

PTHA NEWS

Pennsylvania Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association Newsletter

We ARE Pennsylvania Racing

2018 Issue #3

Ten Years of Celebrating Turning for Home

Our 5th annual Turning for Home Day - honoring ten years of our program's existence - was celebrated on June 23rd at Parx Racing. Over the last decade, we have led the way as a self-sustaining, safe and reliable answer for the issues regarding aftercare for retiring racehorses. Together, with some of our Partner Farms and adopters present, we celebrated with a great day of racing, featuring the \$100,000 Turning for Home Starter Handicap Stakes. Raising awareness for our program and what we do for the horses racing at Parx is so important, and the extra publicity was made possible with the added contributions from our sponsors, many of whom have been with us since we discussed the very first TFH Day over five years ago. That loyalty and commitment to making it better for our horses and our supporting farms is what makes us so proud to be a part of the PTHA's Turning for Home.

This year, we recalled the revolutionary model that our program adopted in its early years, thanks to the foresight of PTHA Executive Director Michael Ballezzi and the PTHA board, and featured a horse from our very first year of existence, Lite Beer Baby, who is now competing in the TAKE2 shows with longtime adopter Vanessa Lempicky. The mare was Joe Taylor's first racehorse, and he has fond memories of her before she retired to TFH after a career-ending injury.



Joseph Besecker leads his Aztec Sense into the winner's circle for the \$100,000 Turning for Home Stakes.

"Exciting Times" were had by adopters Pam Merkey and daughter Carla as they enjoyed a great day at the races and shared stories of their numerous adoptees over the years, including Exciting Times, a veteran of 74 races. He's a Real Keeper was donated by owner Richard Ciavardone and trainer Bobby Mosco, then rehabilitated by McCaulley Equine and recently adopted by Cindy Weitoish, whose family happily joined in the TFH Day festivities.

While we are thrilled to tell some of our stories throughout this newsletter, in the videos on our social media pages, and on our website at www.turningforhome.org, following up on our horses is a full time job. We are so honored to have so much support from the horsemen, who allow us to do our (cont'd on page 2)



The \$100,000 Turning for Home Starter Handicap Stakes was sponsored for the fourth straight year by Uptowncharlybrown Stud LLC and Diamond B Farm, who along with artwork sponsor Branjam Stable & David Clark, congratulated the connections of winner Aztec Sense in the winner's circle after the race.

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President's Message Salvatore M. DeBunda, Esq.

It seems like every year at this time, I am stressing how crucial it is that we educate our legislators about the importance of horse racing in our state. This year, I am ecstatic to report that

we were successfully able to get the Pennsylvania state budget signed with no additional money being raided from the Race Horse Development Fund!



I was proud to be a sponsor of the 5th Annual Turning for Home Day on June 23, which coincided with their 10th Anniversary celebration. In just one decade of saving our racehorses, it's incredible to see that over 2,300 horses have found a new life after racing thanks to Turning for Home.

The national racing scene this year has been immensely exciting as we watched Justify become the 13th Triple Crown winner! I was proud to be a part of history while attending the races at Pimlico on Preakness Day as my own Irish Colonel contested the Maryland Sprint Stakes (G3) - a part of the resurrected MATCH Series, and honored to take a photo with the legendary D. Wayne Lukas and Bob Baffert, along with my good friend, business partner and fellow PTHA Board Member Dr. Steve Appel.

Since our last print issue, you may have received several digital newsletters via email. If you are not currently registered, I urge you to sign up on our website - www.patha.org. We are sending out timely information, photos, videos and more to everyone on our email list, so you don't want to miss it!

Ten Years of Celebrating Turning for Home

(cont'd from cover)

job to the best of our ability. It really is a full time job, and we are lucky to have the dedicated services of Danielle Gibson, whose main job is to reach out to adopters for updates, and PTHA Marketing Director Nikki Sherman, whose photos help us network horses to safe homes and whose skills help us stay organized. There are so many parts of the overall puzzle that help us help horses: veterinarians, surgeons, shippers, farms, volunteers, and the entire racing office, backside and PTHA board members and staff who always put the horses' safety as a priority.

