

Sandbox Gazette

QUARTERLY

JULY 2020

ISSUE 3



Even with the continuation of the pandemic, we are providing you with the latest edition of the newsletter. We hope all of you are staying healthy. In this edition, we will provide the calendar of events, update you about the previous feature cats and introduce new ones, offer a heart-warming story about a former cat from The Tenth Life, repeat a request, remind you about kitten season, inform you about the lasagna dinner and auction, give the current tally for the three-dollar campaign, discuss the CFC and United Way campaigns, show the monthly supply donation list, supply the information and order blank for the fall mum sale, bring you up to date about past, current, and future fund raisers, and reminders.

Calendar of Events

The calendar of events for the next several months is provided below:

\$3.00 Campaign	Now
2020 Lasagna Dinner & Auction	Cancelled
Mum Sale Order Blanks Due	Sep 5 th
Beavercreek Popcorn Festival	Sep 12 th & 13 th ?
Mum Sale Pick-Up	Sep 19 th
Yellow Springs Street Fair	Oct 10 th ?

Feature Cats

We are so happy to announce that two of the three cats from the last newsletter have been adopted. George and Ringo (the two brothers) were adopted together and are having a great time in their new home with their new "Mom and Dad." Unfortunately, Sissy is still looking for her new home. She is an eight-year old, long-hair tortie/tiger and super loving. She would love to have a home where she could be the queen.

Our new feature cats are Chilli, Bobbie, and Liam. They are all spayed/neutered, tested for viruses, fully

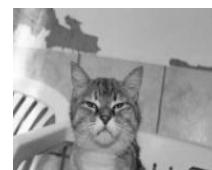
vaccinated, treated for internal and external parasites, and micro chipped. The adoption fee is only seventy-five dollars.

Chilli is about nine years old. She and another cat were given up by their owners. The other cat has been adopted. Chilli is a short-hair orange and white girl that loves attention. She is a round girl with a very sweet face. She is getting along fine with her roommates and loves to watch the outside wild critters scurry through the yard.

Bobbie is a very different color tiger. She is gold with tan stripes and loves attention. Bobbie has a short little tail that is so cute. She was a stray in Huber Heights on a very busy road. Nice people brought her in to be spayed and begged us to keep her as the husband has health problems.

Liam is a long-hair male with tan fur. He gets along great with his roommates and loves to be petted. Liam turns upside down when petted. He loves the tunnel on the cat tree for cozy naps. He was living outside at a residence with several other cats.

To visit these kitties or any others, call The Tenth Life to set-up an appointment. Your life will be enriched.



Heart Warming Story

The story for this newsletter is about Razzie, a ten year old cat. Razzie belonged to an older gentleman who was a friend of The Tenth Life for many years. He had found her as a stray in his yard years ago. He had adopted two cats from The Tenth Life over the years.

The last one was a feral that he could not even touch when he adopted her. He already had Razzie at the time. She and the feral girl became friends. He worked with the feral girl by lying on the floor and teaching her to trust him. Earlier this year, he was diagnosed with two types of cancer and could not care for either of the cats. Razzie and her friend came here to live. A friend of a volunteer came to look for a cat and fell in love with Razzie. He decided that she was the cat for him. They adore each other and she sleeps with him. He told us how grateful he is to have found her to love. His previous cat had died and he was so lonely without a cat companion. They are so fortunate to have found each other and enriched each other's lives. We are so happy for both of them.

Repeat a Request

In previous newsletters, we have requested that anyone who can and is willing to do it, to switch to receiving the newsletter by email. We have received many requests to make this change, and we certainly appreciate your cooperation with this request. We still have over twenty-four hundred copies of the newsletter being mailed to supporters. We realize some people do not have email access or simply prefer to receive a copy in the mail. However, if getting the newsletter by email is an option for you and not inconvenient; please call, write us or send an email to momcat475@aol.com with your name and email address, and we will make the conversion. We are not trying to reduce the number receiving the newsletter, but only those receiving a mailed copy. We certainly do not want to stop getting the newsletter to everyone who enjoys reading it and can use the information provided in it. If you have asked to be changed to email receipt but are still receiving a mailed copy in addition to the email copy, please alert us to this oversight. Further, if you have asked to be put on the email list, but are getting the newsletter by mail, please tell us this also and give us the email address again. We will gladly correct any errors.

