

Spreading the Spay/Neuter Message

Laura Bush writes to AW readers

Dear ASPCA Members and Supporters,

Animal companions enrich our lives in so many ways, by providing affection, entertainment, protection, and even assistance for daily living, I am delighted to share with *Animal Watch* readers my love for animals and ideas about ways we can all help reduce pet overpopulation.

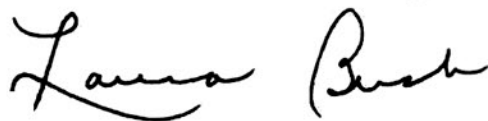
Our family loves pets, and we have two who live with us in the White House - a cat named India, and a Scottie named Barney. Barney makes friends with everyone who comes to visit, and India enjoys napping in any sunny location.

We miss Spot, our wonderful English springer spaniel who recently passed away, but the memory of her antics always makes us smile. Spot was born in the White House while her mother Millie was living here with president George and Mrs. Barbara Bush. She is the only pet to live in the White House during two administrations! But something all of our pets have in common is that they have been spayed or neutered.

One of the most important issues that the ASPCA confronts and that all animal lovers should think about is pet overpopulation. Spaying or neutering pets helps to reduce the number of unwanted animals that end up without a home. And adoption from local animal shelters is a wonderful way to save an animal and gain a pet.

I hope each of you will spay or neuter your own pet and spread the word to others. And encourage everyone you know who wants a new pet to visit the local animal shelter first. We all know what can happen when an interested person meets those irresistible charmers!


Thanks to each of you for your support for the ASPCA and its great work on behalf of animals and animal lovers throughout the country.



From above: Mrs. Bush with her loved spaniel, Spot; sun-loving India; Barney, the social Scottie.



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