

9TH LIFE'S MISSION

It is estimated there may be more than 100,000 homeless cats on Maui. 9th Life Hawaii seeks to compassionately and non-lethally control the cat population utilizing (TNR) Trap, Neuter, Release at feral cat colonies and by providing free or low-cost spay neuter services for companion cats. TNR involves trapping and neutering and releasing ferals back to their colonies if it is safe to do so. However, many cats cannot be safely returned to their colonies after sterilization. They may be blind, (see photos below) lame, aged, disabled, tiny kittens or under attack by humans or dogs. Other kitties have been dumped in the cane fields that are routinely set on fire as part of the harvesting process. As the cats flee the flames, many are run over on nearby roadways. Mother cats will not leave their kittens and all succumb. Therefore, Cane Field cats can never be returned to the cane fields after they are neutered. All of these kitties will remain at our sanctuary until a loving home is found.



9th LIFE HAWAII is the only NO-KILL, non-profit, cat rescue on Maui that maintains a sanctuary for those kitties that have no other place to safely stay. We do need your help as we rely strictly on your donations to feed and care for all the kitties at our sanctuary.

GREAT NEWS!

Our first mass spay/neuter clinic was held on January 29th. We sterilized 25 cats before noon and it was a huge success. We still have over 125 cats on our wait list. **We simply cannot thank Dr. Kehler of Kihei Veterinary Clinic and his staff enough for their support and assistance.**

9th Life Hawaii

P.O. Box 538
Makawao, Hi. 96768
(808) 572-3499

Name _____

Address _____

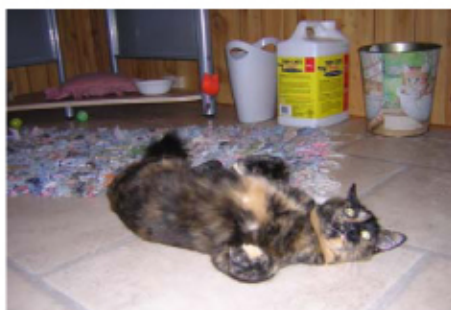
City/State/Zip _____

Email address _____

Your tax deductible donation can be mailed to our P.O. Box or with a Credit Card or check through Paypal at our Website www.9thlifehawaii.org

HERE'S ANOTHER WAY TO HELP

9th Life Hawaii is now able to accept donated vehicles, **running or not, from anywhere in the U.S.** Please contact us at 808-572-3499 for further info. or visit our website. www.9thlifehawaii.org



This is beautiful green-eyed Cami. She is available for adoption, quite mellow, great with other cats, respectful around dogs. More adoptable kitties can be seen at our website.

Janice and Sue of Kihei Veterinary Clinic donated their time for this Sunday event. We are so very grateful for their support in helping us get a handle on the cat-overpopulation situation, one cat at a time. Well, in this case, 25 cats at a time, plus 15 in the preceding week.

We would like to thank all our supporters that thought of us during the December holidays and made the season extra special for our kitties. Toys and catnip galore! Although, too numerous to mention them all, we would like to especially thank Neel Chlysta (A.N.C. Construction, Inc.) who donated the roofing material and installed a new roof over one of our shelters.

And to all the people who donated to our rummage sale, especially Janice Roberts and Stephen Sussman who donated so many things, it put the rummage sale proceeds "over the top." Then Stephen also helped install some software to make it much easier to send the newsletters out via email and save us money. With postage now at .39 cents, this will make a difference. So, if you want to receive these newsletters by email, either mail our form back or email us 9thlifehawaii@earthlink.net to let us know.

Thanks to Border's for letting us set up our gift-wrapping booth in their store and letting us "talk story" about 9th Life and to my volunteers who helped with the actual gift wrapping.

Thanks to Martin Murray who helped set 9th Life up on EBay. Stay tuned as we will shortly be running auctions on EBay to benefit the kitties. And especially to Catherine, with-out whom this newsletter would not go out.

WISH LIST

We need a pickup truck, small SUV or station wagon to transport 6-12 cats at a time in carriers to the vets for neutering. We still need lumber, roofing materials, chain link and hog wire to repair and expand the existing catteries and a cat-loving carpenter, roofer, chain link installer to donate time. (Not necessarily the same person).

