

Sandbox Gazette

QUARTERLY

APRIL 2017

ISSUE 2



It is spring and time for another edition of The Sandbox Gazette. In this edition, we will show the calendar of events, introduce new feature cats and update about the previous ones, offer a heartwarming story, present a eulogy, attempt to dispel myths about cats, remind you about the start of kitten season, inform you about a change to the Kroger Plus Card, explain the status of the lasagna dinner and auction, notify you about the results of the last United Way and Combined Federal Campaigns, announce the kick-off of the three dollar campaign, request ideas for new fund raisers, tell you about pictures with the Easter bunny, advise you about the Easter pie sale, bake sale and the annual plant sale, and offer the monthly supply list, and enlighten you about the past, current, and future fund raisers.

Calendar of Events

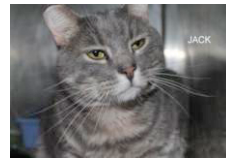
The calendar of upcoming events is shown below so that you can mark your calendars and not forget any of these dates.

Easter Pie Orders Due	April 1 st
Three-Dollar Campaign Begins	April 1 st
Pictures with the Easter Bunny	April 8 th , 9 th , & 15 th
Easter Pie Pick-Up	April 15 th
Easter Bake Sale	April 15 th
Plant Pick-Up Begins	May 9 th at 4pm
Yellow Springs Street Fair	June 10 th

Feature Cats

We are so happy to announce that all of the kittens in the last newsletter have been adopted in pairs with their litter mate. They are so happy to have loving homes with people that adore them. We are very happy for them. In addition, we are thrilled to tell you that Rose from the October newsletter has also been adopted to a loving

home with another cat from The Tenth Life. Finding loving homes for the cats is our main goal.



Our new feature cats are Al and GW and Jack and Jill. Al is a lovable, tall cat who has never met a stranger. He has short hair that is white with gray spots. Al never grumbles at the other cats and loves to play with toys. He is about two years old and a truly great cat. His best friend is GW who looks exactly like him but is only about six months old. They love to wrestle and chase around their room. They are ready for a home of their own. It would be great if they could be adopted together since they are best buddies.

Our other feature cats are Jack and Jill. They are litter mates and are about three years old. They belonged to a friend of The Tenth Life who unfortunately had to go to a retirement home and could not take them with her. She loved them very much; however, as they were born feral, she could only touch Jack. Jill was more elusive. We have worked with them on an individual basis, and they are now, loving cats who beg for tummy rubs. They are both gray tigers and are rather large cats. They would take time to adjust to a new home, but would be very loving to their new people if patience and time were provided.

Of course, all medical work has been done. Please call The Tenth Life to visit these gorgeous cats and be prepared to make some new friends. They are waiting.

Heartwarming Story

Our heartwarming story for this newsletter is a cat named Sunrise. She came to The Tenth Life a few years ago with her kittens. She had a neurological problem and did not walk like other cats. As time progressed, so did her problem. She eventually could not walk and pulled herself across the floor with her front legs. With the loss of her ability to walk, came her inability to pass urine and stool on her own. She had to be evacuated twice daily by humans. We had talked about putting her in a room with steps made for cats with this kind of problem, but had not done so as the steps in both rooms would not accommodate her. We had thought about building another set of steps made for her. However, a friend of Dr. Amanda's came to visit from New Hampshire. She had considered adopting a special-needs cat for quite awhile. When she saw Sunrise, she knew that she was the cat she had to have. Dr. Amanda taught her how to help her eliminate her bladder and stool. She flew her home in the cabin of the plane with her, and Sunrise has a loving home and a loving "Mom." She now has windows that extend to the floor so she can look outside any time she wants for as long as she wants. She is so happy and very loved. We would never have believed that she would find a home other than living at The Tenth Life for the rest of her life. We are happy for them.

