



# PTHA NEWS

Pennsylvania Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association Newsletter

*We ARE Pennsylvania Racing*

Volume 4 2011

## PA Derby, Increased Purses, Fan Attractions Highlight Parx 2011 Festival of Racing



The \$1 Million Grade II Pa Derby once again highlights the parx fall racing schedule. Added fan attractions on Owners Appreciation Day and Pennsylvania Day at the Races include tent activities in the picnic area like beer and local restaurant food tasting.

Photo by Kim Pratt

This year's Parx Fall Festival of racing is sure to be the best yet, with increased purses and fan attractions, as well as the September 24 running of the Grade II \$1,000,000 PA Derby, the traditional centerpiece of the Parx Racing schedule. Five weekends starting with Smarty Jones Day on Labor Day, September 5 offer stakes action, full cards, big purses for fans and horsemen alike.

Horseowners are the special guests of honor at September 17's Owner's Appreciation Day, sponsored by the PTHA. Aside from double purses and paybacks to last place, the day offers a luncheon for all horseowners, and special gifts for trainers and owners who have entered horses in that day's races. (continued on page 3)

### 2011 parx fall festival

**Five weekends of exciting racing, including the \$1 Million PA Derby on September 24!**

#### Monday, September 5 - Labor Day

##### **SMARTY JONES DAY**

- \$300,000 Smarty Jones Stakes
- \$250,000 Turf Monster Handicap
- \$200,000 Turf Amazon Handicap
- 50% increase overnight purses

#### Saturday, September 10

##### **PENNSYLVANIA DAY AT THE RACES**

- \$100,000 PHBA Sprint
- \$100,000 Mrs. Penny Stakes
- \$100,000 Mr. Jenny Handicap
- \$75,000 Crowd Pleaser Stakes
- \$75,000 Dr. Teresa Garafolo Memorial
- Six additional PA-bred races

#### Saturday, September 17

##### **OWNER'S APPRECIATION DAY**

- \$250,000 PTHA President's Cup
- \$450,000 in overnight purses, Parx starters-preferred,
- Gifts for owners racing that day, 100% increase in overnight purses,
- \$500 paid back from sixth place to last

#### Saturday, September 24

##### **\$1 MILLION GR II PA DERBY DAY**

- \$1,000,000 Gr. II PA Derby
- \$250,000 Gallant Bob Handicap
- \$450,000 in overnight purses, Derby hat giveaway.
- 50% increase in overnight purses

#### Saturday, October 1

##### **GR II COTILLION STAKES & LADIES' DAY**

- \$750,000 Gr. II Cotillion Stakes
- \$75,000 PHBA Distaff (PA-Bred)
- \$1,500,000 total purses, 50% increase in overnight purse
- Pink umbrella giveaway

## PA-Breeders Name Hannum New Executive Secretary

Just over a month into his new post as Executive Secretary of the Pa Breeders, Jeb Hannum has already overseen his first board meeting and is working hard to fill the huge gap left when Mark McDermott retired in June.

Having recently left his appointed position as one of three Pennsylvania Racing Commissioners in order to work for the breeders, Hannum noted that it is different, now being on the other side of the table.

"So far, it has been fun and interesting, but I do have a lot to learn," he said. "Working on the Racing Commission had given me good overall perspective on the industry. It was like seeing racing from a 30,000 foot level, and now I am down at eye level. It enabled me to develop good relationships in Harrisburg, meet track operators, and importantly, to watch Mark McDermott for the last three years as we met on different occasions at meetings.

"We were friends, and always on good terms, but observing him in his role as Executive Secretary was a huge help. I have an awful lot to learn from him, and he has been extremely helpful in the transition." (continued on page 10)



## President's Message

Dear Members of the PTHA:

The past two months have been a hot bed of activity here at Parx, and I am not just speaking of the weather! All of us do want to acknowledge the horsemen, however, in the special care of their horses in the blistering heat, and for supporting the cancellation of our racing card when it became just too dangerous to send our athletes, both human and equine, out to the track.



Inside air conditioned board rooms and offices, however, the heat has been on metaphorically, as both Mike Ballezzi and I worked hard to keep our purses and pensions safe during the completion of the state's budget, which was signed at the end of June. Our efforts in advertising the "I have a job" theme on billboards, in radio and tv have helped show the legislators of the Commonwealth just how important the racing industry is the economy of our State.

