

PTHA NEWS

Pennsylvania Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association Newsletter

We ARE Pennsylvania Racing

Volume 2 2014

Indian Jones Named 2013 Parx Horse of the Year



Left: PTHA Executive Director Michael Ballezzi, Esq., presents the 2013 Horse of the Year trophy to owner Gold Starr Racing, LLC and trainer Phil Aristone, who conditioned Indian Jones to an outstanding season that sent the gelding all the way out to California to compete in the Breeders' Cup Marathon at Santa Anita Park

Below (left to right): PTHA Board Member Nick Saponara presents the Leading Owner award to High Point Thoroughbred Partners; PTHA Board Member Kate DeMasi presents the Leading "Division B" Owner to JMC Stables; Mike Ballezzi presents Leading Trainer Patricia Farro with her trophy; PTHA Board Member Butch Reid presents the Leading "Division B" Trainer award to Tim Smylie.









The PTHA partnered with Parx Racing on March 26 to honor the top horsemen and their equine athletes from 2013. Nearly 300 guests attended the event, which in addition to the awards included cocktails, hors d'oeurves, dinner and dancing.

Headlining the evening as the 2013 Parx Racing Horse of the Year was six-year-old gelding Indian Jones, who went from a \$25,000 claimer to a live contender in the Grade 2 Breeders' Cup Marathon at Santa Anita Park in November. Trainer Phil Aristone claimed Indian Jones for owner Gold Starr Racing, LLC in May, and the chestnut son of Smarty Jones promptly rewarded his new connections with two straight victories at Parx. The impressive wins earned Indian Jones a spot in the Greenwood Cup (G3), where he just missed by a nose to Eldaafer. Indian Jones completed his 2013 season with a fifth-place finish in the Marathon after an unfortunate, awkward break from the gate.

In addition to Horse of the Year, Indian Jones' connections also received awards for Top Four-Year-Old & Up Colt or Gelding, as well as the Outstanding Claim of the Year.

The leading horsemen at Parx set unparalleled records, with Patricia Farro taking Leading Trainer to become just the third female conditioner to win the award in the history of the Bensalem track, and Leading Jockey going to Kendrick Carmouche for the fifth time in six years. High Point Thoroughbred Partners took Leading Owner with 47 victories, while Leading Apprentice Jockey went to Hector Caballero.

Leading "Division B" Owner went to JMC Stables, while Tim Smylie took the Leading "Division B" Trainer award, which represented the highest-percentage trainer with under 150 starts and less than 10 stalls.

Also honored with awards were Honorable Judge (two-year-old colt or gelding), Exit Interview (two-year-old filly), Edge of Reality (three-year-old colt or gelding), Rebecca's Surprise (three-year-old filly), Winning Image (four-year-old and up filly or mare), Major Highway (claiming horse of the year), and Sewanee (winningest horse).

A full recap of the winners can be found throughout this edition of PTHA News.



President's Message

Salvatore M. DeBunda, Esquire

There is no denying that we are in the midst of an incredibly crucial time for horsemen. Each and every year, Executive Director Mike Ballezzi and I must educate our Pennsylvania state legislators about not only our industry, but also our people. Our community is about much more than horses and gambling; our racetrack alone provides employment for over 1,000 people - from backstretch workers such as trainers, grooms, hotwalkers and exercise riders, to frontside

personnel, including but certainly not limited to, stewards, parimutuel tellers, and even the media. Extend our network out just one branch further, and our racetrack helps sustain hundreds of vendors - restaurant suppliers, feed stores, horse transportation companies, print shops, and more.

Right now, we are in a battle to defend the livelihood of this very community. Since we are approaching the conclusion of the 2013-14 fiscal year, this means the money allocated for the Pennsylvania Racehorse Development Fund is in jeopardy yet again. Mike Ballezzi and I will join our lobbyists in Harrisburg over the next few weeks to ensure that our funds are protected in the upcoming fiscal year.

In addition to the current budgetary issues, we are also under fire from our legislature to eliminate the separate Racing Commissions that are currently in place at each racetrack. In essence, the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board wants to appoint a single Director of Racing over the entire state horse racing industry, no matter which breed of racehorse, and combine the Commissions of all six Pennsylvania racetracks. We at the PTHA strongly oppose this proposal, as combining the governances of Thoroughbred and Standardbred racing would be detrimental to the industry in our state.

