

Sandbox Gazette

QUARTERLY

APRIL 2014

ISSUE 2



Spring has finally arrived, and it is time for another edition of The Sandbox Gazette. In this newsletter, we will display the calendar of events, inform you about the past and current feature cats, provide another heart-warming story about a cat from The Tenth Life that has found a loving home, request your assistance with the over-population problem, announce the start of the three-dollar campaign, remind you about the upcoming plant sale, notify you of the Combined Federal Campaign donations from the last drive, offer the monthly supply donation list, ask you to re-register your Kroger Plus Card, give you the details about the annual dinner and auction in September, remind you about the Speedy Rewards program, tell you about the past, current and future fund raisers and list some important reminders.

Calendar of Events

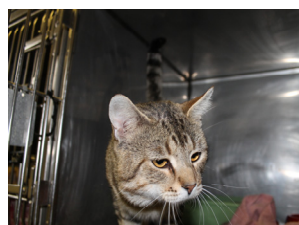
Our calendar of upcoming events is shown below. Please remember these dates to support the cats of The Tenth Life.

Speedy Rewards	Now
Aluminum, Pennies, Paw Points	Now
Start of Three Dollar Campaign	Now
Re-Register Kroger Plus Card	Month of Apr
Plant Pick-Up Begins	May 6 th /4:30pm
Yellow Springs Street Fair	Jun 14 th
Beavercreek Popcorn Festival	Sep 6 th and 7 th
Lasagna Dinner and Auction	Sep 21 st
Yellow Springs Street Fair	Oct 11 th

Feature Cats

Of the four cats in the last newsletter, only Bumbles has been adopted. She was adopted to a family who had recently adopted another kitten from The Tenth Life. The two kitties are learning to get along and be friends.

Her sister and brother are still available and so is Luna. Tigress and Harley are very active, playful tiger kittens and Luna, a long-hair mostly white cat, is a quiet cat that needs to be an only cat.



Our new feature cats are Loki and Montoya. Loki is a tiger, and Montoya is tiger and white. Both are about two years old and are neutered males. They have short hair. Loki arrived in pretty good shape, even though he had been in a building that burned, but Montoya had some serious injuries. His ears and paws were frost-bitten, and he had a severe injury on his tail that necessitated amputation. Now, he has a nub for a tail. His injuries have healed, and he is so handsome. They both love to play and are great with other cats. The adoption fee is only sixty-five dollars and either cat would be a joy to have.

Heart-Warming Story

Our heart-warming story for this newsletter is about a cat named Lefty. He was a stray in the neighborhood of one of our volunteers. He had been hanging around her house for a couple of months, and she had been feeding him. When he arrived one night for dinner, she realized that he had an injured foot. His toes were mangled as he had been caught in a leg-hold trap. He could not put any weight on that foot and some of the skin was gone. Dr. Jennie worked miracles on the foot, and the foot was saved. After several weeks of recuperation in a cage, he was moved to a room where he quickly adjusted to being with the other cats. As time passed, he was able to put weight on the foot to the point where he walked almost

completely naturally. He became close friends with a small black female who was very shy. They would share a level on the cat tree and groom each other. Eventually, the grooming turned to playing and wrestling. After a while of this close relationship and the female turning very friendly, they no longer cuddled together. His work with her was completed, and he would wait for his next socializing task. However, he was discovered by a single lady who had recently lost her elderly cat. She was looking for a loving male, and Lefty certainly fit her desires. Lefty has been in his new home for about three weeks, and he and his new Mom are thrilled with each other. He plays and enjoys their together-time immensely. Lefty is now Calvin and is very happy.

Help with the Over-Population Problem

With spring and warm weather comes the horrible problem of kitten season. We all need to work together to try to lessen this problem. There are many ways to help. Too many people feed a stray cat but never think to do anything else. If you or anyone you know is feeding one or more strays, please consider contacting one of the low-cost spay/neuter programs and having the cats, whether they are male or female, neutered. Unfortunately, there are not enough homes for all of these cats to be adopted, but at least if they are spayed or neutered, they will not add to the problem. They can be returned to the area they know, and then be fed by kind people so that they can possibly survive. It is not a great answer, but better than the alternative of doing nothing but feeding them and allowing them to continue reproducing.

