

# Sandbox Gazette

QUARTERLY

OCTOBER 2025

ISSUE 4



The final Sandbox Gazette for 2025 is here. In this edition we will offer the calendar of events, give new and past featured cats, provide a heartwarming cat story, notify you of a donation, update you of the status of the three-dollar fund, announce an honor bestowed on The Tenth Life, enlighten you about Giving Tuesday donations, show the cats' Christmas wish list, suggest ways to donate, request donations of craft items, tell you about the annual plant and greenery sale for the holidays, inform you about the holiday bazaars, offer the order blank for the Thanksgiving and Christmas pie sales, request baked goods for the holiday bake sale, offer cat carriers at discounted prices, display monthly supply donations, tell you about past, current and future fund raisers, and apprise you of some reminders.

## Calendar of Events

The calendar of events for the remainder of the year for The Tenth Life is shown below.

Plant/greenery orders due	Nov 8 <sup>th</sup>
Thanksgiving pie orders due	Nov 15 <sup>th</sup>
Thanksgiving pie pickup	Nov 22 <sup>nd</sup>
Plant and greenery pickup	Nov 29 <sup>th</sup>
Holiday bazaar	Nov 29 <sup>th</sup>
Giving Tuesday	Dec 2 <sup>nd</sup>
Christmas pie orders due	Dec 13 <sup>th</sup>
Christmas bake sale	Dec 20 <sup>th</sup>
Second holiday bazaar	Dec 20 <sup>th</sup>
Christmas pie pickup	Dec 20 <sup>th</sup>

## Feature Cats

The two brothers of the feature cats from the last newsletter (Jace and Jax) are adopted and are waiting to go home; however, Blanco is still waiting for a loving, permanent home where he can be spoiled.

The new feature cats are brothers John and George, Abe and Stan, and Evangaline. John and George are short hair, tiger kittens that are eight months old. They are totally bonded and love to wrestle. They would be so happy to have a home and be loved. Getting attention is their favorite pastime. They are great with other cats.



Abe and Stan are about three years old and declawed on all four feet. Abe is an orange tiger and Stan is black and white. Both are short hair. Abe is a true love and loves to play. Stan also loves to play on a quieter level. Abe has never met a stranger, but Stan is a little shy and takes a little time to be comfortable with new people. Both love other cats and will be their best friends.



Evangaline is a gray girl who is about two years old. She would love to be an only cat. She only tolerates other cats in her room. She was found as a stray in a rough neighborhood, but was already spayed. Of course, she did not have a microchip. She loves people and craves sitting on laps. Evangaline is a small cat with beautiful eyes.



All of these adorable cats need a loving home where they can be safe and be loved unconditionally. All are spayed or neutered, tested for viruses, fully vaccinated and microchipped. Of course, we have many other cats

in all colors who are equally loving and friendly that need homes. Please call The Tenth Life to visit and fall in love.

### **Heartwarming Story**

The story for this newsletter is about Al or as he was affectionally known as Big Al. He was a large boy who had lived at The Tenth Life for eight years. Although he was very friendly, he was never chosen as the cat to be adopted. A lady called The Tenth Life looking for an older cat, but wasn't sure she really wanted to adopt a cat. She preferred to foster a cat to decide if adoption was for her. She had not had a cat for many years and had recently lost her elderly dog. She did not want to make a mistake about adoption. When she came to visit, she looked at many cats but decided that Big Al was the one she really liked. He greeted her by lying next to her and proceeding to give love bites on her hand. This was his way of being friendly. Luckily, she did not mind the nibbles and decided to take him home for a trial visit. It did not take long for Big Al to work his magic on her and make her fall in love with him. She has decided that he is the best cat in the world and is her best friend. She says he also is very happy with the arrangement. He had to wait lots of years for a home, but now he is loved and very spoiled. We are very happy that they found each other and can be best friends.

### **Donation of Designer Purses**

A supporter of The Tenth Life donated five designer purses for the auction. After much consideration, the auction committee decided that selling these purses through a different route would be more profitable for the cats. We decided before advertising on E-bay, we would make this offer to our supporters through this newsletter. The purses include purses by Prada, Coach, Louis Vuiton, Judith Leiber, and Walbaeg. To see the purses, you can contact us, and we will be happy to show any or all of them to you. We have researched the current price of each purse so we have an idea of their value. Selling these purses donated by a kind

supporter will help the cats immensely. You can have a designer purse, at a reasonable price, and help the cats' funding.

