

Manhattan Beach Sun

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2016: Happy New Year!

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Herald Publications wishes you all a prosperous and happy New Year! Rivers McCullough, six-months-old, son of John and Alissa McCullough. Photo by Marcy Dugan.

“For last year’s words belong to last year’s language And next year’s words await another voice.

And to make an end is to make a beginning.”

*(Little Gidding)”
- T.S. Eliot*

The Moments That Mattered: 2015

By Adam Serrao

Sports, as we know them, are athletic events that we all watch to cheer on our favorite teams, our favorite people, or quite simply, our favorite organizations. Not all of sports is about just that, though. Sports is about the moments that last in our memories. The moments that make us cheer. The one’s that make us laugh, scream at the television, or even cry to ourselves at night. It’s incredible the toll that sports can take on us. A simple game can trigger emotions inside of us that will have our significant others looking at us like we’re crazy or that will scare the house pet right out of the room. Yes, without sports, this world would certainly be a different place. With that being said, let’s take a look back at the moments in sports this year that mattered to all of us the most.

Above all else, this year in sports was a year where women excelled in practically every arena; even on the worlds stage. There was no better testament to that than when the United States women’s national soccer team conquered the world and the World Cup in 2015. Everyone remembers the time when Brandi Chastain sunk in the winning goal as the U.S. won their last World Cup in 1999. Fast forward more than 15 years later and this time, it was Carli Lloyd as the hero. After surviving a punishing semifinal matchup with Germany, Lloyd came to the rescue against Japan in the finals and scored. Then she scored again. Then she scored again! It took the U.S. hero just three minutes to find her first goal en-route to what would be a 5-2 demolition of their opponents and a World Cup championship. Yes, the U.S. women had truly conquered the world.

Another female who conquered the world in 2015 was Serena Williams. For a while

there, it seemed like the 33 year-old was simply unbeatable. Williams has proven herself to be one of the greatest women’s tennis players of all time and proved as much by winning the Australian Open, French Open, and subsequently Wimbledon putting her on the doorstep of capturing a “Grand Slam” title for the first time for a female tennis player since Steffi Graf did it in 1988. Unfortunately for Williams, Roberta Vinci came out of nowhere to take the title away in the semifinals of the US Open. Despite her loss, however, Williams not only went

on to win the Sports Illustrated’s 2015 Sportsperson of the Year award, but also exemplified the greatness and the strength that female athletes contain not only in America, but also all across the world.

While Serena put up a good fight in her chase for a Grand Slam, there remained one fight that must have been in the making for years and years before it finally happened. Hopefully you didn’t pay to see it, though. Floyd Mayweather and Manny Pacquiao finally got together last May to fight, but

See Year in Sports, page 2

Chevron’s Fuel Your School Program

BENEFITS 40,089 STUDENTS IN SELECT CITIES IN AND AROUND THE SOUTH BAY AREA OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Chevron U.S.A. Inc. announced today that its 2015 Fuel Your School program generated \$500,000 to help fund 538 classroom projects, including 223 focused on science, technology, engineering and math (STEM), to help connect real world experiences to classroom learning for 40,089 students at 151 public schools in select cities in and around the South Bay Area of Los Angeles County.

Students at the Da Vinci Innovation Academy received a Physics Fun Park Electronics Discovery Kit. The kit will be used to help students gain a better understanding of the laws of physics and how these concepts are used to create and run an amusement park.

“Children remember concepts best when they have the opportunity to discover why something works,” said Darlene Wonggaew, recipient teacher at Da Vinci Innovation Academy. “The items Chevron’s Fuel Your

School program helped fund will allow my students to create their own Physics Fun Park by building games and rides that incorporate magnets and electricity, while learning the laws of physics behind the games.”

Through the Fuel Your School program, Chevron contributed \$1 when consumers purchased eight or more gallons of fuel at participating Chevron and Texaco stations in select cities in and around the South Bay Area of Los Angeles County during the month of October, generating \$500,000 to help fund eligible classroom projects at local public schools.