We have also been working closely with track management to assure that the backstretch renovation project continues with the demolition of old barns 4, 5, 6 and 7 (pictured below), which are scheduled to be finished by the end of the year. The contractors are to be commended for their quick work in safely tearing down the old barns in the midst of regular training and racing nearby.

Also along with management, the PTHA has suggested and has implemented a 14-day vet scratch rule, and increased paybacks from 5th to last in order to try to increase field sizes on our racing cards. This is for a trial period only, and the plan is to evaluate the results during shutdown in August. We will keep you apprised of the situation.

On a national level, race day medication rules are being carefully scrutinized. Mike Ballezzi and I attended the International Summit on Race Day Medication at Belmont Park earlier this summer. The situation is an important one, but the recent announcement by the Breeders' Cup forbidding race day medication in all of their two-year-old races we believe is premature. We understand the committee wants to attract more European horses, but think more study is needed.

As for the rest of the season: please mark your calendars and join fellow horsemen and breeders here at Parx on Owners Appreciation Day (September 17) and Pennsylvania Day at the Races (September 10). With exciting racing and special activities on both days, we will all be proud to show our quality racing product as well as enjoy race days with our fellow horsemen.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone here at the track.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Salvatore M. DeBunda". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Salvatore DeBunda, President



No, it's not Joplin, Missouri (above). The demolition of Barns 4, 5, 6 and 7 was complete within two days in July as efforts to continue the backstretch renovation project continue. The area between new barn 3 and old barn 8 has been completely levelled, and as of this writing, cement has been poured and plumbing started for the next four barns. (below)



**(Fall Festival continued from page 1)**

State-breds take precedence on Pennsylvania Day at the Races on September 10. Over \$450,000 in purses will be offered on an 11 race card, including five stakes races.

Not only horsemen will enjoy these two special days, as the Philly Beer Week Craft Beer Festival (September 10) and Bensalem's Cookin' (September 17) for racing fans have been added to "spice things up" for everyone.

"Most people attend the races on PA Derby Day, and Smarty Jones Day," said Sal Sinatra, Director of Racing at Parx. "But they don't know what great race cards we offer on some of these other days. We want to get them here to see what we've got, in hopes they'll become new racing fans."

With special incentives to winners of the Travers, Haskell, or any leg of the Triple Crown, the Grade II PA Derby is looking to be an exciting race once again.

"We offer \$50,000 each to any owner and trainer who brings a horse that fits the criteria," said Sinatra. "We've been speaking to trainers Kelly Breen (Belmont Stakes winner Ruler On Ice) and Dale Romans (Preakness winner Shackleford) and are also hoping that Mike Repole's Uncle Mo may be back on track and make an appearance in our race."

The Festival ends on Labor Day weekend with the Cotillion Stakes for three-year-old fillies, the second of the graded stakes offered at Parx. Susan G.Koman's Run for the Cure Breast Cancer Awareness and the Ladies' Jockey Challenge are a tradition on this day, as everyone wears pink, and this year, pink umbrellas will be given away to the first 1,000 patrons.



## **SEPTEMBER 17, 2011 PARX RACING**

**Luncheon for all horseowners  
Special gifts for owners racing that day  
Enhanced purses  
\$250,000 PTHA President's Cup  
(Nominations close September 3)**

**For more info, call PTHA Office 215-638-2012**

# **PENNSYLVANIA DAY AT THE RACES**

**Saturday, September 10, 2011  
Parx Racing  
\$450,000 in purses for PA-breds!**

**\$100,000 PHBA Sprint  
\$100,000 Mrs. Penny Stakes  
\$100,000 Mr. Jenny Handicap  
\$75,000 Crowd Pleaser Stakes  
\$75,000 Dr. Theresa Garafolo Memorial**



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## PTHA's Turning For Home Featured in Local and National Television

Lu Ann Cahn of Philadelphia's NBC10 show spent a recent day at parx racing and at Copper Kettle Farm in Pottstown filming a special on Turning For Home. The show, called Happy Homes for Horses, aired on July 13.

