

PTHA NEWS

Pennsylvania Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association Newsletter

We ARE Pennsylvania Racing

2017 Issue #3

Phila. Mounted Patrol Highlights 2017 TFH Day

Leading off the 4th Annual Turning for Home Day were two special alumni who became service mounts in their second careers.

South Fleet, now named Captain, was donated by owner/trainer Eberd Estrada in 2012 and rehomed by After the Races. Captain was ridden by Philadelphia Mounted Unit's Officer Peter Crandley, who added yet another adventure to the big gelding's resume by returning to his old stomping grounds. Fortunately, Officer Crandley had just as much fun as Captain.

"It was really cool actually walking on a racetrack. I never thought I would ever do something like this!" Officer Crandley said after leading the post parade for the opener.

Trainer Steve Krebs and owner Richard Ciavardone were also able to join their former charge - Make Your Move, a.k.a. Taj - in the winner's circle for a photo opp after the race. Taj was ridden by Officer Christopher Mulderigg, who was quick to discuss the wonderful attributes that retired racehorses have as service animals.

Several additional Turning for Home graduates are members of the Philadelphia as well as Allegheny County Mounted Police forces, including Promise and Hope, Fivefourthreetwone, Uptown Boy and Andy Boy's Rabe. Donations to each mounted unit may be made through their respective police departments.

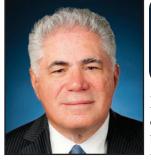


Among the many who assisted with placing TFH graduates as police mounts were the team from **Safe Haven Equine**, Andy Boy Rabe's trainer **Ned Allard** (bottom left), and Make Your Move's owner **Richard Ciavardone** (bottom right). Joining the excited group of people on TFH Day were **Make Your Move** (left) and **South Fleet** (right).

PA Equine Coalition Responds to Commonwealth Foundation Lies

Pennsylvania horsemen are currently embroiled in a highly contested battle in Harrisburg regarding the 2017-18 state budget. Each of the past three years, the Race Horse Development Fund (RHDF) has been raided for \$30 million. This year, legislators are yet again setting their sights on what they incorrectly view as "free money" in an effort to overcome an \$800 million deficit.

Exacerbating the issue is the fact that an organization called the Commonwealth Foundation has been distributing a series of mailers that are riddled with "erroneaous, misleading and complete fabrications". Per the Pennsylvania Equine Coalition, "the information they espouse related to the RHDF and (cont'd on page 2)



President's Message Salvatore M. DeBunda, Esq.

Right now, we are in the midst of one of the most crucial battles in the history of the Pennsylvania horse racing

industry. Executive Director Mike Ballezzi and I are tirelessly working to reasonably protect not only our purses, but also our healthcare and pension.

The state is currently \$800 million in the hole and as with each and every year, there are legislators who think that our own Race Horse Development Fund (RHDF) is available to correct that issue. This is far from true; the RHDF is not a subsidy of the state.

This falsehood has been exacerbated by the Commonwealth Foundation, which is actively attacking the horse racing industry through a series of mailers that are filled with misinformation. The Pennsylvania Equine Coalition promptly responded with a letter (see page 3) correcting the incredible depth of lies.

Quoting a portion of the letter, "We challenge the Commonwealth Foundation to identify anywhere in Act 71 that identifies the contributions to the RHDF as tax dollars. They can't, because it does not exist. Rather, the RHDF is funded by an assessment that casino operators agreed to pay on their slot machine revenues - an 'obligation' they voluntarily undertook to offset the negative impact that the legalization of slot machines would have on live racing and the state's agricultural industry."

As legislators move past their years of service, the new representatives have forgotten the details of Act 71. In addition, lawmakers are proposing the expansion of gaming options in Pennsylvania. This would undoubtedly result in a serious loss of funding for the RHDF. Quite simply, there is not an infinite amount of available money; if gamblers have the option of spending their cash in a nearby bar or even at home, horsemen would see zero of those dollars.

