



To learn more about us visit:  
[www.shelteringhands.org](http://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**

January, 2019  
Volume 3, Issue 1

## Letter from Sheltering Hands President

2018 proved to be our most challenging year yet. In their efforts towards becoming “No Kill”, Marion County Animal Services went from an open intake facility to a managed intake facility. Subsequently, local rescues, to include Sheltering Hands, have given their very best efforts to intake additional animals in need of shelter and re-homing.

Sheltering Hands is currently double the normal capacity of cats and kittens. Our dedicated staff and volunteers continue to work tirelessly to care for and find homes for these deserving felines; to assist with the everyday tasks and responsibilities required to operate and manage this organization and to ensure the continued provision of services intended to improve the quality of life for the cats in our community.

We are grateful to our donors without whom none of this would be possible. We are additionally grateful to Chewy for their generous donations to our local rescues and to all our local rescues for their efforts to shelter, re-home and assist animals. This is most certainly a team effort.

To each of you who has given of his or her time, talents, finances and resources towards improving the lives of our animals and towards the operation of this organization and the services we provide, words are inadequate to describe my gratitude. We cannot operate without you.

I wish each of you a beautiful holiday season, and a healthy and prosperous 2019.

Deborah Wabbersen, Sheltering Hands President

### Save the Date—Double the Love

Please join us on Saturday, February 9, 2019 for a Meet and Greet with the great cats at Sheltering Hands. Our adoption counselors will be available to answer questions or to assist you with finding a new family member.

Join us for our bake sale fundraiser and pick up a treat for your loved ones. We promise to have some delicious baked goods and unique dessert trays available. All proceeds to benefit Sheltering Hands.



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### Our Programs

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

### Cat Facts

The oldest cat on record was Crème Puff from Austin, Texas, who lived from 1967 to August 6, 2005, three days after her 38th birthday.

A cat typically can live up to 20 years, which is equivalent to about 96 human years.

**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 cat toys, T-shirts, Pet Odor Eliminator candles and sprays. All proceeds benefit Sheltering Hands.**

## Needs List

- Liquid Laundry Detergent
- Paper Towels
- 8 gallon trash bags
- Tall kitchen trash bags
- Kitten food
- Cat food (IAMS or Purina One)
- Dawn Dishwashing Soap

## Up Coming Events

### Meet & Greet w/Bake Sale

Feb 9, 2019 10:00am-3:00pm  
10397 N Hwy 27  
Ocala, FL 34482

### Caregiver Workshop

Feb 16, 2019 3:00-5:00pm  
10397 N Hwy 27  
Ocala, FL 34482

### PetSmart National Adoption Event—Ocala

Feb 22, 2019 11:00 - 6:00pm  
Feb 23, 2019 9:00 - 6:00pm  
Feb 24, 2019 10:00 - 3:00pm  
3500 SW College Road  
Ocala, FL 34474

Looking for a new cat or kitten? Visit our cats and kittens at PetSmart in Ocala at 3500 SW College Rd. We are there 7 days a week.

Loverboy lives up to his name. He just wants to love and to be loved. He's an affectionate boy, who likes to be held, petted, scratched, rubbed, etc. He adjusts easily to new situations. He's one of those cats that has it all...good looks and a great personality. Please contact Gail at 352-840-0663 Option 1. For more information



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



## Honey Do Helper? Handy person needed

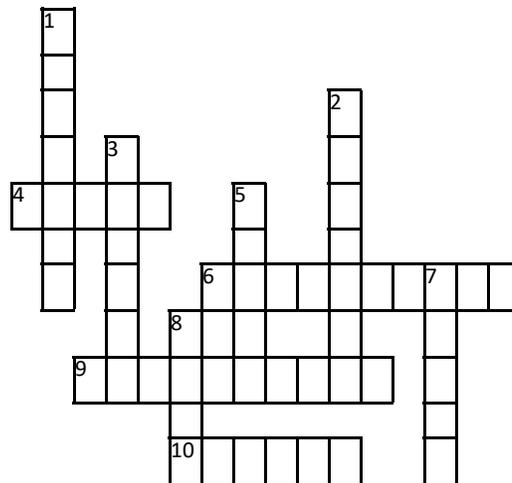
Sheltering Hands is looking for a someone to assist with our maintenance list. We need help for all sorts of small projects around our main facility from repairing screen doors, installing latches and putting up shelves. All tools and items needed will be provided. The schedule is very flexible. If you are interested, please email us at ShelteringHandsevents@gmail.com

## Organized Cat Lover? Foster Coordinator needed

Are you an organized, detail-oriented person who loves cats? We have a perfect role for you. Sheltering Hands needs a **Foster Coordinator** to organize and monitor our foster homes. The Foster Coordinator would be the liaison between the foster parents, adoptions and our medical director. He or she would coordinate which cats/kittens would be going to adoptions, which need to go in for routine care and be available to assist foster parents with questions or concerns. This is a perfect position for someone who may prefer to normally work from home. We are looking for someone who enjoys working with people and cats and has excellent communication and interpersonal skills. For more information, please contact Gina at 352-622-8867.