On a lighter note, I would like to express my heartfelt congratulations to our 2013 Horsemen's Awards recipients, especially Horse of the Year Indian Jones, trained by PTHA Treasurer Phil Aristone. We were also able to recognize some of our outstanding horsemen: trainers Patricia Farro and Tim Smylie, owners High Point Thoroughbred Partners and JMC Stables, and jockeys Kendrick Carmouche and Hector Caballero. Congratulations again to all involved!



Food prepared by Ron's Backstretch Cafe

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PTHA Launches New Website

The PTHA launched a full redesign of its website www.patha.org - in March of 2014, and it is chockfull of new material, in addition to much-needed crucial information for horsemen, including links to the Parx Racing condition book, entries, changes, stakes schedule and more.

The Turning for Home section of the website includes not only information about entering a horse into the program, but also current horses available for adoption as well as success stories, which are always being updated.

New sections of the website include an interactive Parx Racing Hall of Fame, "Remember When" feature and "Great Moments at Parx Racing", which this month highlights the 1986 Pennsylvania Derby, when Broad Brush bolted to the outside fence and still won.

More features will continue to be unveiled over the coming months, so be sure to check back regularly.

Pennsylvania's Day at the Races Parx Racetrack • September 8, 2014

Banjo Picker Sprint

Roanoke Stakes

Marshall Jenney Handicap

Dr. Theresa Garofalo Memorial 3vo

Mrs. Penny Stakes

3yo & up

3yo & up

3yo & up

3yo & up

6 Furlongs

\$75,000

1 1/16

\$75,000

5 Furlongs Turf \$75,000

6 Furlongs

\$75,000

1 1/16 Turf

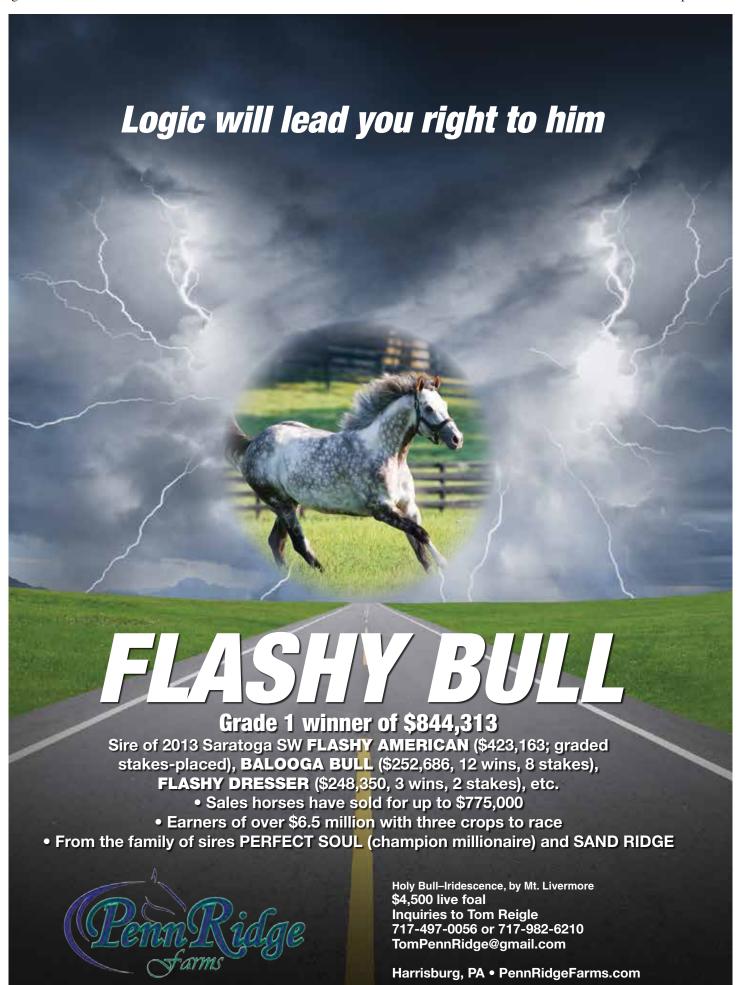
\$100,000





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2013 Awards - The Horsemen



PATRICIA FARRO

Leading Trainer

2013 Parx Racing Record: 457-85-88-65

2013 Parx Highlights: Became only 3rd female to ever lead Parx trainer standings; conditioned Winningest Horse Sewanee and Claiming Horse of the Year Major Highway; won 3 races in a single day 11/25; won 5 of 7 races in 4 days from 11/30-12/3.



