

# Sandbox Gazette

QUARTERLY

JULY 2017

ISSUE 3



Here is another edition of The Sandbox Gazette. In this edition we will provide the calendar of events, update you on the previous adoptable cats and feature new ones, offer a heartwarming story about a cat adopted from The Tenth Life, update you about the three-dollar campaign, make a request for volunteers, inform you about the alarm system, alert you to problems with excessive water consumption, suggest some helpful hints, show the monthly supply donation list, and update you about the past, current, and future fund raisers.

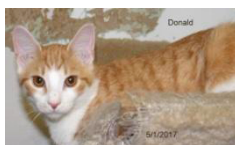
## Calendar of Events

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

Three-Dollar Campaign	Now
Beavercreek Popcorn Festival	Sep 9 <sup>th</sup> & 10 <sup>th</sup>
2018 Entertainment Books	Sep
United Way/ CFC Campaigns	Sep/Oct

## Feature Cats

We are sorry to tell you that none of the cats in the last newsletter have been adopted. Al and GW and Jack and Jill are still available for loving homes. They are all very sweet and loving. All they ask is for love and attention and great food. They will give you great love.



Our new feature cats are Kiefer and Donald and Kevin. Kiefer and Donald are brothers, who are about seven months old. They are both orange and white, neutered,

very loving, great with other cats, very playful, and talkative. Unfortunately Kiefer has a heart condition that requires daily medication. He is very cooperative about taking his medication. They love to chase around the room, and you would not know that he has any problem. They would love a home together.

The other feature cat is Kevin. He is an older Siamese mix that has had a rough life. He is neutered and front declawed but was found on a family's porch after probably being hit by a car. He has road lacerations on his side and front leg. There were no internal injuries. He has gorgeous blue eyes and is very talkative. He demands attention. He is fine with other cats. His wounds are healed. His fur is actually a goldish brown with brown points. He would be a loving companion for an older person who wants a reserved, loving lap cat.

They are all waiting for loving people to give them homes for the rest of their lives. They are fully vaccinated and microchipped. Please call for a visit.

We have a huge selection of cats in all ages and colors. They range in age from seven months to seventeen years. They long for a loving home where they can be the center of attention and be safe for the rest of their lives. Cats ask for so little from us, but give us such comfort and love. With The Tenth Life, they have a comfortable place to live without the fear of being put to death. Every cat that gets a home, makes space for another cat.

## Heartwarming Story

This story is about two feral cats that came to The Tenth Life. Their names are Farah and Tallie. They did not arrive together but lived in the same room. They were very afraid when they arrived. Farah was found by a friend in Centerville who could not keep her because she already had her quota of cats. She worked with her to gain her confidence and allow her to learn to trust people.

When she came to The Tenth Life, she was no longer feral, but was very afraid. We tried to make her feel comfortable and loved. She eventually moved to a room with other cats and learned to be friends with them. After awhile, she was very loving to everyone who entered her room. Tallie had been living in a garage with her kittens. She too was basically feral. She was very afraid and would strike at the volunteers. After working with her, she also went to a room. It was Farah's room. After some time for adjustment, she learned to be out in the room and not hide. They both loved to lie on the cat tree on different levels. They loved to be petted and would roll over and allow people to pet their bellies. A lady who had adopted from The Tenth Life about ten years before, was looking for a new kitty as one of hers had cancer. She was looking for only one cat, but she fell in love with both of them since they were so loving and cute. They are settling in very well and are best friends. They are also learning to get along with her male cat who was also from The Tenth Life but is older than them. We are all so happy for them. Their new "Mom" loves them and had a scratching post built for them by our volunteer. They are so fortunate to have been born feral and be able to have a loving home where they can be happy and safe.

### **The Three-Dollar Campaign Status**

The three-dollar campaign is in full swing. Many of our wonderful supporters have contributed to this campaign. The fund is lagging a little behind last year at this point. We are continuing to receive donations to this fund. If you have not sent your donation, please do so now so that you do not forget to help the cats. They are counting on all of you to help with this fund raiser. Contributions to this fund are even more important than in past years as we are unable to have the lasagna dinner and auction this year. Not having this event is a huge loss of funding for the cats. Last year's dinner and auction produced twenty-three thousand dollars for the cats. (We are planning on having this event again next year.) The cats are hoping contributions to the three-dollar fund this year will exceed last years total of eighteen thousand dollars to help overcome some of this deficit. Please send your donation and mark your check for the three-dollar fund. As we previously stated in

the last newsletter, for all donations over twenty dollars, we will automatically send an acknowledgement letter unless you specify otherwise. If your donation is less than twenty dollars, and you request a letter, we will gladly do one for you. This is such an easy way to help the cats and doing so will make you feel really great, knowing you have made a difference in the lives of so many cats. Too many of the cats had horrible lives before coming to The Tenth Life. The cats are waiting for your donations and are ready to type the thank-you letters.

