

# Sandbox Gazette

QUARTERLY

APRIL 2012

ISSUE 2



Another edition of the Sandbox Gazette has arrived. In this edition we will provide the calendar of events, update you on the previous feature cats and introduce new ones, remind you about the distribution of the newsletter, alert you to the opening of a new pet supply store, announce the kick-off of the three dollar campaign, tell you about a change to the Kroger Gift Card Program, introduce you to a new fund raiser for the cats, remind you about the upcoming plant sale, supply the information for the upcoming dinner and auction, list the monthly supply donations, encourage your donations of Speedy rewards, tell you about the past, current and future fund raisers, and offer important reminders.

long-hair gray and white girl with an attitude. She is very playful and high spirited. Andrea needs to be an only cat as she only tolerates other cats. She is beautiful.



## Calendar of Events

Please be sure to mark these dates on your calendar so that you will not forget them.

Donate to \$3.00 Fund	Now
Speedy Rewards	Now
Aluminum, Pennies, Paw Points	Now
Register your Kroger Plus Card	Now
Plant Pickup Begins	May 8 <sup>th</sup> at 4:30
Yellow Springs Street Fair	June 9 <sup>th</sup>
Beavercreek Popcorn Festival	Sep 8 <sup>th</sup> & 9 <sup>th</sup>
Annual Dinner & Auction	Sep 23 <sup>rd</sup>
Yellow Springs Street Fair	Oct 13 <sup>th</sup>



## Feature Cats

Of the five kitties featured in the last newsletter, the four kittens have all been adopted. Rose and Janey went to separate homes and Teddy and Butterfinger were adopted together to a single lady. All four are cherished pets. However, Andrea has not been adopted. She is a

Our feature cats for this newsletter are another litter of kittens. There are a total of five kittens. Three are females and two are males. Of the females, two (Hestia and Athena) are tiger and white short-hair and one (Chad) is a long-hair tiger. The males are a long-hair black (Hermes) and a short-hair white with gray (Mitchell). They are about eight months old and very friendly. They were in a foster home for a few months and received love and attention. They are well adjusted, playful kittens and love to be petted. Of course, they are spayed/neutered, fully vaccinated, blood tested for the viruses, and microchipped for identification. The adoption fee is only sixty-five dollars for each cat. Please call to make an appointment to see them all. Any of them would make a great addition to your family which you would not regret.

## Newsletter Distribution

In the last several newsletters, we have requested that everyone on the mailing list advise us if they want to receive the newsletter in the mail, by e-mail notification, or not at all. If you have already notified us, thank you so much. If you have not and want to continue receiving the newsletter, please tell us by phone (937-376-5550), by mail, (P. O. Box 178, Alpha, Ohio 45301), or by e-mail (jlotsacats@aol.com). If we do not hear from people and have not heard from them for a long time, we will assume that the newsletter is not being read. We have been asking for this information for over a year to allow people adequate time to respond. We realize that everyone is extremely busy and that this request is not at the top of your list of things to do. However, we are trying to save funds for the cats and do not want to send newsletters to those who are not interested in receiving it. Therefore, please respond. We do not want to eliminate people from the list who are truly interested in cats and our efforts to help them. If you want to continue receiving the mailed copy, that is certainly fine, but we simply need to know. Please respond. We appreciate your help.

## New Pet Supply Store

There will be a new pet supply store opening in May. The business's name is **Petcare Solutions at 3137 Far Hills Avenue in Kettering. This is one block south of the intersection of Dorothy Lane and Far Hills.** A loyal volunteer of The Tenth Life for the last twenty-six years is opening the store. He has worked in the pet care business for nearly twenty years and decided to start his own business a few months ago. He will be carrying all your favorite brands of food and supplies. The phone number for the store is **293-9760**. He would love for you to stop by and visit his new store. We are very happy for him and wish all the best for him in this new endeavor.