The reason we are trying to convert as many as possible to email distribution, is the increased cost of printing and postage. As we have mentioned, the print

shop that did the printing of our newsletter closed, and the cost at the new print shop is two to three times the previous printing expense. Plus postage increases each year. Everyone who converts to email saves funding.

Kitten Season

Kitten season is in full bloom and unfortunately worse than normal. We all love the warmer, nicer weather, but with it comes kittens being born that do not have homes. Too many of them will be put to death only because they were born. With the health pandemic, most veterinarians were not performing elective surgeries which included spays and neuters. In addition, with the mild winter and early spring, cats began going into "heat" much sooner and even more kittens have been born. We must educate everyone we know about the need and importance of spaying or neutering. We have included the insert in this newsletter that shows the population explosion that occurs when only two cats and most of their offspring are not neutered and continue to reproduce for many years. The number produced is unbelievable. Unfortunately females can begin going into "heat" as early as four months (most wait until about six months), and can become pregnant as soon as three days after delivering a litter. There is no way to get ahead of this problem except to spay and neuter. We have seen cats with eight-week old kittens, ready to have another litter. There just are not enough homes for all of these kittens. Please also see the insert for the benefits of spaying and neutering. With all of the low-cost spay/neuter programs in this area, there is no reason for not having cats done. Please spread the word about the over-population problem and the easy solution to it. Also tell people about the programs available to help with the expense. If you have the ability, please help to fund the surgery for someone who cannot afford the surgery even with the reduced rates through the low-cost programs. You can call us if you have questions about available programs, and we can offer information.

Although it is no one's favorite thing to do, a pregnant cat can be aborted. At least it prevents the birth of more kittens who will die in some shelters or starve to death on the streets because of a shortage of responsible homes.

Aborting a litter is a better answer than letting them be born to be put to death after they have experienced life. A life that was possibly full of hunger, abuse or neglect. Unfortunately, every additional kitten that is allowed to be born, will cause the death of a kitten already looking for a home where it can be loved. There are only so many homes available. The supply of cats and kittens is so much greater than the demand for them. Of course, in an ideal world every kitten born would find a loving, responsible home. It is not a perfect world for too many animals. Please spay or neuter all pets for their health and happiness.

Lasagna Dinner and Auction

We are so sorry to inform you that we must cancel our plans for our annual lasagna dinner and auction. With the need for distancing due to the pandemic, there is no way that we could follow the guidelines and have the event. We also felt that it would be difficult to ask the many businesses who donate to this auction to make donations when so many of them have been closed for months with no income. We depend so much on the income from this event for our operation, that we had to do a great deal of thinking to try to find a way to continue with the dinner and auction. Some suggested doing an online auction, but with the number of items that we offer, there was no possible way to do it online. Another suggestion was to only have the dinner as a take-home dinner, but trying to estimate the number of trays of lasagna to order was impossible with no basis for estimation and comparison. A volunteer suggested assigning people a time to eat. There was no way to do this as many people eat their meal and continue to sit at the dinner tables with their friends. There would not be enough table space to distance people and still have enough room for our supporters to eat their meal. After much discussion and brain storming, we came to the conclusion that we would have to forego the event and unfortunately the income that it has provided to the support of the cats. We are hopeful that life can return to some form of normalcy by next year, and we can again have this popular event. The dinner and auction has always been our most profitable fund raiser for the cats. We know our supporters are terribly disappointed, as we

are, but we feel this is the only responsible decision that we can make. We can only hope that individual donations from our supporters will help to alleviate some of this funding shortfall. Please remember that many companies match their employees' donations to charities.

If you have items that you intended to donate to the auction, we have two options for you. If you can keep them until next year and donate them at that time, it would be best for us as storage space is a problem. However, if that is not convenient for you, we will take the items and store them wherever we can. We do not want to lose out on getting the items for our auction and benefiting the cats. We do not want to inconvenience you and cause you storage problems.