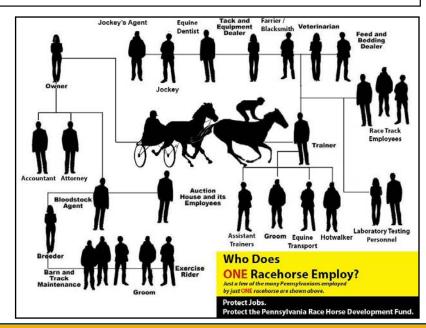
I assure you that Mike and I will persist in any way we can to make sure that our industry remains safe. Thankfully, we continue to also be assisted by the diligent legislative champions, our very own lobbyists in the capitol. For now we are working on a grassroots effort in Harrisburg, but it is possible that we may take the next step forward and need your assistance. In the meantime, contact your local state representative and be sure to stay informed on the situation. After all, your very livelihood is at stake.

elvater M. DeB

(cont'd from cover)

the state's racing and breeding industry is severely flawed and designed to persuade legislators using inaccurate information and lies."

The Pennsylvania Equine Coalition quickly responded with a strongly worded letter and fact sheet of details that thoroughly explain why the Commonwealth Foundation is - well, quite simply, wrong. The letter itself may be found on page 3, while the full fact sheet is available on the PTHA website http://www.patha.org.



A Letter to the PA State Legislature

Dear Legislators,

The Pennsylvania Equine Coalition objects to the repeated lies and misinformation being disseminated by the Commonwealth Foundation as part of its ongoing attacks on Pennsylvania's agricultural industry. Since Rep. Todd Stephens has begun circulating the Commonwealth Foundation's poorly researched material, we wanted to note that their information contains inaccurate data, lies, and is riddled with errors.

Perhaps that is to be expected from a "research" think-tank that -- according to their most recent non-profit Form 990 filings -- spends less of its budget on research (\$131,000) than it does on fundraising (\$244,000), lobbying (\$290,000), advertising and promotion (\$687,515), and the salary and benefits of its President (\$156,223). If the Commonwealth Foundation were to allocate more than a fraction of its budget to actually studying and attempting to understand issues, its analysis might have some factual basis.

Fortunately for the Commonwealth Foundation, there is no litmus test for competency or truthfulness that entities need to maintain to keep their nonprofit status. We would also note that the Foundation in engaged in a number of questionable activities, such as efforts to generate fake news by commissioning articles from entities like Illinois News Service that it then attempts to pass off as legitimate news stories to newspapers - stories that promote themselves, their flawed views, or give platforms to their allies like Rep. Stephens. But it is still fake news - news written and prepared at their request to further their agenda.

Virtually every piece of information about the state's horseracing industry that the Commonwealth Foundation shares is inaccurate. From the size of the RHDF to its economic benefits, the Foundation's data and numbers are just flat out wrong. In recent mailers targeting constituents of specific legislators - paid for courtesy of the Foundation's discounted nonprofit postal rate - the Commonwealth Foundation falsely claims that the RHDF is a taxpayer subsidy. We challenge the Commonwealth Foundation to identify anywhere in Act 71 that identifies the contributions to the RHDF as tax dollars. They can't, because it does not exist.

Rather, the RHDF is funded by an assessment that casino operators agreed to pay on their slot machine revenues - an "obligation" they voluntarily undertook to offset the negative impact that the legalization of slot machines would have on live racing and the state's agricultural industry. It was part of a commitment they made to gain support for Act 71 (which legalized slot machines) from the horse racing and breeding industry, as well as legislators representing agricultural districts. That assessment ensures that rural counties with horse breeders, stables, and farmers who supply the industry also see some benefit from slot machine legalization in the form of revenue for the agricultural industry and protection of open space.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact Pete Peterson with the Pennsylvania Equine Coalition by phone at 215-893-4297 or email at ppeterson@bellevuepr.com -- because if you heard about it from the Commonwealth Foundation, it's probably wrong.

Sincerely,



The Pennsylvania Equine Coalition



SMARTY JONES

By Elusive Quality - I'll Get Along, By Smile



1ST G1 KENTUCKY DERBY (2004)
1ST G1 PREAKNESS STAKES (2004)
2ND G1 BELMONT STAKES (2004)

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PA Racing Commission Visits Parx Racing



On April 27, 2017, members of the **Pennsylvania State Horse Racing Commission** gathered for a tour of Parx Racing's backstretch.

Joe Wilson congratulates Mike Ballezzi on the success of Parx Racing's backstretch beautification project.



