



# PTHA NEWS

Pennsylvania Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association Newsletter  
*We ARE Pennsylvania Racing*

2018 Issue #2

## The Man IS The Man at Parx in 2017

The PTHA partnered with Parx Racing on March 28, 2018 to honor the top horsemen and their equine athletes from 2017. Over 300 guests attended the event, which in addition to the awards included cocktails, hors d'oeuvres and dinner.

The event was also a way to honor the sudden and heartbreaking death of Parx Racing's all-time leading money-earning jockey, Jose Flores, who passed away after a racing accident on March 19. Horsemen were able to come together to comfort each other in this terrible time of sadness and several raffles raised money for the PTHA's Flores Family Fund.

"While we gather tonight to celebrate, we also do so with hearts heavy with the loss of one of the most loved, most respected members of family, jockey Jose Flores," noted Keith Jones during the banquet. "But while we are all filled with that terrible sadness, loss and finality that death brings, we can at least take some small measure of solace in the fact that we were lucky enough to cross paths with such a wonderful human being."

Headlining the evening as the 2017 Parx Racing Horse of the Year was The Man, who was undefeated in six starts last year. Trained by John Servis for Natalie J.



**Jorge Vargas, Jr.** celebrates as **The Man** crosses the wire first in the \$100,000 Banjo Picker Stakes.

Photos: Nikki Sherman

Baffert and Bernard C. Schiappa, the Pennsylvania-bred gelding also captured the award for Outstanding Older Male.

The leading horsemen at Parx were nearly a repeat from the past several years. Patricia Farro took home Leading Trainer for the third time in four years, while Frankie Pennington successfully earned his fourth career Leading Jockey title. Ten Strike Racing also captured their second straight Leading Owner crown.

Leading "Division B" Owner went to Kirwan Equine Group, Inc., while Joseph Taylor took the Leading "Division B" Trainer award. Dexter Haddock captured the Leading Apprentice Jockey title.

Also honored with awards were Sweet Candy Dance (Two-Year-old Female), Diamond King (Two-Year-Old Male), Tiz Rude (Three-Year-Old Female), Midtowncharlybrown (Three-Year-Old Male), Firsthand Report (Older Female), Cozy Lover (Claiming Horse of the Year), Dirt in Your Face (Outstanding Claim of the Year) and Wendy Wend (Winningest Horse).

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



PTHA President **Sal DeBunda** presents the trophy for **Horse of the Year** to **Jennifer Hamm**, who accepted on behalf of the connections for **The Man**.



## President's Message

Salvatore M. DeBunda, Esq.

On Wednesday, March 28<sup>th</sup>, we celebrated the very best of the best at Parx Racing, and I was honored to present the Horse of the Year trophy to the connections of The Man. Our very own PTHA Board Member John Servis has done a tremendous job in keeping this talented gelding undefeated since returning to the state of his birth last year. He will be an exciting horse to watch in 2018! I would also like to express my heartfelt congratulations to the other 2017 leading horsemen: owners Ten Strike Racing and Kirwan Equine Group, Inc.; trainers Patricia Farro and Joe Taylor; and jockeys Frankie Pennington and Dexter Haddock. Similarly, congratulations to the connections of our equine champions: Cozy Lover, Diamond King, Dirt in Your Face, Firsthand Report, Midtowncharlybrown, Sweet Candy Dance, Tiz Rude, and Wendy Wend.

The evening was also a difficult one for horsemen, as we began to say goodbye to a rider who truly left his mark on Parx Racing. Jose Flores was a special jockey and an even more impressive man. We will miss him and I give my deepest condolences to his family, including his wife Joanne and sons Julien, Junior and Juan.

Another part of the ceremonies was to thank several legislators - Sen. John Rafferty, Rep. Mike Carroll and Rep. Thomas Mehaffie. All three have unabashedly supported horse racing, and for their efforts, we have presented them with the honor of Legislators of the Year.



Legislator of the Year **Rep. Mike Carroll**

As we approach the new fiscal year, we are working with these legislators and more to yet again protect the Pennsylvania Race Horse Development Fund (RHDF), which continues to be a target for additional funds to balance the budget, even though last year we were successful in getting an amendment passed to the RHDF which clarified that it is *not a tax*.

This has become increasingly difficult and more frustrating, as recent misinformation has been printed stating incorrect facts about the RHDF. Remember what I stated last year at the PA House of Representatives' Gaming Oversight Committee meeting: "...When the RHDF (Act 71) was enacted, an assessment - *not a tax* - was agreed to by track operators to offset the negative impact additional gaming (slots) would have on the well-established equine racing program within PA. It is very important that I make this point. **NOT ONE DIME OF TAXPAYER DOLLARS GOES TO THE RHDF. NOT ONE.** I state this in the strongest terms possible because some, in the legislature and elsewhere, have stated the opposite and they are simply wrong."



Legislator of the Year **Rep. Thomas Mehaffie**

Be sure to know that PTHA Executive Director Mike Ballezzi and I will join our lobbyists in Harrisburg over the next few months to ensure that our funds remain available for you, the horsemen of Pennsylvania.



# Parx Community Mourns the Loss of Jockey Jose Flores

Photo: EQUI-PHOTO



On Thursday, March 22, 2018, Parx Racing Hall of Fame rider and the track's all-time leading money-earner Jose Luis Flores tragically succumbed to injuries suffered from a fall during the ninth race on Monday, March 19, 2018. He is survived by his loving wife, Joanne McDaid-Flores, their seven-year-old son Julien, and two adult sons – Junior and Juan.

In 2013, Flores was unanimously selected for induction into the Parx Racing Hall of Fame. He rode in over 28,000 races and captured 4,650 victories while earning more than \$64 million. His most prestigious victory occurred when he guided Loaded Gun to the wire ahead of Breeders' Cup Sprint champion Artax in the \$200,000 Philadelphia Park Breeders' Cup Handicap (G3). Flores was also the regular rider for stakes winners Arlo, Discreet Lover, Dulce Realidad, Eighth Wonder, Il Villano, Raging Rapids and The Maccabee.

