

# Sandbox Gazette

QUARTERLY

APRIL 2015

ISSUE 2



Finally, spring has arrived and so has the second edition of the Sandbox Gazette for 2015. In this edition we will provide the calendar of events, update you about the previous feature cats and offer new ones, tell you a heart-warming story about a cat from The Tenth Life, keep you informed about our search for a new veterinarian, repeat the information about the annual flower and plant sale, kick-off the annual three dollar campaign, announce a fund raising event, give you the tally of the Combined Federal Campaign and United Way drives conducted last fall, revise information about the Entertainment book sale this summer, detail the monthly supply donations, offer a microchip reminder, announce the annual lasagna dinner and auction, remind you about Speedy Rewards and Kroger Plus Card registration, inform you about the past, current and future fund raisers, and note some reminders.

## Calendar of Events

The listing of upcoming events for The Tenth Life is shown below for your planning calendar.

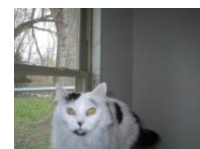
Speedy Rewards	Now
Aluminum, Pennies, Paw Points	Now
Entertainment Book Sale	Now
Three-Dollar Campaign	Now
Re-register your Kroger Plus Card	Now
Thank You Letters for CFC & UW	By June 1 <sup>st</sup>
Plant Pick-Up Begins	May 5 <sup>th</sup> 4:30
Yellow Springs Street Fair	June 13 <sup>th</sup>
Annual Lasagna Dinner and Auction	Aug 23 <sup>rd</sup>
Beavercreek Popcorn Festival	Sep 12 <sup>th</sup> /13 <sup>th</sup>

## Feature Cats

Unfortunately, none of the feature cats in the last newsletter have been adopted. Although they are all

adorable, they are still waiting for the perfect home where they can be loved and spoiled.

Our new feature cats are Princess and Holly. They are both long-hair females who are spayed, front declawed, tested, fully vaccinated and microchipped. Princess is orange and four years old, and Holly is mostly white with a few black spots and about five years old. They both would probably prefer to be only cats. Both of these beautiful girls were adopted from The Tenth Life but were returned because of illness or death of the owner. The readjustment has been somewhat difficult for both of them since they were only cats in their homes. Both are extremely loving and enjoy lots of attention. Princess loves to be held and gives you kisses, and Holly loves the top of the cat tree where she rolls around and begs for all the attention you have to give. Either of these girls would make a wonderful companion for you. Please call The Tenth Life to visit these or any other cats. You will not be disappointed.



## Heart-Warming Story

Our story for this newsletter is about a cat named Dash. She was found nearly five years ago with her kittens at a business in Moraine. She and all of the kittens had to be trapped as they were all feral (wild). We named her Dash because she would run from us so quickly when we were trying to capture her. She lived at The Tenth Life until December 2014. We could barely touch her even after all of this time. A young woman came in with her mother to look for a cat for herself to share her new apartment. She fell in love with Dash even though Dash would not come to her. She said that she had been terribly shy as a child and fully understood

Dash's shyness. After seeing all of the cats and thinking about which cat to adopt for a few days, she decided to adopt Dash. She has worked very closely with Dash and has been rewarded with her amazing progress. Her new "Mom" has been very patient. Dash is very loved by her new "Mom." She is very lucky to find someone who could see her potential and give her enough time to reach it. We are grateful and thankful.

### **Search for a New Veterinarian**

We are still searching for a new veterinarian for The Tenth Life. We have interviewed several and are waiting for a response from a promising candidate. We really need a very qualified, experienced doctor to care for our precious cats and two dogs. We see cat problems that many veterinarians see only maybe once or twice in their practice. We are continuing our search and would love to find the perfect match very soon. If any other candidates are found, we will certainly interview any and all for this position.

### **Annual Flower and Plant Sale**

The flowers and plants will be arriving very soon and will be ready for pick-up. **Pick-up begins at 4:30pm on May 5<sup>th</sup>. The hours for subsequent days are 4:30-7:30pm during the week, 10:30am-5:00pm on Saturday, and 12:30-5:00pm on Sunday. Please come only during these hours so that we can help you with your order or extras and accommodate your needs.** 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.

With Mother's Day being the following weekend, these plants and flowers arrive just in time for Mother's Day gifts. Any of the beautiful plants, hanging baskets, mixed flowering pots or patio pots make excellent, gorgeous gifts for every "mother" on your list who loves

flowers. You can do your Mother's Day shopping at The Tenth Life and help the cats at the same time. The recipients will be thrilled with the beautiful flowers and your thoughtfulness. You can even bring the recipients with you to choose their own plants. 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.

We have orders for over twenty thousand dollars (about eight hundred dollars ahead of last year's orders) and will have three or four thousand dollars of extras for your shopping convenience. We try to have extras of all varieties and colors. Some people do not order and simply come and purchase from our extras. This is okay also, but again the selection may not have enough of what you want. However, we can always go back to Furst and get more if they have them. We always try to accommodate your needs, if possible. If you have not submitted an order, but still want to do so or want more of a variety or color, please call us and we can take your order over the phone. We will take your order from our extras or will increase our order to Furst. We love to increase our order as it means we have sold more plants and earned more profits for the cats. 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 sometimes sell all of our inventory need more plants for our customers.