TIMOTHY SMYLIE

Leading "Division B" Trainer

2013 Parx Racing Record:

57-9-8-11

2013 Parx Highlights: Trained Kay One to 3 consecutive victories; 2 additional wins came with Love On Line; also had winners with 4 other horses including maiden winner Rich Chocolate.



KENDRICK CARMOUCHE

Leading Jockey

2013 Parx Racing Record: 603-132-110-86

2013 Parx Highlights: 5th Parx jockey title in 6 years; won 6 stakes races at Parx including 2 on PA Day at the Races; ranked #26 nationally with over \$6.7 million in earnings.



HECTOR CABALLERO

Leading Apprentice Jockey 2013 Parx Racing Record: 507-77-83-79

2013 Parx Highlights: Rode Winningest Horse Sewanee to 2 victories & 2 second-place finishes; earned over \$2.4 million with all but 7 wins coming at Parx Racing.



Leading Owner

High Point Thoroughbred Partners
(Marshall Gramm, Mike Pietrangelo, Joseph Klausa,
Clay Sanders, Parker Schwartz)

Leading "Division B" Owner JMC Stables, Inc. (Joshua Tscheschlog)

HIGH POINT THOROUGHBRED PARTNERS

Leading Owner

2013 Parx Racing Record: 107-47-11-13

2013 Parx Highlights: Won 2 races in a single day 4 times; twice won races on 3 consecutive days; won races with 26 different horses; biggest wins came with Fire Alarm in a \$40k claimer and Hobo Ridge's 5-length score in a starter handicap.

JMC STABLES

Leading "Division B" Owner

2013 Parx Racing Record: 14-7-3-1

2013 Parx Highlights: Gelding Bowman's Beast walloped 4 consecutive Parx Racing fields by an average of over 8 lengths; Gotogo Bye won 2 races at Parx by 6 1/2 and 4 lengths; started out 2013 with a win by Wild Banshee.



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Maui Meadow Farm's indoor swimming pool serves as a useful tool.

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2013 Awards - The Horses



INDIAN JONES

Horse of the Year, 4yo and Up Older Male & Outstanding Claim of the Year

Owner: Gold Starr Racing LLC Trainer: Philip T. Aristone

Breeder: Richard Wira, Yvette Wira & Roy V. Chapman 2004 Trust

2013 Parx Highlights: Claimed for \$25,000 in May, won 2 ALW races, 2nd by nose in G3 Greenwood Cup.



SEWANEE

Winningest Horse

Owner: Patricia Farro Trainer: Patricia Farro

Breeder: Mueller Thoroughbred

Stable, LTD.

2013 Parx Highlights: 60% wins at Parx, including 6 victories; margins of victory ranged from 2 3/4 lengths

to just a nose.



HONORABLE JUDGE

2yo Colt or Gelding
Owner: Cash is King LLC
Trainer: Robert E. Reid, Jr.

Breeder: Roll Z Dice Racing Stable

2013 Parx Highlights: Two victories include a 6 3/4-length romp in a maiden special weight and an easy win in his NW1X; defeated late Triple Crown nominee Charleymillionaire.



EXIT INTERVIEW

2yo Filly

Owner: Two Hands LLC & Lynch

Racing LLC

Trainer: Cathal A. Lynch **Breeder**: Glenn E. Brok

2013 Parx Highlights: Undefeated in two starts; total winning margin of

more than 13 lengths.



EDGE OF REALITY

3yo Colt or Gelding

Owner: The Elkstone Group, LLC Trainer: Anthony W. Dutrow Breeder: The Elkstone Group, LLC

2013 Parx Highlights: Broke maiden by 8 lengths in career debut; won two consecutive in May and June; led wire-to-wire in Grade 3 Smarty Jones Stakes en route to hard-fought victory.



REBECCA'S SURPRISE

3yo Filly

Owner: Swilcan Stables LLC Trainer: Robert E. Reid, Jr. Breeder: Milt A. Policzer, Zuer

Racing & Ray Jones

2013 Parx Highlights: 5 of 7 victories at Parx in just five months, with an average winning margin of ever 5.1/2 lengths

over 5 1/2 lengths.



WINNING IMAGE

4yo and Up Filly or Mare

Owner: Martin Scafidi

Trainer: Michael Charles Aro **Breeder**: Dreamfields, Inc. &

Don Brady

2013 Parx Highlights: Multiple stakes winner's four-race winning streak included a victory in the My Juliet Stakes in May at Parx.



