:volunteer@olddoghaven.org)



# THE 3RD ANNUAL CALENDAR RELEASE PARTY, WINE TASTING EVENT, & OLD DOG HAVEN'S 15-YEAR ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



*Calendar cover photo taken by ODH Honorary Photographer, Julie Austin.*

*Calendar created by Joe Myers.*



**It's Old Dog Haven's 15-Year Anniversary—Come celebrate with us!**  
**Saturday, October 26 1:00–5:00 Northwest Cellars,**  
**11909 124th Ave NE, Kirkland, WA 98034**



**JILLIE**



**CHEYENNE**



**MINNIE**



**LANCE**

Come celebrate 15 miraculous years with us at the annual Northwest Cellars calendar release party and wine tasting. Thanks to your continued support thousands of senior dogs have been helped! What wonderful reason to raise our glasses to toast this awe-inspiring achievement.

As always, dogs are invited to attend, –and in addition to tasting some of the region's best wines, we'll have snacks for you and your furry friend(s). Our special 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary labeled wine will be available to purchase as well as our 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary tote bag and other Old Dog Haven merchandise.

All money raised at the event will go towards Old Dog Haven's **Maranda Fund**: <https://olddoghaven.org/the-maranda-fund/> The fund was created to help dogs that need one-time veterinary procedures that would give them a good chance for a happy life if successful, in excess of what we would consider normal veterinary expenses.

Ticket price is just \$35 and includes a wine tasting and 2020 Old Dog Haven calendar. Get your tickets here:

<https://www.northwestcellars.com/events/event-sign-up/525-old-dog-haven-15th-anniversary-fundraiser.html>

(Tickets are \$45 after October 23 and at the door.)

The 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary label wine and calendar will be available to ship soon. Watch our **website** ([www.olddoghaven.org](http://www.olddoghaven.org))

**Facebook** ([https://www.facebook.com/olddoghaven.org/?ref=br\\_rs](https://www.facebook.com/olddoghaven.org/?ref=br_rs))

and **Instagram** pages (<https://www.instagram.com/olddoghaven/>) for updates.

## VENDORS NEEDED FOR THE 2020 CALENDAR

If you have a vet clinic, pet store, or other local business interested in selling the 2020 calendar, please email:

[development@olddoghaven.org](mailto:development@olddoghaven.org)



## 2020 CALENDAR COVER GIRL: NIKKI

Our charming calendar cover girl Nikki is an excellent example of the kind of transformation that often occurs when senior dogs come to ODH. Nikki was scheduled to be euthanized, ODH intervened, and now she lives happily with Aaron and Olympia and has developed quite a fan club.



We thought you might like to know a bit about Nikki so we asked her foster dad Aaron say a few words about her:

"My wife and I have been foster parents for Nikki for three and a half years. Her overwhelming quality is her success rate of 99% in everything she does. She has spent most of that time as an excellent ambassador for Old Dog Haven at various events around the area. Some people, especially kids, follow us to different events just to sit and hold Nikki. She can always be found in someone's lap or being carried around in her special sling bag. All a child has to do is to sit down and Nikki will crawl in their lap. Nikki's friend Brielle (see photo left) is a big fan and will often ask her mom to take her to an event just so she can spend time with Nikki.



Over the last few months at the ripe old age of 16 1/2 she has slowed down a bit but is still as sharp as a tack. Nowadays, she can be seen sleeping deeply in front of the fireplace or in my arms until she hears a food bowl go down; then she wakes and sneaks into the kitchen to eat."

*photos by Aaron Davis*



**HONEYBEAR**



**QUEEN**

## ODH IN THE NEWS



- Old Dog Haven was recently featured in an article in *Whatcom Talk* by Kristin Noreen. Click on the link to read *Old Dog Haven: A Last Refuge for Senior Dogs*.  
<https://www.whatcomtalk.com/2019/08/13/old-dog-haven-a-last-refuge-for-senior-dogs/>
- You might also enjoy reading an article about the Walk for Old Dogs that appeared in the *Shoreline Area News*. (Apologies to Fitz for getting the caption wrong.)  
<https://www.shorelineareanews.com/2019/07/old-dog-havens-8th-annual-walk-for-old.html>
- Rachel Mae, host of the *Mindful Mutt Mama Podcast*—a Seattle based show for dog lovers—had a conversation with Ardeth De Vries about Old Dog Haven as part of a series centered around caring for and living with senior dogs. Click below to listen:  
<https://www.mindfulmuttmama.com/podcast-1/episode/494649f1/senior-dog-series-old-dog-haven>
- Ardeth will also return as a guest on KSCO Pet Radio in Santa Cruz, California on Sept. 15 at 1:30. (1080/104.1) to talk more about Old Dog Haven.  
<https://kscopetradio.com>

## DOG ACTIVITY NUMBERS JANUARY 1 – AUGUST 31



**CARMELA**



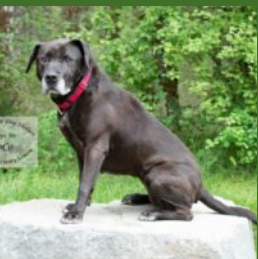
**BABY**



**RICKY**



**CAESAR**



**COCO**

**328** dogs are in care as of 8/31  
**ALL** are permanent fosters

**122** new dogs were taken into care  
between 1/1-8/31  
**111** came from shelters  
**11** came from individuals

**207** new dogs were posted for  
individuals, shelters, and other rescue groups

**329** new dogs were helped 1/1-8/31

**173** dogs were adopted 1/1-8/31

Because our responsibilities, expenses, and dogs in care are increasing, your donations are more important than ever. If you can help, please send your tax-deductible donation to:

Old Dog Haven  
P.O. Box 1409  
Oak Harbor, WA  
98277

Or, if you prefer to donate online, just click on the link below the donate button:

**DONATE**

<https://olddoghaven.org/donate-now/>

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ARDETH DE VRIES

Every time I prepare an e-newsletter for publication and read what our foster families say about the featured dogs I'm always blown away by the love, dedication and commitment our families bring to the party when it comes to caring for their dogs. Who else but an ODH foster family would take an abandoned, emaciated old pitbull? Or a dog suffering from severe separation anxiety? Or a pair of lonely Shih Tzus that have never lived inside of a house with a family. Or ... ?

The dogs that come to us aren't young, healthy dogs. They're broken, neglected, damaged, and in need of more than just medical care. The dog that has lived his whole life with a person who has died and now finds himself living in a cage at a shelter instead of relaxing on the couch isn't going to just walk in the door once he comes to us and be happy. He'll be grieving the loss of his person and the life he once had. He'll need acceptance, love, respect and a sense of being valued, and that's what he'll get in an ODH home. Other dogs, like those featured in this newsletter, are also in need of emotional support for various reasons, which is just as important as tending to their physical needs.

I've often heard people say that old dogs are easier to care for than puppies but I'm not so sure that's always true. Old dogs, like older people, often require more medical and emotional care, and no, they're not always housebroken. Medication three times a day—we can do that. Eye drops twice a day—no problem. Frequent vet visits—we're on it. Medicated baths three times a week—sure, we'll take care of it. And the list goes on. Our foster parents are always willing to go above and beyond when it comes to caring for their dogs.

If you'd like to make a difference in an old dog's life by becoming a permanent foster parent, please visit our website ([www.olddoghaven.org](http://www.olddoghaven.org)) for more information. Somewhere out there is an old dog that needs you!