Eulogy

Two weeks ago we lost our last old greeter in the health care facility. His official name was "One-Eyed Jack," but we called him just Jack. He only had one eye because of his miserable treatment on a farm when he was a kitten. We had to remove his eye which had ruptured due to infection. He was the orange and white handsome boy who sat on the condo and asked for petting. He loved to be petted rather hard and would roll around and beg for more if you stopped. He would sit up and put his paw out to you to tell you that he wanted more. He had been ill for about three months, but was improving and beginning to play again. After eating and drinking, he simply turned around and fell over. We assume he probably passed a blood clot that hit his heart or lungs. He was fourteen and had been with us since he

was nine weeks old. It was especially hard since he was the last of the original group of greeters. We have a new group of cats that are also special, but it is hard saying goodbye to the originals. We miss him so much.

Dispel Myths about Cats

There are many myths about cats that we would like to see dispelled. The first is that black cats are bad luck. We cannot believe how many people still believe that black cats are bad luck. Some people seem to have been brain-washed about this myth. We do not know if it is still superstition or people have heard it so much that they actually believe it. We have asked people who visit The Tenth Life and have remarked that they do not want a black cat why they feel that way. Many answer that they do not know. They simply will not give a black cat a chance to show how wonderful they are. If they are healthy, they have a beautiful, glossy coat with gorgeous eyes. Unfortunately they have a reputation of being the least adoptable cats of all colors. People need to give up this no-fact belief and give these great cats a chance.

The second myth is that all male cats spray. A comment we hear too often is that people do not want a male cat because they will spray. Most neutered male cats do not spray. There are exceptions to every rule, but female cats can also spray. The majority of unneutered males do spray, but not all of them. Whether they spray or not, all male cats need to be neutered for their own health. Unneutered males are prone to testicular and prostate cancer, often become aggressive, and want to fight. None of these are acceptable. Male cats are usually much sweeter, more laid-back than female cats. Usually if a cat is temperamental, grumpy or high strung, it is a female. Of course there are females that are as loving as males, but many of the girls have attitudes. We call those cats, divas. Too many of the females have had kittens while living on the streets. They had to protect them from males or cruel people. For this reason they may have an attitude and be less tolerant. Both males or females make wonderful pets when treated properly.

A third myth is that you must start with a kitten to have a nice, loving pet. Unfortunately, too many books

about cats, tell people to always start with a kitten. In addition many people perpetuate this information to their friends. There are so many wonderful adult cats living in shelters. Many people assume that if an adult cat is in a shelter, it is because they have misbehaved. The reality is that most of them are there because of irresponsible people. Very few of the cats in shelters have behavioral issues. Unfortunately, too many shelters immediately destroy them if there are problems of this nature. The Tenth Life does not! Many times if there are behavioral problems such as litter box problems, it is because the owner did not keep the litter box clean. Many people only scoop the litter box once per week and wonder why the cat will not use it. Some cats stop using the litter box if they have a urinary infection. Too many people assume the cat is misbehaving and discard it. People also assume that they must adopt a kitten so that they can train it the way they want it to perform. We have found that adult cats listen better and respond to training better than kittens. Kittens are too busy playing and getting into trouble. They are cute, but so ornery. When people will not consider a kitten, we always want to ask what is supposed to happen to all of the adult cats who have lost their homes. Another advantage of adults is you can see the personality of the cat and know if that meets your expectations of a cat. With a kitten, especially those less than six months, their personality has not fully developed. Some people who adopt a kitten are disappointed when the kitten matures and they see the true personality of the kitten, because the kitten is not what they expected it to become. Many people also believe that their adult cat will accept a kitten better and faster than a kitten. What they do not realize is how aggravating a kitten is to an adult. If the adult runs to get away from the kitten, the kitten assumes it is supposed to chase because that is what kittens do. They chase anything that moves. When the cat runs under the bed, for example, the kitten flies under there also to play. If a kitten is hissed at, it does not realize that means the adult wants to be left alone. Kittens are usually totally unaffected by the hissing. Some people also believe that a female cat will likely accept a kitten better because her maternal instinct will take affect. This is also usually not true, since females are more temper mental Males are usually more receptive to change than females. Adult cats need loving homes as much as kittens.