## Three Dollar Campaign Kick-Off

As we have done for the last several years, we are asking that everyone on our mailing list donate a mere

three dollars to The Tenth Life. This campaign replaced the old yard sale that we had that took too much work to do. In past years we have received twelve to fourteen thousand dollars from this fund raiser. We have thought about increasing the request to five dollars, but we know that too many people are having a difficult time financially, and we do not want to be greedy and further burden people's financial situation especially when our supporters have been so generous providing help to this fund. Many contribute more than three dollars and help to make up for those who do not donate. We are sure that many of you intend to donate to this fund raiser and simply forget to do so or think that it is such a small amount that your donation does not count. It takes all of the donations of all of the amounts to accumulate the grand total. Every dollar is important and adds to the final tally. So, please donate any amount you can afford to help the cats. Because of the high number of donations that we receive for this fund raiser, we will send acknowledgement letters for all donations over twenty dollars. If you donate less and would like a letter for your taxes, please indicate that with your donation, and we will be happy to provide a letter. We appreciate every dollar that we receive. You can donate through the mail or on our web site to this fund raiser, but please remember to donate. The cats are counting on you.

## Kroger Gift Cards

Effective May 1<sup>st</sup>, you will not have to use your Kroger gift card to support The Tenth Life. Kroger has changed their rewards program for charities. Instead of buying new gift cards, or adding to your existing card, you simply register your Kroger Plus Card on line at Kroger's web site, [www.krogercommunityrewards.com](http://www.krogercommunityrewards.com) and designate "**The Tenth Life**" and code **80591** as your supported agency. Please see the back of this newsletter for complete instructions on registering your Plus Card. If you do not have internet access, you can ask a friend to register your card or you can call The Tenth Life at (937) 376-5550 so that we can register your card for you. Simply have your card handy to give us the number on your card. At the end of each calendar quarter, Kroger will send us a check for our portion of designated agencies' total dollars (whatever percentage of the total

we comprise) up to \$1.25 million. So that you don't think we will ever get the whole \$1.25 million, let us say that if we comprise 1% of the total agencies in the pool, we would then get 1% of whatever the total designated dollars of shopping comprised that quarter. So, every time you shop at Kroger, use your Plus Card at the checkout, as you always do, and your purchase will be added to the total of all registered agencies. At the end of the quarter, we will receive 1% (or whatever our percentage really will be) of the total pool created by shoppers who designated their agency for sharing. This will be simpler for you as you already must show the cashier your Plus Card to take advantage of their sale prices. It saves you from having to reload your card periodically, and having to use it at the register. You can continue to use your gift card until all of the funds are used, but putting more funds on the card will not benefit The Tenth Life. After you have used all of the funds, you may discard the card.

With the old method, The Tenth Life received a flat four percent of all of the reloads of the cards that we sold. With the new method, we will receive a percentage of all organizations registered in the program. As we are a small organization, our percentage could be less than the four percent. We were receiving four to five hundred dollars per month. We will have to wait and see how much we receive under the new method. Of course, any amount is more than we have and will be appreciated.

Even if you have never purchased one of our Kroger gift cards, you can now register your Plus Card and indicate your charitable preference (The Tenth Life, of course) and it will be helping the cats at The Tenth life. We need to have as many cards as possible registered to help raise more funds for the cats. Please encourage every cat lover that you know to register their Plus Card and help us with this easy fund raiser that costs you nothing. If you have questions about the program, please call us, and we will assist you.

### **New Fund Raiser**

The Tenth Life has registered with a program called **Give Back**. When you make on-line purchases, many

merchants will allow you to designate a donation to the charity of your choice. The percentage that the charity receives varies by merchant. When you make your purchases, the screen will show "earn a percentage for your foundation". You simply click on this and you can choose The Tenth Life from the list of charities. There is no cost to you, but you help the cats by simply making your purchases and choosing The Tenth Life. If you shop online, you can help The Tenth Life while making your purchases. Please remember to do this to help.