Another way to help is to educate people about the need and benefits of spaying and neutering. Of course, the biggest benefit is the inability to reproduce. Millions of cats are destroyed each year because of the over-population problem. There are simply not enough homes for all of the cats and kittens. Many people do not know that the pets are nicer and calmer after being neutered. They also do not realize that unneutered cats are more likely to suffer from cancer. Spaying females will greatly reduce the incidence of breast cancer and eliminate the chance of uterine cancer. For males the

incidence of prostate and testicular cancer are reduced. Further, for male cat owners, a big benefit is that the strong odor of their urine is greatly reduced. The urine of neutered males is no stronger than that of females.

An additional way of educating people about the problem is to dispel misconceptions and old wives tales about cats. The gestation period for a cat is only approximately sixty-three days. A cat can become pregnant three days after having delivered a litter of kittens. Too many people believe that as long as a cat is nursing, she will not get pregnant. Another old wives tale is that a cat should have a litter before being spayed. This is completely untrue. Some cats even become more aggressive after having a litter because of having to protect their litters from other animals or nasty people. A third misconception is that you need to wait until the cat is six months old before spaying or neutering. Too often, females start going into “heat” at the age of four months. They are so young that they do not understand what is happening, but they still become pregnant and another unwanted litter is produced. It may be difficult to convince people that these old beliefs are incorrect, but please try or refer them to a knowledgeable source, such as a veterinarian

A third way to help is by telling a friend who may not be able to afford to have their cat spayed/neutered about the low-cost programs in the area or assisting them with the cost. Many people offer to have a cat spayed or neutered to help the owner and the cat with the surgery expense. With so many low-cost programs in this area, it is inexcusable to have a pet that is not spayed or neutered. If you have questions about these programs, please call us at the number at the end of the newsletter.

If we all work together, we will not overcome this problem, but we can lessen the severe impact of kitten season. It is criminal that any cats, let alone, so many innocent cats are destroyed. The over-population problem is not a cat problem, but a people problem. We can only make a difference if everyone helps and not leave the problem for the next person to resolve. The next person may very well do nothing, and the problem continues at an alarming rate. Let’s all work on this horrible problem and make a difference.

Three-Dollar Campaign

We are starting our annual three-dollar campaign. This fund raiser was started as a substitute for the yard sale that we used to have. This is the tenth year for this fund raiser, and we have raised between eleven and fourteen thousand dollars every year. We ask that everyone on our mailing list for the newsletter donate three dollars. This may seem like an insignificant amount, but when we add the donations together for this, it comes to the fourteen-thousand-dollar level. It is such an easy, inexpensive way for you to help the cats and not incur a hardship on your finances. We know that we could ask for more from each person, but some would not be able to participate because of financial reasons and would feel sorry for their inability. This way everyone who wants to help should be able to contribute. Of course, if you want to donate more, we would be thrilled and would appreciate your support. No amount is too small and will increase the total. Every dollar is more than the cats currently have to operate and maintain their home. We will automatically send an acknowledgement letter for all donations over twenty dollars, unless you tell us not to do so. If your donation is less than twenty dollars and you would like a letter, indicate that to us with your donation; and we will gladly do a letter. Please do not think that smaller donations are not appreciated, it is simply that we receive a huge number of donations for this fund raiser. To be able to keep up with the magnitude of the letters, we made this cutoff. Please send your donation now to avoid forgetting. The cats appreciate your help.

Annual Plant Sale

The annual plant sale is quickly approaching. The plants will be available for pick-up beginning at 4:30pm on Tuesday May 6th. If the weather cooperates, the orders will be sorted, and the extras will be ready for you to purchase. Even, if the weather does not cooperate, we will have your orders ready for you. We will have the usual selection of extras, plus some new varieties. If you forgot to order something and do not see it in the extras, please ask, and we can get it for you. This is one of our biggest fund raisers so do not forget to bring your friends and family members with you so that they can purchase

their plants from The Tenth Life and help the cats. The plants are reasonably priced. They are more expensive than those at the “big box stores,” but the plants are larger and healthier. Our plants are less expensive than those at the nurseries. The selection will include annual bedding plants, hanging baskets, mixed flowering pots, patio pots, perennials, vegetables, and herbs. **The hours for pick-up are 4:30-7:00pm weeknights, 10:30am-5:00pm on Saturday and 12:30-5:00pm on Sunday.** We will only be available during these hours to help you with your order or help you with the extras. If you cannot come during these hours, please call us to make other arrangements. Please do not come at other times as there will not be anyone to help you locate your order. You may think that you can find your order, but it may not be yours, and our system will be jeopardized and could inconvenience other customers when they come for their plants. 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 two hundred dollars less than 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 with about forty-five percent of that being profit for the cats. Let’s do even better.