## MEMORIES OF JOSE FLORES

*"He was a true gentleman rider. He would ride a 60-1 shot as hard as he'd ride a favorite, and work for a two-horse outfit just as soon as a 20-horse barn. He rode for just about every trainer on the grounds. Jose was a good-natured, good-hearted guy. He had money but he loved to ride. He'd say, 'Why should I stop? I love the morning training, I love the afternoons, I love the camaraderie.'" -David Yanuzzi, longtime agent for Jose Flores*

*"It's unbelievable... He was just tremendous, a nice guy, always a professional." -Scott Lake, trainer at Parx Racing*

*"Whoever coined the phrase that nice guys finish last never met Jose. He finished first a lot. 4,650 times in fact... As great as his success was, he accepted all of it with the greatest humility. And while his statistics indeed define his career on the track, those numbers don't begin to tell you the whole story of a truly great man. Hating to use a cliché - but here I must - you'd simply not find a nicer guy anywhere than Jose Flores. His quiet, unassuming manner belied the competitive drive that took him to the winner's circle so many, many times. Never flashy or exuberant, his entrance into the winner's circle was that of the ultimate consummate professional. Never one to show up his fellow jockeys, you'd find him perched atop his mount with nothing but class." -Keith Jones, announcer at Parx Racing*

The outpouring of support for Jose and his family has been tremendous, and many, many horsemen and fans have expressed an interest in donating to support the Flores family during this difficult time as well as into the future. So, the PTHA has set up The PTHA's Flores Family Fund in order to gather the many generous donations that are pouring in for Joanne and Julien, for the benefit of his maintenance, healthcare and education.

There are several ways in which to donate into The PTHA's Flores Family Fund:

- 1) Send a check or money order to the PTHA. In this way, no fees will be taken out of your donation and all monies will be given directly to Joanne and Julien Flores. Donations may be sent to The PTHA's Flores Family Fund, c/o PTHA, P. O. Box 300, Bensalem, PA 19020.
- 2) If you are unable to send a check or money order but would still like to donate via credit card, the PTHA set up a GoFundMe campaign at <http://www.gofundme.com/PTHAsFloresFamilyFund>.

Photo: Nikki Sherman



# 2017 Best of Parx Racing Horsemen's Awards Banquet



PTHA Board Member **Kate DeMasi** accepts the trophy for **Top Older Female** on behalf of the winning connections for **Firsthand Report**.



PTHA Board Member **Steve Appel** presents **Dexter Haddock** with his trophy for **Top Apprentice Jockey**.



**Steve Appel** presents **Frankie Pennington** & his family with the **Leading Jockey** trophy.

Photos: Nikki Sherman



PTHA Board Member **Nick Saponara** presents the award for top **Two-Year-Old Colt or Gelding** of 2017 to **Robert "Butch" Reid, Jr.**, trainer of winner **Diamond King**.



PTHA Board Member **Robert "Butch" Reid, Jr.** presents the trophy for top **Three-Year-Old Colt or Gelding** of 2017 to trainer **Ed Coletti, Jr.**, and Uptowncharlybrown Stud partner **Joerg Hoffman** for winner **Midtowncharlybrown**.



PTHA Board Member **Kate DeMasi** presents the award for top **Two-Year-Old Filly** of 2017 to the connections of **Sweet Candy Dance**, including trainer **Alfredo Velazquez**, his wife **Anita**, and his son **Danny**.



Parx Racing Director of Racing **Sam Elliott** presents the trophy for top **Older Male** to **Jennifer Hamm**, assistant trainer for winner **The Man**, who also captured **Horse of the Year**.





Marshall Gramm of **Leading Owner Ten Strike Racing** accepts his trophy from PTHA President **Sal DeBunda**.



PTHA Board Member **Dr. Steven Appel** presents the award for top **Three-Year-Old Filly** of 2017 to **John Servis's** assistant **Jennifer Hamm**, who accepted on behalf of the connections of winner **Tiz Rude**.



PTHA Board Member **Nick Saponara** presents the trophy for **Claiming Horse of the Year** to trainer **Patricia Farro** for winner **Cozy Lover**.



PTHA Board Member **Phil Aristone** presents the trophy for **Outstanding Claim of the Year** to the many connections of winner **Dirt in Your Face**.



Parx Racing Director of Racing **Sam Elliott** presents **Wendy Wend's** award for **Winningest Horse** to owner **Mario Villanueva** and trainer **Mary Pattershall**.



PTHA Executive Director **Mike Ballezzi** and Parx Director of Racing **Sam Elliott** present **Patricia Farro** with her **Leading Trainer** trophy.



PTHA President **Sal DeBunda** presents the trophy for **Leading "B" Owner** to the **Kirwans of Kirwan Equine Group, Inc.**



PTHA Executive Director **Mike Ballezzi** and Parx Director of Racing **Sam Elliott** present **Joseph Taylor** with the trophy for **Leading "B" Trainer**.

# 2017 Awards - The Horsemen

Photos: Nikki Sherman



## TEN STRIKE RACING

*Leading Owner*

**2017 Parx Racing Record:**  
99-30-16-14

**2017 Parx Racing Earnings:**  
\$785,990

**2017 Parx Highlights:** Second straight Leading Owner title at Parx; not only won the most races but also garnered the most in earnings; finished in the top three at over 60%; won four races with

Zanotti and three races with Car Fifty Four, Curlin Crush & Polite Pearl.

## KIRWAN EQUINE GROUP, INC.

*Leading "Division B" Owner*



**2017 Parx Racing Record:**  
15-6-5-2

**2017 Parx Racing Earnings:**  
\$197,390

**2017 Parx Highlights:** Finished year at 40% wins and 87% in the money; captured four races with Long May You Run; also won with

Honeyhasdamunnings and Grey by You.