### **Annual Plant Sale**

The plants will be arriving very soon and will be ready for pick-up beginning on **May 8<sup>th</sup> after 4:30pm**. **They will be available from 4:30-7:30pm each evening, from 10:30am-5:00pm on Saturday and from 12:30-5:00pm on Sunday. Please pick up your orders or come for extras only during these hours to prevent problems with orders that we have worked very hard to prepare.** You may see an order that you think is yours, but is not, and cause problems for us. We will only be available during these hours to help you with your order or help you with the extras. The flowers are available the week before Mother's Day, and any of the beautiful plants, hanging baskets, mixed flowering pots or patio pots make excellent, gorgeous gifts for every "mother" on your list. For your shopping pleasure, we will have extras of every thing. If you decide that you want extras or did not place an order before the plants arrive, call us, and we will prepare your order from the extras to guarantee having everything that you want. If you come for extras and do not see what you want, simply talk to one of our volunteers, and we will make every effort to satisfy your request when we go back to Furst for more plants. We usually return to Furst for extra plants several times after we take delivery to satisfy our customers' needs and wants. We need your help to make this the biggest plant sale we have had. The orders for plants are about eight hundred dollars below last year's orders. We can make this up by selling even more extras than normal. Please tell your friends, relatives, neighbors about this sale and let's make it the biggest plant sale ever. Last year, we sold about twenty-six thousand dollars of plants. Let's do even better this year.

Also, if you would like to help with the plant sale, please call us and offer your assistance. We need help putting the orders together, helping people when they come to pick-up their orders or selling extras. (See pictures on page 7.) This is a very labor-intensive fund raiser, and the more help the better. See you at the plant sale.

### Annual Dinner and Auction

You may notice by the title that we are not saying spaghetti dinner. We have decided to offer a different menu this year. We will be having lasagna, with or without meat, a side salad bar, garlic bread or breadsticks, coffee or tea, and a selection of desserts. For an additional seventy-five cents you can purchase soft drinks. The location is the same as the last two years, **Routsong Funeral Home** in Kettering at the corner of Stroop Road and Woodman Drive on Sunday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> from 2:00-6:00pm. We know that some people are concerned about our holding the event at a funeral home, but this is a beautiful facility, and Tom and Lisa Routsong are so generous to allow us to use it. The dinner and silent auction will begin at 2:00pm. Dinner will be served during the entire time. The cost of the dinner is ten dollars. If you prefer, you can have the unlimited salad bar for six dollars with the garlic bread or breadsticks, dessert, and coffee or tea. In addition to a delicious meal, you can enjoy a live auction and table after table of silent auction items for your shopping and bidding pleasure. Bring plenty of money so that you can bid often and bid high. Your dinner and auction items can be paid with cash or check. We do not accept credit cards. For those of you who love to watch sporting events on Sunday afternoon, there are several televisions located throughout the facility for your viewing pleasure. You can bid on your favorite items and return to the televisions to view your favorite sports event. When we begin closing silent auction tables, we will be closing the tables sequentially with one being closed approximately every fifteen minutes. The live auction will begin at 5:00pm. Please mark your calendar and do not forget this fun-filled event. For everyone who has attended before, you know that this is a great afternoon of eating and bidding.

If you would like to help on the weekend of the event or with the planning of the event, donate items to the auction or dessert items for the dinner, please contact The Tenth Life. We will need about thirty helpers with this project. On the day of the event, we need servers, table cleaners, auction workers to attend the tables, bid sheet workers, etc. Auction items can be brought to The Tenth Life during our hours of operation shown on the back page of this newsletter. We really need the items by September 15<sup>th</sup> to have time to prepare the bid sheets. Baked goods can be brought to the location on the day of the dinner. You can always call The Tenth Life if you have questions about the dinner or auction. We rely heavily on your help and support with this event.

### Monthly Supply Donations

The following is a suggested monthly list of supply items that can be donated to The Tenth Life. Your donations of these supplies throughout the year save the cats hundred and maybe even thousands of dollars from the general operating fund. The list is provided, by month, but any of the supplies can be donated at any time during the year. If we do not need them at the time they are donated, we will save them for later. We promise that we will not waste any supplies. Some people even bring us supplies that are discarded by hospitals and other businesses. We find a use for almost anything that is donated. It is amazing what uses you can find for supplies discarded by someone else. The supplies can be brought to The Tenth Life during our hours of operation listed at the end of the newsletter or we can arrange pick-up if you have accumulated so much that you cannot transport it easily. We have trucks and are used to transporting bigger loads. Thank you for your help with supplies.