The Fuel Your School program is part of Chevron’s total commitment to education. Chevron has invested nearly \$250 million since 2013, supporting programs that focus on STEM education initiatives designed to arm students and teachers with the critical skills and resources needed to succeed in jobs of the future.

“As a company full of engineers, we are happy to help encourage our local students

See School Program, page 4

Weekend Forecast

**Friday,
Jan. 8**

Partly Cloudy
57°/47°



**Saturday,
Jan. 9**

Showers
55°/49°



**Sunday,
Jan. 10**

Sunny
60°/47°



Year in Sports

from front page

instead, danced around the ring for 12-rounds to earn nearly \$200 million and \$120 million, respectively. Nothing of substance happened in a bout that looked like a money-grab from the start, but Mayweather won to remain undefeated and eventually re-proclaim himself as the greatest boxer of all time. Just don't pay to see the inevitable rematch.

Ronda Rousey, who hasn't been shy about letting her hatred for Mayweather become known, was involved in a few fights of her own this past year. Most notably was her recent bout with kick-boxing world champ, Holly Holm. Rousey dominated the sport of MMA and won her first 12 fights - most of them within literal seconds of the start of the match. In all, her first 12 matches averaged out to just one minute and 18 seconds of actual fight time apiece. That is, until she met Holm. Not only did Holm last the entire first round against Rousey, but she dominated it. So much so that in the second round she had Rousey right where she wanted her. One kick to Rousey's face not only ended the fight, but also ended Rousey's reign on top of the sport. There has already been a rematch discussed, but first Rousey needs to pick herself back up from off the mat, both literally and figuratively.

A trio of championships, including one that was extremely unexpected, round out the most memorable moments of 2015. The Golden State Warriors brought home an NBA championship to California by defeating LeBron James and his Cleveland Cavaliers. Steph Curry took the nation by storm and is now one of America's favorite, most respected athletes. The Warriors finished with the most wins in the league last year (67) and are already off to the best start in the game this season. By beating the Lakers, the Warriors also set a record for most consecutive wins to start a season (16). Who could forget the Seahawks in the Super Bowl? All the talk of "Deflategate" was upstaged when

Pete Carroll decided to take the ball out of Marshawn Lynch's hands at the 1-yard line. Russell Wilson threw an interception to New England's Malcolm Butler and in one of the strangest turn of events ever seen in a championship game, Tom Brady and the Patriots won Super Bowl XLIX by a final score of 28-24 and in dramatic fashion, to say the least. Speaking of dramatic, American Pharoah did something that hadn't been done in almost 37 years by capturing the Triple Crown. Affirmed was the last horse to win the Kentucky Derby, the Preakness and the Belmont Stakes all in the same year. That happened way back in 1978. 11 horses have had the opportunity to accomplish the feat before American Pharoah by winning both the Derby and the Preakness, but all failed to take home the last leg of the Crown. Pharoah put on his lucky horseshoes and made history by galloping past the finish line and right into the hearts of America with a historic victory. One that may not be seen again for another 38 years - or longer.

Jordan Spieth won the US Open, the Kansas City Royals won the World Series, Ohio State won college football's first ever playoff to become champions, Wisconsin and Frank Kaminsky upset Kentucky in college basketball's National Championship game, and Kobe Bryant finally said goodbye to the sport that he loves. Naturally, there are many, many more storylines from the year that has passed that were incredible, memorable and emotional, all the same. Unfortunately, not all can fit into just one article, but another great thing about sports is that we all experience the memories in our own unique way. What memory may stand out to you, may not stand out to another, but that's what makes sports and the moments that they create so great. Here's to another year of making memories and best of luck to all those that you scream, cheer, laugh, and cry for. Asixlion@earthlink.net

Seniors

Live Long and Financially Strong

(BPT) - By 2029, more than 76 million baby boomers will be 65 or older, according to recent Census estimates. While there is great upside to increased longevity, there are also challenges. Inflation, climbing health care expenses and ebbing safety nets are complex dynamics to navigate through an extended retirement.