MAJOR HIGHWAY

Claiming Horse of the Year

Owner: Andrew Sulley Trainer: Patricia Farro

Breeder: Dr. Myron R. Wilson

2013 Parx Highlights: Earned over \$200,000; garnered 4 wins from 9 starts; most impressive victory was a 7 1/2-length romp in a starter allowance event in July.

2013 Parx Racing Horsemen's Awards Banquet



PTHA Board Member Nick Saponara presents trainer Phil Aristone with the award for Indian Jones as the Outstanding Claim of 2013, who accepted on behalf of winning owner Gold Starr Racing, LLC.



PTHA Board Member Kate DeMasi presents the award for top two-year-old colt or gelding of 2013 to Butch Reid, trainer of winner Honorable Judge, who accepted on behalf of owner Cash is King, LLC.



PTHA Board Member Kate DeMasi presents the trophy for Claiming Horse of the Year to the connections of winner Major Highway, including trainer Patricia Farro, who accepted the award on behalf of owner Andrew Sulley.



Racing Secretary Sal Sinatra accepts the award for Leading Jockey on behalf of Kendrick Carmouche.



PTHA 2nd Vice President Mary Zanone presents the award for top two-year-old filly of 2013 to the connections of Exit Interview, part-owner Matt Hand of Two Hands LLC and owner/trainer Cal Lynch.



Racing Secretary Sal Sinatra presents the trophy for top 4yo & Up Colt or Gelding to trainer Phil Aristone for his gelding Indian Jones.







PTHA 2nd Vice President Mary Zanone presents the award for 4yo & up filly or mare to trainer Mike Aro, conditioner of honoree Winning Image, who is owned by Martin Scafidi.



PTHA Treasurer Phil Aristone presents the award for top three-year-old filly of 2013 to Butch Reid, trainer of winner Rebecca's Surprise, who is owned by Swilcan Stables, LLC.



PTHA Treasurer Phil Aristone presents owner/trainer Pat Farro with the trophy for Sewanee, who was the Winningest Horse at Parx Racing in 2013.



PTHA Board Member Butch Reid accepts the award for three-yearold colt or gelding on behalf of winner Edge of Reality.



Racing Secretary Sal Sinatra presents the award for leading apprentice jockey to Hector Caballero.



Brian Nester was the \$640 winner of the 50/50 raffle, and he promptly donated half of his prize back to Turning for Home and The Granny Fund!

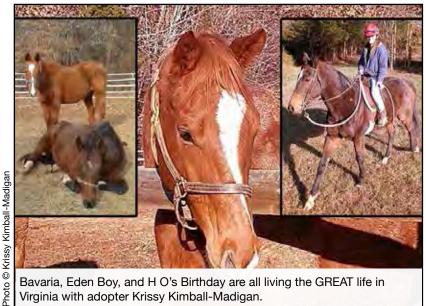


Turning for Home, sponsored by the Pennsylvania Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association, has safely retired over 1,000 horses from Parx Racing since May 2008, and is considered a model program for the racing industry.



Two horses leave Parx for their new lives as retired racehorses.

Success Stories



Bavaria, Eden Boy, and H O's Birthday are all living the GREAT life in Virginia with adopter Krissy Kimball-Madigan.



Hibernia Gold, a.k.a. "Chapter", was Grand Champion in the Walk/Trot/Canter class at the 2013 ESDCTA Dressage Championship at the Horse Park of NJ, with adopter Kim Caputo. His show name is "Meant to Be".

Basket Auction Recap

The following groups donated to our basket auction at the Horsemen's Awards Banquet. Thanks to the help of these companies and people, we were able to raise over \$3,000 for Turning for Home and The Granny Fund!

Adventure Aquarium Alexandra Baker, DMD Applebee's Bella Tori Bertucci's Bistro Siggie

Blue Bell Country Club Brunswick Zone Carabba's CDK Chow 284 Country Worden Crowne Plaza Bensalem Double R Western Store Dover Saddlery **EQUI-PHOTO** Frank Lamprey Circle L. Saddle Co. Horsemen's Purchasing Association J's Inspirations Knead Your Steed Leslie Saunders Longhorn Steakhouse

Mango Bay New Image Select Panera Bread Philadelphia 76ers Philadelphia Flyers Philadelphia Roller Girls Philadelphia Soul Pennsylvania Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association Rick Porter Ron Hershey Trading Company Tangled Tails Texas Roadhouse The Ginger Horse Valerie's Gallery Victor Molina WikSmart

We would also like to thank our volunteers, for their tremendous work on the baskets and help throughout the night:

Christine Benedetto Jean Fritz Joi Hollinger Vicky Mangini Jann Palmer Ginny Suevo Debbie Ulmer

Turning for Home, Inc. is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization whose mission is to find homes for Parx Racing's retired thoroughbreds.