A final myth that we want to visit is that a female should have a litter before being spayed. It seems that this belief is much less popular now, but some still believe it. They think she will be more loving and more patient. Having a litter not only adds to the over-population problem, but also makes the female more afraid. She must protect her kittens from people and unneutered males who will kill kittens so that they can mate with the female again. The longer a female goes without being spayed, the more chance she has of developing mammary tumors.

We hope that this information is beneficial and maybe will alter some people's beliefs. All cats need a chance at a loving home regardless of their color, age, or sex. They give us so much and ask for so little. We need to give them all a chance at a happy, safe, loving life.

Kitten Season

Unfortunately, kitten season had an early start this year with the warmer weather. We saw pregnant cats as early as January. That is at least two months earlier than normal. As if kitten season is not long enough, then it starts early. Please encourage everyone you know to have their cats spayed or neutered. We have included in this newsletter the chart that shows the benefits of spaying/neutering and the results of uncontrolled breeding. A female cat can become pregnant three days after delivering a litter. At that rate we can never get ahead of the problem unless cats are spayed or neutered. If you know someone who needs help with having their cat spayed or neutered, there are so many low-cost spay/neuter programs in this area. Almost all organizations have a program to help with the surgery. We understand that the cost is expensive at the veterinarian offices, and that is why there are programs to help. You can always call The Tenth Life to learn more information about these programs. If you are in a position to help someone who cannot afford the surgery, please try to help them accomplish this much needed operation. Cats who are spayed or neutered are healthier and happier and less cats and kittens will die in shelters or on the streets. Please do your part to help reduce the problem and one day eliminate the over-population.

SPAY/NEUTER FACTS

All pets should be surgically spayed/neutered for many reasons. In addition to improved health and behavior resulting from this surgery, you will be doing your part to reduce unwanted pet population. Millions of unwanted animals are euthanized each year because good homes are limited.

Benefits of spaying/neutering

Females

Prevents signs of heat
Prevents blood stains on carpet from heat cycle
Decreases chance of breast tumors
Eliminates chance of cystic ovaries
Eliminates chance of uterine infections
Prevents breast development (if done early)
No unwanted pregnancies or offspring

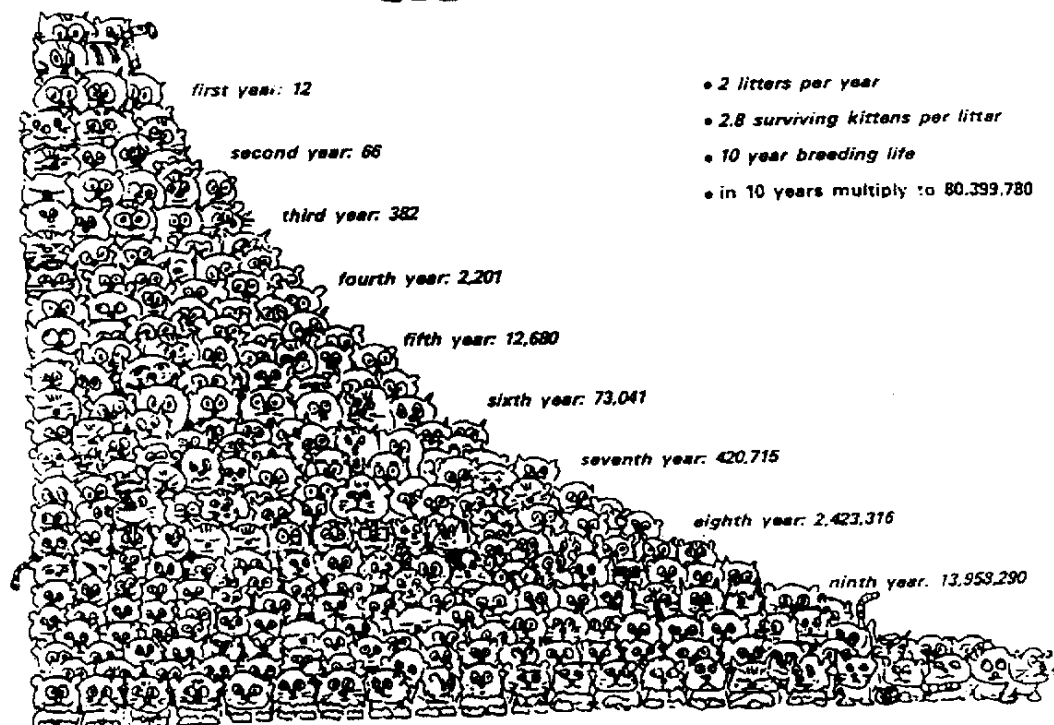
Males

Prostrate cancer incidence decreased
Testicular disease eliminated
Decreases desire to roam
Eliminates odor of tom cat urine
Decreases aggression
Prevents spraying and marking
Eliminates undesirable sexual behavior