Cahn interviewed PTHA President Sal DeBunda, and board members John Servis and Lisa Allen trackside and in the ban area, but the highlight of Cahn's trip was when she and her cameraman Bob Ertel were able to ride two of TFH's adoptees around Copper Kettle Farm. Just Turn West and Joint Account proved they were indeed "happy in their new home," as both displayed impeccable manners.

Copper Kettle Farm is part of After the Races, a non-profit retirement program which works closely with TFH. Bonnie Hutton, who runs the program, put on a great presentation, along with her volunteers, to show how adaptable Thoroughbreds are once they come off the track.

On the national front, Producer Robby Rotfelder is working on a show on Animal Planet, called Wild About Animals, which will center on Turning For Home and its efforts with retired racehorse, El Frio. El Frio came into the program over two years ago with a serious injury, and currently is working with Youth-At-Risk at Special Equestrians in Warrington, PA.

The show is due to air early next year.

"We all have been very excited about the recognition that the PTHA has gotten for starting Turning For Home," said Barbara Luna, Program Administrator. "It is very important that people understand that we at Parx Racing do take care of our own."

Turning For Home was established in May, 2008 and has taken in almost 600 Thoroughbreds who could no longer race. The program is funded by the PTHA, owners, jockeys, Parx Racetrack and the PA Breeders.



Bob Ertel, NBC10 cameraman, filming the NBC10! show aboard Just Turn West, a Turning For Home adoptee. Attention adopters out there: he is now a movie star! Bonnie Hutton of After the Races is at his head.

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT TO PTHA MEMBERS



### *Pennsylvania Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association, Inc.*

P.O. Box 300 • Bensalem, PA 19020  
215-638-2012 • Fax 215-638-2919  
[www.patha.org](http://www.patha.org)

Re: the Pennsylvania State Budget 2011-2012

Dear PTHA Member:

The budget for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for the fiscal year 2011 - 2012 was completed and signed by the Governor on June 30, 2011. I am happy to report that the budget did not include any additional reductions in revenues from the Pennsylvania Horse Race Development Fund, and therefore, our purses or benefits. This is due to the hard work of our lobbyists, our Executive Director Mike Ballezzi and his staff, and to our aggressive grass roots publicity campaign, including radio, tv ads, and billboards in major markets.

While this is a success we can be happy with at this time, we must never lose sight of the fact that this will be an on-going battle as other financial issues continue to confront the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. You can be assured that I, as President of the Board of Directors of the PTHA, as well as its staff, will continue to do whatever we can to protect the interests of all of our members in anyway that we can.

We thank you for your support during this time.

Salvatore DeBunda, President

**PROOF AGAIN THAT WE DELIVER ON OUR PROMISES SEASON AFTER SEASON.**

### **Webb Carroll** **TRAINING CENTER**

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For well over 20 years we have been sending youngsters off to the races, and they have done us proud. **OFFLEE WILD**, **TALE OF THE CAT**, **WAR EMBLEM**, **FUGITIVE ANGEL**, **PAYTON D'ORO**, **HARVE DE GRACE**, **DYNAMIC HOLIDAY** and **SHACKLEFORD** are some of the many stakes winners that grace our record books, including

*Get your money's worth...* **6 Maryland Million juvenile winners.**

#### RESULTS

2008

2009

2010

2011

#### WINNERS

205

268

262

186

#### STAKES

11 (2) graded

19 (4) graded

15 (6) graded

15 (7) graded

#### 2 YR. OLDS

21 (26) wins

24 (27) wins

32 (38) wins

2 (2) wins



*...with quick and long lasting results!*



## LOOK AT THE SAVINGS PTHA MEMBERS HAVE RECEIVED!\*



Member 1	<b>\$2069</b>	Saved on Auto & Homeowners
Member 2	<b>\$2023</b>	Saved on Auto & Homeowners
Member 3	<b>\$ 969</b>	Saved on Auto
Member 4	<b>\$ 385</b>	Saved on Homeowners
Member 5	<b>\$ 350</b>	Saved on Auto & Homeowners
Member 6	<b>\$ 291</b>	Saved on Auto & Homeowners
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## PARX BACKSTRETCH GARDEN CONTEST