Longwood Gardens

Newest Retirees Impress at Expo

Thoughts from Program Administrator Danielle Montgomery

Thefivesecondrule isn't just a fun rationalization about picking food up off the floor; she was also the last horse to head into retirement through our TFH Racehorse Retirement Program in November before the EHV-1 quarantine closed the gates for two full months, confining all horses and drawing a dark curtain over the Parx backside through an already bleak winter. Over 35 horses, as well as their owners and trainers, had to patiently wait for the gates to open before they could start new careers. For some, the time was wellspent healing from their racing injuries; for others, who were sound and used to daily gallops, the months of handwalking may have seemed like an eternity.

Having so many horses ready leave the track and move to our farms at one time presented a new challenge for TFH. How were we going to place so many horses in the dead of winter? How were we going to get them

out quickly to free up stalls for the next horses? This is the thought process that brought TFH to the adventure at Expo, an advertising and promotional venture to attract the attention of the horse lovers to our program. A safer commitment than a trainer challenge type show (which would have been cool), the Horse World Expo at Harrisburg's Farm Show Complex was the best possible venue to reach out to the equine community and show off our amazing OTTBs. With a booth full of advertising materials, and our partner farms all-in to give it a whirl, TFH met Expo for the first time.

Bonnie Hutton from After the Races showed off **Jayburger** and **Lean and Lanky** to the curious crowds on Stallion Avenue on Thursday. Nina Bradley from Maui Meadow Farm had **Straight On** rehabbed nicely from surgery, and Rachel Hess and Lynn Stokking of Track to Tranquility

Equestrian Program turned **Salmon Leap** and **Regalo Bonito** out beautifully in front of hundreds of people.

Perhaps the most impressive

demonstration was of a father and son representing the Thoroughbred Breed on Saturday and Sunday. Handled by June Hillman of Castle Rock Farm, Parx Sprint Champion **Power by** Far displayed the good mind and sound conformation that he passes to his offspring, like three-year-old The Registrar who accompanied him into the crowded arena. Just a few weeks into his retirement, The Registrar was ridden in his show ring debut by Erika Nessler, and wowed the audience with his smooth and easy ways. Together, they are a fine example of the contributions that the Thoroughbred has made to the Sport Horse World.

Our hope is that more people

will reach out to TFH to find a retired racehorse when they need a competitive mount. In just a month since Expo, TFH adoptions are up, with our horses finding promising new careers at barns from Canada to California, including **Thefivesecondrule**, who was adopted out in just three months, which hopefully is more the rule than the exception on the TFH adoption timeline.

















All photos except second from bottom on right by Nikki Sherman

PTHA Sponsors Teen YWCA Award

When Bucks County Congressional Representative Gene DiGirolamo was informed that the YWCA of Bucks County, of which he is Chairman of their Advisory Council, was lacking funding for their 20th annual Teen Volunteer of the Year Award, he immediately reached out to PTHA Executive Director Mike Ballezzi for assistance. Just days later, YWCA **Executive Director Karen Forbes** joined DiGirolamo and Ballezzi in the PTHA offices for a check presentation.

The purpose of the award is to reward Bucks County junior and senior high school students for their community service and volunteerism, and on the

evening of April 8, fourteen local teens were honored as nominees at **Bucks County Community College for** thousands of hours of volunteer work.

Upon the conclusion of the evening, PTHA Marking & Publicity Director Nikki Sherman presented this year's selection for Teen Volunteer of the Year to Pennsbury West senior Neha Gupta. At the age of nine, Neha created her own nonprofit organization called Empower Orphans, which has raised over \$1 million for Indian children, opened five libraries in the U.S. and India, sponsored surgeries for polio victims, provided clean drinking water to Indian villages, and much more.



The Selection Committee met on March 23 to determine a winner of the 20th Annual Teen Volunteer of the Year Awards.



Nikki Sherman with winner Neha Gupta.

Around the Parx Oval



Jockey Stewart Elliott made the move to Kentucky on March 26, after many decades at Parx and Philadelphia Park. We will always remember him for his breathtaking rides aboard Smarty Jones, and for his great success here in Bensalem. Good luck, Stewart!



David Cora may be based at Penn National, but he grabbed win #2,000 here at Parx Racing on March 29th, aboard Raging Smoke in a NW1X allowance. Congratulations on the milestone, David!



