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www.shelteringhands.org

Our Mission: Improving the lives of cats through humane care, spay/neuter, adoptions, education and support services.

Serving Marion and Levy Counties

July . 2018
Volume 2, Issue 2



No Kill Equation for Marion County

A recent three month investigation by WUFT into 12 North Central Florida County Shelters aired April 24th. It was titled “County Animal Shelter Kill Rates on Downward Trend for North Central Florida.” Marion County however, was the exception. The investigation revealed “Marion County’s euthanasia rate has remained steadily above 50 % since 2010. Of the nearly 10,000 dogs and cats brought in every year since 2013, more than 5000 of them were euthanized. “
<https://www.wuft.org/news/2018/04/1-county-animal-shelter-kill-rates-on-downward-trend-for-north-central-florida-counties/>

In a letter to the editor of the Ocala Star Banner published May 20th, titled “County Must Stop Killing So Many Animals”, the author outlined the 11 essential requirements to the “No Kill Equation”, and encouraged Animal Services and our community to work together towards their implementation.
<http://www.ocala.com/search?text=wabbersen>

During the last week of May, the University of Florida Maddie’s Shelter Medicine Program and Million Cat Challenge sponsored an assessment in collaboration with Team Shelter USA, LLC of Marion County Animal Services. This was done at the invitation of Marion County Animal Services. A copy of the assessment is available to the public from Marion County Animal Services 352-671-7800 and the Marion County Administrative Office 352-438-2300.

The assessment was followed up by a presentation on May 31st by Team Shelter USA and the Maddie’s Shelter Medicine Program of the University of Florida County, at the Ocala Library Headquarters. The presentation by Dr. Sara Pizano was on Animal Sheltering Best Practices. It can be viewed at
<https://youtu.be/9mkXYA-HUYs>

On June 20th, under the guidance of representatives from the Alachua County Humane Society, members from the Marion County Animal Services, Marion County Humane Society, Sheltering Hands, SPCA of Ocala and V.O.C.A.L. met to form ACT of Marion County (Animal Coalition Team of Marion County). One of the coalition’s goals is to work together towards a 90% or greater live release rate for Marion County Animal Services. We anticipate additional local 501c3s will soon join us.

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Our Programs

- Trap/Neuter and Return
- Senior for Senior
- Adoption
- Low Cost Spay or Neuter

Kitty Calories: Indoor cats get very little exercise compared to outdoor cats. According to the Association for Pet Obesity Prevention, caloric intake should be limited due to inactivity. A 10 pound cat needs just 180—200 calories of food each day. Limit calorie laden treats!

Needs List

- Liquid Laundry Detergent
- Paper Towels
- 8 gallon trash bags
- Tall kitchen trash bags
- Kitten food
- Dawn Dishwashing Soap
- Sponges
- Scrubbing Brushes

Up Coming Events

All About Cats

July 14, 2018 11:00– 5:00pm
3500 SW College Road
Ocala, FL 34474

PetSmart National Adoption Event

Sep 14, 2018 11:00 - 6:00pm
Sep 15, 2018 9:00 - 6:00pm
Sep 16, 2018 10:00 - 3:00pm
3500 SW College Road
Ocala, FL 34474

Announcing Adoption Hours In The Villages

July 14, 2018 12:00-3:00pm
PetSmart
3667 Wedgewood Ln
The Villages, FL 32162

Aug 19, 2018 12:00-3:00pm
PetSmart
3667 Wedgewood Ln
The Villages, FL 32162



Dixie is available for adoption. Please contact Gail at 352-840-0663 Option 1. For more information about her.

No Kill Equation for Marion County

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The Marion County Commission is scheduled to hold a workshop July 23rd at 2:00pm at the Marion County McPherson Complex Commission Meeting Room (601 SE 25th Avenue) pertaining to assessment of Marion County Animal Services, and implementation of the programs and changes suggested in the assessment and the presentation by Dr. Pizano.

If you care about the animals in this community, I cannot stress enough the importance of reading and viewing the materials mentioned above, providing your financial / volunteer support to the organizations involved in the coalition, and insisting via email, telephone and attendance at the workshop, that our commissioners implement the suggested programs and changes necessary to transform how Marion County treats our animals.

<http://www.marioncountyfl.org/about/board-of-county-commissioners>

To read the Assessment and Action Steps go to ShelteringHands.org
http://shelteringhands.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/Marion-County-Animal-Services-Assessment-Report_6.8.18.pdf
<http://shelteringhands.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/Summary-of-Action-Steps.pdf>

Deborah Wabbersen, President of Sheltering Hands

District 9 Key Club International—Volunteer Day

Members of the District 9 Key Club joined us at Sheltering Hands on June 2. During the 4 hours, club members tackled a variety of projects:

- Unloading bags of mulch & gravel
- Moving wood
- Moving bags of cat litter
- Moving cat carriers
- And of course, playing with cats

We have many one day projects that would be perfect for groups of volunteers

Do you have a group of 5 to 20 volunteers in need of community service hours or want to help out an animal organization?