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. This is a very labor-intensive fund raiser, and the more help the

better. Of course, it helps if you know plants. See you at the plant sale.

Combined Federal Campaign and United Way

We have received notification from the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) of the donations for The Tenth Life in the campaign conducted last fall. We are to receive only twenty-five thousand dollars from the campaign. This is seven thousand dollars less than the previous campaign. The campaign conducted last fall was down about a million dollars so we are not surprised that our share is less. The campaign was conducted during the time that the government workers were being furloughed. In addition, the campaign was stopped and restarted. All of this had an impact on the donations that the workers were willing to make. Unfortunately, the donations have gone down each year since the year that we were not included in the campaign because of the mix-up. Please understand that we are very grateful for the donations made. We will be doing the acknowledgement letters for these donations by the end of May. We have already submitted our package for the next campaign, but have not yet received notification from CFC if we have been accepted. Assuming our package is accepted, please remember The Tenth Life when the campaign begins in October. **The code for The Tenth Life is 32031** We have not received notification yet from United Way of donations from their campaign. Their new campaign will begin in September. **For the United Way campaign, you must write in the following: The Tenth Life Pet Therapy Program, P.O. Box 178, Alpha, Ohio 45301.** Please remember The Tenth Life in these campaigns. Every penny that you donate directly helps the cats to enjoy their lives.

Monthly Supply Donations

The list of supplies that can be donated by month are shown below. The supplies can be brought to The Tenth Life during our hours of operation shown on the back of this newsletter. Thanks for your help with these supply needs. Your donations save our funding for other purposes for the cats.

April	Brooms
May	Postage Stamps
June	Bleach
July	Paper Towels
August	Hydrogen Peroxide Wipes - Walgreen
September	Clorox/Lysol Wipes
October	Paper Towels
November	Bleach
December	2015 Cat Calendars

Re-Register your Kroger Plus Card

During the month of April, please remember to re-register your Kroger Plus Card on the Kroger website www.krogercommunityrewards.com for “**The Tenth Life**” and code **80591** as your supported charity. If we registered your card previously, we will re-register for you. You will not have to do anything. We receive about fifteen hundred dollars per quarter from Kroger due to your registering your cards for The Tenth Life. If you have never done this, please register your card and support the cats living at The Tenth Life. There is no cost to you. Kroger donates a percentage of what our supporters spend at Kroger each quarter. Additional shoppers, who designate The Tenth Life, will mean the cats will receive more funds. If you have questions about registering your card, you can call Kroger or The Tenth Life for assistance.

Annual Lasagna Dinner and Auction

The date for the annual lasagna dinner and auction is September 21st at VFW 8312 Post at 2389 Dayton Xenia Road in Beavercreek. This is the same location as last year. The time is tentatively set for 2:00-5:00pm. This is one hour less than in previous years. We feel that it has lasted too long for people’s busy schedules. In addition, we are considering dropping the live auction. Unfortunately, even though we have fantastic merchandise in the live auction and a wonderful auctioneer, very few people participate, and the merchandise sells too low. It is also time consuming. We anticipate having items that would normally be in a

live auction on a special table for silent bidding. Last year we had forty-one tables loaded with silent auction items of all varieties. Please plan to bid on several items and remember that the proceeds are strictly for the cats. We need high bids to finance all of the cats' needs. The dinner will again be catered by Belmont Catering and will offer both meat and meatless (white sauce) lasagna. Both are delicious. The dinner will include salad, rolls, coffee or tea and dessert. Soft drinks or bottled water will be available at an additional cost. For those of you who do not want a dinner, we will again offer the salad bar. The cost of the dinner is ten dollars, and the salad bar is six dollars.

We are beginning to accept donations for the auction. If you have items to donate, they can be brought to The Tenth Life during our hours of operation or we can arrange for pick-up. The items can be new or antiques and do not have to be cat oriented. All kinds of items sell, but items with a cat theme are always big sellers. We will need these donations no later than September 14th to allow time to make bid sheets and work the items into the layout plan. We will also accept donations for the dinner. We will need lettuce, salad bar vegetables, dressings, soft drinks, and bottled water. Donations reduce our expenses and save the income from the sale for the cats.

Further, we will need many hard workers to keep the dinner, salad, and soft drink areas supplied, to clean tables, and to man the auction tables. If you would like to volunteer to help with this event, please notify us. We really need your help with this event as it is very labor intensive. Please call and offer your assistance in some way.

