

For Immediate Release
Horses of Tir Na Nog Press Release
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Horses of Tir Na Nog
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'Tis the Season For Hope

December is a time when many people celebrate light and hope, in spite of challenges and adversity. For Christians, Christmas celebrates the birth of Jesus. In Judaism, Hanukkah commemorates the rededication of the Holy Temple in the second century BCE. This week both holidays are being recognized at Horses of Tir Na Nog with the arrival of two new residents.

Mariah has been in the Care of County of San Diego Department of Animal Services since this summer. In spite of six other horses being adopted during her stay, she has continued to wait for her new home. 'Riah's name was chosen as an abbreviation for Mariah. In Hebrew, Riah means to "Not forgotten, remembered."

"At a time when many local families are preparing for Hanukkah, it is appropriate to celebrate that 'Riah too has been remembered, even if it took her a bit longer to come home to Horse of Tir Na Nog than most of our residents," explains Amy Pat Rigney, president of Horses of Tir Na Nog.

Kris was picked up by Animal Services as an underweight stray in Potrero on November 9. Due to an old injury, he, like 'Riah, is not able to be ridden any more. But they are each healthy enough to enjoy a life of retirement.

"Kris Kringle was named in keeping with Animal Service's Claws and Paws adoption event on December 11. 'Kris Kringle' is a common name in Ireland for what most of us call a Secret Santa. We're hoping that San Diegans will serve as Kris's very own Secret Santa," said Rigney.

Horses of Tir Na Nog is celebrating *Holiday for Horses* on December 20 at the Town & Country Hotel. This event will help raise funds to care for all of horses at the Sanctuary in 2012.

"We are hopefully that San Diego will step up in a big way to help horses that have been neglected, abused, and abandoned," said Rigney.

Information on *Holiday for Horses* is available at www.horsesoftirnanog.org.

Horses of Tir Na Nog is a charter member of the San Diego Horse Coalition, a group supported by the ASPCA to provide guidance, support, and education for the equine community of San Diego County. We are an adoption partner with County of San Diego Department of Animal Services, and we work in compliance with American Association of Equine Practitioners (AAEP) Rescue and Retirement Guidelines. We are a community-supported equine sanctuary that offers a safe-haven for horses that have few options remaining, thereby ensuring them a better quality of life. At Horses of Tir Na Nog, we build connections between people and horses in the San Diego community, increasing awareness about responsible horse ownership and care through education.

EDITOR: 'Riah and Kris are transferring from Animal Services on December 11 and will be available for photos and video at Horses of Tir Na Nog.



Kris Kringle



'Riah