- Your pet will NOT get fat or lazy because of this surgery. Diet exercise and heredity have much more influence on the weight and attitude of your pet.
- Surgery is recommended when the pet is about four months of age, but it can be done at any age.
- It is much easier on your pet to be spayed before going through a heat cycle due to the smaller size of the reproductive tract.
- Surgery is performed painlessly while your pet is under general anesthesia. Surgical risk is minimal. Most pets go home the same day. Post-surgical pain is minimal.



TWO UNCONTROLLED BREEDING CATS ...
plus all their kittens and all their kittens' kittens.
If none are ever neutered or spayed, add up to:



Kroger Plus Card

We had reminded you in the last newsletter to re-register your Kroger Plus Card as a supporter of The Tenth Life. We recently received notification from Kroger that they have discontinued this requirement. If you are already registered as a supporter of The Tenth Life you **do not need to re-register**. Your registration will stay in effect. However, if you have not registered your Kroger Plus Card to support The Tenth Life, now would be a great time to do this. Kroger donates a percentage of all purchases made by those registered for The Tenth Life to us on a quarterly basis. This donation is usually about fifteen hundred dollars per quarter. The more who register, the more funding the cats receive. Please register today online or by calling Kroger for assistance. Their number is on the back of the card.

Status of the Lasagna Dinner and Auction

Unfortunately, we have not found anyone to replace the couple who solicited the majority of the auction items and managed the auction. We will still entertain having the dinner and auction if we find a replacement. We realize this is a huge undertaking and no one on the committee can take on the task with all of their other responsibilities. If you are interested and would love to solicit donations for the auction, please contact us. We have only had two offers to help with the solicitation. It will take more people than that to replace the couple who worked almost around the year to have the auction like we had. We have considered having fewer items for the auction, but wonder about the feasibility and profitability of that. We are still hoping to be able to have the dinner and auction. However, the later it gets in the year, the less feasible it is to think of having the dinner because of the lead-time it takes to solicit the items and the cutoff some businesses have for soliciting items.

If the three dollar fund does better this year than in the past maybe it will make up for some of the loss funds from the auction. However, we know nothing can replace the dinner and auction as last year it produced twenty-three thousand dollars of profit. This is a huge deficit to recover. The event was our largest fund raiser.

United Way and Combined Federal Campaign

We have received notification from the United Way (UW) and Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) of the contributions made to The Tenth Life through the campaigns conducted last September and October. In 2017, The Tenth Life will receive twenty-three thousand dollars of donations from these campaigns. We thank everyone who donated through these drives to help the cats. By the end of April, we will send letters to everyone who requested acknowledgement. If you asked for a letter and have not received one by the beginning of May, please contact us so that we can check on your donation. Please remember The Tenth Life this fall.

The Three Dollar Campaign

The three dollar fund has begun as of April 1st. This is an annual fund raiser that originally replaced the yard sale. Last year, we raised nearly eighteen thousand dollars from this fund raiser. It is the easiest fund raiser that we have. We simply ask that everyone on our mailing list send at least a three-dollar donation. We ask for such a small amount to make donating a possibility for everyone on our list without causing a financial hardship. It is amazing the amount of funds we collect from this effort. Of course many people donate more than three dollars, and that is the reason we get so much from this fund raiser. We send an acknowledgement letter to everyone who donates more than twenty dollars. We use this as a cutoff to be able to keep current with the donations. We appreciate any size of donation because they all add together to make the grand total. No donation is too small. Many people have suggested that we ask for more, but we do not want to be greedy. We assume that people who can and want to donate more than three dollars will do so on their own. We will be waiting for your donation to this fund raiser. Please mark your check for the this fund. Thank you!