Speedy Rewards Program

Please continue saving your Speedy Rewards and transferring them to The Tenth Life. You can transfer your points to The Tenth Life 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 vanilla visa cards for purchasing supplies for the cats. If you

transfer your points to The Tenth Life, the cats will greatly benefit from your generosity, and it will not cost you any of your own funds. Thanks for helping in this way.

Past Fund Raisers

There have not been any fund raisers since the February newsletter.

Current Fund Raisers

Please do not forget the plant sale and the three dollar campaign. You will not want to miss the chance to purchase these beautiful plants and arrangements. We would love for this sale to be the biggest one we have had. The cats are counting on you to contribute your three dollars to help them meet their goal of fourteen thousand dollars for this fund raiser.

As we mentioned in the last newsletter, 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 and follow the directions below.

- 1) Go to smile.amazon.com
- 2) Sign in with normal Amazon username / password
- 3) It will have you search for and select the charitable organization to which to donate. Search for "Tenth Life" and it should be the second one on the list (**make sure it says Alpha, OH.**)
- 4) Amazon Smile looks and functions just as Amazon normally would, but with the added bonus of .5% of all eligible purchases being donated to The Tenth Life.

****It is important to ALWAYS go to smile.amazon.com to make all of your purchases. If**

you go to the regular Amazon, The Tenth Life will not receive the donation from the purchase and there is not a way to go back and claim it retroactively.**

For people using Google Chrome, there is an add-on called "Smile Always" that can be downloaded and will always redirect you to Amazon Smile, even if you go to the regular Amazon by mistake. There is a similar add-on to Mozilla Firefox called "Amazon Smile Redirect."

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 with the furniture.

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). All of the items have The Tenth Life logo embroidered on them. It is on the left side of the chest on the t-shirts and the polo shirts and centered on the front of the sweatshirts and tote bags. The short sleeve t-shirts are available in pale yellow, pale pink, jade, pistachio, spruce, sand, light sand, natural, purple, navy, bright red, cardinal, orange, forest green, stonewashed blue and green, 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 blue and 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, and gray. The t-shirts, the polo shirts, and the sweatshirts are all available in S/M/L/XL/XXL&XXXL. The totes are large and come in gray with black trim and have many inside pockets.

Our selection of catnip toys is extensive. We have crocheted catnip mice, fish, octopus, snakes, cubes, and cylinders with bells inside (\$3.00), and small and large

balls (\$2.00). There are also catnip mats(\$10.00), felt fish (\$3.00), catnip filled tubes with feathers on the end (\$5.00), and bags of dried catnip (\$3.00).

Furry and crocheted beds (\$10.00), 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.

Our new note cards displayed in the last newsletter have been selling very well. There are ten cards and envelopes for five dollars in a package. The front of the card is a huge cat face, and they are completely blank on the inside.

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 apologize for the increase. We know that you and/or your cat will love any of these items.

T-shirts (Long or Short Sleeve)	\$3.00
Polos, Sweatshirts, and Tote Bags	\$3.00
Catnip Toys	\$2.00
Pet Hair Magnets, Furminators, Cards	\$4.00

Future Fund Raisers

We have applied for the Yellow Springs Street Fair on June 14th, but have not received our acceptance yet. We do plan on being there so please stop by our booth, say hello and make a purchase. Our booth space is usually #222 on the main street across from Speedway.

We have been accepted for the Beaver Creek Popcorn Festival on September 6th and 7th. Our booth is usually near the entrance to McDonald's. We will have all of our usual merchandise for your cat shopping convenience. See you there.

Do not forget to mark your calendar for the dinner and auction on September 21st from 2:00-5:00pm. You will not want to miss this annual event. You can enjoy a

delicious lasagna dinner and shop for fantastic items in the silent auction. The cats need to you there.

Reminders

If you have still not indicated to us your choice of method of receiving the newsletter, (mail or e-mail) please contact us. The address and phone number are listed at the end of this newsletter. The e-mail address is jlotsacats@aol.com. If receiving e-mail notification is convenient for you, please notify us, and we will convert you. If you prefer receiving the mailed copy tell us this, and we will continue sending a hard copy to you. Simply let us know your preference. If you have already answered this request, you do not need to respond again.

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, and the Fresh Step Paw Points for free litter. The Paw Points can be found on the bag or box of Fresh Step Litter. The code is ten or twelve 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 so much.

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 45385

Phone Number:

(937) 376-5550

Website:

thetenthlife.org



THE TENTH LIFE

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