Such a great day would not be possible without extra assistance from our sponsors, and we are always looking to improve our program and extend our reach to help find homes for more of our horses.

We loved the excitement as longtime supporter Joe Besecker won the \$100,000 Stakes race, with a second win in a row for trainer Jorge Navarro, and hope that our mission to protect these horses will protect our sport for the future.

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Dick Jerardi Presents... Leading Owner Driving PA Economy at Parx Racing

Parx Racing Hall of Fame member Dick Jerardi presents a new series dedicated to the hardworking people on our very own Pennsylvania backstretch. Below is just one of those articles; to find more, check out www.patha.org, register for our digital mailing list (sign up on our website); and/or follow us on social media!

Marshall Gramm is an economics professor at Rhodes College in Memphis, Tenn., its urban campus renowned for its beauty, its 2,025 students from 46 states and 43 countries celebrated for their community service. Gramm is also an owner of 40 horses in training spread around several American race tracks. There is, however, one track that stands out for Gramm - Parx Racing.

"I consider Parx my home base," Gramm said. "I'm always looking to bring a good horse to Parx whether I'm buying it at a sale, whether I'm buying it privately or whether I'm claiming it."

In fact, Gramm's Ten Strike Racing was the leading owner at Parx in 2016 and 2017. He has 12 to 18 horses in training at Parx at any one time. He pays a \$75 day rate (per horse per day). The trainer and jockey each get 10 percent of winning purses. The vet gets paid. Gramm pays the horse van company, which happens to be Brook Ledge, with a Pennsylvania hub based in Oley, near Reading. He figures he has a van bill approaching six figures every year.

"I love buying horses elsewhere and bring them to Pennsylvania to race," Gramm said. He claimed 14 horses at the 2018 Oaklawn Park meet. Half of them ended up at Parx.

"Parx has a great purse structure," Gramm said. "Parx has a wonderful condition book. I really love how they do their condition book, better than any track in the country, just in terms of how it's methodically set up. It's why I enjoy racing there. It's a great locale to base horses."

So the economics professor, son of former Texas United States Senator Phil Gramm, is a serious economic driver in the Commonwealth.

"I'm a breeder," Gramm said, "I've got PA-Breds. I have a significant number of horses that all come from out-of-state. So if anyone knows anything about owning horses, almost all my money just plows right back into Parx. Look, I made some money in 2016, lost a little bit in 2017 and look good in 2018. It's hardly like you can take that purse money and imagine that all comes in my pocket. It all goes back to (trainer Carlos Guerrero), his staff, building up his stable. A small fraction, if I make a profit at all, comes back in my direction."

Gramm has two mares at Pin Oak Lane Farm in New Freedom, York County. One of them was bred to Pennsylvania sire Jump Start.

"I don't come up to Pennsylvania often enough or Parx often enough, but I think of it as my home track," Gramm said. "I bet Parx on a daily basis. The only difference between me and some of your owners up there is that I live in Memphis, Tennessee. I don't think that changes any part of the equation of where my money goes. I guess if I have a good day, I might go a restaurant in Memphis versus a restaurant in (Bensalem). But that's really about it."

Gramm pays taxes in Pennsylvania. His trainer's staff, including grooms, hot walkers and exercise riders, is all employed in Pennsylvania.

Gramm owns most of the stable's claiming horses himself. He also puts partnerships together for horses he buys as yearlings and 2-year-olds with the main objective being Oaklawn Park for partners that live in Arkansas. He has a few horses at Monmouth Park, Laurel Park and Golden Gate Fields.

"We file (taxes) in all the different states we race," Gramm said. "We ran at 30 different tracks last year and we won races at 16 different tracks. We won 69 races."

In 2017, he had 10 different trainers, with the attendant accounting and bookkeeping issues.

"I used to do that on my own, but I basically outsourced that to my accountant," Gramm said. "It was too much."