Ed Lehman talks to members of the PA State Horse Racing Commission about the life of a Thoroughbred racehorse trainer.



PTHA Board Member & trainer **Butch Reid** also spoke to Commission members, including PTHA President **Sal DeBunda**.



The tour fell on "Bring Your Child to Work Day".



Tom Weinhardt spoke to Commission members about tattooing Thoroughbreds for identification.

Parx Racing Roundup

Page McKenney circles while waiting for the final verdict in the objection during the Lyman Stakes.

\$100,000 LYMAN STAKES

One of the greatest Pennsylvania-Bred geldings of all time - Page McKenney - returned to Parx Racing for the \$100,000 Lyman Stakes on April 29. The 8-5 favorite performed as expected, stalking the pace early before barreling past all competitors down the stretch, en route to a 1 1/4-length win. However, the victory was immediately placed under review due to Page McKenney drifting over on second-place finisher Someday Jones.

After several tense moments of circling outside the winner's circle with rider Horacio Karamanos aboard, and getting several happy pats from trainer Mary Eppler, the objection was disallowed. Page McKenney officially crossed the \$1.5 million-mark

with the Lyman Stakes win for owners Adam Staple and Jalin Stable. The chestnut gelding was bred by Dr. James E. Bryant & Linda P. Davis and is out of the Yarrow Brae mare Winning Grace.

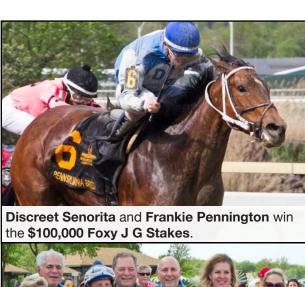
\$100,000 FOXY J G STAKES

Discreet Senorita was the 2015 Parx Racing Champion Three-Year-Old Filly, a banner year in which she captured seven races including the Dr. Teresa Garofalo Memorial Stakes. Unfortunately, the daughter of Discreet Cat then had a setback which required surgery and significant time off.

Following a fifteen-month layoff, trainer Ed Lehman masterfully got her back to the races this past February, where Discreet Senorita finished third behind two New York invaders, then returned to stakes competition in the \$100,000 Foxy J G Stakes on April 29.

This time she was ready to roll, demolishing her competition by an emphatic two lengths. Ridden to victory by leading jockey Frankie Pennington, Discreet Senorita is a homebred for Dun Roamin Farms, Inc. & Rosemore Farms, Inc.

(cont'd on page 7)





Foxy J G Stakes trophy presentation.

\$100,000 PARX DERBY

On the first Saturday in May, trainer Todd Pletcher captured his second career Kentucky Derby with Always Dreaming. The very same afternoon, he won another Derby when Bonus Points drew off to take the \$100,000 Parx Derby. Owned by Three Diamonds Farm, the bay son of Majestic Warrior overcame a wide and bumpy trip that left him near the back of the field until the top of the stretch, when rider John Bisono finally unleashed a powerful move.

Bonus Points had been competing against the likes of graded stakes winners Irish War Cry and El Areeb earlier on the Kentucky Derby trail and finally rewarded his connections in the Parx Derby when those tougher competitors traveled south



Bonus Points captures the \$100,000 Parx Derby.

for the premier race. Bred by Country Life Farm, Bonus Points is out of the Not For Love mare Baby Love.



Nora Hageluna Holm of Norway en route to her victory in the Longines World FEGENTRI Championship Race for Lady Riders.

LONGINES FEGENTRI

FEGENTRI (Federation Internationale des Gentlemen-Riders et des Cavalieres/International Federation of Gentlemen & Lady Riders), sponsored by Longines, is an organization dedicated to promoting international races for amateur riders from more than 25 different countries, comprising approximately 60 races throughout the world. A group of women came to Parx Racing on June 10 for a competitive maiden claiming \$30,000 race, where Nora Hageluna Holm of Norway earned 20 points with the victory, aboard Richard Malouf's Voices Only, who was trained by Scott Lake.