Sponsored by the PTHA, Parx Racing and the Racetrack Chaplaincy

### Winners:

1st Place	Barn 14 (Guadencio Patino)	\$500.00
2nd Place	Barn 22 (Pam Shavelson & Wheezie)	\$300.00
3rd Place	Barn 11 (John Servis)	\$200.00
4th Place	Barn 22 (David Dotolo)	\$100.00
5th Place	Barn 13 (Bill Zamensky)	\$50.00



First place winner Guadencio Patino with his vegetable garden; 2nd & 4th place Barn 22; women's dorm summer "patio"

## Trainer Dandy Inducted into New England Hall of Fame



Ron Dandy, accepting the New England Turf Writers' plaque, along with his mother, Kathleen Dandy. Dandy was the only 2011 inductee to the Hall of Fame that is still alive!

Photo by Chip Bott

He's our man now, but on July 21 trainer Ron Dandy celebrated among family and old friends as he was inducted into New England Racing's Hall of Fame at Danversport Yacht Club in Danvers, MA. Selected by the New England Turf Writers Association, Dandy was honored along with the late Henry Wajda, jockey; Skip McDonnell, owner and breeder; Narragansett Park founder James "Judge" Dooley; and turf writer Bob Waldo.

"This was the greatest thing that has ever happened to me," said Dandy. "I owe a tremendous amount of my success in New England to (jockey) Joe Hampshire, who has been working with me for about 19 years, so it was especially meaningful that he came up to be with me for the ceremony."

"I was part of the HBPA, and Joey worked with the Jockey's Guild. We were together a lot walking the track during bad weather, as well as racing together, and we have remained the best of friends to this day. I felt honored to have him share this special day with me."

Aside from his fans and friends, many he had known since before he won his first race at Narragansett back 1977, Dandy was joined by his mother, Kathleen, his brother Harold, and daughter Carry Blanchette.

"My mother is in her 80's, and had never been in a winners circle photo with me before -- she was just never at the track on the days that I won-- but she got her picture with me accepting my Hall of Fame plaque," said Dandy. "There was nothing better in the world than to have her there, but she was even more nervous than I was!"

Dandy dominated the New England circuit in the 1990's and early 2000's before he moved to Philadelphia Park in 2006, taking Hampshire with him. Although he won his first training title in 1985, he eventually led the standings in 13 of 14 meets beginning in 1996.

Although Dandy saddled two graded stakes horses, Concorde Bound and Tuneful Tip, during his time at Suffolk, his best memories, he said, were of the people in New England.

"I used to do seminars up there, talking to the fans about about training and the racing business," he said. "I really enjoyed doing that. I'd tell them 'the key is to just listen to your horse.'"

Dandy's name and the other honorees' will be added to a permanent display in the Boston Sports Museum.

# Chaplain's Corner

**Chaplain Rick Bunker**

"O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever." This has got to be the most repeated sentence in the Bible, especially the phrase, "for his mercy endureth for ever." I am glad that it is repeated so often. I need to be reminded of this.

I felt greatly compelled to start with the reminder of God's enduring mercy, for I remember that when I last wrote we were considering more seriously than usual God's Judgment. The specific prediction that caused this has come and gone, but the predictor hasn't and he has a new date. I only mention the date (October 21, 2011) so that you won't take any unnecessary time wondering or searching for it. We do know that it will happen one day for each person.

If God's mercy endures forever, and I believe it does, His judgement must even be merciful. Now I am not trying to use some sort of sophistry to explain away Hell, for Hell is certainly plainly spoken of as a real place in Scripture, but certainly we know that God in His love does not wish that anyone would go there.

In fact all that befalls and besets us, even death, is best recognized as something that God will help us through if we want Him to. This may seem like sappy dribble and I would have been the first to admit it if such sentiments did not come from those who had been through and were in extremely trying circumstances when they were found bearing witness to such truths.

A case in point (for I don't want to be considered some sloganeer) is the most famous David of all, the slayer of Goliath, the one who led the Israelites into Jerusalem for the first time, and the one who wrote most of the Psalms. He writes Psalm 34 in a cave after, yet again, a neighboring king had tried to kill him, not for doing anything wrong, but for doing right. He has been being pursued by jealous and treacherous King Saul and the armies of Israel for years, by this time, and they also have been trying to kill him. His best friend Jonathan and his best counselor Samuel are no longer able to be with him.