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. This is one of our largest fund raisers, and we need your help to do even better this year. We will work very hard to make this a reality.

If you have any questions about the availability of a certain plant that you may want, please call (937) 376-

5550 during our hours of operation. If we do not have the answer, we will check with Furst and return your call with the information. If they have it, we will get it for you and have it at pick-up.

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. See you at the plant sale with your friends and family.

### **Kick-Off of Three-Dollar Campaign**

The annual three-dollar campaign has begun. This fund raiser was started as a substitute for the yard sale that we used to have. This is the eleventh year for this fund raiser, and we have raised between eleven and sixteen 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 came to over sixteen-thousand-dollar last year. 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 make this cutoff. Please send your donation now to avoid forgetting. This fund raiser will continue for two to three months.

However, if you do not send your donation today, you may forget until the reminder in the next newsletter. The cats appreciate your help with this fund raiser. This is the easiest and most profitable fund raiser for us at The Tenth Life.

### **Fund Raising Event**

The Dayton Area Direct Sales Networking Events Group has offered to hold a fund raising event for The Tenth Life. The event will include single raffles throughout the night, two Mega Raffles at the end of the night (retail value of at least one hundred and twenty-five dollars), and a Scavenger Hunt which allows attendees to earn an additional raffle ticket for free. There will also be a 50/50 raffle. All the raffle money for prizes and half of the 50/50 raffle earnings are donated to The Tenth Life. There is a ten dollar admission fee of which two dollars come to The Tenth Life. Soup, salad and dessert are included in the admission fee. The event will be at Beaver Creek Golf Club on June 4, 2015. The event opens at 6:30pm and runs until 9:00pm, with dinner being served at 7:00pm. The Tenth Life will have a table with some of our best-selling items, such as catnip toys, cards, etc. We will need volunteers to work the night of the event to help collect money and distribute raffle prizes. Please plan to attend to support The Tenth Life. If you would like to volunteer at the event please contact us at the number at the end of the newsletter.

### **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-one thousand dollars from the local CFC campaign. This is four thousand dollars less than the previous campaign. The campaign conducted last fall was again down about a million dollars so we are not surprised that our share is again less. A few people who began making direct donations to The Tenth Life when we were not in the campaign about three years ago have continued to do so. From these direct donations we receive about three thousand dollars which we truly

appreciate. CFC tried a new approach this year. Normally CFC donors can only contribute to their local campaign. This year they opened up the campaign to all areas. Donors can give to any CFC campaign through their local campaign. We have received donations from CFCs in other parts of Ohio, such as Cleveland, Ohio River Valley, and Central Ohio. In addition donations have been received from donors in other states, such as Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey, Florida, Virginia, California, West Virginia, and Hawaii. We have received another seventeen hundred dollars from these sources. We are very grateful for all of the donations made through the local campaign and those across the country. We will be doing the acknowledgement letters for these donations by June 1<sup>st</sup>. 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. **Our number is 32031.** We have not received notification yet from United Way of donations from their campaign. Their new campaign will begin in September. We usually earn around two thousand dollars from their campaign. Please remember The Tenth Life. Many large companies are now operating their own contribution campaigns for their employees. We receive donations from LexisNexis, United Health Care, Grumann, Terradata, AT&T, IBM, etc. All of these donations make a huge contribution to the expenses of The Tenth Life's operation. We work very hard to keep expenses as low as possible without cutting support to the cats. Thank you for your help!!

### Entertainment Books

We told you in a previous newsletter that this past year was the last year that we would be able to offer a free current book with the purchase of the new book. We have received twenty of the 2015 books to offer as an incentive to purchase the new book that will be available this summer/fall. The 2015 books can be used through December of 2015 with a few coupons extending till the middle of next year. The price of the new books will again be thirty dollars, the same as last year. If you want to commit to the purchase of the new book now, we can

give you the 2015 book to start using immediately. Please remember we only have twenty of these books to offer our customers.

### Monthly Supply Donations

Your donations of supply items listed below are a huge help to The Tenth Life. These donations save us shopping dollars and time. Both of these are very valuable. Other supply items can be donated. We offer these as suggestions of our most used items. These supplies can be brought in any month. Your contributions can be delivered to The Tenth Life during our hours of operation or we can arrange for pick-up if needed. We appreciate your generosity.

April	Paper Towels
May	Postage Stamps
June	Bleach
July	Paper Towels
August	Rolls of Sisal for Repairing Cat Trees*
September	Clorox/Lysol Wipes
October	Paper Towels
November	Bleach
December	2016 <b>Cat</b> Calendars

\*Available at Lowe's for \$8.98 for a fifty-foot roll. A volunteer is replacing the sisal on the cat trees in all of the rooms, and this would help with the expense. Repairing the trees is less expensive than replacing the trees.