## PATRICIA FARRO

*Leading Trainer*

**2017 Parx Racing Record:**  
489-76-80-59

**2017 Parx Racing Earnings:**  
\$2,454,895

**2017 Parx Highlights:** Third career and second straight Leading Trainer title at Parx; finished year at 16% in wins; captured the \$100,000 Marshall Jenney Handicap with Winning the

Medal; other top horses include Clowney, Cozy Lover, Hey Braciole and Shaunna Alexandra.



## JOSEPH TAYLOR

*Leading "Division B" Trainer*

**2017 Parx Racing Record:**  
126-29-24-20

**2017 Parx Racing Earnings:**  
\$758,856

**2017 Parx Highlights:** Finished 15th overall in the Parx trainer standings; closed out the year at 23% in wins; won five races with Gadget Man and three races with T. J. Goodie & Unpredictable.



## FRANKIE PENNINGTON

*Leading Jockey*

**2017 Parx Racing Record:**  
636-120-114-98

**2017 Parx Racing Earnings:**  
\$4,398,888

**2017 Parx Highlights:** Fourth career Leading Jockey title at Parx; finished year at 19% victories and over 50% in the money; earned over \$1 million more at Parx than next-closest rival;

captured \$100,000 Foxy J.G. Stakes aboard Discreet Senorita; finished second in the \$300,000 Smarty Jones Stakes (G3) and \$100,000 Banjo Picker Sprint Stakes.



## DEXTER HADDOCK

*Leading Apprentice Jockey*

**2017 Parx Racing Record:**  
345-46-45-42

**2017 Parx Racing Earnings:**  
\$1,216,355

**2017 Parx Highlights:** Traveled from Puerto Rico to Parx in March of 2017; finished 9th overall in the Parx jockey standings; won 13% of races and was on the board nearly 40% of the time; rode Risque's Diamond & Soaring Rosa to victory in allowance races at Parx.



# THE **LEADING** BREEDING FARM IN **PENNSYLVANIA**



## **TALENT SEARCH**

CATIENUS – MRS. K.

**#2 PENNSYLVANIA ACTIVE SIRE**

2017 Progeny Earnings of over **\$1.48 Million**

2018 FEE: \$2,500 LIVE FOAL



## **GOT THE LAST LAUGH**

DISTORTED HUMOR – THERESA'S TIZZY

50 Foals of racing age, 34 starters.

**Average earnings per starter: \$68,191**

2018 FEE: \$2,500 LIVE FOAL

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## **ECLIPTICALSPRALINE**

ECLIPTICAL – MS. MOSTLY

From the female family of  
2015 Triple Crown winner

**AMERICAN PHAROAH**

2018 FEE: \$1,200 LIVE FOAL



## **UPTOWNCHARLYBROWN**

LIMEHOUSE – LA ILUMINADA

**#6 PENNSYLVANIA 2017 2YO SIRE**

Sire of 4YO c. **MIDTOWNCHARLYBROWN**  
with \$173,588 in earnings to date

2018 FEE: \$1,500 LIVE FOAL

**Diamond **B** Farm**



# 2017 Awards - The Horses

Photos: Nikki Sherman



## THE MAN Horse of the Year,

**Owner:** Natalie J. Baffert &  
Bernard C. Schiappa

**Trainer:** John C. Servis

**Breeder:** Glenn E. Brok LLC

**2017 Parx Highlights:** Undefeated in six starts, five at Parx Racing, including the \$100,000 Banjo Picker Sprint Stakes, in which he defeated 2014 Parx Racing Horse of the Year Favorite Tale (left).



## DIAMOND KING

**2yo Male**

**Owner:** Cash Is King LLC & LC Racing

**Trainer:** Robert E. Reid, Jr.

**Breeder:** JSM Equine, LLC

**2017 Parx Highlights:** Discounting a hard-luck spill in a Grade 2 at Churchill Downs, was undefeated in three additional starts, including a maiden special weight score on PA Derby Day at Parx.



## SWEET CANDY DANCE

**2yo Female**

**Owner:** Happy Tenth Stable

**Trainer:** Alfredo Velazquez

**Breeder:** Mr. & Mrs. Annuncio Stanchieri

**2017 Parx Highlights:** Her two career victories were both at Parx, including a two-length win to break her maiden in October; also finished third in the Grade 3 Tempted Stakes at Aqueduct.



## MIDTOWNCHARLYBROWN

**3yo Male**

**Owner:** Uptowncharlybrown Stud LLC & Godric LLC

**Trainer:** Edward J. Coletti, Jr.

**Breeder:** Godric LLC

**2017 Parx Highlights:** Won six races in 2017, including 50% of his races at Parx, and finished second by a head in the \$100,000 Danzig Stakes at Penn National.



## TIZ RUDE

**3yo Female**

**Owner:** Main Line Racing Stable & Joshtylane Farm

**Trainer:** John C. Servis

**Breeder:** WinStar Farm, LLC

**2017 Parx Highlights:** 100% in the money at Parx for 2017, she captured three of five Parx starts: a 2 3/4-length maiden special weight victory, a 6 3/4-length NW2X score and a one-length allowance win.



# 2017 Awards - The Horses



## FIRSTHAND REPORT Older Female

**Owner:** StarLadies Racing

**Trainer:** Todd A. Pletcher

**Breeder:** Lindsay C. F. Scott & Jane MacElree

**2017 Parx Highlights:** Defeated males in the \$100,000 Alphabet Soup Stakes on PA Derby Day; also won the \$100,000 Power by Far Stakes and an allowance at Parx as well as the \$100,000 Lyphard Stakes at Penn National.



## WENDY WEND Winningest Horse

**Owner:** Mario N. Villanueva

**Trainer:** Mary A. Pattershall

**Breeder:** Hackett Brothers Thoroughbred, Inc.

**2017 Parx Highlights:** Claimed for \$7,500 and went on to win four races for new connections Mario Villanueva and Mary Pattershall, including a \$12,500 claimer, \$16,000 claimer, a starter allowance and his NW1X allowance.