### **Request for Volunteers**

We have a great need for more volunteers. With summer vacations and students getting ready to go to college, we have a shortage of volunteers to care for the cats. The volunteers clean the cats' rooms and provide love and attention to the cats. Cleaning involves scooping litter boxes, cleaning food and water bowls, changing linens on the furniture, and mopping the floors in the rooms. The pay is purring, loving cats thanking you for your work. They love to sit on laps and some even help with scooping the boxes. They are so appreciative of your help. Most volunteers spend two hours or more if they have the time and love interacting with the cats. Of course, all the volunteers have their favorites. Since we are a no-kill facility, they know that even if they do not adopt them, they have a home for life or until the perfect adopter comes along. Please consider helping. We work with the volunteers to have a time that works in their schedule and fills a vacancy here. If you have questions about volunteering, please call us and we can answer those questions.

If cleaning the cats' areas is not your idea of fun, there are other volunteer opportunities available. When we have a booth at Street Fair or Popcorn Festival, we need volunteers to man the booth, chat with visitors, make sales and answer questions when possible. If we have a sufficient number of workers, we have the volunteers in shifts to make it less of a burden to each individual. In addition, we need volunteers to help solicit items for the auction, make basket arrangements, work at the dinner and auction, help with cleanup, etc. If you are interested in any of these volunteer opportunities, please call The

Tenth Life. We and the cats would love to have your help.

### **Alarm System Update**

We told you in a recent newsletter that there had been enough funds donated to acquire the alarm system that we had wanted to get for the protection of the cats. The system that we had been pricing was for break-in protection only. We had inquired about fire protection, but were told by one of the companies that it would have to be a hard-wired system which was not practical or possible with all of the buildings. When we talked to the representative of the company we had chosen, we asked about fire protection and were told that there is now a wireless fire protection system available. The estimate was an additional ten to fifteen thousand for the fire protection portion. A generous cat lover, who has been a supporter of The Tenth Life for many years, recently asked if we had a funding need. We talked about the fire alarm system. The supporter agreed to donate fifteen thousand dollars for the fire protection. We are so grateful for this timely, very generous donation. With this wonderful, unexpected donation, we can now have both the break-in and fire protection systems installed at the same time. The company is working on the plans so that the entire system can be installed very soon. We are so very grateful for all of the donations to this project. These systems should keep the cats safer and the humans less stressed with worry for their safety.

### **Excessive Water Consumption**

Cats certainly need to consume water and the more the better to a point. When cats begin drinking more water than is normal for them, there could be a health problem. Excessive water consumption can be a sign of diabetes, renal (kidney) problems, or thyroid problems. Many cats begin sitting at the water bowl for an extended period. Most healthy cats come to the bowl, get a drink or two and leave. If you see your cat spending more time than normal at the water bowl, pay close attention. If it is a trend, please call your veterinarian for an appointment. He or she will undoubtedly, run blood

work to check for levels on these possible problem areas. With diabetes and thyroid problems, the cat also usually has a ravenous appetite; however, with renal problems the appetite is usually decreased because of nausea. With all of these conditions, there is usually weight loss, even with the increased appetite with the two. Also, the cat usually becomes dehydrated even though there is more water consumption. To check for dehydration, pull the skin up at the shoulder blades. If it snaps down as though there were elastic in the skin, the cat is not dehydrated. If it goes down slowly, there is dehydration. If you have trouble deciding and you have another cat, do the same with the other cat and compare the response. It is very important to be alert to these signs. In the next section, we talk about monitoring your cat's weight. By doing so, you might see weight loss before you notice any of the other signs. The sooner you detect a problem and have your cat seen by your veterinarian, the better the chances of helping the cat and extending his or her life.

If diabetes is diagnosed, your veterinarian may suggest a diet change and insulin injections. The injections are usually required twice daily at approximately the same times each day. Giving insulin injections can be frightening if you are not used to doing it; however, your veterinarian will help you learn to give them. It is usually very simple once you have become accustomed to doing it. The needle for insulin injections is very small and makes it easier to do. Anyone can learn to give injections when necessary for your cat's health. There will need to be monitoring done by your veterinarian to determine the best dosage level of insulin.

If renal or kidney problems are determined to be your cat's problem, your veterinarian may suggest fluids given under the skin or medications. If fluids are suggested, you simply insert the needle under the skin and the fluids will flow quickly. It only takes a few minutes to give your cat fluids. If medication is the preferred treatment, follow your veterinarian's directions and be sure all medication is administered properly. Your cat's life will depend on your care.