Status of Three-Dollar Campaign

The donations to the three-dollar campaign have reached twenty-four thousand five hundred dollars. For this time of the campaign, the donations are on par with previous years. We truly appreciate all the funds from everyone who has donated to this campaign. Hopefully, the donations will exceed previous years and also help to overcome some of the loss from the missed dinner income. If you have not donated to this fund, please make your donation now and help the cats to continue having a nice, comfortable life while living at The Tenth Life waiting for a home of their own. All donations to this fund are tax deductible. As we have stated before about donations to this campaign, we will automatically send acknowledgement letters for all donations in excess of twenty dollars. For donations less than twenty dollars, we will gladly provide a letter upon request. Please remember that all donations to The Tenth Life go directly to the support of the cats as everyone is a volunteer except for the doctor who supports all the medical needs of the cats. The cats are waiting for your donations.

Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) and United Way (UW)

We have not received notification from the Combined Federal Campaign or United Way concerning donations

to The Tenth Life for the campaigns last fall. It is definitely later than normal, but with so many workers being off because of the pandemic, it is not surprising. As soon as we receive the lists of donors who wish to be notified of their contribution, we will be sending letters. We hope both of the campaigns will produce generous funding for the cats, especially with the loss of several fund raisers this year. Please remember The Tenth Life during this next campaign season that will begin in September and October. For CFC our number is 32031, but for UW you must write in The Tenth Life Pet Therapy Program. We appreciate your thinking of the cats and donating to their well-being.

Monthly Supply Donations

Shown below is the list of supplies that we use on a daily basis. These items can be brought to The Tenth Life during our hours of operation. We appreciate your support.

July	Pine Cleaner
August	Friskies, Iams, Fancy Feast Canned Food
September	Paper Towels
October	Wipes (Clorox, Lysol, Sam's)
November	Bleach
December	2021 Cat Calendars

Mum Sale

Last year was our first year for the sale of mums for several years. It was a huge success. We sold one hundred and thirty-six mums. We were thrilled. We are offering the beautiful mums from Furst the Florist again this year. The order blank is included in this newsletter. The price is seven dollars and fifty cents per mum. They will be available in red/burgundy, yellow/gold, orange, bronze, and purple. The order blanks with payment are due by September 5th, and the mums will be available for pick-up beginning on Saturday September 19th from 10:00am-5:00 pm. The hours for Sunday are 12:30-5:00pm and weekdays from 4:00-7:00pm. The mums were gorgeous last year, and we know they will be again.

Past Fund Raisers

Other than the three-dollar campaign, there have been three fund raisers since the last newsletter. On the Saturday before Easter, we had scheduled the pie and bake sales. The pie sale was a huge success as we sold eighty pies which was more than last year for Easter. The cats earned three hundred and fifteen dollars from the sale. However, the bake sale was a different story. The lady who bakes so much for the bake sale did not bake as she lives in Tennessee and was not able to get cookies to us with the pandemic. She was also afraid that most people would not attend the bake sale with the virus. To compensate for not baking, she made a generous donation to the cats. We only had one person bake for the sale and she brought six varieties of delicious cookies. The customers we did have bought most of the cookies and made generous donations, some even larger than normal. In total with all of the donations, the bake sale accounted for over five hundred dollars for the cats. Normally the profits would have been more.

The annual plant sale in May was a gigantic success. It was the largest and most profitable plant sale that we have had. We sold nearly twenty-nine thousand dollars of plants at a profit of over twelve thousand dollars for the cats. We truly thank everyone who supported this fund raiser, and we know you are happy with your plants. The plants were beautiful and healthy. We thank Furst the Florist and Garden Center for providing the plants for this sale. We also thank all of the volunteers who helped to sort and check the orders for our customers. Please remember our sale for all of your plant needs for next year.

The Tenth Life was scheduled to have a booth at The first Yellow Springs Street Fair for 2020; however the event was cancelled due to the pandemic. At this one-day event we usually do about a thousand dollars of sales. Unfortunately, with the cancellation, the cats did not receive this funding.

These two shortfalls of funding definitely hurt our cash flow, but we will continue the same level of care for the cats. We promise we will not let them be shortchanged because of this.

Current Fund Raisers

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.

If you shop on Amazon, please remember to register and purchase through **Amazon Smile**. 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 of 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 shopping on Amazon.