\$100,000 TURNING FOR HOME STAKES

The original connections of Maritime Pulpit had enough faith in their horse that when he debuted as a two-year-old at Woodbine, they entered him in the \$150,000 Clarendon Stakes (for Ontario-breds), where he finished third by just two lengths. That was his best stakes attempt before the \$100,000 Turning for Home Starter Handicap Stakes, sponsored by Uptowncharlybrown Stud LLC and Diamond B Farm, on June 24 at Parx Racing.

Maritime Pulpit went off as the favorite following two straight victories at Gulfstream and Delaware Parks. He shot right to



Turning for Home Stakes.

the lead and never yielded, despite a grueling stretch battle with hometown second choice Zanotti. Jockey Angel Moreno pumped his fist in excitement as they crossed the wire, celebrating his very first stakes victory.

Maritime Victory was trained by Jorge Navarro for Monster Racing Stables, who claimed the gelded son of Pulpit for \$12,500 in December.

(cont'd on page 9)



Breeders and guests, join us for a fun day of racing at PARX on Saturday, September 2, 2017

\$100,000 Banjo Picker Sprint Stakes

3 & up, 6 fur.

\$100,000 Roanoke Stakes

3 & up, 1-1/16 mi.

\$100,000 Marshall Jenney Stakes

3 & up, 5 fur., turf

\$100,000 Dr. Theresa Garofalo Memorial Stakes

3 & up, fillies & mares, 6 fur.

\$100,000 Mrs. Penny Stakes

3 & up, fillies & mares, 1-1/16 mi., turf

All Breeding Fund Stakes will include a 25% PA-Sired Bonus for 1st, 2nd & 3rd Late Nominations 8/19/17

For Reservations, call 610.444.1050

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Parx Racing Roundup



Fourstar Crook wins the Dr. James Penny Memorial.

\$200,000 DR. JAMES PENNY MEMORIAL (G3)

The first graded stakes event of the year went to Fourstar Crook, who extended her streak to eight consecutive victories with a sweeping move at the top of the stretch in the \$200,000 Dr. James Penny Memorial Stakes (G3). Ridden by Joe Bravo, the five-year-old daughter of Freud was trained by Chad Brown for owners Michael Dubb, Bethlehem Stables LLC & Gary Aisquith. Fourstar Crook is out of the D'Accord mare Avril a Portugal and was bred in New York by Kathleen Feron.

\$200,000 PARX DASH (G3)

XXX

STEEPLECHASING

XXX

Parx Horsemen Around the Nation

April 8 - BAY SHORE S. (G3) Aqueduct, 6f

2nd - EVEN THUNDER

O: Leonard C. Green

T: John Servis

J: Rajiv Maragh

April 29 - **FOXY J G S.**

Parx Racing, 7f

1st - DISCREET SENORITA

O: Rosemore Farms, Inc. & Dun Roamin Farms, Inc.

T: Edward Lehman

J: Frankie Pennington

2nd - HEATHERLY

O: Abhyasa Racing

T: Juan Vazquez

J: Trevor McCarthy

3rd - DISCO CHICK O: Freedom Acres, Inc.

T: Mario Serey, Jr.

J: Hector Caballero

April 29 - LYMAN S.

Parx Racing, 7f 2nd - SOMEDAY JONES

O: Main Line Racing Stable

& Alexandria Stable

T: John Servis

J: Jorge Vargas, Jr.

3rd - DUVAL

O: Ten Strike Racing

T: Juan Guerrero

J: Jomar Garcia

May 6 - PARX DERBY

Parx Racing, 1 mile 70 yards

2nd - ALEX AGAIN

O: Cash Is King LLC

T: John Servis

J: Frankie Pennington

May 19 - ALLAIRE DUPONT DISTAFF S. (G3)

Pimlico, 1 1/8 miles

3rd - MO' GREEN

O: Leonard C. Green

T: John Servis

J: John Velazquez

May 20 - THE VERY ONE S.

Pimlico, 5f (T)

1st - EVERYTHING LOVELY

O: Pewter Stable & Armand A. Delaperriere

T: Kathleen DeMasi

J: Javier Castellano

June 3 - DANZIG S.

Penn National, 6f

2nd - MIDTOWNCHARLYBROWN

O: Uptowncharlybrown Stud LLC

T: Edward Coletti, Jr.