### **Three-Dollar Fund Status**

To date, the cats have received donations of thirty-eight thousand dollars to this fund. We truly appreciate all donations to this fund. We will certainly accept any further donations to this fund. This is a huge amount of help, but with rising prices on food, litter, etc. the dollars do not go as far. Of course, we watch for sales and try to maximize the funds. Every penny goes to the cats and not to expensive, unnecessary items. The cats are the first priority. Again, thank you for your help.

### **An Honor**

One of the suppliers, Patterson Veterinary, that we have purchased equipment and medications from for nearly forty years, honored The Tenth Life with a Super Shelter Award. Our organization was nominated and chosen as their selection of a Super Shelter. They made a presentation of supplies and an official plaque for display in the shelter. We were very honored with the selection of The Tenth Life for this award. All of The Tenth Life volunteers and staff work very hard every day to take care of all of the needs of the cats living here so that they have a comfortable life while with us.

### **Giving Tuesday Donations**

The Tenth Life is happy to inform you that a generous supporter has again offered this year, for the third year in a row, to match donations given on Giving Tuesday to The Tenth Life. This year Giving Tuesday is December 2<sup>nd</sup>. There are various ways of making your donation. Your donation can be given on our website, [thetenthlife.org](http://thetenthlife.org) through **Just Giving** or by sending a check to the post office box (P.O. Box 178, Alpha, Ohio 45301). Last year, The Tenth Life

received donations totaling nearly twenty thousand dollars. We had not advertised it in the October newsletter last year, so we were absolutely thrilled with the amount. With this prior notification this year, maybe the organization can receive that amount or more for the care of the cats. Please remember The Tenth Life again this year.

### **Cats' Christmas Wish List**

The cats have been working very hard to compile their wish list for this Christmas. The first wish is for homes of their own where they can feel safe and be loved for the rest of their lives. This is every cat's dream. They love to be shown love and have comfort. All they ask is to be fed, pampered and allowed to sleep anywhere and any time they want. Please consider granting a deserving cat this wish forever. Not only will you enrich its life, but you will enjoy the company and love from that cat. This is a win, win situation.

Their second wish is for more volunteers to take care of their nonmedical and affection needs. They really love when the volunteers come into their rooms and not only clean their rooms, but also give them extra pets and even offer a lap for snuggles. Scooping litter boxes, and providing fresh water and food is very important, but even more important for them, and the volunteers, is the affection time. It is so rewarding to see a once shy, afraid cat jump into laps and purr and rub. Everyone wins when you volunteer. Most volunteers spend about two hours cleaning and petting once per week. Please consider volunteering and enriching your life and those of the cats you help.

The third request on their list is for donations to the operating fund. These are the funds used for the day-to-day operation of The Tenth Life. These expenses include, but are not limited to, medical supplies, food, litter, utilities, etc. Caring for approximately four hundred cats at all times is costly, but the poor cats have nowhere else to go to be housed and loved. All donations are tax deductible and very much

appreciated. These donations make it possible for these once neglected cats to have a comfortable environment.

Next, we would appreciate additional donations to the emergency fund to allow The Tenth Life to aid owners who love their pets, but cannot afford the medical treatment that their cats require in an emergency. This can make all the difference in whether the cats live or die. Please contribute to this fund to allow The Tenth Life to help the cats and their owners.

The last request on their list is for supplies. The volunteers use these supplies on a daily basis to take care of the cats' needs and to clean their living areas. The supplies that are needed the most are paper towels, wipes, pine cleaner, window cleaner, fabric softeners, canned cat food, and Churu treats. These items can be brought to The Tenth Life during our hours of operation. Some contributors purchase items through Amazon or Chewy and have the gifts sent directly to The Tenth Life. We love getting them and it saves us money and time.

### **Ways To Donate**

We know that many people prefer to make annual donations during the holidays. There are so many ways for you to donate any time and have a tax deduction.

The first way anyone can donate is a direct donation by check or cash to our post office box. You can also establish an automatic donation from your checking account if you do on-line banking. You simply register the address information for The Tenth Life located on the back of this newsletter, and the bank will send a check from your checking account. The check can be sent as often as you designate or on a one-time basis.

The second is through our web site. Donations can be made through **Just Giving** by credit card. There is a button on the home page that says donate. It will take you to the page where donations can be made. It gives you the opportunity of giving a one-time donation or a recurring donation which is charged to your credit card.

The Tenth Life is a Thrivent Choice organization. Thrivent Choice is a member-advised program that allows eligible members to recommend where Thrivent Financial distributes part of its charitable outreach funds each year. When eligible Thrivent Financial members direct Choice Dollars to a charitable organization, Thrivent forwards these dollars to that charity. If you are a member please consider The Tenth Life for donations or contact Thrivent to enroll.