(cont'd on page 8)



Reflections of Our 5th 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





Dr. Patty Hogan generously donated her time to speak to horsemen and adopters about responsible racehorse retirement.



Manager Vicky Mangini.

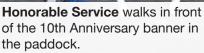
Aztec Sense captures the \$100,000 Turning for Home Starter Handicap Stakes.



Stables graciously sponsored the Great Changes race.



Trainers Ned Allard and Phil Aristone smile for a picture.





Adopter Pamela Merkey and her family came out for a race named in their horse Exciting Times's honor. Also here was Randy Allen on behalf of sponsor Club Risque Stable.



Ecstatic connections celebrate in the winner's circle for the stake race.



He's a Real Keeper adopter Cindy Weitoish was excited to experience the races.



This year the pony riders were given TFH Day gear for both themselves and their ponies



Lookingforanewhome was ironically one of the winners on TFH Day.



Brian Sanfratello, Executive Secretary of the **PA Horse Breeders Assoc.** joins fellow PA breeders **Maui Meadow Farm** in presenting a check to TFH.



Thanks to the Best Turned Out Award sponsors, horses like **These Blues** came over in style.



Pedro Castillo, Parx the Horse & Amanda Eichfeld.

Aztec Sense had a few tense moments before surviving an objection in the stakes race.

Find even more photos, videos and memories of #tfhday2018 on our social media pages!



The gate crew and valets all received special TFH Day polos.



Students of Partner Farm **McCaulley Equine** were given the difficult task of choosing the Best Turned Out Award winners.

2018 TFH Day Best Turned Out Winners



Sponsored by Indian Mills Stock Farm Groom: Jaime Bravo Ruiz Horse: Act of Madness



Race 2 Sponsored by Balmora Farm Groom: Tamika Winfield Horse: Buzz With Alex



Sponsored by the Retired Racehorse Project Groom: Enrique Lopez





Sponsored by Kantarmaci Racing LLC Groom: Rusty Rondon Horse: He's a Slam Dunk



Sponsored by Equus Farm II & Floyd Snyder Groom: Luis Dutary Horse: Spartianos



Race 6

Sponsored by Parx Racing Groom: Armando Estrada Horse: Three Butterflies



Sponsored by CedarLane Farm Groom: Jorge Covarrubias Horse: Wait for It



Sponsored by Home Team Stables Groom: Carlos Gonzalez Horse: These Blues



Sponsored by Lauren Horan Groom: Hector Negron Horse: Yes Mz Adah

UPTOWNCHARLYBROWN: SOMETHING TO REALLY GET EXCITED ABOUT!



Thank you to all the breeders who have supported Charly

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Dick Jerardi Presents . . .

(cont'd from page 3)

Parx, however, is always his favorite track.

"It's the place that I want to race of all the tracks I sort of look at," Gramm said. "It fits my ownership profile. I don't have enough money to compete in New York."

It's laughable when somebody suggests the purse money at Parx is going to sheikhs. Gramm would know.

"I feel like a lot of the owners at Parx are a lot like me," Gramm said. "A lot of them are small businessmen. I don't think of Parx owners as a series of outsiders. I'm an anomaly, but I feel like I'm not a poacher. The only way I'm an anomaly is that I don't live in Pennsylvania."

He contributes so much to the commonwealth's economy every year it is almost as if he lives here.

"I pay taxes in Pennsylvania," Gramm said. "I have a big business. I did over \$785,000 in purses. Almost all of that money gets churned right back into my business, buying more horses, breeding horses, helping to pay for my operation."

And, in his real job, he is also helping grow the overall business. He taught an "Economics of Race Track Wagering Markets" class in the spring of 2017. He had 35 students and plans to teach the class every other spring semester.

"All those students e-mailed me their Derby picks," Gramm said. "When I teach my other classes, it's hard not to work in horse racing-related examples."

So Marshall Gramm has a serious racing stable. He teaches about the game. And he is the leading owner at Parx.