One key aspect of longer lifespans many Americans overlook is caregiving. In fact, the government estimates 70 percent of adults 65 or older will require some form of long-term care ("LTC"). Recent findings from Northwestern Mutual's 2015 C.A.R.E. (Costs, Accountabilities, Realities, Expectations) Study underscore this reality. Nearly four in 10 Americans (36 percent) are currently or have been caregivers to adults who are aging, ill or with special needs. The study further reveals caregiving, while rewarding, can have significant financial and emotional implications.

The good news is that whether boomer or any other generation, it is rarely too late to create - or adjust - a financial planning strategy that will help you live your desired lifestyle through your lifespan. Rebekah Barsch, vice president, planning and sales, Northwestern Mutual, suggests the following:

Face the financial realities. The Northwestern Mutual 2015 Planning & Progress Study found outliving their retirement savings is among the top financial fears for Americans. Moreover, a solid portion do not feel at all financially prepared to live

through their 80s and 90s. Combined with rising costs and the potential long-term care needs, avoidance is no longer an option.

Speak up. Though finances are an uncomfortable topic for many, a candid dialogue is essential to making important



decisions. This is especially important when it comes to difficult topics like long-term care, which could impact the entire family. Understanding the concerns and wishes of your loved ones is the cornerstone of effective planning.

Know when you need help. When it comes to financial planning, half of the boomers (age 50-68) in the 2015 Planning & Progress Study said they were either informal or non-planners. Considering the correlation between planning and financial security in retirement, as well as the added complexities of longevity, a self-directed approach can be a risky bet when the stakes are high. An expert can take an objective look at your finances and tailor a strategy that adapts as your financial needs evolve. •

Classifieds

The deadline for Classified Ad submission and payment is Noon on Tuesday to appear in Thursday's paper. Advertisements must be submitted in writing by mail, fax or email. You may pay by cash, check, or credit card (Visa or M/C over the phone).

Errors: Please check your advertisements immediately. Any corrections and/or changes in an ad must be requested prior to the following Tuesday deadline in order to receive a credit. A credit will be issued for only the first time the error appears. Multiple runs will only be credited for the first time the error appears. No credit will be issued for an amount greater than the cost of the advertisement.

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Torrance Memorial Medical Center Announces \$10 Million Gift

Photos provided by Torrance Memorial Medical Center

Torrance Memorial Medical Center announced a \$10 million gift by O. Allen Alpay, a 45-year Peninsula resident and grateful former patient. The gift will name the O. Allen Alpay East Wing, which houses Torrance Memorial's Emergency Department and Labor & Delivery Unit.

The gift was formally announced during the hospital's 32nd Annual Holiday Festival Gala on Friday, December 4, 2015. In total, Holiday Festival 2015 raised more than \$11.2 million, which includes sponsorships and major gift announcements.

More than 15,000 community members

enjoyed the six-day event hosted under a 30,000 square-foot white tent on the Torrance Memorial campus. Festivities included a display of 32 themed decorated trees, a Fashion Show, Gala Dinner, Santa Lunch, two Seniors Days and the South Bay's largest Holiday Shopping Boutique.

A Festival Fashion Show kicked off the festivities on Tuesday, Dec. 1, featuring clothing from designer Mi Long Lee of the women's luxury line "Emmelle." A Festival Night Dinner Gala, including a silent and live auction, followed on Friday, Dec. 4. •



Ofelia and Emmanuel David (third and fourth from left) and family.



Jerry Unatin, MD, Judith Gassner, senior director of development and principal gifts, Torrance Memorial Foundation, Mary Jo Unatin, Nick Silvino, MD.



Laura Schenasi, executive vice president, Torrance Memorial Foundation, Ray O'Dell, Holiday Festival Facilities Chair.