Finally, if your cat has elevated thyroid readings, determined by a blood test, your doctor will give you

options for treatment. Many veterinarians begin with a medication given twice a day. Often if the medication does not work or your cat does not tolerate the medication, the doctor will recommend another treatment. There are two other methods of treatment for thyroid problems. One is radiation treatment done by a specialist and the other is removal of the thyroid, also usually done by a specialist. Cats with thyroid problems almost always have elevated thyroid readings rather than low readings. This is called hyperthyroidism.

If you have any questions about this information, you can call The Tenth Life for further details. Of course, your best source of information about any of these problems is your veterinarian.

### **Helpful Hints**

We wanted to offer some helpful hints about your cat's care. We hope these help you to care for your cat. If you have any questions, call us.

Have cats spayed/neutered – These procedures prevent reproduction, reduces/eliminates the chance of certain cancers, reduces the chance of spraying, and makes pets more relaxed and loving.

Flea Control – Fleas are very bad this year because of the early spring, hot weather, and abundant rain. The best products that we have found are **Revolution** and **Advantage Multi-Cat**. Both are not only for flea control, but also for ear mite, round worm, and heart worm control. They are only available from your veterinarian. If you want only flea control, **Advantage** is available over the counter.

Use unscented cat litter – Most cats do not like litter that is scented. Manufacturers like to make litter smell flowery for the owner, but most cats do not like these added scents. Baking soda can be added for odor control as it does not add an unpleasant scent.

Be sure to scoop the litter box at least once per day – Cats are more likely to be good about litter box habits if the box is kept clean.

If your cat has litter box problems - Do not change brands or type of litter. This will only confuse the cat. Have the cat checked by your veterinarian for a urinary tract infection. If the problem is behavioral, there are many ways to work the problem. Call us for information and suggestions.

Be careful with the placement of the litter box - Do not place the litter box where it is not easily accessible for the cat or near appliances that kick on and off. If the cat cannot access the litter box or the box sits near anything that clicks on and off, such as appliances, furnaces, etc., the cat may find an inappropriate place to go.

Feed quality food that is low in magnesium – Cat food with high magnesium levels can contribute to urinary tract infections. The magnesium level is shown on the label of the food.

Do not change a cat's diet – Changing a cat's diet can cause diarrhea or vomiting. If you must change the cat's diet for health reasons, do so gradually unless you are told otherwise by your veterinarian.

Do not add new dry food on top of old dry food in bowl – Food left over in the bowl should be rotated to the top and the new food put on the bottom of the bowl daily. Food will become stale and lose nutritional value if left in the bottom and storage mites will develop.

Monitor your cat's weight – Weigh your cat on a routine basis to be sure the cat is maintaining its weight. Weight loss can signal health problems and allow your veterinarian a better chance to solve the problem than if the loss is recognized later.

Annual veterinary checks – Your cat should go to the vet at least once per year for a checkup. It is better to catch problems before they appear, rather than after symptoms are apparent.

### **Monthly Supply Donations**

The list of supplies that can be donated to help the cats is shown below. Any of these can be donated at any

time, not just in the month shown. The donation can be brought to The Tenth Life during our hours of operation. Your donations truly help with expenses. We can then use those dollars for other purposes for the cats. The cats will be the winners.

July	Pine Cleaner
August	Wipes (Clorox or Lysol)
September	Paper Towels
October	Friskies, Iams, Fancy Feast Canned Food
November	Bleach
December	2018 <b>Cat</b> Calendars

### Past Fund Raisers

There have been five fund raisers since the last newsletter. They were pictures with the Easter bunny, the Easter bake sale, the Easter pie sale, the annual plant sale, and the Yellow Springs Street Fair.

We took pet pictures with the Easter bunny at Pet Supplies Plus in Beavercreek for two weekends. Unfortunately pictures with the Easter bunny are not as popular as pictures with Santa. For the two weekends, we only earned a little over one hundred dollars. We thank the volunteers who were the Easter bunny and his helper. We will probably not do pictures with the Easter bunny again as it is somewhat of a waste of the volunteers' time with very little profit for the cats. Of course this is the reason the volunteers donate their time for these purposes. We thank Pet Supplies Plus in Beavercreek for giving us the opportunity to try pictures with the Easter bunny.

The Easter pie sale was very successful. We sold sixty-five pies at a profit of four hundred and thirty-nine dollars. The pies were delicious and all of them sold. We thank everyone who purchased pies. The next pie sale will be for Thanksgiving. The order blank will be in the next newsletter.