## COZY LOVER Claiming Horse of the Year

**Owner:** Hidden Acres 4-D Farm

**Trainer:** Patricia Farro

**Breeder:** Hidden Acres 4-D Farm

**2017 Parx Highlights:** Competed nearly all year at the starter allowance level, capturing four starters by open lengths including a 7 3/4-length victory over future stakes winner Zanotti; also won his NW1X allowance.



## DIRT IN YOUR FACE Outstanding Claim of the Year

**Owner:** Long Ball Stable LLC

**Trainer:** Juan Carlos Guerrero

**Breeder:** Sun Valley Farm

**2017 Parx Highlights:** Claimed for \$30,000 by Long Ball Stable LLC and went on to win two starter allowance races by 4 and 6 lengths, as well as two allowance races.

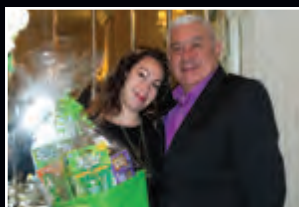


# *Horsemen's Awards Memories*





# Basket Raffle



**Proud Supporter of Turning for Home & Alumni Like Nuevo Dinero**

**The following groups donated to the fundraisers at the Horsemen's Awards Banquet. Thanks to their generosity, we were able to raise money for TFH, The Granny Fund & the PTHA's Jose Flores Family Fund!**

- |                                 |                                     |                                  |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| • After the Finish Line         | • Horsemen's Purchasing Association | • Pocono Raceway                 |
| • Applebee's                    | • Jericho National Golf Club        | • PTHA                           |
| • Bensalem Country Club         | • Kate DeMasi Farm                  | • QVC                            |
| • Bertucci's                    | • Lane's End Farm                   | • Radison Hotel Phila. Northeast |
| • Bloodlines Racing Partnership | • Leslie Saunders                   | • Red Barn Equine Outfitters     |
| • Cargill                       | • Lockton                           | • Sesame Place                   |
| • Carrabba's                    | • Longwood Gardens                  | • Steven Krebs                   |
| • Castle Rock Farm              | • Mad Golfer Golf Club              | • Susan Meckling                 |
| • Dave & Buster's               | • On the Border Breeders Assoc.     | • Texas Roadhouse                |
| • Debbie Ulmer-Phillips         | • PA Horse                          | • TFH Volunteers                 |
| • Dr. Baker                     | • PA Renaissance Faire              | • Toni Kirwan                    |
| • Flyers Skate Zone             | • Panera Bread                      | • Trenton Thunder                |
| • Ginny Suevo                   | • Parx Racing                       | • Wilmington Blue Rocks          |
| • Hansen Properties, Inc.       | • Philadelphia Museum of Art        | • Winterthur Museum              |
| • Holiday Inn Bensalem          | • Philadelphia Phillies             | • Wyndham Hotel                  |
| • Hooter's                      |                                     |                                  |

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

- |                    |                       |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Jeanne Capone-Kate | Ali Montgomery        |
| Jean Fritz         | Megan Montgomery      |
| Joi Hollinger      | Jan Palmer            |
| Donna Hural        | Leslie Saunders       |
| Amanda-Kate Lenzi  | Ginny Suevo           |
| Vicky Mangini      | Debbie Ulmer-Phillips |



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# MATCH Series is Back



The popular MATCH Series (Mid-Atlantic Thoroughbred Championships) is returning in 2018 after a 16-year hiatus.

The Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association and its affiliates in Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey and Pennsylvania; Maryland Jockey Club (Pimlico Race Course and Laurel Park); Delaware Park; Greenwood Gaming and Entertainment (Parx); Penn National Gaming (Hollywood Casino at Penn National Race Course); Darby Development (Monmouth Park); Eldorado Resorts (Presque Isle Downs & Casino); and the Pennsylvania Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association are proud to announce their joint participation after regional discussions during the past six months led to an agreement to revive the MATCH Series and expand cooperation among all stakeholders in the Mid-Atlantic region.

The MATCH Series, which debuted in 1997 and ran for five years, is an innovative regional racing series and the only one of its kind in racing that combines

rich stakes and bonuses for participating owners and trainers over a five-month span. Horses competing in MATCH earn points based on participation and order of finish, and the leading points earners in each of the series divisions, as well as the overall owner and trainer points leaders, win lucrative bonuses.

Total purse money is \$2.9 million. Horsemen will compete for \$450,000 in bonus money, all contributed by the participating horsemen's organizations. The first-, second- and third-place owners, respectively, in each division will earn \$20,000, \$15,000, and \$10,000. The top three earning trainers will earn \$15,000, \$10,000 and \$5,000 respectively. The MATCH Series overall top earning owner will win \$50,000, while the top earning trainer will earn \$25,000.

The participating tracks have all agreed to support the MATCH Series divisions and not run races in competition with them. Participating horsemen will have a regional roadmap of stakes for their horses from May to September. Racing directors at each of the participating tracks worked together to select divisions that could provide the least amount of overlap and, hopefully, larger fields for all concerned.

On April 19, 2018, the MATCH Series gained even further momentum with the announcement that each breeders' organization in the region will also pay bonuses to the highest point-earning male and female from each program, totaling \$40,000 in added prize money.