Richard Lundquist, president, Continental Development Corporation, Melanie Lundquist, Craig Leach, president and CEO, Torrance Memorial Medical Center, Judy Leach.





Carolyn Snyder, 32nd annual Holiday Festival co-chair.



Nancy Rouse, Michael Rouse, Toyota Motor Sales, USA, Inc., Rebecca Rouse.

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School Program

from front page

to explore STEM education and possible future careers requiring STEM-based skills," said Frank Semancik, general manager of the Chevron, El Segundo refinery. "The impact this program has already made on our students is incredible and we're proud to help provide with the materials needed to help make learning fun and engaging."

This year, Chevron's Fuel Your School program generated more than \$8.8 million for local classrooms in 21 U.S. communities and benefitted more than 1 million students

by providing them with needed supplies. Chevron fully funded the traditional Fuel Your School program in 16 U.S. markets and local Chevron and Texaco marketers helped fund five additional markets.

Since its inception in 2010, Chevron's Fuel Your School program has helped fund 33,685 classroom projects at 5,155 schools in the U.S. The program's impact has grown each year to support students in many communities where Chevron has business operations.



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TerriAnn in Torrance

The Ringing of the Bell

By TerriAnn Ferren

At Christmastime, the Salvation Army, along with their red kettles, visit stores of all kinds, collecting money for the needy. All over town, I have noticed the familiar red bucket - and standing nearby, someone ringing a red bell, wishing everyone a Merry Christmas.

This year, I was privileged to ring the bell for the Salvation Army for a couple of sessions and it was an experience I won't soon forget. What I learned about our community was something I had known, but never experienced firsthand with such emotion.

It was a cold Saturday morning outside the grocery store at Pacific Coast Highway and Calle Mayor, where I was stationed as I waited for the Salvation Army representative. She arrived right on time, delivered my red apron and bell, and set up my bucket at the entrance of the store. Her instructions were simple, "Smile and wish everyone a Merry Christmas." Seemed easy. Waving good-bye as she exited the parking lot, I was excited. With my apron on, and my red scarf keeping me warm, I began ringing my little red bell. At first, I simply rang it plain, like a school bell, but then I started ringing it with a Christmas tune in mind. 'O Christmas Tree, O Christmas Tree'...ding, ding, ding, ding, ding, ding, ding. People began pulling into the parking lot and hurriedly walking from their cars toward to door of the market past my bucket. Greeting everyone was easy and reminded me how many people in Torrance I haven't met. Everyone seemed in a good mood - even at 9 a.m. in the morning!

Simply ringing the bell beside the familiar red bucket was enough for the citizens of Torrance to hunt in their purses, wallets, pockets, and backpacks for money to place into the till. Imagine my delight when the first person stopped to place a dollar in the bucket! I was elated! More and more people began placing dollars and change into the red container. One man told me he was donating for a relative who was helped during the war by the Salvation Army. Another woman told me she was donating because of how her family member was given much needed assistance during a difficult time. People were open, friendly, generous, and kind. Parents gave children money to put into the slot and elderly citizens took time to give, even when the cold wind clearly chilled their hands.

The soles of my shoes began to chill so I moved into the sun, still continuing to ring the bell. Passers-by in cars, who had not visited the store but popped into the local coffee shop, waved and smiled as they passed. Everyone was joyful. At the end of my 'shift' I relinquished my red bell and apron to the next volunteer. As I walked to my car, I looked back at the front of the store and smiled. My wish of participating at Christmastime as a Salvation Army Bell Ringer was fulfilled. It was much more of an experience than I ever imagined.

After my time 'ringing the bell' I had the opportunity to speak with Lieutenant Sam Fowler of the Torrance Salvation Army who is in charge of the Red Kettle Campaign. Sam told me that he began ringing the bell for the Salvation Army when he was a youngster, "I have vivid memories of going around with my dad picking up kettles in the evening in Olympia, Washington. I was just 10 years old. My dad is also a Salvation Army Officer... so it was a part of my life growing up." Sam told me he has always been part of the Salvation Army, for as long as he can remember.

