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SUPPORTING TEXAS EDUCATION
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VICTORIA DOG TO APPEAR ON TEXAS LOTTERY SCRATCH TICKET!

Facebook contest winner will be featured on the Cats vs. Dogs game next year

(AUSTIN) –Murray, a rescued, special needs Chihuahua, owned by Cindy Saunders of Victoria, is one of the winning six dogs and six cats to be featured on the Texas Lottery’s upcoming scratch ticket game, Cats vs. Dogs. Murray and the 11 other winners were the top vote getters in the Texas Lottery’s Facebook photo contest. More than 1,700 dogs and cats were entered in the contest.

“I was in shock and totally excited,” said Saunders when asked how she felt when she found out Murray won the contest.

“Murray was a rescue. He was dumped out in the country left to die. I have a big heart for senior dogs, most people don’t want them, but if I can make their last days special that is what counts,” said Saunders.

“He is without the use of his legs most of the time and so he has a wheelchair. But no matter what goes on with him he loves to smile, actually smile, and he never gives up. He is the strongest lil’ guy I have ever seen,” Saunders added.

From Nov. 2 to Nov. 16, the Texas Lottery asked Texans, age 18 and older, to upload a photo of their dog or cat to the Texas Lottery’s official Facebook page for a chance to win a spot on the scratch ticket. From Nov. 19 to Nov. 25, visitors to the Texas Lottery Facebook page voted for their favorite dog or cat and the six cat photos and six dog photos receiving the most Facebook likes won the opportunity to have their photo featured on the game.

Cats vs. Dogs Scratch Ticket Contest Winners

Dog Winners	Cat Winners
Stella from Ovilla, owner Paige Sills	Markus from Arlington, owner Peggy Wyrostek
Noel from Sugar Land, owner Tammy Taylor	Fangsy from Dallas, owner Jennifer Frye
Della from College Station, owner Madison Wenske	Allie from Dallas, owner Jeff Henderson
Murray from Victoria, owner Cindy Saunders	Teddy from Houston, owner Cindy Jones
Finny from Sugar Land, owner Stephanie Collins	Bubba from Pharr, owner Ariana Hinojosa
Booker Tee from San Angelo, owner Walker Woolman	Vladimir from Odessa, owner Amaris Sherman

(more)

When asked how it will feel to see Murray on the scratch ticket for the first time Saunders said, “I won’t know that ‘til then but I’m so very excited on the idea that I have been telling everyone. Just finding out he was a winner made me cry, so I hope I don’t stand at a counter in a store crying like a baby.”

In addition to seeing their dog or cat immortalized on the \$2 Texas Lottery scratch ticket, winners will receive one large novelty version of the Cats vs. Dogs scratch ticket that features their dog’s or cat’s image and 125 Cats vs. Dogs scratch tickets (a \$250 value).

About the Texas Lottery

Beginning with the first ticket sold in 1992, the Texas Lottery has generated \$24 billion in revenue for the state and distributed \$47 billion in prizes to lottery players. Since 1997, the Texas Lottery has contributed \$18 billion to the Foundation School Fund, which supports public education in Texas. As authorized by the Texas Legislature, certain Texas Lottery revenues benefit state programs including the Fund for Veterans’ Assistance. Since the first veterans’ themed scratch ticket game was launched in 2009, the Texas Lottery has contributed more than \$52 million for programs supporting Texas veterans.

The Texas Lottery provides several entertaining games for lottery players including Powerball[®], Mega Millions[®], Lotto Texas[®], All or Nothing[™], Texas Two Step[®], Pick 3[™], Daily 4[™], Cash Five[®], Texas Triple Chance[™] and scratch ticket games. For more information visit us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube or at www.txlottery.org.

Editors/News Directors, note: Images of Murray and the 11 other dogs and cats to be featured on the game are attached in JPEG format.

To schedule an interview with Murray’s owner, please contact the Texas Lottery’s Media Relations Division at 512-344-5131 or at mediarelations@lottery.state.tx.us

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