J: Mychel Sanchez

June 3 - PA GOVERNOR'S CUP

Penn National, 5f (T) 2nd - BOLD THUNDER

O: Andrew Sulley

T: Patricia Farro

J: Irad Ortiz, Jr.

June 3 - MOUNTAINVIEW S.

Penn National, 1 1/8 miles

3rd - DISCREET LOVER

O: Trin-Brook Stables, Inc.

T: Uriah St. Lewis

J: Jose Flores

June 10 - OBEAH S.

Delaware Park, 1 1/8 miles

2nd - MARTINI GLASS

O: Vince Campanella & Nation's Racing Stable

T: Keith Nations

J: Jose Ferrer

June 14 - CHRISTIANA S.

Delaware Park, 1 1/16 miles (T) 3rd - BERTRANDA

O: Stanley J. Trzcinski

T: James Noble

J: Ruben Silvera

June 15 - LIGHT HEARTED S.

Delaware Park, 1 mile 70 yards

2nd - MODACIOUS

O: Cash Is King LLC &

L and C Racing LLC

T: John Servis

J: Frankie Pennington

June 17 - SALVATOR MILE S.

Monmouth Park, 1 mile

3rd - ADIRONDACK KING

O: Marchfore

Thoroughbreds

T: John Servis

J: Jose Ferrer

June 24 - THE VERY ONE S.

Laurel Park, 6f (T)

3rd - EVERYTHING LOVELY

O: Pewter Stable &

Armand A. Delaperriere

T: Kathleen DeMasi

J: Daniel Centeno

June 24 - TURNING FOR HOME

Parx Racing, 1 1/16 miles

2nd - ZANOTTI

O: Ten Strike Racing

T: Juan Guerrero

J: Jorge Vargas, Jr.

Parx Horsemen Invade Penn National



Randy Allen, Amanda Eichfeld and Nick Saponara.



Discreet Lover (3) finished 3rd in the Mountainview Handicap.



Uriah St. Lewis and Jose Flores.



2nd in the Danzig Stakes.



Midtowncharlybrown runs | Bob Hutt, Brian Sanfratello and Joerg Hoffmann.



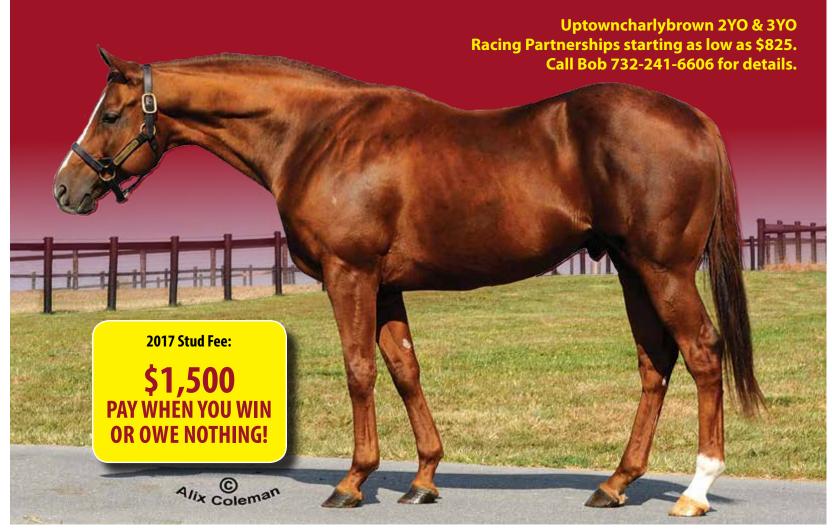
Bold Thunder won the PA Governor's Cup but was disqualified.

Uptowncharlybrown

(Limehouse - La Iluminada, by Langfuhr) 2007, ch, 16.2 hands, entered stud 2013

FIRST CROP: 6 STARTERS – 5 WINS – 3 DIFFERENT WINNERS! All by DOUBLE-DIGIT MARGINS, and now a stakes horse!

We wish to gratefully thank all PA breeders for supporting Uptowncharlybrown & congratulate stakes-placed Midtowncharlybrown for surpassing \$100,000 in only 6 career starts.