"I am a Salvation Army Officer. To become a Salvation Army Officer you have to attend the Army's Training College,



which is actually located in RPV [Rancho Palos Verdes]. Once I got trained at the Training College, you get appointed anywhere in the Western United States. I have been appointed here in Torrance. I am in my second year." I asked Sam if he likes where he was assigned - here in Torrance - and he quickly responded, "Oh, I love it. There is no better place to be a Salvation Army Officer."

Sam told me the idea for the Red Kettles started in San Francisco in 1891. "It was started by a Salvation Army Officer [Captain Joseph McFee] who brought out a giant pot in San Francisco and he was just raising money for the Salvation Army...the idea was to fill the pot to feed people. Well, the pot was filled, people were fed, and soon, a tradition was born," said Sam.

On an average day, the Torrance Salvation Army puts out approximately 25 kettles all over Torrance. The kettles are placed in the front of stores beginning on black Friday and ending on Christmas Eve. The Salvation Army sets up only in front of stores where the managers have approved the Red Kettle. They never set up their kettles anywhere until they receive formal approval. Sam told me, "For the most part, we are very fortunate to have national agreements with corporations and so the National Salvation Army sets up an agreement with say, the Kroger Company or Wal-Mart, establishing all the insurance - sort of the technical details - and then I go to the stores and I talk to the store managers and we fill in an agreement. If the store wants to help support the mission of the Salvation Army, or wants to support the community and help those in need, they allow us to put bell ringers outside their stores." Sam also told me he really couldn't do the job without the partnerships with the store managers.

Then I asked Lieutenant Sam Fowler if any Torrance Citizen could volunteer to 'man' a kettle and ring the bell. He told me, "Absolutely. It is probably a little late in the season this year, but maybe for next year. They just have to shoot me an e-mail at sam.fowler@usw.salvationarmy.org or call our office at 310.370.4515 somewhere around mid-November and we will find them a date and time and store where they can volunteer some hours and ring the bell."

Lastly, I asked Sam if he could tell me something about the Salvation Army that we might not know and he said, "We are an international organization in over 120 countries worldwide. We actually celebrated

our 150th year this past July. It started in 1865 in London, England by our founder, William Booth. We are a church and that

up about 4,000 from last year," said Sam.

Sam told me he loves his job and wouldn't do anything else. He loves being a Salvation Army Officer, investing in the community where he lives, and making it a better place. And the Torrance Salvation Army does just that.

If you, like me, have walked by the red kettles since you were small and dropped coins into the pot, and always wanted to ring the bell, go ahead and plan to do it - volunteer. From my experience this year with ringing the bell for the Red Kettle Campaign, I honestly, wholeheartedly, encourage you to sign up next year. For it is in giving, that we receive. Thank you for the opportunity to serve!•

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- Turn off lawn irrigation systems during rainy periods, and avoid watering during and 48 hours following measurable precipitation.
- Install water-efficient sprinkler heads, and check to make sure your sprinklers are positioned to irrigate the lawn and not your sidewalk, driveway or gutters.

- Survey your lawn irrigation system and fix any sprinklers, valves and lines that may be damaged or leaking water.
- While hand watering your lawn, focus on dry spots and pay close attention to avoid runoff.
- Avoid watering your lawn on windy days to limit overspray and evaporation.

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PETSPETS Pets PETSPETS

Purrrfect Companions



Feather

Looking for your purr-fect match? Adopt a wonderful cat or kitten and share a lifetime of love.

Beautiful and sweet, clumsy and fluffy, **Feather** is the ultimate kitten. She is playful and loves being pet. Feather loves humans and is a big fan of belly rubs and playing chase with the feather toy or laser pointer. Because of her gentle and friendly disposition, she would also be a great companion with other your cats or kittens.