Memorial donations can be made when a friend, a relative or a pet passes away. It is a thoughtful way to memorialize the person or pet. This is being done more and more, rather than sending flowers. Unfortunately, the flowers do not last, but a donation to The Tenth Life will make a huge difference in the lives of the cats living here. The family will be notified of your memorial donation (not amount), and you will receive a letter.

Many companies encourage their employees to donate to charities. In an effort to further this policy, many of the companies will match your donations to the charities. Some even double or triple your donation amount. This is a wonderful way to help The Tenth Life and make your donations even larger without any further outlay of your funds. It is a good idea to check with your employer to see if they offer a program. If they do, they usually have a form that the charity needs to complete and return to the company. You can send the form with your donation, and we will finish the process. These corporate donations really help with the funding. Many of you make holiday donations, and this is a way to make your donation even larger.

As we mentioned in prior newsletters, if you have reached the age where you must take a qualified distribution from an IRA, you can have this distribution check made payable to The Tenth Life. You will not be taxed on this amount as you would if the distribution were made payable to you. This is a win-win situation for you in that you do not pay taxes on the donation and the cats receive the funding.

Please remember that all donations are tax deductible. We send acknowledgement letters for all donations. If you donate and do not receive a letter, please contact us.

Some donations received through a platform, such as PayPal, either do not give us the donors name or simply show the donation as anonymous. Of course, in these cases we cannot send acknowledgement letters.

### **Donations of Craft Items Needed**

We desperately need craft items for our bazaars. All types of items are great, but cat-oriented merchandise is the best. We love to have a wide variety of items for our shoppers' delight. Your donated items can be brought to The Tenth Life during our hours of operation or we can arrange for pickup. If you are crafty, please consider making some items for our bazaars. The dates for the bazaars are on the calendar on the front page.

### **Plant and Greenery Sale**

We are again offering holiday plants and wreaths and roping for your holiday decorating needs. The order blank is included in this newsletter. Prices can be found on the order blank. As always, the plants and greenery are provided by Furst The Florist and Garden Center. All of these gorgeous plants and greenery have such a marvelous aroma and really set the mood for your holidays. The plants include cyclamen and Christmas cactus in four and a half and six inch pots. Wreaths are a mix of long and short needle greenery with pine cones and a large red bow and are available in two sizes. The roping is cut to your desired length. Prices have remained the same. Please send your orders, with payment, to The Tenth Life by November 8<sup>th</sup>. Pickup begins November 29<sup>th</sup> from 10:00am-5:00pm. Hours on Sunday are the same as Saturday.

### **Holiday Bazaars**

The holiday bazaars are scheduled for November 29<sup>th</sup> and December 20<sup>th</sup>. The hours are 10:00am to 5:00pm. We hope to have a nice selection of craft items for your shopping pleasure. Of course, we will have our famous handmade catnip toys in a huge variety of shapes, such as mice, balls, snakes, (small and large), door hangers, fish,

turtles, etc. All are filled with homegrown catnip that truly excites the cats. These toys have so much more catnip scent. In addition, we will have our apparel for The Tenth Life (short and long sleeve t-shirts, polo shirts and sweatshirts). Original design Christmas cards (no new one for this year) created by a volunteer will also be available.

**Thanksgiving and Christmas Pie Sales**

The holiday pies are again offered. The pies are from Mehaffies and are always delicious. The order blank for the pies is included in this newsletter. Orders for Thanksgiving pies are due by November 15<sup>th</sup>, with payment, and will be available for pickup on November 22<sup>nd</sup>. The Christmas orders are due by December 13<sup>th</sup>, with payment, and will be ready for pickup on December 20<sup>th</sup> from 10:00am-5:00pm. Prices have remained the same. The price is eleven dollars per pie for the pies on the order blank or twelve dollars for any other pies that they sell except cheese cakes. Ordering from The Tenth Life will save you many hours in the kitchen baking pies and save the cost of buying all of the ingredients. You can have a much better variety for your dinners with a great deal less work. In addition, you are helping the cats with your purchases. Please do not forget to send in your order blanks.

**Request for Baked Goods for Christmas Bake Sale**

We are planning our Holiday Bake Sale for December 20<sup>th</sup>. With the lady who baked for these sales for many years, being unable to continue baking for us because of health issues, we are again asking for your support with this sale. Last year your generous donations contributed eighty-seven varieties of delicious baked goods ranging from cakes to cookies to candy. This was the best variety we have ever had. The income from that sale was nearly three thousand dollars. If you love to bake and would like to contribute to this bake sale, please bring your donations to The Tenth Life on Friday, December 19<sup>th</sup> between 3:00 and 6:00pm or Saturday, December 20<sup>th</sup> from 9:00-10:00am. With the bake sale, we allow people to make a donation for the baked goods based on

their idea of a fair price. This seems to work very well as people are very generous with their donations. Please plan to attend the bake sale and save yourself many hours of baking. Baked goods will still be available for a few days. These delicious baked goods make excellent holiday gifts for your friends, family or co-workers. If your office has a holiday dinner, taking baked goods from this sale will make your job much easier, especially when you are already overbooked with all of your holiday preparations and shopping.