FOR TWINNY & OTHER "WILDIES"

He was born wild, somewhere on my property and he taught me a great truth. With love, patience and kindness you can reach a wild heart. The first year all I could do was leave food out for him and see his rear as he slinked away, tail down, hugging the ground. If I occasionally glimpsed his face, I saw his wild, frightened eyes, like a trapped animal. And trap him I did in the first year of our acquaintance. I took him to the vet for neutering, then released him on my property and continued to feed him. The vet asked me his name. I had none since all he was just the feral cat on my property. But I had trapped and tamed his sister when she was a kitten and they were look-alikes. Since he needed a name for the vet's records, I named him Twunny. In the 2nd year, Twunny would stay within ten feet of me, low to the ground, ready to run but if I didn't look directly into his face, he stayed close enough that I could see that he had the most gorgeous emerald green eyes I have ever seen in a cat. By the 3rd year, Twunny would come running (tail up, happy/unafraid) when called for dinner but I still could not touch him. Then I started feeding him inside my garage and closed the door so he could not leave. I sat down next to him while he was eating, and made small, slow attempts to touch him. He shrank from the touch but hunger made him return to the food dish. Within a few months I could stroke him and shortly after that I actually could scratch him between his ears. But sometimes, he would panic and slap me but always with his Claws sheathed. He was just telling me, he had enough human contact and for me to back off. In the last few months of his life, I could actually pet him and he would lean timidly into me, marking me with his facial scent glands. If you know cats, then you understand what that means. It meant he was marking me as his. At last, I finally belonged to him. Sadly, shortly after this major breakthrough in our relationship, he died. I still see his emerald green eyes and I can still see him running to me when I called him and he left me with a lesson. With patience, love and kindness, you CAN reach a wild, untamed heart. By Phyllis Tavares

**DEDICATED TO TWINNY AND OTHER FERALS.
THEY TOO HAVE A RIGHT TO LIVE.
9th LIFE WELCOMES YOUR STORIES & PHOTOS.**

Also need tile and installer to tile our isolation room. We always need cat food, kitty litter, litter boxes, cat condos, cat & dog carriers and freestanding dog kennels. A laser color printer would enable us to print our own newsletters. Gift cards from Costco, Home Depot, Lowes and Wal-Mart to purchase building and cat supplies are very helpful.

UPDATE ON ADOPTION CATTERY

In our last newsletter, we had photos showing the walls, tile floors and shelving up. As the renovation has progressed, this adoption cattery has become both a community and mainland project. Local volunteers have come forward and donors from the mainland sent Home Depot cards for the material. All that is left is to completely enclose the ante-room (steps and landing) with walls, roof and door (See photos below). This is to ensure that when people enter the actual cattery, the cats cannot escape and will be able to go no further than the enclosed ante-room. So now we need a carpenter - contractor to enclose the steps and landing. We also need a portion of the exterior chain-linked play area to be roofed with a solid material (plastic??) and a portion can be covered with small wire mesh so the cats cannot climb up the chain link and escape. We are asking for your help. Please call us if you can help. (808) 572-3499



9th LIFE HAWAII

NO-KILL CAT RESCUE & SANCTUARY

A non-profit 501C3 Organization

Dedicated to the Protection of Homeless Cats in Hawaii



9th LIFE'S SPECIAL ANGEL

(Story below)

We started off the New Year by receiving the promised donation of \$250,000.00 towards the purchase of a permanent sanctuary property. Our donor, who wishes to remain anonymous, is our special angel and is always in our thoughts. The Dowling Community Foundation quickly added another \$5,000.00 and we added Wal-Mart's year end donation of \$1,000.00 towards the sanctuary acquisition as well. An animal lover who was reading the Maui News online donated \$2,000.00. Since we are presently renting in a leasehold situation and the property eventually must be vacated, it is critical to find a permanent sanctuary.

Our anonymous donor is reaching out to the community, indeed the world, to help us purchase at least 2 acres with a (caretakers) residence and barn (to convert to a cattery) already on it. We need matching donations to really move forward as initial property searches for this type of acreage have determined that we will need at least one million dollars more. We know there are people and businesses out there who want to help animals. Together, Maui can lead the Hawaiian Islands in embracing a "No-Kill, No More Homeless Pet" philosophy. And we can start with the first permanent NO-KILL cat sanctuary on this island. Come on everyone, we can do it! All donations welcome.