Jax and Jazz are two adorably bonded brothers who were found in a Long Beach park. They are extremely sweet, affectionate and curious little guys who love adventure and exploring all that surrounds them. Very playful, these energetic and expressive boys love "fast food" - that is, they will let you know when their meals aren't given fast enough; though we know all they really want is a loving, forever home where they will be adored. Adopted together, Jazz and Jax will bring you double the love, fun and companionship found only in a kitten's heart.

Fleur is a friendly adventurous and lovely kitty. Her coat is so soft, so we always want to cuddle with her. Her mom and her siblings were rescued when she was one week old, in September. Her brother "Casper" is also available for adoption; he is also Siamese. Their mom Luna is a very sweet 2 year old tabby who is used to children of all ages. Consider adopting one or more of this darling family to bring some holiday cheer to your home.

Mira is one of those kitties you wish you could just clone and all cats would be like her. Looking for a kitty who craves human attention and always wants to be by your side, cuddling and getting pets? Mira delivers above and beyond. Once you start to pet her, she begins to purr loudly and

flops around asking for more and more. Mira loves cuddling and if she finds a comfortable spot she will just stay there all night. She is one year old with a shiny, silky black coat. As a one-year-old she has grown out of the kitten habits (chewing on wires, waking you up in the morning, etc.), but still has playful energy and will definitely play if you are in the mood.

Martini is a sweet, playful adorable kitten! At just two weeks old, she, along with her mom and siblings, were on the list to be euthanized at the city shelter. Kitten Rescue rushed out to bring them all to safety and give them a much deserved second chance! Martini, her sister Amaretto and their momma Julep are the only three left of the litter looking for their forever homes. Martini likes to leap into



Fleur



Mira

your arms for a hug and a kiss! She has been known to enjoy a little nap on shoulders as well! She has a very sweet temperament and loves to play. Martini is a great climber and thoroughly enjoys wrestling and chasing after her sister Amaretto as well as her momma Julep. She is very bonded to her sister and mom, so at the very least, she needs to be adopted along with one of them. Seeing the three of them cuddle and play is the cutest thing ever! They had a rough beginning in life and our now ready to find their forever home and family.

Maggie is a very independent kitten with medium length fur and big golden eyes. She loves to play with her brother and sister, but she is usually the first one out of the den when the door is opened. After all, there



Maggie

is always something new and exciting to explore. Her favorite toys are wiffle balls and strings with feathers on the end which she could play with the feathers for hours. Her biggest wish though is to find her forever home so she can curl up under the covers and sleep with you every night.

These kitties are available for adoption through Kitten Rescue, one of the largest cat rescue groups in Southern California. All of our kitties are spayed/neutered, microchipped, tested for FeLV and FIV, dewormed and current on their vaccinations. For additional information and to see these or our other kittens and cats, please check our website www.kittenrescue.org or email us at mail@kittenrescue.org. Your tax deductible donations for the rescue and care of our cats and kittens can be made through our website or by sending a check payable to Kitten Rescue, 914 Westwood Blvd. #583, Los Angeles, CA 90024.

On Saturdays, we have adoptions from noon to 3:30 p.m. in Westchester at 8655 Lincoln Blvd. just south of Manchester Ave. and also in Mar Vista at 3860 Centinela Ave, just south of Venice Boulevard. Our website lists additional adoption sites and directions to each location. •

*Saving one animal
won't change the world,
but the world
will surely change
for that animal.*



Jazz and Jax

THE YELLOW DOG PROJECT.com

If you see a dog with a **YELLOW RIBBON** or something yellow on the leash, **this is a dog who needs some space.** Please do not approach this dog with your dog. Please maintain distance or give this dog and his/her person time to move out of your way.






