
Sandbox Gazette

QUARTERLY

JULY 2026

ISSUE 3



The Sandbox Gazette has arrived. In this edition, we will present the calendar of events, identify feature cats, tell you a heart warming story, remind everyone about kitten season and the need for spaying and neutering, provide the status of the three dollar fund, repeat the information about the Combined Federal Campaign and alert you to the start of the United Way drive, discuss the outcome of the annual flower and plant sale, make a special request for auction donations, give final details about the lasagna dinner and auction, inform you about the annual mum sale and include the order blank, display the monthly supply donation list, show past, current and future fund raisers, and offer reminders.

Calendar of Events

Please see the calendar for the important dates for The Tenth Life.

\$3.00 Campaign Begins	Now
Accepting Auction Items	Now SEE PAGE 3
Lasagna Dinner and Auction	August 9 th
Mum Orders Due	September 12 th
Beavercreek Popcorn Festival	September 12 th /13 th
Mum Sale Pickup	September 26 th

Feature Cats

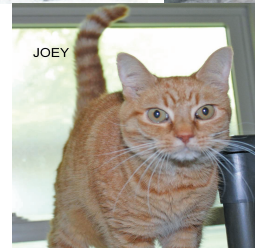
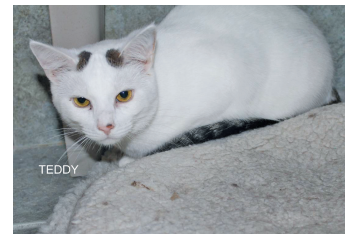
Unfortunately Deuce, Blanche, and John from the last newsletter have not found homes and are still available for providing love to new owners.

The new feature cats are Aurora, Teddy, and Joey. Aurora is a four month old tortoise-shell kitten. She was found and brought to The Tenth Life. The person who found her took her to her veterinarian and was told she had a broken pelvis. We accepted her because of the injury. When our doctor x-rayed her, she was uncertain

that she had suffered trauma. Her opinion is that the difference in her pelvis is more likely a malformation from birth. Her tail has no feeling and may need to be amputated. She is also polydactyl, which means she has a mutation that forms extra toes. For her, the extra toes are on all four feet. She even has extra claws on the extra toes on the front feet which is unusual. She purrs constantly and loves attention. She is a tiny baby and will need a very loving home to pamper her.

Teddy is a rambunctious one year old boy who loves to be on your lap. He is mostly white with a few tiger patches. Teddy is a long, lean boy. His favorite pastime is flying around the room chasing anything that moves. He is the official greeter to all visitors to his room and immediately jumps in their laps when they sit down. He is a loving boy who loves all people and all other cats. He would be great with a friend for companionship and play time.

Joey is an orange nine year old male who lost his home when his owner died. He was very pampered. Joey is a typical orange male. Orange males are known for being laid-back and great with people and other cats. He is very talkative. He would love another home for the remainder of his life where he could be spoiled and adored.



All are spayed or neutered, and tested for feline leukemia and feline AIDS. They are also vaccinated for FVRCP (respiratory viruses), Feline Leukemia, and Rabies, and treated for internal and external parasites.

Heart Warming Story

Our heart warming story for this newsletter is about Newman. He arrived with multiple fractures of his left rear leg and was in bad shape. Although in much pain, he was very loving and gentle. We decided not to set or amputate the leg. His leg healed remarkably well after several weeks recuperating in a cage and allowing his leg to mend. He walks nearly without a limp. After his recovery and being neutered, he moved to a room with other cats and developed friendships with his roommates. A couple who had adopted from us before, came in looking for a cat who had had a leg injury. They had recently lost a cat that had a leg injury and did so well. They wanted to give another needy cat with a similar injury a loving home. When they entered Newman's room, he greeted them and graced the husband's lap with his presence and affection. Newman purred and rubbed and sold himself to the husband and eventually to the wife. He was, of course, chosen and has been home for about three months. He is dearly loved and has become a family member. We are so happy for him and his new "Mom and Dad."

