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SUPPORTING TEXAS EDUCATION  
AND VETERANS

## **DFW AREA CATS & DOG FEATURED ON TEXAS LOTTERY SCRATCH TICKET**

New \$2 scratch ticket now available at Texas Lottery retailers

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(AUSTIN) – Three cats and one dog from the Dallas/Fort Worth metroplex are among the six dogs and six cats featured on the new Texas Lottery® scratch ticket game, [Cats vs. Dogs](#). The \$2 scratch ticket is now available at Texas Lottery retailers and offers more than \$9.1 million in total prizes and six top prizes of \$30,000.

Stella, a special needs English bulldog owned by Paige Sills of Ovilla; Markus, a cat owned by Peggy Wyrostek of Arlington; Fangsy, a cat owned by Jennifer Frye of Dallas and Allie, a rescued Maine Coon cat owned by Jeff Henderson of Dallas, along with eight other cats and dogs, were the top vote getters in the Texas Lottery's Facebook photo contest in November 2015.

"More than 1,700 dogs and cats were entered into the photo contest and nearly 25,000 votes were cast," said Gary Grief, executive director of the Texas Lottery. "With the tremendous response to our photo contest, we expect this game to be a hit with our players."

"I entered Stella in hopes that she could win and possibly help others like her have a chance at life by sharing her story," said Sills. "Stella beat the odds by overcoming Swimmer Puppy Syndrome. A lot of puppies with this condition aren't given a chance. Because of Stella's story she has helped make others aware of special needs and they in turn have adopted special needs dogs that were in need of homes."

Sills adds, "Stella loves treats, chewing on her bones, going for walks in her stroller, being with people and just loves life!"

Wyrostek said Markus loves to sit in the window and watch what is going on outside.

"He loves to pose and to have his picture taken. Loves to eat, be scratched under his neck and play with any toy that makes a sound," she said.

"I knew my kitty was special. He is unlike any kitty that I have seen. With his little tongue sticking out and all, I just knew that he was meant to be a star!" Wyrostek says.

Henderson, who adopted 19-year-old Allie when she was 2 years old, said he felt "complete and utter joy" to find out Allie had won the contest.

(more)

“I think she is super cute, so I’m happy to know that others think so too,” he said.

Henderson said Allie loves to eat and nap and enjoys dressing up in outfits and having her picture made.

**Cats vs. Dogs Scratch Ticket Contest Winners**

<b>Dog Winners</b>	<b>Cat Winners</b>
Stella from Ovilla, owner Paige Sills	Markus from Arlington, owner Peggy Wrostek
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

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 \$19 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](http://www.txlottery.org).

**Editors/News Directors, note:** Images of the scratch tickets featuring Stella, Markus, Fangsy and Allie and the other dogs and cats featured on the Cats vs. Dogs scratch ticket game are attached in JPEG format.

**To schedule an interview** with Stella, Markus, Fangsy or Allie’s owners, please contact the Texas Lottery’s Media Relations Division at 512-344-5131 or at [mediarelations@lottery.state.tx.us](mailto:mediarelations@lottery.state.tx.us)

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