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Bruce Casella **EQUI-PHOTO** Kimberly Gerard Keith Jones Dick Jerardi Let's Go Racing Let's Go Racing Parx Parx the Horse Kim Pratt Rich Romano Nikki Sherman SpeedPro Imaging Ron Tridente Kielv Waters

There are so many people who contribute their time to our organization that may be missing many from this page. Thank you to everyone, from the bottom of our hearts!

Parx Racing Well-Represented at '17 Iroquois Awards

The Pennsylvania Horse Breeders Association held their annual 2017 Iroquois Awards on Friday, June 8, 2018 at the prestigious Hotel Hershey. Highlighting the evening was the coronation of Eclipse Champion Unique Bella, who was named PA-Bred Horse of the Year. While the pretty gray filly has yet to make a trip across the states to Parx, there were several Parx runners represented amongst the winners.

Stabled at Parx Racing are G3 winner Daisy and undefeated stakes winner The Man - both trained by John Servis. Also making appearances at Parx in 2017 were three-time Parx stakes winner Page McKenney, two-time Parx stakes winner Firsthand Report (who also captured the Older Female title at Parx for 2017), Plum Pretty Stakes winner Power of Snunner, Pennsylvania Nursery winner Prince Lucky, and Roanoke second-place finisher Spring Quality - who just captured the Grade 1 Woodford Reserve Manhattan Stakes at Belmont Park the same day that Justify won the Triple Crown.

Horse of the Year, Three-Year-Old Female & Female Sprinter Unique Bella

2vo Male: Prince Lucky **2vo Filly:** Daisy

3yo Male: Fast and Accurate

Older Male: Mor Spirit **Older Mare:** Finest City

Male Sprinter: Tom's Ready

Turf Male: Spring Quality **Turf Mare:**

Firsthand Report

PA-Preferred Male:

PA-Preferred Mare: The Man Power of Snunner

Steeplechaser: All the Way Jose **Broodmare:** Unrivaled Belle

Lifetime Achievement Award: Jonathan Sheppard **Leading Breeding Fund Recipient** (Horse):

Page McKenney

Leading Breeding Fund Recipient:

Glenn E. Brok, LLC

Leading Overall Breeder of PA-Breds:

Blackstone Farm LLC **Leading Stallion:** Jump Start

The Pennsylvania Horse Breeders Association

invites its members & guests to a great day of racing at PARX on Saturday, September 1, 2018

All Breeding Fund Stakes will include a 25% PA-Sired Bonus for 1st, 2nd & 3rd

\$100,000 PA-Bred Stakes:

Banjo Picker Sprint S., 3 & up, 6 fur.

Roanoke S., 3 & up, 1-1/16 mi.

Power by Far S., 3 & up, fillies & mares, 5 fur., turf

Dr. Theresa Garofalo Memorial S., 3 & up, fillies & mares, 6 fur.

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

Early Nominations 7/14/18

Late Nominations 8/18/18







News from the THA: More H2B Visas Released, But Industry Calls for Reform

The THA is the parent organization of the PTHA. The THA brings together the PTHA with other member organizations from DE, IL, MD, NJ and NY.

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The American Horse Council June 6 reported that the United States Department of Homeland Security has published a final rule in the Federal Register that authorizes an additional 15,000 H2B visas for the remainder of fiscal year 2018.

The additional visas were authorized by Congress in March of this year. Lawmakers, however, stated the cap of 66,000 could be increased to 129,500 for the current fiscal year.

According to the AHC, the DHS said that by issuing 15,000 H2B visas it will prioritize employers who demonstrate that they would suffer "irreparable harm" to their business

unless they are able to hire additional seasonal workers during the summer and fall of this year. The AHC noted that DHS further states that it is trying to avoid abuses of the program.

Alex Waldrop, President and Chief Executive Officer of the National Thoroughbred Racing Association, said on Twitter that more than 15,000 applications—they cover multiple industries—were received within six days of the notice and will be awarded by lottery. He called it "suboptimal."

