



# T-TOWN MEWS

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## TAKE MEOWT TO THE BALLGAME

During another record-breaking trapping quarter, fundraising was extremely significant. Aiding our cause was a night with the Tulsa Drillers, with T-Town TNR being the community spotlight for a baseball game in early July at ONEOK Field.

With the help of our friend Jill Borkowski, we were fortunate to raise almost \$4,000! That money will continue our widespread efforts to help as many community cats as possible.

We also met a lot of people at our table during the game, allowing us to spread more awareness about the importance of spaying and neutering unowned, free-roaming cats in our city.



TRIVIA WITH T-TOWN TNR



## CITY NIGHTS

## BUY YOUR TICKETS NOW!

We have a fun event planned for 6 p.m. Oct. 25 at the TaulCoy Room in downtown Tulsa. There will be a trivia competition, dinner, drinks, a silent auction, a dessert auction, a restaurant pull and more! It will be a team trivia competition by tables of eight, so get your friends together now. Tickets are \$40 and can be purchased at [ttowntnr.com](http://ttowntnr.com). We are excited to spend the evening with our supporters and raise money to spay and neuter more community cats!

## CAT LADIES ON BOURBON STREET



T-Town TNR team members Elaine Spencer, Samantha Polen and Kelly Hines attended the Humane Society's Animal Care Expo in April in New Orleans, thanks to scholarships from the Petco Foundation.

The trio gained invaluable knowledge from the sessions, networked with other like-minded groups from across the country and came back to Tulsa with loads of information and ideas to improve our processes!

Also at the expo, we met the owner of Pawlytics, a software application for animal shelters. The company was in the early development stage for a module that supports TNR projects, and we are working with them to provide functional requirements and hope to test the app this fall.

## OUR WORK IN THE COMMUNITY

In May, we received an urgent request from the commercial property management of an older Tulsa shopping center. Employees had been hearing cats above the ceiling of two of the office spaces. The cats entered through an air vent on the roof, but that vent had recently been sealed by a maintenance crew and the cats could not exit. One of the cats fell through the ceiling tiles and was injured.

Julie Foote, one of our expert trappers, was able to work with the property manager to trap the two remaining cats in the vent and in the ceiling. All three cats were ultimately returned to the location after being neutered, vaccinated and ear-tipped.

The property management was extremely grateful for our quick response and handling of the situation. This area of town has a sizable population of free-roaming, unsterilized cats, and some of the neighboring property managers have been hesitant to work with us. This was an excellent opportunity to demonstrate how we can work together for a better outcome and also to pave the way for making more improvements in the future.



## PLATINUM STATUS

In June, T-Town TNR received the "Platinum Star Seal of Transparency" in Guidestar ([www.guidestar.org/profile/83-0922383](http://www.guidestar.org/profile/83-0922383)). Guidestar (now Candid) is an online resource that gathers, organizes and distributes information about US nonprofits, and platinum is the highest level of recognition.

The platinum level requires we input metrics to measure the results of our work, to allow potential donors and funders to make educated decisions. Here are the numbers of community cats impacted by our program each year, not including 700-plus in 2019:

### TOTALS BY YEAR

2018	920
2017	715
2016	428
2015	316



## SECOND-QUARTER SUCCESSES

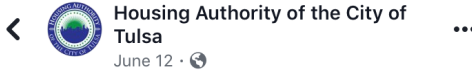
- Despite torrential rain and record flooding in May and June that made trapping on some days impossible, we TNR'd 344 cats in the quarter. In June, we totaled 127!
- We also hit a milestone of 3,000 cats impacted by our program since 2015, when we started tracking statistics.
- We added six volunteers during the quarter to assist with fundraising and trapping.
- We received grants from the Petco and Walmart foundations.
- We had a booth at the two-day "I AM Yoga" festival in June, to raise funds and provide information on spay/neuter.

## THIRD-QUARTER PRIORITIES

- Continue working toward our goal of 1,200 cats in 2019.
- Roll out interim software apps for requesting vet clinic reservations and also for managing trap and carrier inventories via cell phone.
- Recruit more volunteers and create and implement a training program for new team members.
- Publish a manual for trapping activities and caretaker education.
- Follow through to fruition the city ordinance changes to protect community cats in Tulsa.

## NOT ALL HEROES WEAR CAPES

Sometimes we find ourselves in situations that require more than TNR. Two of our volunteers encountered a black and white kitten in need of help while trapping at an apartment complex in north Tulsa in June. The stressed-out kitten had gotten her head stuck inside the engine of a pickup truck, and she was eventually freed with the assistance of the truck owner and some Vaseline lip balm. The kitten, now named Piper, went to a foster home, was spayed and vaccinated and is now up for adoption!



This little gal thought she'd found the purrrrrfect home in the hood of a vehicle outside one of our properties last night but unfortunately it was a little cramped and she got stuck. T-Town TNR to the rescue! Kelly and Abby rescued this little gal and are taking her to the vet today to get checked out. She'll be up for adoption in a few weeks. If you're unfamiliar with T-Town TNR, they do great things in the community to help control the cat population. We are grateful for their work and for coming to this kitty's rescue!



## SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR PARTNERS



PHILANTHROPY, VOLUNTARISM, AND GRANTMAKING FOUNDATIONS