Please continue shopping at Dorothy Lane markets and Kroger. If you have registered with these stores as a supporter of The Tenth Life, your purchases will contribute to the amount that these stores donate to The Tenth Life. If you have not registered as a supporter of the cats, but do shop at either of these stores, please consider registering as a supporter. It is easy to register and is a big help to our funding.

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 your cats will be thrilled.

We still have a great selection of the totes. Some are cat fabric, some dog fabric and some “generic fabric.” The generic fabrics are all beautiful and have different designs but are not cat or dog designs. The totes have a spacious pouch inside. We have them available at the

Tenth Life or by mail. The totes sell for twenty dollars and are gorgeous and well-made. They make wonderful gifts

We have a selection of short (\$15.00) and long-sleeve (\$20.00) t-shirts, polo shirts (\$25.00) and sweatshirts (\$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, 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, orange, and gray. The t-shirts, polo shirts, and sweatshirts are available in S/M/L/XL/XXL&XXXL. Of course we do not have every size in every color. Any can be shipped with extra for postage. We hope to order more of the shirts and sweatshirts in the near future when the embroidery shop reopens in order to have a better selection.

Our selection of catnip toys is extensive. We have crocheted catnip mice, fish, birds, octopi, snakes (\$3.00), small and large balls (\$2.00) and catnip door hangers (a crocheted ball on the end of a crocheted hanger) (\$5.00). There are also catnip mats (\$10.00) and bags of dried catnip (\$3.00).

Pet Hair Magnets (\$15.00), and Furminators (\$25.00) are available for your pet needs. The Pet Hair Magnets are wonderful for removing pet hair, and the Furminators work wonders for grooming your pet and removing mats.

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

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.** We know that you will love any of these items.

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

Future Fund Raisers

There is great uncertainty about the future of many of our fund raisers. After the dinner and auction, the next events that we had planned to participate in are the Beaver Creek Popcorn Festival and the second Yellow Springs Street Fair. They are scheduled for September 12th and 13th and October 10th respectively. At this time, we have not had any information from either of these events about whether they will go on as planned or be cancelled. We are certain that information will be printed in the Dayton newspaper as the time gets closer to these dates. If these events do occur we intend to participate and be in our normal locations. For the Popcorn Festival, our normal location is space 176 in front of McDonalds on Dayton Xenia Road. For Street Fair, we are usually in space 204 across from Speedway on the opposite side of the street. If these events do occur, we hope to see you there and promise to have our great items for your shopping convenience.

We will still be offering our holiday greenery and plants and having the two holiday bazaars at The Tenth Life, the Thanksgiving pie sale, and the Christmas pie and bake sale. In addition, if we can, we will do pictures with Santa at three Pets Supplies Plus stores in Beaver Creek, Kettering, and Centerville. At this time, no one knows for sure what will be allowed and safe to do for the health and well-being of everyone.

Reminders

We appreciate your saving ink cartridges, Fresh Step Paw Points, pennies, coupons, and aluminum for the cats. We redeem the ink cartridges for rewards to purchase office supplies, 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, Clorox or Sam's), 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, and we do not recycle them. A magnet will not stick to aluminum, but will to other metals. We also do not recycle plastic bottles.** 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 really appreciate your help.

Hours of Operation:

4:00-7:00pm Monday-Thursday (937) 376-5550
3:00-6:00pm Friday
10:30am-5:00pm on Saturday
12:30-5:00pm on Sunday

Website:

thetenthlife.org

Phone Number:

Address:

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

SPAY/NEUTER FACTS

All pets should be surgically spayed/neutered for many reasons. In addition to improved health and behavior resulting from this surgery, you will be doing your part to reduce unwanted pet population. Millions of unwanted animals are euthanized each year because good homes are limited.