There are many reasons why a dog may need space:

- HEALTH ISSUES
- IN TRAINING
- BEING REHABILITATED
- SCARED OR REACTIVE AROUND OTHER DOGS

THANK YOU!
Those of us who own these dogs appreciate your help and respect!
Illustrated by Lili Chin www.doggiedrawings.net

PETSPETS **Pets** PETSPETS

Wowser Schnauzers



Opal

We are looking for volunteers to help with our pet adoption fairs which are held every Saturday at the Petco located at 537 N. Pacific Coast Highway Redondo Beach 90277, from noon-3: 30 p.m. If you are interested in volunteering and can commit to at least one Saturday a month, please contact us at info@msfr.org. You can also visit all of our Miniature Schnauzers & Friends rescues at the adoption fair or check out our website, www.msfr.org, if you have any questions about a particular dog's availability you can email us at info@msfr.org. Schnauzers! Bet you can't adopt just one!

If you're looking for a rare gem to enrich your life, then I'm your gal. My name is **Opal** and I'm just as special as the jewel. I'm a 3-year old female, white, purebred Miniature Schnauzer who was rescued from a LA county shelter where I ended up after wandering off. The shelter called me a stray but I prefer homeless waif. Right now, my coat is a little thin, due to my sensitive skin and possible flea allergies. It should returned to it's normal, luxurious self in no time. Friendly could be my middle because I get along with other dogs, people and I'm really just 16 pounds of love! If you are interested in Opal, please email info@msfr.org for more information.

They call me **Bubbles** and I think it's from all the shampoos I had during my treatment

for demodex mange. Not to worry it's all gone and I'm so looking for the only thing I want for Christmas – my forever home. I was rescued from a LA county shelter after I got lost and I was mess so it's not surprise no one wanted to adopt me. I'm a 1-year old, female Schnoodle (Miniature Schnauzer and Poodle mix) who has a lot



Bubbles

to offer. In addition to all of the puppy shenanigans, I'm very bright and extremely affectionate. I love other dogs and I sure hope I can find a home with another doggie pal. At 14 pounds I'm still very "transportable" so you can take me everywhere! If you are interested in Bubbles, please email info@msfr.org for more information.

My name is **Tracey** and I've asked Santa for one very special gift. A forever home with a doggie pal! If not a doggie pal, then I'd love a household where someone is home most of the time to keep me company – I don't like being alone. I'm a 6-year old, male, purebred Miniature Schnauzer with lots of affection to give my new family. When I was rescued from a Inland Valley Empire shelter I had a huge tumor on my back that was removed. I'm all better and so looking forward to spending the rest of my life loving my people and being the best companion ever. I'm super sweet and not very big, only 16 pounds, so I can easily accompany you wherever you want to take me. If you are interested in Tracey, please email info@msfr.org for more information.



Tracey

Hi there I'm **Esmeralda** and I know the perfect family will agree that I've had a rough couple of months. First, my owner dumped me suddenly at a LA city shelter. Then I was going to be adopted by a family but that fell through when the shelter Vet, who was going to spay me, discovered that I had tumors on my uterus. That's when the MSFR people rescued me and took

me to their Vet. They took x-rays that revealed I was pregnant and the tumor was really a puppy! A week after that surprise I started feeling terrible so back we went to the Vet and found that the puppy was no longer alive. The Vet had no choice but to immediately spay me. When they were doing the procedure they found that my uterus had burst – no wonder I was feeling so crummy – so I had to stay with the Vet for three days before I was well enough to go home. I'm happy to report that I'm completely healed and ready to resume the best life ever for a 6-year old, female, purebred Miniature Schnauzer. Aside from being a stunning, parti-colored lady, I'm a petite gal at only 12 pounds. I get along fine with other dogs but will be just as happy with a people only family. If you are interested in Esmeralda, please email info@msfr.org for more information. •



Esmeralda

Be kind. Save a life. Support animal rescue.