Kitten Season and Need for Spaying and Neutering

As happens every year, we are in full-blown kitten season. In years past, kitten season started about March and ended about October. Unfortunately, with the milder winters, kitten season never seems to end. In case you are not aware, kitten season is the time of year that female cats go into heat and unfortunately become pregnant. Another factor that makes the situation even worse is that a female can become pregnant only three days after giving birth to a litter. With these factors, it is no wonder that every shelter is full and thousands of other cats still need help and won't be able to receive any. It is a true tragedy! Cats and kittens being born with no chance of survival is unthinkable.

If people would have their cats spayed or neutered, we could avoid so much of this problem. Of course, there would be strays, but so much of the over-population problem is caused by owned cats. We understand the cost of spaying or neutering at the veterinarian offices, is prohibitive, but it is so necessary and there are so many options in this area for low-cost spaying and neutering. Some of the programs in this area are as low as sixty dollars for females and forty-five for males. These prices make the surgery much more affordable. Too many owners do not investigate the special programs and use this expense as an excuse for not having the surgery done. Pretty much every shelter has a low-cost spay/neuter program. We can help with more information about the available programs.

There are so many advantages to the cats being spayed or neutered. Not only the inability to reproduce but also the improved health of the cats are great benefits. In addition the cats are happier and more relaxed after being neutered. Our cats at The Tenth Life are spayed or neutered at four months. Usually, if females are spayed at four months, they avoid the first heat cycle and the owner avoids the nuisance crying when the female is in "heat." Neutering the males at four months also usually prevents the beginning of spraying that some cats start at about six months. There are so many advantages to spaying and neutering cats of both sexes; it is amazing so many cats are not done. Please encourage everyone you know to have this surgery done on all cats for the benefit of the cats and the owners. Please see the display in this newsletter that gives all of the advantages and benefits of spaying and neutering all cats.

Three -Dollar Fund Status

The donations to the three-dollar fund are accumulating nicely. So far, our generous supporters have contributed nearly seventeen thousand dollars to this fund. The donations are a little ahead of last year at this same time. If you have not donated, please do so in order to avoid forgetting. The cats are counting on you to help them pay their expenses, such as food, litter, medications, etc. Every penny donated is used for the cats. We send acknowledgement letters for all donations

over twenty dollars. If your donation is less than twenty dollars, we will gladly send an acknowledgement letter if requested. We usually receive a large number of donations for this fund raiser and use the twenty dollar cutoff for convenience. As you probably remember, this fund raiser was a replacement for the yard sale which became too labor intensive. With only a three dollar donation from everyone on our mailing list, we decided that it would at least equal the proceeds from a normal yard sale with very little work. Not everyone on the mailing list donates, but fortunately many donate more and make the proceeds surpass any sale we had. We usually receive around thirty-five thousand dollars from this fund raiser. This is a huge amount, but unfortunately, that amount is used very quickly with the rising costs of food, litter, medications, electricity and everything else that we need to support the cats. Thank you to everyone who has already donated and to those who will donate before the end of this campaign. We are waiting for your donation.

Combined Federal Campaign and United Way

As we told you in the last newsletter, we did not apply to be included in the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) this year. The donations through CFC had shrunk to such a small amount, the workload to do the application was not worthwhile. We do not know if this campaign still exists. We were notified that their portal was closing a few months ago.

The United Way campaign begins in the fall and The Tenth Life is able to be designated and receive donations. For this campaign you must write in our name as The Tenth Life Pet Therapy Program. We do receive donations through this campaign; however the total is very small. If you contribute through the United Way, we will receive your donations and will be glad to send an acknowledgement letter.

If you want to donate but do not want to go through the campaigns, you can always go to our website, thetenthlife.org, and contribute through Just Giving. There is a button on the front page of the site for making donations in this manner.