Benefits of spaying/neutering

Females

Prevents signs of heat
Prevents blood stains on carpet from heat cycle
Decreases chance of breast tumors
Eliminates chance of cystic ovaries
Eliminates chance of uterine infections
Prevents breast development (if done early)
No unwanted pregnancies or offspring

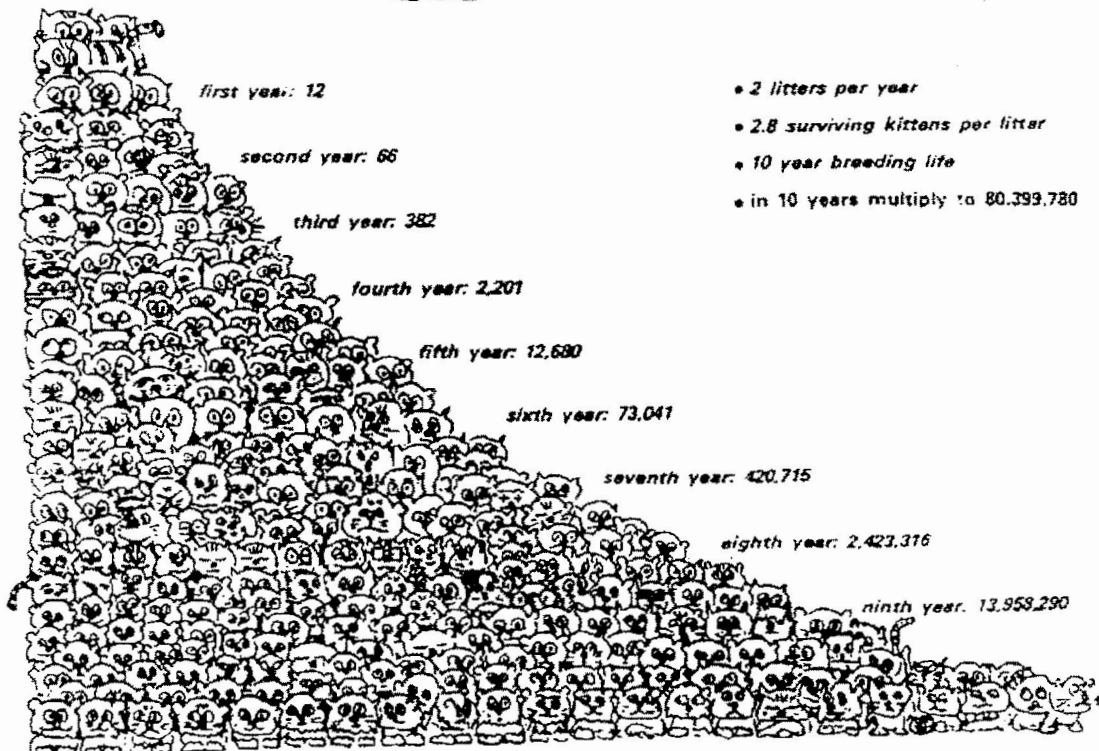
Males

Prostate cancer incidence decreased
Testicular disease eliminated
Decreases desire to roam
Eliminates odor of tom cat urine
Decreases aggression
Prevents spraying and marking
Eliminates undesirable sexual behavior

- Your pet will NOT get fat or lazy because of this surgery. Diet exercise and heredity have much more influence on the weight and attitude of your pet.
- Surgery is recommended when the pet is about four months of age, but it can be done at any age.
- It is much easier on your pet to be spayed before going through a heat cycle due to the smaller size of the reproductive tract.
- Surgery is performed painlessly while your pet is under general anesthesia. Surgical risk is minimal. Most pets go home the same day. Post-surgical pain is minimal.



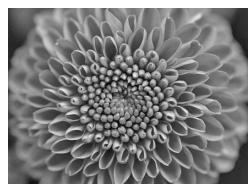
TWO UNCONTROLLED BREEDING CATS . . .
plus all their kittens and all their kittens' kittens.
if none are ever neutered or spayed, add up to:



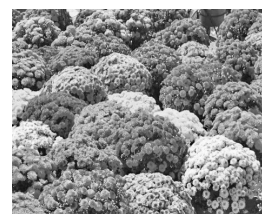


Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Dayton, OH
Permit #66

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



The Tenth Life 2020 Mum Sale



8" Potted Mums in 5 Colors - \$7.50 Each

Order Due at The Tenth Life by Sept 5, 2020

Pick-up at The Tenth Life on Sept 19, 2020

<u>Color</u>	<u>Qty</u>	<u>Cost</u>
<u>Red/ Burgundy</u>		
<u>Yellow/Gold</u>		
<u>Orange</u>		
<u>Bronze</u>		
<u>Purple</u>		
<u>Total</u>		
<u>Name</u> _____ <u>Phone #</u> _____		