## 3-Year-Old & Up Long - Dirt Division

5/26/18	Salvator Mile (G3)	\$100,000	1 M	MTH
6/30/18	Philip H. Iselin S. (G3)	\$100,000	1 1/16 M	MTH
7/29/18	Monmouth Cup (G3)	\$150,000	1 1/8 M	MTH
8/25/18	DeBunda President's Cup	\$100,000	1 1/16 M	PRX
9/16/18	Presque Isle Mile	\$200,000	1 M	PID

## 3-Year-Old & Up Sprint - Dirt Division

5/19/18	Maryland Sprint S. (G3)	\$150,000	6 F	PIM
6/17/18	Mr. Prospector S.	\$75,000	6 F	MTH
7/14/18	Hockessin S.	\$75,000	6 F	DEL
8/12/18	Polynesian S.	\$100,000	7 F	LRL
9/15/18	DeFrancis Memorial Dash (G3)	\$250,000	6 F	LRL

## 3-Year-Old & Up Sprint - Turf Division

5/18/18	Jim McKay Turf Sprint	\$100,000	5 F	PIM
6/2/18	PA Governor's Cup	\$200,000	5 F	PEN
7/7/18	Parx Dash S. (G3)	\$200,000	5 F	PRX
7/29/18	Wolf Hill S.	\$75,000	5 1/2 F	MTH
9/15/18	Laurel Dash S.	\$100,000	6 F	LRL

## 3-Year-Old & Up Filly & Mare Sprint - Dirt Division

5/18/18	Skipat S.	\$100,000	6 F	PIM
6/17/18	Regret S.	\$75,000	6 F	MTH
7/7/18	Dashing Beauty S.	\$75,000	6 F	DEL
8/12/18	Satin & Lace S.	\$100,000	6 F	PID
9/15/18	Roamin Rachel S.	\$100,000	6 F	PRX

## 3-Year-Old & Up Filly & Mare Sprint - Turf Division

5/19/18	The Very One S.	\$100,000	5 F	PIM
6/2/18	Penn Ladies Dash	\$100,000	5 F	PEN
7/7/18	Turf Amazon S.	\$100,000	5 F	PRX
8/11/18	Incredible Revenge S.	\$75,000	5 1/2 F	MTH
9/15/18	Sensible Lady Turf Dash	\$100,000	6 F	LRL

# What Ever Happened To...?

Three former Parx Racing-based mares gave birth to their next generation of foals this spring!

Eighth Wonder captured the first five races of her career, including the \$100,000 Parx Oaks, \$100,000 Jostle Stakes and the \$75,000 Donna Freyer Stakes. The daughter of Pioneerof the Nile was a homebred for Gryphon Investments, LLC and was trained by Dee Curry. Her first foal is a flashy chestnut filly by Union Rags.

Sweet Abandon won eight of 35 career starts and over

\$220,000 in earnings for trainer Penny Pearce before she was retired by owner Edward Ridge. She had her first foal this spring at Diamond B Farm, a pretty PA-Bred filly by Talent Search.

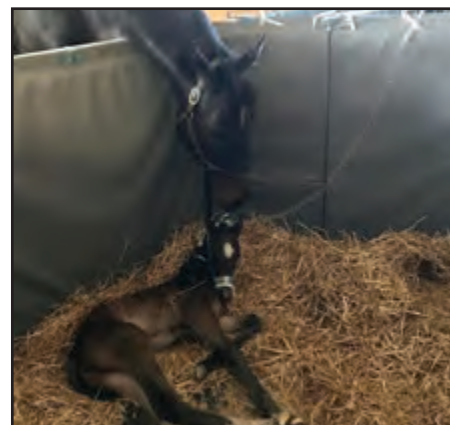
Pewter Stable campaigned the stakes-placed, allowance-winning Offlee Golden during her racing career. She was officially the first mare to foal in Pennsylvania when she gave birth to a Verrazano colt at 1:20 am on New Year's Day - several weeks premature!



**Eighth Wonder** and her 2018 Union Rags filly



2018 **Sweet Abandon** filly

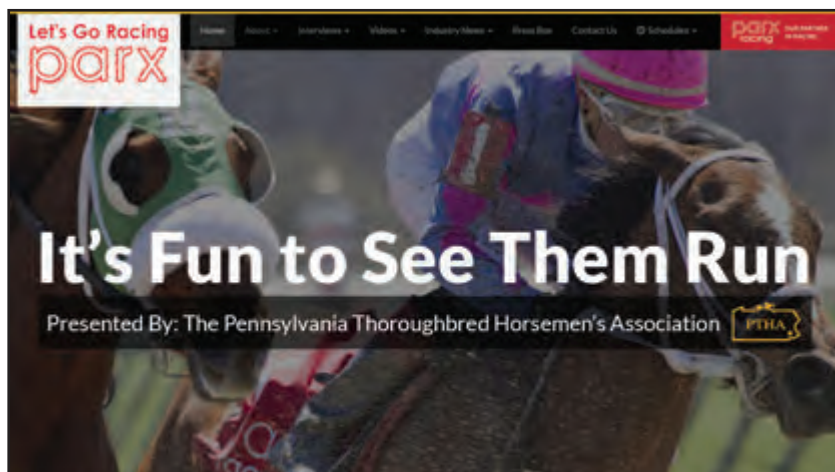


**Offlee Golden** and her 2018 Verrazano colt

## Let's Go Racing Parx Aims to Attract New Racing Fans

The Pennsylvania Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association (PTHA) is proud to announce the launch of Let's Go Racing Parx. With the catchy tagline 'It's Fun to See Them Run', the digital marketing campaign is aimed at attracting new Parx Racing fans to the sport of kings. Let's Go Racing Parx can be found at [www.letsgoracingparx.com](http://www.letsgoracingparx.com), as well as on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter under the same handle.

In addition to dynamic images from Parx itself, the new website includes industry news, general horsemen's information, Triple Crown Trail updates, and a library of exciting videos - including interviews with Parx horsemen, a Blast from the Past section, and a new weekly handicapping segment called *Behind the Binoculars with Keith Jones*. Let's Go Racing Parx also features direct links to *Let's Go Racing* (the weekly Parx Racing recap show), the Parx Racing Hall of Fame, Turning for Home (the PTHA's racehorse retirement program), Craig Donnelly's Parx Racing Analysis, the recently revitalized MATCH Series, and much, much more.