Reflections On Our 4th Annual TFH Day Thoughts from Program Administrator

Danielle Montgomery

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

P.O. Box 300, Bensalem, PA 19020 • 267-223-3418 • www.turningforhome.org



Adopter Samantha Morris (left) drove all the way up from North Carolina to attend TFH Day in honor of her horse Centrifical Force. Also pictured are Shane & Kit Alley as well as Mary Pattershall (three on right), in honor of Aleandria.



TFH graduates Make Your Move (left), ridden by Officer Chris Mulderigg & South Fleet, ridden by Officer Pete Crandley.



Pewter Stable generously sponsored the hot dog stand, where fans were able to buy a t-shirt and receive a coupon for a free hog dog and soda.



Safe Haven Equine volunteers were ecstatic to attend the races and cheer on their favorites.



The First Ladies of Rock & Soul provided musical entertainment in the picnic grove throughout the afternoon.



Partner Farm manager Lynn Stokking with adopter Tori Thompson whose Free Will was featured on the program cover.

Sisters Daniela Hampshire and Vicky Mangini smile for a picture.



Parx the Horse tosses t-shirts to fans gathered by the Carlos Milian-sponsored winner's circle.

Stakes aboard Maritime Pulpit.

Sharty Never Quits

Celebroling Out 2,000 Strue.

2017"

A special cake honored our 2,000th horse, **Smarty Never Quits**.



Brian Sanfratello, Executive Secretary of the **PA Horse Breeders Assoc.** joins fellow PA breeders **Maui Meadow Farm** & **Diamond B Farm**.



Sponsor **Ten Strike Racing**'s **Zanotti** finished second in the stake.



Dedicated volunteers **Ginny Suevo** and **Jean Fritz**.

Eberd Estrada (*left*) formerly trained **South Fleet**, while **Steve Krebs** trained **Make Your Move**.



Linda Schiavo won Empire Maker's halter in the silent auction.



The great day was wrapped up with sponsors Clovis & Joanna Crane, Nick Saponara of Club Risque Stable and friends.

SPOTLIGHT ON TFH PARTNER FARMS

Turning for Home has assembled a talented network of Partner Farms who have accepted the challenge of providing racehorse aftercare to the horses of Parx Racing. *Spotlight On TFH Partner Farms* allows the racing world to meet some of these selfless horsemen and horsewomen.







Maui Meadow Farm West Chester, Pennsylvania Partner Since: 2013 Total Horses: 82

Maui Meadow Farm was one of the original Thoroughbred breeding farms in Pennsylvania. Charlie Lyman, III, is a third generation horseman who works alongside his wife Nina Lyman to make sure that the horses who have given their all to the farm since its opening in 1946 have a second career. The couple focuses on rehab, especially specializing in swimming for equines. While Charlie has extensive experience in training racehorses on the farm as well as being an expert in equine nutrition, Nina supplements his knowledge with her history of showing in hunters, cross country and jumpers. While they began working with Turning for Home in 2013, they officially became a non-profit in 2017 with the formation and 501(c)(3) accreditation of a new division called TRRAC - Thoroughbred Retirement, Rehabilitation and Careers.



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News & Notes from the PTHA



The Administration Building has been undergoing renovations for the past several weeks, including the area outside of the Racing Office.

STALL REVOCATION POLICY

Parx Racing is intent on fixing the public perception and confidence in the integrity of its racing product. Far too many purses have been redistributed and suspensions served. To further deter medication violations, Parx Racing is implementing the following policies:

Positive Drug Tests:

Trainers who have three medication violations that result in a fine or suspension, OR two medication violations that result in a suspension during any 365-day period, in addition to any stewards' penalties or penalties imposed by the Pennsylvania State Horse Racing Commission (PASHRC), will have their stalls revoked at Parx Racing and all horses will have to be removed from the grounds immediately. Action will be taken as soon as the trainer has exhaustedall appeals to the PSHRC.

Horses that have a medication violation will immediately be placed on the Racing Secretary's list for a period of 45 days. During this time the horse may not be sold or transferred on the grounds of Parx Racing. If sold or transferred, the horse must leave the grounds of Parx Racing.

Trainers found to be in possession of injectibles or syringes will immediately have their stall space revoked and the horses under their care will have to be removed from the grounds of Parx Racing immediately.