Happy Tails

Bosley – A Real Christmas Story

Congratulations to **Bosley** and his new family. Christmas definitely came early for all of them! Bosley is the senior Miniature Schnauzer rescued mid July. He is a special needs dog with Irritable Bowel Disease, which requires a special diet for the rest of his life. He is also a geriatric guy with a heart murmur who has been through quite a bit since he was rescued. He's had many teeth extracted, a huge benign lump removed from his chest and a bad bout of pancreatitis. At the time we thought we might lose him but his indomitable will and a lot of TLC pulled him through. All of his health issues were explained to his adopters but they were undeterred. His adopters are extraordinary people with huge hearts and compassionate spirit to match. You just don't find many people who are willing to adopt an older dog with health issues to make certain that the dog's last years are their best. His adopters understood he may not have a lot of time but for as long he will be around, Bosley's life will be filled with love and happiness. Wishing you many happy adventures. •



Christmas Schnauzer!



Bosley is home for Christmas!

Real Estate

Explore the Possibilities with Cypress

(BPT) - Inspired by popular home-improvement television shows and information-rich social networks, homeowners and savvy design professionals are using natural materials like cypress to transform their creative aspirations into beautifully tangible realities.

"Cypress is a versatile wood that offers design freedom, lasting performance, and a lifetime of good looks," says Linwood Truitt of the Southern Cypress Manufacturers Association (www.CypressInfo.org). "Regardless of a home's architectural style, the color variation and richness of cypress offers a unique look that is guaranteed to enhance any home, anywhere."

So, how is cypress being used to build today's dream homes?

DESIGNERS CREATE INVITING SPACES

While cypress is typically used for exterior applications - siding, decking, and covered porches - home-improvement experts are bringing cypress' warmth and charm indoors.

Renowned carpenter and TV host Ty Pennington prominently featured cypress ceilings and trim in his most recent project, the "First to the Future Home" with Next-Gen Home TV. The truly next-generation home shows how to combine traditional materials, such as cypress, with the latest

products and technologies.

"It can really stand the test of time," Pennington says. "That natural color with that natural grain, you can only get from cypress, which you got to say looks awfully nice."

Paul Barnett, president and executive producer of NGHTV.com, said the team selected cypress for the project because of its good looks and lasting performance.

"There's something special about the look and feel of wood that makes it appeal to homeowners probably more so than any other material," he says. "What sets cypress apart is its rich grain, natural durability and flexibility with choosing a finish."

THE FINISHING TOUCH

For interior applications, cypress readily accepts a variety of finishes, including paints and stains. However, many homeowners and design professionals select cypress for the appeal of its honey-like hues and the richness of its grain, which can be preserved by applying a clear sealer or transparent stain. Regardless of the desired finish, cypress will provide timeless beauty to complement any design scheme.

To select the best finish, consult a local building products retailer or paint supplier and strictly follow the directions and recommendations provided by the product manufacturer.

ARCHITECTS SIDE WITH CYPRESS

For centuries, cypress has been the wood of choice for exterior applications where longevity and good looks really count. In addition to siding and decking, cypress serves a myriad of applications, including shingles and shakes, exterior trim, shutters, fencing and fence posts, window boxes, furniture, landscape design elements and other outdoor essentials.

And while cypress offers undeniable beauty, architect Greg Mella, Washington, D.C., says durability is one of the main reasons it continues to be a go-to product.

"Cypress' heartwood contains a naturally occurring preservative oil called cypressene, which makes it resistant to rot, decay and bugs," he explains. "A lot of the wood that's typi-

cally used for projects outside the home is treated with chemical preservatives to help it maintain its resistances, but these chemicals have an environmental impact that's commonly overlooked. Many designers select cypress, because it provides a natural solution to these issues."

EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITIES

Before beginning your next home-improvement project, browse the photo gallery at www.CypressInfo.org and be inspired. Because when it comes to selecting a product based on its versatility, durability, and good looks, cypress is hard to beat. •

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Roger Hart (left) with sons: Kevin; Jeremy and his wife Stephanie; and Bradley with his wife Alannah. The Hart family has used its successful business to promote and preserve pride in the Torrance community through responsible real estate transactions and homeownership.

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