"Trainers and so many businesses that need a permanent fix to the H2B guest worker visa program," Waldrop said. "The NTRA and many other

industries are advocating for a muchneeded permanent legislative fix to address this ongoing problem."

"During the course of the extended back-and-forth discussions between the legislative and executive branches this spring, DHS claims that only congressional action can provide long-term certainty with respect to the issuance of more guest-worker visas," the AHC said in its memo. "According to federal regulators, addressing worker shortages through the annual appropriations process fails to create certainty, undercutting the ability of the business community to plan long-term."

Edgar Prado Captures 7,000th Career Victory

With a victory aboard Anthony Merlino's Thefundsarelow on May 15, 2018 at Parx, jockey Edgar Prado won the 7,000th race of his Hall of Fame career. Inducted into racing's Hall of Fame in August of 2008, the Peruvian native stands 8th all-time in career wins.

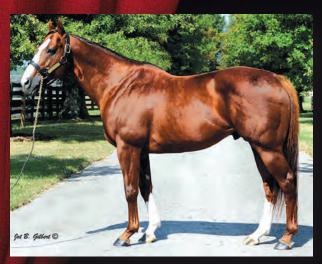
A regular on the Maryland circuit, Prado came into the national spotlight in 1997, winning an incredible 546 races that year, making him one of only 4 riders to win over 500 races in a year. In 2002, he won his first Classic race, the Belmont Stakes aboard Sarava at odds of just over 70-1, the longest priced winner in the long history of the race. In 2004, he won the Belmont again,



winning with Birdstone and denying the immensely popular Smarty Jones the Triple Crown. Galloping out after the race, in a tremendous gesture of sportsmanship, he drew alongside fellow jockey Stewart Elliott aboard Smarty and said, "I'm sorry." He also won the Kentucky Derby in 2006 aboard the great Barbaro, winning by 6 ½ lengths, the largest margin of victory in the Run for the Roses since Assault won by 8 lengths back in 1946.

The jockeys with more wins all-time, in order, are Russell Baze (12,842), Laffit Pincay, Jr. (9,530), Bill Shoemaker (8,833), Pat Day (8,803), David Gall (7,396), Chris McCarron (7,141), and Angel Cordero, Jr. (7,051). As the only active rider still on that list, Prado has a chance to move even higher.

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#6 PENNSYLVANIA 2017 2YO SIRE

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

2018 FEE: \$1,500 LIVE FOAL



Thoroughbred Industry Employee Awards

Nominations are now open for the Thoroughbred Industry Employee Awards. Nominations can be submitted until Aug. 15. There are a total of six awards which will carry total prize money of \$128,000. This year, the awards will be held on Wed., Oct. 31, of Breeders' Cup week at Churchill Downs, with the Breeders' Cup signing on as an event partner this year.

Godolphin, the global racing stable founded by His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, is the principal sponsor of the awards in association with The Jockey Club, the National Horsemen's Benevolent and Protection Association & the Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association.

Dan Pride, COO of Godolphin in America, said, "On behalf of Godolphin, our heartfelt thanks are extended to each and every person who has contributed to the early success of these awards. The involvement of The Jockey Club, the National HBPA and TOBA, and the Breeders' Cup this year, along with media support from the TDN, BloodHorse, Daily Racing Form, paulickreport.com and TVG, has been vital to the advancement of the awards. And a thank you to Churchill Downs for hosting this year's event. We invite everyone to send in a nomination so these deserving individuals can be recognized and rewarded for their efforts."

Dan Metzger, President of TOBA, commented, "The people really are the heartbeat of the industry. Without them, we don't have an industry. It's so great to see them recognized for their dedication and achievements in Thoroughbred breeding and racing. And I urge everyone to think about those hardworking individuals that they know and work with and to nominate now."

The Keeneland Association hosted the event the first two years, but with the Breeders' Cup being held in Louisville this year, the awards ceremony will be at Churchill Downs. Breeders' Cup president Craig Fravel said, "We were able to talk to some very inspiring people, newcomers in the business, and guys who've been around for a long time, and it was very exciting to do that. We're very honored to be directly involved with the event for 2018."