May	Postage Stamps
June	Bleach
July	Paper Towels
August	Hydrogen Peroxide Wipes - Walgreens
September	Clorox/Lysol Wipes
October	Paper Towels
November	Bleach
December	2013 <b>Cat</b> Calendars

## Speedy Rewards

With your generous donations of your Speedy rewards points that you earn by making gasoline or other purchases at Speedway Gas Stations, we have recently obtained two more one-hundred-dollar Visa gift cards that we use to purchase supplies for the cats. This truly is like finding the money and getting free supplies. We can use the card at any store to purchase whatever supplies that we need. Being able to get these cards saves dollars in our general operating funds for other needs. You can donate your Speedy Reward Points by going on line to Speedway's web site or call 1-800-643-1948 and transfer your points to the following card – 404440 098106 in the name of Jerry Kerns. As we do not have a fleet of cars, Speedway would not issue a card to The Tenth Life but only to an individual. Please do not allow your points to go unused, consider transferring them to the card number shown above and help the cats save their funds.

## Past Fund Raisers

The Tenth Life has received notification of the results of the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) and the United Way Drive in 2011. From our generous supporters, The Tenth Life will receive thirty-seven thousand, seven hundred and ninety-one dollars of support. All but four hundred dollars is through the CFC. However, this is a huge difference from the fifty-two thousand dollars that was contributed through CFC two years ago. As you remember, we had a problem with CFC year before last and were not included in the campaign. We have submitted our package for the 2012 campaign beginning in October, but have not received notification from CFC yet. The United Way effort will begin in September. Please remember The Tenth Life.

There have been only two fund raisers since the last newsletter. They were the Easter pie sale and bake sale. We sold seventy-one pies for a profit of two hundred and thirty-two dollars (including donations). The bake sale was probably the most profitable Easter sale ever. We had twenty-five varieties of cookies, cakes, and candy and made nearly seven hundred dollars. The baked

goods were so delicious. All of our customers were impressed with the fantastic selection. We thank our generous bakers and customers for making this sale so successful. Our next bake sale is at Christmas.

## Current Fund Raisers

**Please do not forget the plant sale beginning on May 8<sup>th</sup> after 4:30pm at The Tenth Life.** There will be a huge selection of extra plants, hanging baskets, potted arrangements, vegetables, herbs, and perennials for your shopping convenience. If we sell all of the plants, we can always get more.

Do not forget to register your Kroger Plus Card so that you can continue to support the work of The Tenth Life with your grocery purchases. There is no cost to you.

If you send your three-dollar donation today you will not have to do it later or worry about forgetting to help the cats. Please remember the kitties.

By transferring your Speedy Rewards to The Tenth Life you help the cats without spending your own money. It is easy and so helpful to our efforts to help homeless, unwanted cats.

For those of you who shop at Dorothy Lane Markets, please remember to re-register for the Good Neighbor Program. They require that you register each year for The Tenth Life in their rewards program. This year we received over four hundred dollars as a result of your shopping at their stores in 2011. This is a wonderful way for you to help the cats and not have to spend any of your dollars to do so. Simply register at the customer service desk as a supporter of The Tenth Life.

We still have a few of the 2012 Entertainment books available. They sell for thirty dollars and are loaded with money-saving coupons for almost every type of purchase that you may make. The cats receive about seven dollars from every book sold. The books are no longer available at the businesses except for Dayton South Veterinary Clinic on Wilmington Avenue in Kettering. You can still save a bunch from the book.

The Tenth Life apparel including t-shirts (short and long sleeve) and sweatshirts, are always available in a variety of colors. We have added a few new colors to the short-sleeve t-shirts. We have added pale yellow, pale pink, jade, pistachio, spruce, sand, light sand, natural and orange. The t-shirts are fifteen dollars for short-sleeve ones and twenty dollars for the long-sleeve variety. Sweatshirts sell for twenty-five dollars. The tote bags are twenty-five dollars and are gray. All have The Tenth Life logo embroidered on the front of the item. Any can be shipped to you for two dollars for shipping for the t-shirts or three dollars for the sweatshirts and tote bags.