Contact Elena at sheltering-handsevents@gmail.com to obtain more information.

The Lt. Governor of District 9 shared his thoughts on the day with the entire club. "Sheltering Hands was tremendously grateful to have us, and they were very accommodating, providing snacks and cold water.



Buying or selling Real Estate? Contact Kim Leslie

Charles Rutenberg Realty

352-214-3730

kimleslie@farmsandmore.com

Mention this ad and 5% of the sales commission is donated to Sheltering Hands

Forever Home Wanted

Hi, my name is Patches and I am looking a quiet home where you could take your time to get to know me. I am quite shy and to be honest a little scared. If you talk quietly to me and gently pet me, I will reward you with purrs. I need your help to overcome my shyness.

If you would like to meet Patches, please contact Gail at 352-840-0663 Option 1.

Likes:
Quiet places
Snacks
Facial massages



*Patches—Spayed Female
Approximately, 1 year old*

Adoption Fees

Effective July 1, 2018, Sheltering Hands will be raising the adoption fees for adult cats to \$40. Kitten adoption fees will remain at \$50. It was a difficult decision, however, this increase will help us to defray rising costs for medicine and housing related expenses. Our adoption fees are a great value. This one low fee includes spay or neuter surgery, all needed vaccinations, a medical checkup, flea control, microchip, and, very importantly, personal knowledge of each cat's personality so we can help you find the perfect cat for your family.



1. MIRCOCHIP 2. SLEEPING 3. GARFIELD

Puzzle Time—Cat Jumbles

1. Help me get home if I am lost

CMHPIIROC



2. My favorite activity

GSPENLEI



3. Lasagna loving cat

GFELDRAI



Did you know the Sheltering Hands Gift Shop is open every Saturday from 12pm—4pm.? The shop has many great items for sale at amazing low prices. We have a great selection of cat trees available for the special cat in your life. All proceeds benefit Sheltering Hands.

Florida Animal Friends

Help end pet overpopulation and purchase a Florida Animal Friend License Plate



today!

Chewy.com

For every new customer purchase through this site, Chewy will donate \$20 to Sheltering Hands, Inc

<https://www.chewy.com/rp/4793>



For every 10,000 points Sheltering Hands receives, we get 23 boxes



If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Gina at 352-840-0663 Option 5.

Potato Chips and Cats by Frances Warren (Sheltering Hands Volunteer)

No one warned me! Of course I know I can't have just one potato chip! I didn't know the same rule applied to cats.

My life with cats began when I was sixty-five years old. Never having a cat until then I had no idea what to expect when my first rescue came to me.

January, 2006, in Wasilla, AK. The temperature was near 0 degrees with a predicted low of -30 degrees that night. My grandsons were enjoying sledding when at the bottom of the hill near some cut timbers, they heard a meow. "Lucky" was in and out of his small hiding place when he caught the attention of the boys. They realized they couldn't leave him, he would not last much longer in the cold. Grateful for the heat in the car, purring loudly, he snuggled into this new found warmth.

His first meal was fresh Alaska salmon since his rescuers were not prepared for this unexpected guest. They soon realized that he would be staying with them for a while since all shelters were full.

I was planning a trip to Alaska in February for my granddaughter's wedding, so I suggested they keep "Lucky" and I would consider adopting him. He adopted me and I fell in love. He was a beautiful gray/blue and white, medium long haired sweet boy, less than a year old. My visit at that time was short, but I was planning to return in June for my grandson's wedding. "Lucky" now Casey was taken to the vet, neutered and in June preparations were made to bring him to Florida. He traveled well.

He loved taking a walk with his harness on, loved lizards and always ran to the screen door to see his world when the overhead door was raised in the morning. Head butts were frequent and he loved being loved. He wasn't happy when I decided he needed a companion and I rescued Mitzi, a polydactyl, blue cream tortie from a colony near my daughter's house. He was very unhappy when I fostered litters of kittens. He would pass by their area, turn his head and hiss at them.

When he was 8 years old he was diagnosed with cardiomyopathy. In spite of that, he lived an active life for three more years. He died peacefully at home. My first "potato chip" has a very special place in my heart and always will. He was the start of my love affair with cats and the joy of rescuing.

Do you have a story to share? We would love to hear from you. Please email us at ShelteringHandsEvents@gmail.com



PO Box 843

Williston, FL 32696

This is a change or correction to my name or address information.

Your contributions support our spay/neuter/return program and provide us needed supplies to care for cats who are awaiting adoption. THANK YOU! For online donations: visit ShelteringHands.org and select the DONATE button.

\$25 \$50 \$75 \$100 \$200 Other \$ _____

I authorize you to charge my credit card \$ _____ to become a monthly contributor.

Visa Mastercard Check Enclosed

Credit Card # _____ Exp Date _____ (mm/yy) CVV _____

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____ Phone (_____) _____

Email _____ Signature _____