Ownership:

All horses listed on the stall application and in the program must reflect actual ownership. Any trainer found to be a program trainer for a different person will have their entire stall allocation revoked and will have to remove the horses from the grounds of Parx Racing immediately. Any hidden ownership will be reported to the board of Stewards for any action they deem appropriate.

WORKERS COMPENSATION

If you desire, the PTHA will keep a copy of your workman's compensation certificate of insurance or liability and/or receipt for your renewal in the PTHA office. This will facilitate your entry into the track if your expiration falls on a weekend or holiday. Bring your paperwork to the PTHA office for scanning into our files.

The PTHA and Lockton Group also are continuing to steadily work towards setting up a first-of-its-kind group workers compensation policy.



NEW SERVICES AVAILABLE! FULL CARE LAYUP (\$30) - WITH SWIMMING (\$40)

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PROFESSIONAL SIZE EQUINE POOL



HYROTHERAPY EPSON SALT MASSAGE

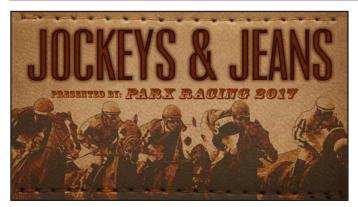
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Jockeys & Jeans Raises Record Donations for PDJF



In the most successful fundraising event for the Permanently Disabled Jockeys Fund (PDJF) since its inception in 2005, revenues for the June 3 Jockeys & Jeans event at Parx Casino and Racing in Bensalem, PA totaled \$252,000. This includes proceeds from a January Stallion Season Auction in Florida.

Some 300 fans and horsepersons were on hand to mingle with 14 Hall of Fame Jockeys and honor six catastrophically injured jockeys.

"All this is simply a testimony to the concern and generosity of the racing community and those who love this sport," said Jockeys & Jeans President, Barry Pearl. "Donors, volunteers, Hall of Fame riders and fans joined hands to honor and support those men and women whose catastrophic injuries may have disabled their bodies but has not diminished their spirits. I and all on our committee are truly humbled by the response."

Jockeys & Jeans was formed in early 2014 by five former jockeys to raise awareness of the dangers inherent in race riding and funds for the approximately 60 former riders who suffered catastrophic, careerending injuries and are supported by monthly payments from the PDJF. Since its inception, the all-volunteer Jockeys & Jeans group has raised over \$715,000.

Hall of Famers attending were Braulio Baeza, Bill Boland, Pat Day, Ramon Dominquez, Earlie Fires, Sandy Hawley, Julie Krone, Chris McCarron, Don Pierce, Laffit Pincay, Jr., John Rotz, Bobby Ussery, Jorge Velasquez and Manuel Ycaza. Honorees included Vincent Amico, Sam Boulmetis, Jr., Tony Dlugoposki, Linda Hughes, Jayme LaRocca and Sidney Underwood.







Backstretch Views

Congratulations!



Nicole Sasse and Ryan Oliver had their first child on July 6 when 7 lb. 12 oz. & 20.5 in. long Leo Justin Oliver arrived at 3:00 am! Nicole works in the PTHA office as an office administrator.



Inoel Beato returned to his native Dominican Republic's Hippodrome V Centenario and captured the first leg of their Triple Crown, the Clasico Matias Ramon Mella, on June 3 aboard Immenso.



Claudia Day graduated from high school in June and will continue working alongside her mother, trainer Diane Day, and grandfather Ken Scarborough right here at Parx Racing.



Dylan Montgomery, son of Turning for Home Program Administrator Danielle Montgomery, graduated from Delsea Regional High School in June. Dylan has plans to join the Laborers' Union and his dream job would be as a hunting and fishing guide.



Alondra Pagan-Datil, daughter of Chuling Datil, won the blue ribbon at the Multi-Generational Art Exhibition.
The gallery ran from April 7-27, 2017 and was sponsored by the Bensalem Senior Citizens Association. It was the third time that Alondra was invited!



Luis Rodriguez Castro won his first race as a jockey in the United States on May 27, 2017 and was promptly pranked by Pedro Castillo on his way back to the jockeys' room!



Above: Horsemen celebrate the **4th of July**. Right: **Nutrena** Rep **Heather Layton** talked to Parx horsemen on June 3.