# Pennsylvania Horse Breeders Association 2017 Inoquois Award Finalists

Please join us at our Annual Awards Banquet on June 8, 2018, 5:30 p.m. at The Hotel Hershey

## 2 Year Old Colt

American Talent  
Oldzfourtytwo  
Prince Lucky

## 2 Year Old Filly

Bronx Beauty  
Cosmic Burst  
Daddy Is a Legend  
Daisy

## Steeplechase

All the Way Jose  
Lil Rockefeller  
Senior Senator

## 3 Year Old Colt

Fast and Accurate  
Midtowncharlybrown  
Prince of Hempt

## 3 Year Old Filly

Grand Prix  
Risqué's Diamond  
Unique Bella

## Broodmare

Be Envied  
I'm a Dixie Girl  
Unrivaled Belle

## Horse of the Year

Mor Spirit  
Unique Bella

## New this year:

Lifetime  
Achievement Award  
&  
Million Dollar  
Round Table

## Older Male

Mor Spirit  
Page McKenney  
Tom's Ready

## Older Female

Finest City  
Firsthand Report  
Power of Snunner

PA-Preferred  
PA-Sired, PA-Bred  
Male & Female

## Male Sprinter

Page McKenney  
Tom's Ready

## Female Sprinter

Finest City  
Illuminant  
Unique Bella

## Turf Male

Granny's Kitten  
Spring Quality

## Turf Female

Firsthand Report  
Illuminant



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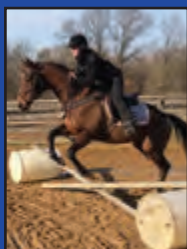
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# The Horse is Our Employer

## 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](http://www.turningforhome.org)



With ten years of rehabilitation, retraining and rehoming our retiring racehorses at Parx in the books, the PTHA's Turning for Home story has turned into the clearest conceivable picture for what responsible racehorse retirement should be. Similar programs such as Finger Lakes Thoroughbred Adoption Program (FTLAP) have asked how we are able to help so many horses, and joined several aftercare programs who are adopting our time-tested funding model. Not every track has the support offered to Pennsylvania horses, which is largely the result of the Race Horse Development Fund, which helps sustain the PA Thoroughbred racing programs through use of slot money - zero tax dollars. Every program can take a page from our book on how to model their funding.

The fundamental principles conceived by our Executive Director Michael Ballezzi and the PTHA leadership ten years ago remain in place:

- Provide all Parx horsemen with an alternative to sending horses to slaughter by accepting all eligible horses, regardless of physical condition, for zero additional fee.
- Maintain a program that is fiscally responsible and fully self sustaining without relying on outside funding. Encourage an industry-wide climate for responsible aftercare & foster positive PR.

- Send the majority of funding directly along with each horse to approved facilities that will provide the best possible aftercare.
- Advocate the off-track Thoroughbred as the premier sporthorses and pleasure horses that they can be in order to create new safe homes for our horses.

Despite due diligence to start each horse on a safe path, there is always room for improvement. Tracking horses as they change hands throughout their lives is the most important thing we can do for the former connections who entrust us with their horses. To that end, we have a carefully monitored adoption system that follows up with adopters intensively for the first year, and we now have additional staff to assist with yearly check-ins and follow-up. Our goal is to be proactive in protecting our horses throughout their lives and we have been rewarded with greater participation and respect for our horses and our program.

An amusing realization came about as we tracked the impact of these young athletes - they've already generated an economy of their own as they are bred, raised and started racing. A safe estimate for a homebred Thoroughbred racehorse is that it takes \$30,000 to get him to his first race, but given the opportunity to go on to a second career, he will

continue to contribute more than ever to the economy. Keeping a horse supports agriculture, training a horse supports an entire equine community, and showing a horse - now we've dipped into tourism. That means for 80% of their lifetime, our former racehorses continue to support the careers of thousands. For example, a medium-sized show circuit employs twenty people just on show day, and who doesn't need something from the tack shop when they're getting ready to compete?

So, while we're still learning the best way to facilitate transitioning a racehorse into a second career, horses are still teaching us how valuable they are. Essentially, we are working for them.

## Equestrian Careers



Photo: Nikki Sherman



## 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.

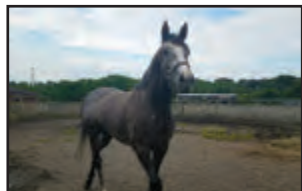


### McCaulley Equine LLC

*Furlong, Pennsylvania*

Partner Since: 2016

Total Horses: 76



J.R. and Mindy McCaulley truly care about their “barn family” and stress building a strong horsemanship foundation. J.R. McCaulley has decades of experience: he broke his first horse at the young age of nine and even galloped horses at Philadelphia Park in the late nineties. He is currently coaching Jentri Stables’ IEA team. He recently created McCaulley Equine LLC, while his wife Mindy is an instructor with Once Upon A Farm.

Mindy has been riding since 1982 and teaching lessons since 1994. Some of her own riding accomplishments include becoming 5th in the nation in 1989 on her pony Chocolate Sundae and placing 12th in the Caccionne Cup at IHSA nationals in 1998. They specialize in hunter/jumper and equitation.

## Join Us for our 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Turning for Home Day



*Saturday, June 23, 2018*

**Celebrating 10 Years**

*\$100,000  
Turning for Home Stakes*



## Fantasy Contest Winner Donates Prize to Turning for Home

Parx Racing Hall of Fame member Bruce Casella was part of a three-person team that finished second overall in the 2017 Fantasy Ownership Challenge, which was sponsored by the Maryland Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association, Maryland Jockey Club and Maryland Horse Breeders Association. The Challenge offered \$50,000 in prize money to the 'owners' of several randomly-chosen horses based on their earnings through 2017.

Upon the conclusion of the contest, Casella chose to donate his winnings to the PTHA's Turning for Home.

"One of the most important things we all can do in horse racing is take care of our retired equine athletes," he said. "Turning for Home has done such a great job in finding our horses great homes and second careers over the past ten years. I wanted to jump on board to help them in their endeavor."

"It was a great opportunity to feel the excitement of ownership even though it was fantasy ownership. I now know what it's like to win a race, and the disappointment of losing when you thought your horse was the best. It was also fun to meet other people who felt the passion of Thoroughbred racing."