## Cat Words

Answers on page 4



### Across

- 4 Not Socialized
- 6 Extra toed cat
- 9 Freely give time to help
- 10 Vaccination required by law

### Down

- 1 Cat babies
- 2 A group of cats
- 3 Almost always a girl
- 5 Give forever home
- 7 Coat with lines, dots or stripes
- 8 Cat noise

## Forever Home Wanted

Hi, my name is Patches and I am looking for my forever home. I was living with a group of non-social cats but I needed to be around people. I am very shy but if you take some time to get to know me, I will let you pet me and will start to purr. If you have cats already that is fine with me. I get along great with other cats.

If you would like to meet Patches, please contact Gail at 352-840-663 Option 1.



*Patches—Spayed Female  
Approximately, 1.5 years old*

## Adopting a Cat? What to expect.

No doubt you're looking forward to years of happy companionship. The first thing you should know about your new pet is that most cats dislike travelling. For the trip home and all future travels, confine your pet in a cat carrier and do not open it during the trip.

**The First Day:** Your new cat has just spent some time living in a small area awaiting adoption. She may not be used to large, open spaces and may become scared or overwhelmed if released into your entire home. Therefore, it is best to keep her confined to one room or a small area to start with. When you arrive home with your new cat, go into the designated room, close the door, and set the carrier down. Open the carrier door and then remain quietly nearby to see if she will emerge. Don't force her to come out; let her come out on her own. Some cats may not come out until nighttime. It's not uncommon for cats to want to stay in the carrier, however make sure she has access to food, water and a litter box.

**The Following Days:** As a rule, cats are upset by changes in their environment. Some cats adjust more quickly, while others may take weeks or months. You must have the patience and understanding to allow your cat to adjust at her own pace. When you first bring her home your cat is likely to hide - this is why you need to provide a safe, comfortable place where she can retreat.

Spend as much time in the room with her as you can. When your cat seems happy to see you and is confident and friendly in her limited environment, it is time to introduce her to the next area if she is the only pet. Signs that she may be ready include scratching or meowing at the door and trying to run out when you open the door.

Even if your cat has decided she wants to explore, she may still be easily frightened by sudden noises or too much open space. Keep your cat's original space set up exactly as it has been, so she has a refuge that is familiar to her. This feeling of familiarity is very important to cats. Cat behaviorists indicate that it takes two months for most cats to become totally at home in their new environment.

## 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>



**Fresh Step**

For every 10,000 points Sheltering Hands receives, we get 23 boxes of free litter!

Select us as your favorite charity and shop at [www.Smile.Amazon.com](http://www.Smile.Amazon.com)



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

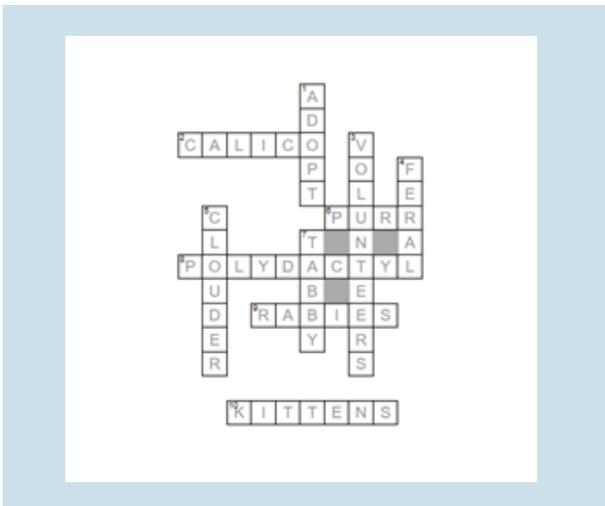
## Volunteer Spotlight



Sheltering Hands is so fortunate to have many great volunteers. The numerous hours and efforts allow us to offer great programs such as Low-Cost Spay/Neuter and provide a nurturing environment for our cats. Two of our amazing volunteers are Richard and Jeanne Domine. This sweet couple volunteers two days a week cleaning litter boxes and providing food, water and love to our cats. Jeanne and Richard started to volunteer in 2015, after calling Sheltering Hands to find a pet sitter for their cat colony. It was at that time they learned about the programs at Sheltering Hands and decided to volunteer. They absolutely loved meeting new people and seeing the personalities of all the different cats. Jeanne said teamwork makes the jobs easier and that they have no plans to stop. Come and say hello to them at PetSmart on Saturday mornings! We can't thank them enough for all their hard work and dedication.



## Cat Words Answers



## Whiskers!

- Are extremely sensitive
- Are on the nose, eyes, chin and back of front legs
- Help the cat figure out if they will fit through spaces
- Help the cat position their prey
- Position of whiskers indicate the cat's mood
  - Relaxed and to the side, the cat is calm
  - Flattened against face, the cat is scared
  - Pushed forward, the cat is excited
- Should never be cut as your cat will become disorientated without the vital information it receives from its whiskers
- Can change color with age
- Will occasionally shed a few whiskers
- Can detect even the slightest change in a breeze



**SHELTERING HANDS**

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](http://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 \_\_\_\_\_