What does he write here in this dark, damp cave? What has he learned from these crises? He says, "This poor man called, and the LORD heard him; he saved him out of all his troubles. The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him, and he delivers them. Taste

and see that the LORD is good; blessed is the man who takes refuge in him."

I wish I could include all the rest of Psalm 34. You will have to read the rest of it some time soon.

In this cave, still running for his life, he feels delivered and blessed! He has with him 400 hardbitten men who are distressed, discontented, debtors, who have been driven from their homes and they are angry, but they also deeply resonate with what David declares for we know that they stay deeply devoted to David the rest of their lives. They become the core of the greatest army in the history of Israel and perhaps the history of the world because they knew that whatever awaited them God was with them and would see them through.

In the heat how will you now look at your troubles? Knowing this we can look to the LORD and know that He who does not change is still completely ready, willing, and able to help us and deliver us. In fact we can with a good bit of joyful expectancy say in the midst of difficulty, "It is going to be an interesting story to tell, one day, of how the LORD got me out of this one."

"The Lord redeems the soul of His servants, and none of those who trust in Him shall be condemned." - Psalms 34:22 (NKJV)





# The PTHA's TURNING FOR HOME PAGE

## A LETTER OF THANKS TO A TRAINER...

*Ruffles and Ridges (aka Chippy) raced at Parx 29 times for trainer Freddie Velazquez, who placed him into TFH last fall. In all, he earned \$308,000 with 14 wins from 84 starts. This, from his new adopter, Janet Hill.*



Dear Mr. Velazquez:

I'm sure that you know just how wonderful my new horse is since you were his trainer. I recently adopted Ruffles and Ridges (aka Chippy).

I'm an older rider, 59, and had a total knee replacement in March. Not only did I need a very quiet and kind horse, I needed one that wouldn't mind my mounting and dismounting from the off side. Both Barbara and David Nunn, who had been caring for him, felt that Chippy had the temperament that I was looking for. They were both very patient and kind with answering all my questions.

I was very impressed when Chippy let David get on and off from both sides and then kneel on the saddle. There was even a very loud party going on next door and Chippy didn't care. I rode him after David and even though I was nervous being on a strange horse, Chippy took care of me.

I brought him home that day and he's been just wonderful. Chippy settled in as if he's lived here his whole life and was an instant best friend to my 22 year old Perch/Morgan cross. Chippy tries so hard to learn his new career as a dressage horse. I also trail ride him and he is one of the best trail horses I've ever had. He never spooks and even though he was quite successful on the track he is quiet enough to give my 6 and 9 year old grandsons "pony" rides. He is such a kind willing horse and I am thrilled to have him as my partner.

As his trainer, caregiver and the person who he depended on to do right by him, I want to thank you for giving me the opportunity to be a part of this horse's life. He is a very sound 9-year old that has a lot of good years left in him. I feel privileged to be the person that will be sharing those years with him.

You're The Best!

Jan Hill

Mays Landing, NJ



"I'm not in PA anymore..." No, **CLIFFY'S FUTURE** is actually in Kansas, with his new adopter Janet Davis.

**RAYOS Y TRUENOS** (below) retired from racing in April, 2010 and is now a dressage horse in Vermont.

## ALLIGATOR BUDDY

(aka Finn, below, l), is training with event rider Sally Smiley, who has also adopted **SMOKEY'S SOLDIER**, both from the Carlos Guerrero barn. **SWIFT ARGUMENT** has taken to retirement quickly (below r)



**DON'T FORGET TO VISIT US ON PA DERBY DAY NEAR THE PADDOCK. ALEX BROWN WILL BE SIGNING HIS "Greatness and Goodness: Barbaro and His Legacy" The book can be purchased at our booth.**



## 3rd Annual LA STALLA BENEFIT DINNER

**Sept. 13, 2011**

**\$25 per person**

**(Includes buffet dinner, one free cocktail, raffles, music and FUN!)**

**For tickets and more info, call 215-272-6716. Proceeds go to Turning for Home**

“Last year, we had over 500 people attend the luncheon, and support a full card of state-bred racing, including five stakes races worth from \$75,000 to \$100,000,” said Hannum.” “It is a very important day for all of the breeders, farm and stallion owners, as well as those who own Pennsylvania-breds.”