The Easter bake sale was one of the best. We had forty varieties of cookies, candy, and cupcakes. As always the volunteers brought delicious homemade

baked goods for our sale. The profits were eight hundred dollars. We thank everyone who donated goodies for the sale and everyone who purchased them. We know everyone enjoyed the goodies. The next bake sale is in December. The selection is unbelievable and everything is so delicious.

The annual plant sale was the best we have had. We sold over twenty-seven thousand dollars of plants, hanging baskets, potted plants, etc. for a profit of nearly ten thousand dollars. As always the plants were from Furst and were beautiful and healthy. All the plants were sold. We thank the hardworking volunteers who put together about two hundred orders for our customers. Of course, we had extras and sold over three thousand dollars of them. The Tenth Life has the **best** customers. Many of our customers not only buy plants for themselves but also sell plants to their friends and relatives which helps significantly with the overall sale. We could not sell as many plants without this help. Please remember this sale again next year. This year the plant sale is our largest fund raiser. We thought that you might like to see pictures from the plant sale. They are on page 7 of this newsletter.

On June 10<sup>th</sup>, we participated in the Yellow Springs Street Fair. The weather was hot, but there was a huge crowd. We sold cat collectibles, cat cards, and an enormous amount of catnip and catnip toys. The profit for the cats was eight hundred and forty-two dollars. Thanks to everyone who worked the booth and who made purchases.

### Current Fund Raisers

A donor has given The Tenth Life four tickets to a Reds baseball game in August. The game is on August 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:10pm. There are four tickets in section 112, row R, seats 15,16,17, and 18. We would like to sell them to raise funds for the cats. The value of the tickets is thirty dollars each. If you are interested, please call The Tenth Life and make an offer.

As we have been telling you, we are registered with **Amazon Smile**. When you are going to make 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 on Amazon.

The cat furniture built by a volunteer is available for your shopping pleasure. We have a book at The Tenth Life showing the different designs available. The trees that he makes 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. You and the cats will be thrilled.

We have a wonderful selection of short (\$15.00) and long-sleeve (\$20.00) t-shirts, polo shirts (\$25.00), sweatshirts (\$25.00), and tote bags (\$25.00). The short sleeve t-shirts are available in pale yellow, pale pink, jade, pistachio, spruce, sand, light sand, natural, purple, navy, bright red, orange, forest green, stonewashed blue, light blue, Carolina blue, burgundy, deep teal, light steel, pebble, khaki, olive, and medium blue. We have the long sleeve t-shirts in bright red, natural, stonewashed green, maroon, smoke gray, deep royal blue, ash, and purple. The polo shirts are available in steel gray, celadon blue, red, vine green, boysenberry pink, nugget gold, and dark green. The sweatshirts come in navy, forest green, bright red, gold, light pink, brown, pine, Carolina blue, burgundy, purple, and gray. The t-shirts, polo shirts, and sweatshirts are available in S/M/L/XL/XXL&XXXL. The totes are large and are gray with black trim and have many inside pockets.

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).

Pet Hair Magnets (\$15.00), and Furminators (\$25.00) are available for your pet needs. The Pet Hair Magnets

are wonderful for removing pet hair, and the Furminators work wonders for grooming your pet and removing mats without the tugging and pulling a comb does.

Our note cards are still available. There are ten cards and envelopes for five dollars in a package. Of course there is a cat on the face of the card and they are blank on the inside so you can write your personal notes.

All of these items are available at The Tenth Life or by mail with the **additional amount shown below for postage**. We had to increase the postage a little as our estimate was a little low. We know that you will love any of these items.

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

Your saving and transferring Speedway Gas Speedy Rewards to The Tenth Life is a wonderful way to help the cats without any outlay of your funds other than purchasing your gasoline. 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 one hundred dollar visa cards for purchasing supplies for the cats. It really helps with expenses.

### Future Fund Raisers

Beginning in late Summer/early Fall we will have the 2018 Entertainment books. They will again be loaded with money-saving coupons. We assume the price will remain the same, but we do not have information on the price at this time.

### 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. This saves us lots from the general fund. We always

appreciate the transfer of Speedy reward points from Speedway. It takes 118,000 points to get a \$100 Visa card which is then used to make purchases of expendables which would normally be paid for with monies from the general fund. 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. Please keep saving and helping the cats. They appreciate your help.

**Hours of Operation:**

**Phone Number:**

**4:00-7:00pm Monday-Thursday**

**(937) 376-5550**

**3:00-6:00pm Friday**

**10:30am-5:00pm on Saturday**

**12:30-5:00pm on Sunday**

**Address**

**The Tenth Life  
P.O. Box 178  
Alpha, Ohio 45301**

**Website:**

**thetenthlife.org**





**THE TENTH LIFE**

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