### Microchip Reminder

Cats adopted from The Tenth Life are microchipped with a chip from Home Again Microchip Company. When we purchase the microchips, we pay for lifetime registration of the chip and your cat. Many times after a year has passed the company sends a form letter saying that you need to pay an annual fee for the registration. This is misleading. The registration that we do is permanent. The renewal that they hope you will pay for is for special benefits such as 24-hour veterinary advice,

pet insurance, etc. There is no additional charge to you to keep your cat's information in their data base. At the very end of the letter it does explain what we have just told you, but too many people do not read that far and send them the annual payment. Unless you want the extra benefits, you will not need to respond to their correspondence. We do not want you to be confused by their letter.

### **Annual Lasagna Dinner and Auction**

On August 23<sup>rd</sup> we will have our tenth annual dinner and auction at VFW 8312 Post on Dayton Xenia Road in Beavercreek. This is the same location as last year. The time is tentatively set for 2:00-5:30pm. We will have only a silent auction. We anticipate having items that would normally be in a live auction on a special table for silent bidding. Last year we had forty-three tables loaded with silent auction items of all varieties. Please plan on bidding 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 also include salad, garlic bread sticks, 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 will again have a bake sale with a nice selection of baked goods.

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 August 15<sup>th</sup> 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, bottled water, and desserts.** 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.

### **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.

### **Kroger Plus Card Re-Registration**

Please remember during the month of April you must re-register your Kroger Plus Card to support The Tenth Life. This is an annual requirement. Our number is **80591**. The instructions are on the back page of this newsletter. If we registered your card last year, we have already re-registered your card for this year.

### **Past Fund Raisers**

Since the last newsletter in January, the only fund raisers have been the Easter bake sale and pie sale. The Easter bake sale was the most profitable one ever. We sold over eight hundred and fifty dollars of baked goods. We had twenty-one varieties of cookies, cupcakes, and candy for our shoppers. All were delicious. We had cupcakes decorated as Easter baskets and with Peeps as a festive touch to the baked goods. Everyone was delighted with the selection. At the same time we had our delicious Pie Peddler pies for sale. We sold fifty-nine pies at a profit of one hundred and eighty-three dollars. We thank the wonderful people who baked for

the sale, our devoted supporters who purchased baked goods and pies, and Pie Peddler for allowing us to help the cats with their fund raiser. Our next pie sales are Thanksgiving and Christmas. We will have another bake sale at Christmas with even more varieties of cookies, cakes, candies, etc.

**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 sixteen 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.

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). 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, and gray. The t-shirts, polo shirts, and sweatshirts are available in S/M/L/XL/XXL&XXXL. The totes are large and come in gray with black trim and have many inside pockets. All of these items have The Tenth Life logo to display your support of the cats and the work of the organization.

Our selection of catnip toys is extensive. We have crocheted catnip mice, fish, octopus, snakes, flower buds, 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).

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 Furninators work wonders for grooming your pet and removing mats.

Our note cards are selling very well. There are ten cards and envelopes in a package for five dollars. Of course there is a cat on the face of the card and they are blank on the inside. The cards were drawn by a volunteer.

All of these items are available at The Tenth Life or by mail with the **additional amount shown below for postage**. We know that you and your cat 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

## Future Fund Raisers

We have applied for the Yellow Springs Street Fair on June 14<sup>th</sup>, and have received our acceptance. We will be there in our usual spot, so please stop by our booth, say hello and make a purchase. Our booth space is 222 on the far side of the main street across from Speedway. We will have our great catnip toys, Furminators, Pet Hair Magnets, collectibles, apparel for The Tenth Life, cards Entertainment books, etc.

We have been accepted for the Beavercreek Popcorn Festival on September 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>. Our booth is usually near the entrance to McDonald's on Dayton Xenia Road. We will have all of our usual merchandise for your cat and your shopping convenience. See you there.

Do not forget to mark your calendar for the dinner and auction on August 23<sup>rd</sup> from 2:00-5:30pm. 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. We would love to see you there.

## Reminders

Please remember that kitten season has already begun. We must all do everything we can to promote spaying/neutering. There are so many low-cost spay/neuter programs in this area that everyone should be able to afford the surgery. We can recommend many such programs. Spaying/neutering not only stops the reproduction of unwanted cats, but it also contributes to healthier, more loving cats for their owners. After the surgery, most cats do not spray to mark territory, are more loving and relaxed, are less prone to certain cancers, such as breast and prostate cancer, are eliminated from having uterine and testicular cancer, and are generally healthier. In addition, neutered males are less likely to roam and fight if they are outside. Spaying/neutering is such an easy solution to such the huge, horrible problem of over-population. Please have all of your pets spayed or neutered. If possible help someone who cannot afford the surgery or have a stray spayed or neutered. We must all work together to make an impact on this problem.

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](mailto: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 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.

### Hours of Operation:

**4:00-7:00pm 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**

### Phone Number:

**(937) 376-5550**

### Website:

**thetenthlife.org**