Annual Flower and Plant Sale

The annual flower and plant sale was a huge success. We ordered over thirty-seven thousand dollars of plants and nearly all sold. The plants were from Furst Florist and Garden Center, and as always were beautiful and healthy. The sale of the plants produced twelve thousand dollars of profit for the cats. We plan to have the sale again next year. Please tell your friends and relatives about this sale and maybe next year will be even better.

Special Request for Auction Donations

Jewelry and purses are favorite items at our auction. Donations of these items this year are running greatly behind. If you have these items and have been thinking about donating for the auction, please do so. We are already accepting items for this auction. It takes time to sort and price jewelry and purses. We don't want to disappoint our shoppers and not have a huge selection of all types of jewelry and purses. Please help!!

Annual Lasagna and Dinner and Auction

We are working on the completion of the planning for the 2026 lasagna dinner and auction. The location will be the same as 2025. It is the American Legion Hall 598 at 5700 Kentshire Road in Kettering, approximately a block from the intersection of Whipp and Bigger Roads. This venue worked very well for us the last two years, and many of our supporters commented how much they liked the location and the layout. It seemed to work very well for the event. Of course, we could use more space, but great locations are hard to find. The date is **August 9th**.

The times will remain the same 2:00–6:00pm with the preview beginning at 1:00pm. We usually have about fifty tables of silent auction items, jewelry, purses, baked goods, gift cards, and merchandise of The Tenth Life. The tables are packed with fantastic merchandise at amazing starting bids. Please plan to arrive in the early times of the event to allow yourself plenty of time to

make your bids. Unfortunately, with the number of tables that we have, we have to begin closing tables at about 3:30pm to have all of the tables closed by about 5:30pm. We usually close tables in numerical order in groups of six. Our announcer will notify when tables will be closing. If you arrive during the table closing time, you may not be able to bid on everything you would like to purchase.

The admission fee will again be fifteen dollars which includes the meal and your ability to bid on auction items. It will include the delicious lasagna dinner, (meat or vegetable) provided by Belmont Catering, including salad, bread sticks, dessert, and coffee or tea. Soft drinks and bottled water will be available for a small fee. Serving of the meal will begin at 2:00pm and will continue until closing or the supply of food is exhausted. Any leftover lasagna can be purchased for five dollars per serving. **Cash or check only for all purchases.**

For those of you who have not attended our dinner and auction, we decided to explain the operation of a silent auction. When you enter the auction, you must sign up for a bid number. It can be any number still available on the sheet. Each item on the auction tables has a bid sheet. On the bid sheet is the explanation of the item and the retail value of the item. Below the retail value is the opening bid of the item. Below the opening bid amount is the incremental bid amount. The opening bid amount will be printed on the top line of the area where bid amounts will be entered. When you make your bid, it must be at least the incremental amount to qualify as a valid bid. Your bid number will be entered next to your bid. If your bid is not equal to, or greater than, the incremental amount, your bid will be scratched out and not be counted. Please be sure that your bid qualifies as a legitimate bid. Be sure to monitor your bids to be certain that you have the winning bid at the time the table closes. No bids may be added after the table closes. Any item that does not have a bid after the table closes, may be purchased for the opening bid amount.

There will be a huge selection of silent auction items including gift cards. We always have cat-related items and items of many other types. The cat-related items include litter boxes, cat furniture, beds, treats, food, litter,

and cat toys. We always have a wide assortment of cat-related decorative items for your home and cat-decorated clothing. In addition, there are small appliances, car-care merchandise, pictures, and other art work, baskets filled with theme items, such as stationary, cat, dog, or Christmas, etc. , and a huge assortment of jewelry and purses. One of the biggest attractions is the unbelievable selection of gift cards. Our wonderful workers solicit gift cards from approximately three hundred and fifty businesses. There are gift cards for restaurants of all types; from fast food to elegant dining. In addition, we always have gift cards for oil changes, services like house cleaning, pet services, veterinary services, bakeries, many of your favorite shopping destinations, museums, vacation destinations, and memberships to civic organizations. It will be a fun filled afternoon with a delicious meal and a wide variety of merchandise for your bidding pleasure. Hope to see you there.