**Bruce Casella** presents his winnings to Turning for Home's **Danielle Montgomery**, PTHA President **Sal DeBunda**, & PTHA Executive Director **Mike Ballezzi**.

Photo: Nikki Sherman

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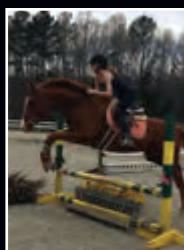
- Runners earned over a million dollars for 14th consecutive year
- Continues to serve on PA Horseman's Thoroughbred Association Board at Parx for last ten years
- First female trainer in Parx Hall of Fame

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Miss  
Tiago



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# Parx Horsemen Around the Nation

Feb. 3 - **SWALE S. (G3)**  
Gulfstream Park, 7 furlongs  
3rd - DIAMOND KING  
O: D. J. Stable LLC,  
Cash is King LLC  
& LC Racing  
T: John Servis  
J: Frankie Pennington

Feb. 10 - **JIMMY WINKFIELD S.**  
Aqueduct, 7 furlongs  
1st - A DIFFERENT STYLE  
O: Leonard C. Green  
T: John Servis  
J: Kendrick Carmouche

Feb. 10 - **SUNCOAST S.**  
Tampa Bay Downs, 1 mile  
40 yds  
2nd - DAISY  
O: Fox Hill Farms, Inc.  
T: John Servis  
J: John Velazquez

Feb. 17 - **JOHN B. CAMPBELL S.**  
Laurel Park, 1 1/8 miles  
2nd - ZANOTTI  
O: Ten Strike Racing  
T: Juan Carlos Guerrero  
J: Jorge Vargas, Jr.

Feb. 17 - **MIRACLE WOOD S.**  
Laurel Park, 1 mile  
3rd - WENTZ  
O: Main Line Racing Stable  
& Joshtylane Farm  
T: John Servis  
J: Kendrick Carmouche

Feb. 17 - **MARYLAND RACING MEDIA S.**  
Laurel Park, 1 1/16 miles  
1st - MISS INCLUSIVE  
O: Main Line Racing Stable  
& Joshtylane Farm  
T: John Servis  
J: Jorge Vargas, Jr.

Feb. 17 - **WIDE COUNTRY S.**  
Laurel Park, 7 furlongs  
3rd - AGGREGATOR  
O: Swilcan Stable &  
The Harp Racing Stable  
T: Robert Reid, Jr.  
J: Mychel Sanchez

Feb. 17 - **BARBARA FRITCHIE S. (G2)**  
Laurel Park, 7 furlongs  
1st - MS LOCUST POINT  
O: Jim Reichenberg  
& Cash is King LLC  
T: John Servis  
J: Jorge Vargas, Jr.

Feb. 17 - **MINARET S.**  
Tampa Bay Downs, 6 furlongs  
2nd - GRAND PRIX  
O: HnR Nothhaft Horse  
Racing, LLC  
T: Keith Nations  
J: Jose Ferrer

Feb. 19 - **ROYAL DELTA S. (G3)**  
Gulfstream Park, 1 mile  
1st - MARTINI GLASS  
O: Vince Campanella &  
Nation's Racing  
Stable LLC  
T: Keith Nations  
J: Paco Lopez

Mar. 17 - **HARRISON E. JOHNSON MEMORIAL S.**  
Laurel Park, 1 1/8 miles  
2nd - ZANOTTI  
O: Ten Strike Racing  
T: Juan Carlos Guerrero  
J: Jorge Vargas, Jr.  
3rd - DISCREET LOVER  
O: Trin-Brook Stables, Inc.  
T: Uriah St. Lewis  
J: Jose Flores

Mar. 17 - **BEYOND THE WIRE S.**  
Laurel Park, 1 mile  
1st - SMOKINPADDYLASSIE  
O: Edward Bruzek  
T: Edward Coletti, Jr.  
J: John Bisono

Mar. 17 - **PRIVATE TERMS S.**  
Laurel Park, 1 1/16 miles  
2nd - FOREST FIRE  
O: Shirley A. Lojeski  
T: John Servis  
J: John Bisono

Mar. 17 - **AZERI S. (G2)**  
Oaklawn Park, 1 1/16 miles  
1st - MARTINI GLASS  
O: Vince Campanella &  
Nation's Racing  
Stable LLC  
T: Keith Nations  
J: Paco Lopez

Mar. 31 - **KELLY KIP S.**  
Aqueduct, 6 furlongs  
3rd - HERE'S A JETPACK  
O: Luis R. Orantes  
T: Joseph Taylor  
J: Angel Arroyo

Apr. 7 - **EXCELSIOR S. (G3)**  
Aqueduct, 1 1/8 miles  
1st - DISCREET LOVER  
O: Trin-Brook Stables, Inc.  
T: Uriah St. Lewis  
J: Manuel Franco  
2nd - ZANOTTI  
O: Ten Strike Racing  
T: Juan Carlos Guerrero  
J: Paco Lopez

Apr. 14 - **BRIDGETOWN S.**  
Aqueduct, 6 furlongs (T)  
1st - BLACK STETSON  
O: Ten Strike Racing  
T: Juan Carlos Guerrero  
J: Junior Alvarado

## Around the Parx Oval



**Do you have any photos for Around the Parx Oval?**

Send them over via email to [nsherman@patha.org](mailto:nsherman@patha.org) or share on our Facebook page!

Photos: Nikki Sherman, Ned Allard, Andy Aaron

# Backstretch Views



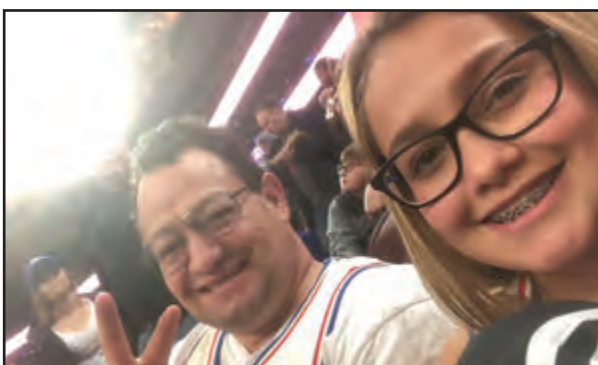
**Max Abrams**, son of trainer **Ron Abrams** and **Kim Abrams** was accepted into the prestigious Phi Beta Kappa honor society. He is close to earning his degree from Temple and is currently studying abroad in Spain.