# Backstretch Views



## Condolences to family and friends of...

### JOSEPH GALLUCCIO, FORMER JOCKEY AND HPA EMPLOYEE

Joseph Galluccio, age 58, passed away on June 10 from pneumonia after being hospitalized for a fall from a horse he was galloping at Parx Racetrack a week earlier.

Galluccio, a well loved member of the Parx racetrack backstretch, had decided at an early age that he wanted to become a jockey. As a teenager, he left his home in Staten Island to move to Ocala to learn the trade. He rode for awhile at Belmont, and according to his mother, Philomena Galluccio, he was the first 10 pound bug rider to win both ends of the daily double at Belmont in the 1970's.

He is survived by his mother, a son, Joseph; his three brothers, Gene, Charles and Michael; his sister, Regina; a grandchild; and his beloved friend, Risa Sitoski.

A Celebration of Life service was held in the Rec Hall on the Parx backstretch on July 9, with prayers being led by Chaplain Rick Bunker. Many of Joe's friends, co-workers, and members of his family were in attendance, and shared stories about Joe and condolences towards the family.



### ROBIN HOFFARTH, MOTHER AND PARX RACETRACK GROOM, HORSE OWNER

Robin Hoffarth, longtime employee and friend of trainer Dianne Jeannot, died in a kayaking accident on the Manasquan River near her home on July 2.



Hoffarth, a graduate of the Groom Elite program at Parx Racing, had been waiting to race her own filly this summer--her first horse to make it to the track. She had also owned an Appaloosa on which she barrel raced, and had been interested in horses all her life.

Equally important to Hoffarth was her family: children Jessica, 27; Brian, 24; and Michelle, 20. She is also survived by her former husband Joseph, mother Shirley Morris, and a sister, Wendy Mancini, as well as partner Evan Ashe.

Jeannot, who had known Hoffarth for the last 14 years, said she was "not just an employee, but a good friend who I will always miss. She was very excited about the prospect of racing her own home-bred, the horses meant so much to her."

Her family has asked that donations be made in her memory to the PTHA's Turning For Home, Parx Racing's Racehorse Retirement Program.

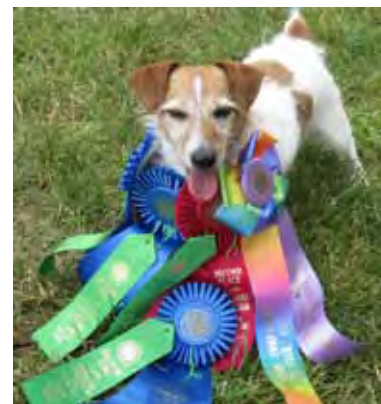
## Summer fun...



Ericberto, 5yo son of Roberto Orantes, who works for Cynthia Reese, and his wife Elvira, shows off his catch after fishing with his dad in the hot days of July.



Parx jockey Frankie Pennington and Jennifer Jennings, former jockey, on their wedding day, June 2 at The Mansion, Valley Country Club, near Baltimore. The couple is posing on Hercules, formerly Victory's Palace, who Jennings kept after winning a race on him in his prior career. Jennifer currently works for trainer Kate DeMasi. The Penningtons live in Bensalem and are expecting their first child in November.



Jack Russell Terrier Sofie is "easier to train than a racehorse, and cheaper, too," says owner Barbara Luna, who runs Turning For Home for the PTHA. Sofie has scored well in her agility trials this summer, and is looking forward to the JRT Nationals in Gettysburg in October.



**Pennsylvania Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association**  
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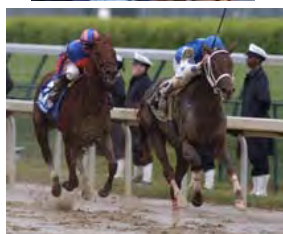
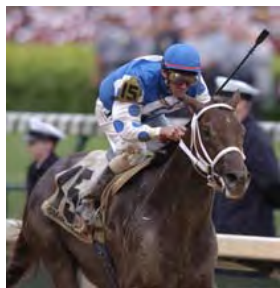
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Barbara Luna, Program Administrator



Photos by Skip Dickstein.

# LET'S GO RACING TV SHOW

Presented by the PTHA

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