Do you have any news for Backstretch Views?

We're always on the lookout for backstretch news. Contact **Nikki Sherman**, Marketing & Publicity Director, in the Turning for Home office or send over an email to nsherman@patha.org.





Chaplain's Corner Chaplain Rick Bunker

"Pleasant words are like a honeycomb, sweetness to the soul and health to the body."

Proverbs 16:24 (RSU)

Someone I know often asks, "Are you talking or are you working?" I sometimes reply, "Talking is working."

The greatest book – the Bible – tells us repeatedly that our 'talk' is very powerful work. It can perform constructive or destructive work. "Death and life are in the power of the tongue," we are told in Proverbs 18:21a. It is both frightening and encouraging to consider the power of our words. It should cause us to be careful to not cause undue harm with our words and also careful to not withhold a word that can cause great good.

Mother Teresa's famous teaching that few may be able to do great things, but to "do small things with great love," is good to be applied to all areas of life including our speech. She used to say: "The biggest disease today is not leprosy or tuberculosis, but rather the feeling of being unwanted, uncared for and deserted by everybody. The greatest evil is the lack of love and charity, the terrible indifference toward one's neighbor who lives at the roadside, assaulted by exploitation, corruption, poverty and disease."

One may say talk is cheap. Indeed, as James teaches, "faith without works is dead." Yet, we cannot deny the wisdom of the teaching that words are a very important part of the 'mix' of showing love and showing that we care. Encouraging speech is a great start to helping.

The PTHA and Parx Racing community want to help. The reason that we have a chaplaincy is to help those with special needs. One of our greatest needs is to liberate all from the bondage of addiction. It almost seems easier to 'look the other way', with oneself and with others. I want you to know that addictions are more and more common. There is no shame in stepping up, confronting it, and confessing it but it is not easy. I am here to help you and others.

We can and must help one another to face bad habits. It begins, after much prayer, with wisely speaking the truth in love. I encourage you to remember the power that your words have and I pray that we all exercise, what I call "encouraging direction" in your speech. Do not think that it won't do any good. God's word tells us over and over again that our words do powerful good; and, so in faith, exercise this power that you have.

I think one reason we are repeatedly told in Scripture that our speech is powerful is because it often won't seem to be powerful, or helpful. It is not easy, and we will make mistakes; but, don't stop trying to, "do small things with great love."

I am here to help you and others in overcoming harmful habits. At the risk of being accused of over simplifying - we are creatures of habit. The question is – are my habits good or bad? Habits that are harmful must be confronted and replaced with healthy habits. It starts with talking with those who have the heart and head to help....

"20 Wise words satisfy like a good meal; the right words bring satisfaction. 21 The tongue can bring death or life:" - Proverbs 18:20-21a (NLT)

Looking for Help with Addiction? The Chaplain's Office is Here For You Rev. Rick Bunker, Chaplain at Parx Racing

267-223-3398 | rbunker@rtca-pa.org | www.rtca-pa.org Office Hours in the Recreation Hall: M, Tue, W, F, Sat (10:00am - 3:00pm - or by appointment)



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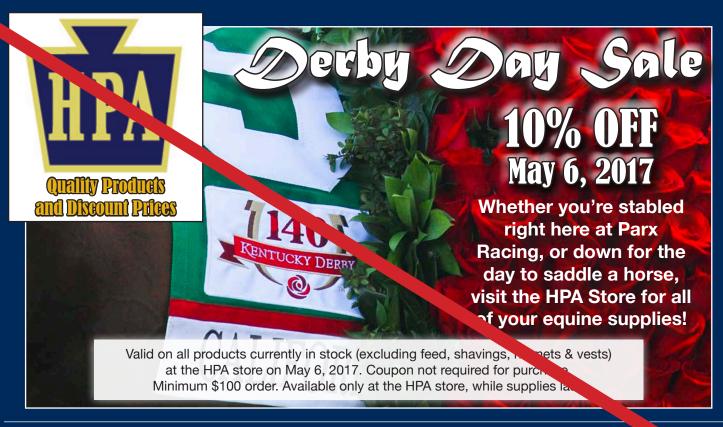
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