Finally, there will be a small bake sale and the tables of The Tenth Life merchandise. The bake sale will be donated baked goods from our supporters and some local bakeries. You simply make your selection and donate an appropriate amount based on your belief of the value. The Tenth Life tables will include our apparel for The Tenth Life, cat related merchandise, and our famous catnip toys. Please plan to visit both of these areas.

We are accepting donations of gently-used items of all types. They can be brought to The Tenth Life during the hours of operation on the back of the newsletter. **We are accepting items for the auction through July 31st.** Cat-oriented items are always the favorites, but all types of merchandise sell. The Tenth Life is known for offering a gigantic variety of items for your bidding pleasure. We love having a huge selection of jewelry and purses as these are favorites of our customers. This is the favorite fund-raiser of our supporters.

We are also needing donations of items for the dinner and bake sale. For the dinner dessert and bake sale, we desperately need baked goods which can be cookies, pies, cakes, cup cakes, breads, etc. All kinds of baked goods will be appreciated. There is nothing better than homemade baked goods. We offer varieties of soft drinks to our customers and do not have a source for

donation of them. If you would like to donate soft drinks, please let us know. They can be brought to the American Legion on Saturday after 9:00am. If you cannot bring them to us or to the event, we can arrange for pickup.

We need many helpers with this event. We need help soliciting merchandise for the auction from local businesses. We can provide a solicitation letter to provide to businesses when you ask for a donation. We need volunteers to set up the tables and place auction items on the tables. In addition, we will need volunteers to work at the event to help with serving and monitoring the auction tables. Finally, workers are needed to pack unsold items, tear down tables, and clean the facility. Please consider helping and making the event a successful, profitable one for the cats and their needs and wants.

Mum Sale

We are again offering the large, beautiful mums from Furst Florist and Garden Center. The order blank is included in this newsletter. The price has remained at **ten** dollars per mum. They are unbelievably large for his super price. Customers last year were amazed at their size. They will be available in **white, red/burgundy, yellow/gold, orange/bronze, and purple/lavender.** The order blanks, with payment, are due by **September 12th**, and the mums will be available for pick-up beginning on Saturday, **September 26th** from 10:00am-5:00 pm. The hours for Sunday are the same as Saturday and weekdays are from 4:00-7:00pm. The mums were gorgeous last year, and we know they will be again. You will not find mums of this size at this unbelievable price any place else. We will have some extras available, but please pre-order for the best selection.

Monthly Supply Donations

The following supplies are used daily and are much needed. Any can be donated in any month. They will be greatly appreciated and save the cats funds for other

important needs. They can be brought to The Tenth Life during our hours of operation. If needed, we can arrange for pickup.

July	Floor Cleaner
August	Friskies, Iams, Fancy Feast Canned Food
September	Paper Towels
October	Wipes (Clorox, Lysol, Sam's, etc.)
November	Bleach
December	Postage Stamps

Past Fund Raisers

The only fund raiser since the last newsletter was the flower and plant sale. This was discussed earlier.

Current Fund Raisers

Our penny fund is still going although pennies are no longer being produced. Please save pennies or any other change for the cats. There is no need to wrap.

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. Please remember to re-register at Dorothy Lane Markets as they require an annual registration.

We have a nice selection of short (\$20.00) and long-sleeve (\$25.00) t-shirts, polo shirts (\$25.00) and sweatshirts (\$45.00). Currently, sizes are S/M/L/XL. Of course we do not have every size in every color. They all have The Tenth Life logo embroidered on the front. We plan to have increased inventory for the lasagna dinner and auction.

We have crocheted catnip mice, fish, turtles, octopi, snakes, kickers, and tacos (\$5.00), small and large balls

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



The Tenth Life 2026 Mum Sale



8" Potted Mums in 5 Colors - \$10.00 Each

Order Due at The Tenth Life by September 12, 2026

Pick-up at The Tenth Life on September 26, 2026

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



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