New Ideas for Fund Raisers

We are trying to develop new ideas for fund raisers. It would be great to have a fund raiser that no other

organization has had. We do not want to copy another organization's idea but would rather be innovative. If you have any ideas, please contact us, and we can discuss them. We assume that we will probably have to have more than one fund raiser to produce the level of funds that the dinner and auction brought in for the cats. Fund raisers are time consuming and labor intensive, but the benefits are amazing. Please help us develop some ideas.

Pictures with the Easter Bunny

On April 8, 9, and 15, 2017, we will be having pictures with the Easter bunny at Pet Supplies Plus in Beaver Creek on Fairfield Road. The hours are 2:00-4:00 pm. The cost is ten dollars per picture and the pictures will be placed in a frame for you to display. Three of our volunteers will be the Easter bunny and another volunteer will be taking the pictures. Please mark your calendar for this fun time. You can bring any of your pets or even your children for a picture with the Easter bunny. You will treasure the picture(s) for many years. The Easter bunny hopes to see you there. Do not miss this opportunity to have an adorable picture and help the cats of The Tenth Life.

Easter Pie and Bake Sale

On Saturday, April 15th we will have our annual Easter pie sale (10:00am-5:00pm) with pies again provided by Mehaffies. If you forgot to order, we always have extra pies available or call us before April 14th, and we can be sure to have the flavors you want. The pies are nine dollars for the regular flavors and ten dollars for the special pies. You will save hours of your precious time that would be spent baking pies for other important preparation. The pies are always delicious, and your guests will be impressed with your dessert selection. You can buy different flavors to offer a variety for them.

When you are picking up your pies, you can also shop for more delicious baked goods at our annual Easter bake sale. We will offer a huge selection of baked goods. We usually have at least twenty varieties of delicious homemade baked goods donated by our volunteers.

They are the best bakers. You simply make your selections, and make a donation based on what you consider to be a fair price. Our customers are always generous when they make their purchases. If you would like to bake for this sale, we would appreciate your help. Your donations of baked goods can be brought to The Tenth Life on Friday between 3:00 and 6:00pm or on Saturday morning between 9:30 and 10:00am. The more varieties we have, the better the selection for our supporters.

Annual Plant Sale

The plant sale is quickly approaching. At the present time we are about fifteen hundred dollars behind last years' orders; however, we still have a few orders to arrive. If you have not ordered, but would like to do so, we can still get your request in and either take your needs from our extras or increase our order to Furst. We love to have to increase our order. It means more beautiful flowers, more customers, and more earnings for the cats. As time is getting short, you can simply call us to give your order over the phone, and we will have it ready for you.

Flower orders will be ready for pick-up beginning at 4:00pm on Tuesday, May 9th. The hours for pick-up are: each evening for the rest of the week 4:00-7:00pm, on Saturday 10:00am – 5:00pm, and on Sunday from 12:30-5:00pm. Please adhere to these hours to avoid confusion and mix-ups with the orders. We will be available during those hours to locate your order, recheck it for the third time, and help load into your vehicle.

As always, we will have extras of almost all varieties for your shopping convenience. We know that you may not have ordered enough or you may see plants that you like and would love to have for your home. The extras will also be available beginning on Tuesday, May 9th. Please tell your friends about our sale so that we can sell even more flowers. When you are shopping for extras, if you do not see what you want, please be sure to ask one of our volunteers for assistance. We will gladly go back to Furst and get what you want. The more flowers we sell, the more profit. We want our customers to be happy.

If we have made a mistake with your order after three checks, please let us know so that we can correct the problem. We try so hard to have every order perfect, but with the number of orders that we have, errors can be made. We will gladly correct any problem.

Monthly Supply Donations

The monthly supply items that can be donated and save the cats funds are provided below.