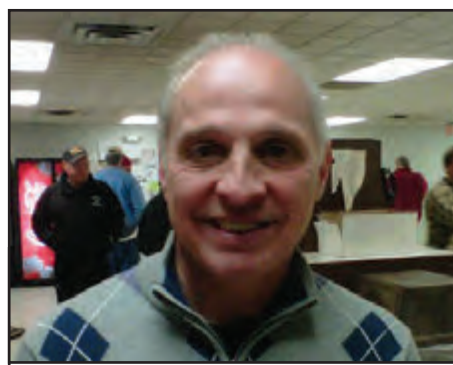
**Dr. Whitney Reid Fink**, daughter of trainer **Robert “Butch” Reid, Jr.** and **Ginny Reid**, received her doctorate from Drexel University’s College of Medicine. Whitney was then matched with the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia, and is excited to begin her three-year residency in pediatrics.



**Bill Carango**, father of trainer **Tony Carango**, celebrates his 91<sup>st</sup> birthday.



**Carlos Guerrero** and daughter **Julianna** at the 76ers game after she won seats at the awards basket raffle!



Longtime jockey agent **Louis “Lou” Gregory Yannuzzi** passed away after a long battle with cancer on February 1, 2018. It was just a few days before his beloved Philadelphia Eagles won their first Super Bowl, and his closest family and friends knew that he was watching the game from above. Lou was a fixture in the racing office and is greatly missed by all who knew him.



**Thomas Giangiulio, Sr.**, a longtime PA & NJ breeder, passed away on February 1, 2018 at the age of 83. He was married to his beloved wife Elaine for 60 years & is survived by his children: Thomas, Jr. (Carin), Daniel (Linda) Gregory (Kathie), Lisa Guerrero (Juan Carlos) & the late Steven. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to either The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, Donor Services, P. O. Box 98018, Washington, DC 20090 or Samaritan Hospice, 5 Eves Dr., Ste. 300, Marlton, NJ 08053.

## 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 Administration Building, send over an email to [nsherman@patha.org](mailto:nsherman@patha.org), or message us on Facebook.



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## Chaplain's Corner

Chaplain Rick Bunker

**“... <sup>1</sup>O Israel, the one who formed you says, ‘Do not be afraid, for I have ransomed you. I have called you by name; you are mine. <sup>2</sup>When you go through deep waters, I will be with you. When you go through rivers of difficulty, you will not drown. When you walk through the fire of oppression, you will not be burned up; the flames will not consume you. <sup>3</sup>For I am the LORD, your God, the Holy One of Israel, you Savior . . .” - Isaiah 43:1-3 (NLT)**

Not even the noise cancelling headphones could cancel this loud woman. I decided to go get something to eat and come back later to this ‘quiet room’ to write. I did not want to be alone, so I didn’t want to go to my room to write. I came back later and it was even louder. How was I going to finish this Chaplain Corner? Well, I had decided, a few days earlier that I would probably write it on times of difficulty. Was this experience qualifying me to write with more authority? I suppose this experience should not qualify as a time of difficulty. Maybe it’s the blaring classical music (to drown out this loud person and now her friends) that is making me feel overly dramatic. Then again, so often, it is the ‘little things’ piled up day after day, that can make it greatly difficult to be polite, relaxed, and cope gracefully, with all the things that life throws at us.

In Seattle there is a saying, “Live like the mountain is out.” Seattle is surrounded with majestic landscapes and brilliantly colorful flora, but many days, perhaps most days, the human eye cannot see it. The people of the Seattle area will tell of the great difference Mt. Ranier being “out” and not being “out” makes to a day. One Seattle denizen put it, “Typically, when the mountain is out, the sun is also out. With the blue sky comes clearer visibility of the vast and varied colors... It is as if we have been given extra fuel in our tank for the day, a sense of awe and inspiration.” Living like the mountain is out is indeed an acceptable challenge because

**“... <sup>8</sup>And my ways are far beyond anything you could imagine. <sup>9</sup>For just as the heavens are higher than the earth, so my ways are higher than your ways and my thoughts higher than your thoughts. <sup>10</sup>The rain and snow come down from the heavens and stay on the ground to water the earth. They cause the grain to grow, producing seed for the farmer and bread for the hungry. <sup>11</sup>It is the same with my word . . . It will accomplish all I want it to, and it will prosper everywhere I send it.” - Isaiah 55:8-11 (NLT)**

it captures the way we all want to live: with a sense of hope and inspiration throughout the day, even on dark days.

Just as the mountain being out changes the outlook of those in Seattle; living as if there is a God, alive, forgiving, and working on our behalf will change our attitudes and abilities. There is much reasonable cause to believe in the God of the Bible who delivered His people from slavery to that Superpower Egypt, then Babylon, then the final enemy - death itself. This same God promises to help us in our personal struggles as well.

It may not always seem that way. So often it seems as if we are being chipped at, even bludgeoned. So often it seems that we are being coarsely sanded, scrubbed, and polished – raw. Well maybe that is what is happening in a rather very real way. As if God is sculpting our current selves. Not damaging us, but recreating us, making us into something even better than we already are, if we will let Him. God is working, as Scripture promises, “all things together for the good, for those who love Him and are called according to His purpose.”

Just like my troubling trial with that loud lady. As time went by, she was at a piano in the corner, playing a request ... of mine, while I sang along! And, one of her loud friends complimented me on the “robustness of my voice!” God is good – All the time!





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