**Cat Carriers at Discounted Prices**

We have had many cat carriers donated and do not need all of them. We have both hard carriers and a few soft-sided carriers. We sell them at greatly reduced prices from pet store prices. They are in great shape and some are almost brand new. Depending on size and condition, we sell them for ten to twenty-five dollars. If you would like more information about them, please call and we can answer your questions. There is a huge selection.

**Monthly Supply Donations**

The list shows the supply donations by month for the remainder of the year. Your contributions of these supplies really help the organization. They can be brought to The Tenth Life during our hours of operation.

October	Wipes (Clorox, Lysol, Sam's, etc.)
November	Bleach
December	Postage Stamps

**Past Fund Raisers**

There have been three fund raisers since the July newsletter. The first was the annual lasagna dinner and auction held on August 10<sup>th</sup>. It was a fantastic event and very profitable for the cats. There were thirty-seven tables of auction items with many items per table. Of course, not all items sold, but most did. The lasagna dinner was delicious and was prepared by Belmont

Catering. All items on the salad bar and all desserts were donated by supporters or businesses. We appreciate their contributions also. With contributions and sales, the cats received thirty-four thousand five hundred dollars of profit after all expenses were covered. We appreciate everyone who contributed to this event and everyone who attended. The volunteers did a fantastic job of making this event both fun for the attendees and a huge success for the cats. It took many weeks of work and preparation to have this event. One couple who work very hard all year soliciting gift cards and merchandise for this auction, are such a valuable asset. We could not have such a profitable event without their wonderful, hard-working service.

The next fund raiser was the Beavercreek Popcorn Festival on September 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>. We sold all of our usual items, such as cat toys and apparel for The Tenth Life, and sold over five hundred rubber ducks. They were definitely the most popular items. People were standing in line to purchase rubber ducks. Since the volunteer who was selling them for us, provided all of the ducks, it was total profit for the cats. He only had four left at the end of the weekend. The event produced over twenty-three hundred dollars of profit for the cats.

The last fund raiser was the annual mum sale. We sold nearly four hundred mums at a profit of nearly fifteen hundred dollars. The mums were provided by Furst the Florist and Garden Center and were absolutely huge and beautiful. As always the customers were amazed at their size. We saw mums about the same size at retail locations for several dollars more. These mums are definitely the best and largest at a fantastic price. Please do not forget this sale next year.

### **Current Fund Raisers**

We are always appreciative of donations of craft items to have in our gift area and for festivals that we attend. All types of craft items are accepted. They do not have to be cat oriented, but of course, cat items are great sellers.

Please continue shopping at Dorothy Lane Markets and Kroger. Your purchases help to support the cats. Please remember that Dorothy Lane Markets require you to reregister every year.

We have a nice selection of short (\$20.00) and long-sleeve (\$25.00) t-shirts, polo shirts (\$25.00), sweatshirts (\$40.00) and hoodies (\$45.00). The t-shirts, polo shirts, and sweatshirts are available in S/M/L/XL in a variety of colors. Of course we do not have every size in every color.

Our selection of catnip toys is extensive. We have crocheted catnip mice, fish, turtles, octopi, eggs, and gnomes (\$5.00), small and large snakes (\$6.00 and \$8.00), small and large balls (\$3.00), and catnip door hangers (a crocheted ball on the end of a crocheted hanger) (\$7.00). There are also catnip mats (\$10.00), small fleece mats, perfect for cat naps, (\$5.00) and bags of dried catnip (\$3.00). With all of these toys being made with fresh catnip, they are super attractive to the cats, much better than items purchased from stores. Many people tell us these are the only toys their cats like.

Pet Hair Magnets (\$15.00), and Furminators (\$40.00) 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. They are both very handy to have for you and your cats.

Our note cards are great for writing your friends or they make excellent gifts for your cat-loving friends. There are ten cards and envelopes for five dollars. The front of the card is a cat face and the inside is blank.

Our collection of original-design cards is extensive. We have cards from many of the past years. As we mentioned earlier, we did not produce a holiday card for this year as we have so many available from previous years. We decided to not have our artistic volunteer design one for this year. Also, many people are no longer sending Christmas cards at all or are sending fewer cards. Our sale of Christmas cards has decreased over the last few years.