April	Wipes (Clorox or Lysol)
May	Friskies, Iams, Fancy Feast Canned Food
June	Paper Towels
July	Rubber Backed Area Rugs
August	Wipes (Clorox or Lysol)
September	Paper Towels
October	Friskies, Iams, Fancy Feast Canned Food
November	Bleach
December	2018 Cat Calendars

Past Fund Raisers

We have not had any fund raisers since the January newsletter. However, we do appreciate the donations that have been received during this time.

Current Fund Raisers

When you are making a purchase on Amazon, please go to **Amazon Smile** and register as a supporter of The Tenth Life. After you have registered, do your shopping, and Amazon will send The Tenth Life a donation of half of a percent for the purchase. This is another easy way to support The Tenth Life without any expenditure of your own funds except for the item you are buying. Please remember this option when you are shopping.

The cat furniture built by a volunteer is available. We have a book at The Tenth Life showing the different designs available. The trees have a large base for stability and are constructed of PVC or sturdy wood covered with carpet, and the posts can be covered with

carpet or sisal. Prices vary by height and style. You can choose the color of carpet that you prefer.

We have a wonderful selection of short (\$15.00) and long-sleeve (\$20.00) t-shirts, polo shirts (\$25.00) and sweatshirts (\$25.00). They are available in a multitude of colors. Please see the previous newsletter for all of the color choices. The t-shirts, polo shirts, and sweatshirts are available in S/M/L/XL/XXL&XXXL.

Our selection of catnip toys is extensive. We have crocheted catnip mice, fish, birds, octopi, and snakes, (\$3.00), small and large balls (\$2.00) and a crocheted ball on a crocheted rope that hangs on a door knob (\$5.00). There are also catnip mats (\$10.00) and bags of dried catnip (\$3.00).

The Pet Hair Magnets (\$15.00), Furminators (\$25.00), and note cards (ten for \$5.00) are also available. They are great for yourself or as gifts.

All of these items are available at The Tenth Life or by mail with these **additional amounts for postage**.

T-shirts (Long or Short Sleeve)	\$4.00
Polos and Sweatshirts	\$4.00
Catnip Toys or Note Cards	\$3.00
Pet Hair Magnets or Furminators	\$5.00

Transferring Speedway Gas Speedy Rewards to The Tenth Life is a wonderful way to help the cats. You can transfer your points at the kiosk at any Speedway Station or online at Speedway's website. If you transfer your points to the following card number – 404440 098106, we can obtain visa cards for purchasing supplies.

Future Fund Raisers

In June we plan to again attend the Yellow Springs Street Fair on June 10th from 9:00am-5:00pm. Our booth is across from Speedway, on the opposite side of the street. We will have our normal array of cat items.

Beginning in late Summer/early Fall we will have the 2018 Entertainment books. They will again be loaded



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with money-saving coupons. We assume the price will remain the same, but we do not have confirmation.

Reminders

We appreciate your saving ink cartridges, Fresh Step Paw Points, pennies, coupons, and aluminum for the cats. We redeem the ink cartridges for rewards to purchase office supplies, paper towels, Clorox wipes, etc. The Paw Points can be found on the bag or box of Fresh Step Litter. The code is ten characters, but is not the lot number. Simply cut off the top layer of the bag or box with the code and mail it to our post office box. **Please be sure to cut off the entire code.** The pennies can be wrapped or not. We are thrilled to get them either way. Sending coupons for Fresh Step Litter, cat food, Yesterday's News Litter, paper towels, toilet paper, wipes (Lysol or Clorox), and facial tissue save dollars when we shop for supplies. The aluminum can be any type of aluminum from cans (pet food or soft

drink) to siding and spouting. **Canned vegetable cans are steel, not aluminum. A magnet will not stick to aluminum, but will to other metals.** Any of these can be brought to The Tenth Life during our hours of operation. Of course, the ink cartridges, Paw Points, and coupons can be sent to the post office box or brought to The Tenth Life. Please keep saving these items, many of which otherwise might be thrown away, and helping the cats more than you might imagine.

Hours of Operation:

4:00-7:00pm Monday-Thursday
3:00-6:00pm Friday
10:30am-5:00pm on Saturday
12:30-5:00pm on Sunday

Website:

thetenthlife.org

Phone Number:

(937) 376-5550

Address

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