We also always have the great selection of catnip toys which include crocheted balls and fish, fabric pillows and fish, catnip mats and catnip furry beds. The balls and pillows are two dollars, the fish are three dollars, and the catnip mats and beds are ten dollars. They come in a variety of colors filled with catnip for your cat's pleasure. Shipping depends on number of toys ordered but is usually a couple of dollars. The cats love these toys because they are filled with fresh catnip, not catnip that was picked years ago. Your cats will be thrilled with these toys.

The Tenth Life cookbooks are also available for twelve dollars with an additional charge of three dollars if you would like the cookbook shipped to you. There are three hundred and fifty recipes for delicious dishes that you can prepare. You profit with these yummy recipes, and the cats profit from your purchase. The cookbooks make excellent gifts for your friends who love to cook or bake. You will be thrilled with the cookbook.

### **Future Fund Raisers**

On June 9<sup>th</sup> please visit our booth at the Yellow Springs Street Fair. We will be across the street from the Speedway gas station. Stop and say hello and make your purchases to help the cats. We will have our collectibles, catnip toys, T-shirts, totes, etc. All of your purchases directly help the cats. See you there.

In September, we will have our booth at the Beaver Creek Popcorn Festival. The dates are September 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>. The Tenth Life's booth will be in front of McDonalds on Dayton-Xenia Road. We will have a wide selection of cat-related items for you.

September 23<sup>rd</sup> is the date you need to mark on your calendar for our annual dinner and auctions. It will be an event to remember, loaded with fun and great food. Come and bring some friends and of course, plenty of funds for bidding. The more the merrier.

### **Reminders**

**With kitten season here, please remember to have your pets spayed/neutered. You can encourage others to spay/neuter their pets either by reminding them of the need and advantages to having pets that are altered or by financially helping them if possible and if needed.**

Your support of our requests for aluminum, pennies, Fresh Step Paw Points, ink cartridges, and coupons has been overwhelming. Please continue saving aluminum, pennies, Fresh Step Paw Points, ink cartridges, and coupons for The Tenth Life. The aluminum can be any type of aluminum from drink and pet food cans to spouting and siding. Canned vegetable cans are steel, not aluminum. (A magnet will not stick to aluminum, but will to other metals.) If you have copper, we will gladly accept it as well. The pennies can be wrapped or not wrapped. The Fresh Step Paw Points code can be found on the bag or box or in the pail of litter. The code is usually twelve characters and is not the lot number. Simply cut off the top layer of the bag with the code and send it to us. Please save any ink cartridges for us to recycle and earn rewards. We also appreciate your saving coupons for cat food, Fresh Step litter, paper towels, facial tissue, and toilet paper. All of these can be brought to The Tenth Life during our hours of operation. If you cannot transport the aluminum, we can pick-up. The Paw Points, ink cartridges, and coupons can be sent to the post office box.



**Hours of operation:**

4:30-7:30pm weeknights  
10:30am-5:00pm on Saturdays  
12:30-5:00pm on Sundays

**The Tenth Life address:**

The Tenth Life  
P.O. Box 178  
Alpha, Ohio 45301-0178

**Phone Number:**

(937) 376-5550

**Website**

[thetenthlife.org](http://thetenthlife.org)



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**Instructions for Registering your Kroger Plus Card**

- If you do not have a Kroger Plus Card, you can obtain one at the Customer Service desk.
- Go to the web site [www.krogercommunityrewards.com](http://www.krogercommunityrewards.com) .
- Click on Sign-In/Register.
- As most participants are new online customers, you must click on SIGN UP TODAY in the “New Customer?” box.
- To sign up for a Kroger Rewards Account enter your zip code, click on your favorite store, enter your e-mail address, create a password, and agree to the terms and conditions.
- You will get a message to check your e-mail inbox and click on the link within the body of the e-mail.
- Click on My Account and use your e-mail address and password to proceed to the next step.
- Click on Edit Kroger Community Rewards information and input your Kroger Plus Card number.
- Update or confirm your information.
- Enter **80591 or The Tenth Life**, select organization from the list and click on confirm.
- To verify you are enrolled correctly, you will see **The Tenth Life** on the right side of your information page.
- Your purchases will not count until you register your card.
- Your card must be swiped when making your purchases for your purchases to count.
- Call The Tenth Life at (937) 376-5550 if you have questions.