Students from the Aasane Folkehoes-Skole in Norway visited Parx Racing as part of the school's fifth annual trip to the United States. The students were thrilled to watch our racehorses train in the morning, shop in the HPA store, and watch the races



Bobby Mosco won all three of his races on March 30th, starting with first-time starter Directed Verdict (pictured) in the opener. Run Albert Run took Race 4, while I'll Run the Show completed the trifecta. Congratulations, Bobby!

Photo: EQUI-PHOTO/Barbara

Chaplain's Corner

Chaplain Rick Bunker

"There is no one like the God of Jeshurun, who rides on the heavens to help you and on the clouds in his majesty. The eternal God is your refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms." - Deuteronomy 33:26-27 (NIV)

I have been thinking about verses like the one above a lot lately – since that Boeing 777 jumbo jet with 239 people has gone missing. My heart goes out to the families of the passengers. My mind cannot quite believe that in this day and age that we cannot find it.

Thankfully, I watch very little TV. If I watched it each day I would be even more bewildered about this event. Understandably it has been the top story for most broadcasts since the event occurred. It seems safe to say that I was most mistaken to have thought that such an event was an impossibility. In this amazing and inspiring day and age with constant communications keeping us connected wirelessly and global positioning satellite systems directing us from one precise point to another who would have thought that such a thing could have happened? I don't have OnStar in my car, but we all know of those stories of car doors being unlocked for people with just a phone call, and now we are confronted with something so much bigger being completely lost.

This should give us all at least several moments of humble pause to consider the brevity and vulnerability of human life. Technology can often give us the illusion of independence and invulnerability. We are dependent. We are dependent on many things happening and many people doing things for one another in order for our lives to go on. We are dependent fundamentally on God. Thankfully God knows what happened to that jet. God knows where each of those people is even though, as of the writing of this, we do not know.

I would be an irresponsible chaplain if I did not remind you that we do not have to be flying in order for a fatal accident to happen. It was only a few days after this jet went missing that over a hundred people were buried in a massive mud slide in a quiet rural

corner of Washington State. Almost certainly some of those people who were suddenly buried in mud were sleeping. Did they have time to make peace with their maker? How many people will go to sleep tonight never to awaken around the world?

One thing that we know is that the God of the Bible is a loving God who desires that no one should perish, but that all would live even though they die. God has shown us that He has power over death. He did not bring many back from the grave (when one goes to heaven they don't want to come back) but He did it a few times so that we would know that He even has power over death.

The most famous return from the grave was the only resurrection that was ever predicted ahead of time. Jesus said before it ever happened that He would be crucified and that afterward He would rise again. He taught this over and over again so that when it happened people would remember, believe and understand how extra special He is. This is what will be remembered and celebrated this year on April 20th on Easter Sunday.

I hope to see you at some or all of these events. Know this. Wherever you are God is sure to see you. God loves you and so do !!

"12 even the darkness will not be dark to you; the night will shine like the day, for darkness is as light to you... 23 Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. 24 See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting." - Psalm 139 (NIV)



Backstretch Views



Congratulations...

Jacob George Collazo, 6 lb. 7 oz., was born on February 25, 2014 at 9:46 PM, and is the second child of exercise rider Nelson Collazo and Kim Collazo, who works for Floyd Snyder. Jacob joins big brother Nick in the family!



Congratulations...

Nikki Sherman, Marketing & Publicity Director of the PTHA, got engaged on February 22, 2014 when Mike Bilinskas asked her to marry him. While Mike currently doesn't work on the backside, he previously spent years as a groom for a number of trainers at Parx, so he will be a familiar face to many.



Congratulations...

Lupe Luciano Guerrero, 7 lb. 20 oz., was born on March 21, 2014 at 7:59 PM to parents Guadalupe Lee Guerrero and Amanda Lynch. Lupe is the first grandchild of trainer J. Guadalupe Guerrero.



Did You Know?













One of the easiest ways to support Turning for Home's retiring racehorses is to donate \$100 each time you win a race at Parx! The Horsemen's Bookkeeper can set up an automatic payment on your account at any time. Just call 215-639-9000 x3315 or x3389 to get started.

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Turning for Home will gladly accept any proof of purchases from your feed bags. All donations will benefit our horses!





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Horsemen's Purchasing Association

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www.parxracing.com

Coverage of American racing's top stories. Handicapping, analysis, interviews and human interest features highlight weekly shows, hosted by Parx track announcer Keith Jones and handicapper Dick Jerardi.