These items make excellent gifts for your cat friends and their people. All of these items are available at The Tenth Life or by mail with the **additional amount shown below for postage. As mailing costs keep increasing, we had to increase our mailing fees.**

T-shirts (Long or Short Sleeve)	\$5.00
Polos, Sweatshirts, & Tote Bags	\$5.00
Catnip Toys & Note Cards,	\$4.00
Pet Hair Magnets, Furminators,	\$6.00

## Future

After the beginning of the new year, the first fund raiser will be the annual plant and flower sale. The order blank will be in the January newsletter. Please remember to order all of your flower and plant needs from The Tenth Life. We receive about two hundred orders for this sale and make a great profit for the cats. The more people that know about these gorgeous plants, the more we will sell and more operating funds are produced for the cats. Please tell everyone you know about the great plants at reasonable prices that we sell. Of course, the plants are provided by Furst the Florist and Garden Center. You will not be disappointed with any of these plants. They are always beautiful and healthy and priced at a reasonable amount.

## Reminders

We appreciate your saving ink cartridges, pennies, coupons, and aluminum for the cats. We redeem the ink cartridges for rewards to purchase office supplies. The pennies can be wrapped or not. Sending coupons for Fresh Step Litter, cat food, 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 siding and gutters to aluminum cans. We do not recycle steel cans, such as fruit and vegetable cans. Any of these can be brought to The Tenth Life during our hours of operation. The ink cartridges and coupons can be sent to the post office box. We appreciate these donations.

### Hours of Operation:

**4:00-7:00pm Monday-Thursday** (937) 376-5550

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

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

**10:00-5:00pm on Sunday**

### Phone Number:

### Address

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

### Website:

**thetenthlife.org**

## The Tenth Life Pie Sale



Orders, with payment, must be received by November 15, 2025  
(Thanksgiving) or December 13, 2025 (Christmas)



Type of Pie (\$11.00 each)	Qty-	Thanksgiving	Xmas	\$
Apple				
Cherry				
Peach				
Dutch Apple				
Pecan				
Blueberry				
Coconut Cream				
Chocolate Cream				
Lemon Meringue				

Totals

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone # \_\_\_\_\_

Pies available at The Tenth Life on Nov 22, 2025  
(Thanksgiving)/ Dec. 20, 2025 (Christmas)



THE TENTH LIFE

P.O. Box 178  
Alpha, Ohio 45301

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Dayton, OH  
Permit #66

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



## CHRISTMAS GREENERY



- THE TENTH LIFE HAS CHRISTMAS WREATHS, WHITE PINE ROPING, AND PLANTS.
- MIXED WESTERN (22" OR 30" OUTSIDE DIAMETER), WHICH IS A SHORT AND LONG NEEDLE FIR.
- GREAT FOR INSIDE OR OUTSIDE USE (WITH RED BOW AND PINE CONES).
- 27"WREATH STANDS FOR GRAVES AVAILABLE.
- WHITE PINE ROPING CUT TO DESIRED LENGTH.
- CYCLAMEN AND CHRISTMAS CACTUS IN 4.5" AND 6" POTS. AND IN 8" HANGING BASKETS.
- ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE TENTH LIFE BY NOVEMBER 8, 2025
- AVAILABLE FOR PICKUP AT THE TENTH LIFE ON NOVEMBER 29, 2025
- TO ORDER, USE THE FORM BELOW TO INDICATE HOW MANY OF EACH YOU WOULD LIKE.
- **PLEASE INCLUDE PAYMENT WITH YOUR ORDER.**

-----**ORDER BLANK**-----

_____ 22" MIXED WESTERN @ \$30.00 EACH	\$ _____
_____ 30" MIXED WESTERN @ \$38.00 EACH	\$ _____
_____ ROPING @ \$.80 PER FOOT(CUT TO LENGTH)	\$ _____
_____ CYCLAMEN (4.5" Pot) @ \$9.00 EACH	\$ _____
_____ CHRISTMAS CACTUS (4.5" Pot) @ \$9.00 EACH	\$ _____
_____ CYCLAMEN (6" Pot) @ \$ 15.00 EACH	\$ _____
_____ CHRISTMAS CACTUS(6" Pot) @ \$13.00 EACH	\$ _____
_____ CYCLAMEN (8" Basket) @ \$20.00 EACH	\$ _____
_____ CACTUS (8" Basket) @\$20.00 EACH	\$ _____
_____ WREATH STAND 27" @\$5.00 EACH	\$ _____

TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE # \_\_\_\_\_