For more information and to nominate online, please go to www.godolphinusawards.com.



TIEA at a glance

What are the Thoroughbred Industry Employee Awards (TIEA)?

The TIEA, sponsored by Godolphin, were created to identify and reward the hardworking individuals in the U.S. Thoroughbred industry – there's \$128,000 in prize money!

Who can be nominated?

Just about anyone currently involved in racing and breeding. There are a few eligibility restrictions.

How do I nominate?

Go to godolphinUSawards.com

NOMINATIONS OPEN NOW



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

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Parx Horsemen Around the Nation

Apr. 21 - ROBERT HILTON MEMORIAL S.

Charles Town, 7 furlongs

- 1st MIDNIGHT POKER
 - O: Main Line Racing Stable
 - T: John Servis
- J: Irad Ortiz, Jr.
- 3rd NAVY COMMANDER
 - O: Swilcan Stables
 - T: Robert Reid, Jr.
 - J: Javier Castellano

Apr. 21 - FEDERICO TESIO S. Pimlico, 1 1/8 miles

1st - DIAMOND KING

- O: Cash Is King LLC, D.J. Stable LLC & LC Racing
- John Servis
- J: Frankie Pennington

Apr. 28 - LYMAN S.

Parx Racing, 7 furlongs

- 3rd RED RAZZO
 - O: Gap View Stables & Jagger, Inc.
 - T: Jamie Ness
 - J: Navin Mangalee

May 4 - FLAT OUT S.

Belmont Park, 1 1/8 miles 2nd - ZANOTTI

- O: Ten Strike Racing
- T: Juan Carlos Guerrero
- J: Kendrick Carmouche

May 4 - LA TROIENNE S. (G1) Churchill Downs, 1 1/16 miles

3rd - MARTINI GLASS

- O: Vince Campanella & Nation's Racing Stable
- Keith Nations
- J: Paco Lopez

May 12 - RUNHAPPY S.

Belmont Park, 6 furlongs

- 3rd ALWAYS SUNSHINE
 - O: Stonehedge LLC
 - T: Edward Allard
 - J: Kendrick Carmouche

May 13 - GOLD FEVER S. Belmont Park, 6 furlongs

2nd - FORCED O: Newtown Anner Stud

- T: Miguel Vera J: Edgar Prado
- 3rd A DIFFERENT STYLE
 - O: Leonard C. Green
 - T: John Servis
 - J: Kendrick Carmouche

May 21 - TOM RIDGE S.

Presque Isle Downs, 6 furlongs 2nd - JUSTAHOLIC

- O: Lucky Man Racing LLC
- T: Keith Nations
- J: Jose Ferrer

May 26 - JOHN J. REILLY H. Monmouth Park, 6 furlongs

- 1st BROTHER CHUB
 - O: Kasey K Racing Stable LLC
 - & Michael Day
 - T: Michael Moore
 - J: Jose Ortiz

June 2 - NEW START S.

Penn National, 6 furlongs

- 2nd SMOKINPADDYLASSIE
 - O: Edward Bruzek
 - T: Edward Coletti, Jr.
 - J: Kendrick Carmouche
- 3rd DIXIE SERENADE
- O: Uptowncharlybrown Stud
- T: Edward Coletti. Jr.
- J: Manuel Franco

June 2 - DANZIG S.

Penn National, 6 furlongs

- 1st SMOOTH B
- O: LC Racing
- T: Robert Reid, Jr.
- J: Jose Lezcano
- 2nd MIDNIGHT POKER
 - O: Main Line Racing Stable
 - T: John Servis
- J: Kendrick Carmouche

June 2 - PA GOVERNOR'S CUP

Penn National, 5 furlongs (T)

2nd - DUBINI

- O: Pewter Stable
- T: Kathleen DeMasi
- J: Kendrick Carmouche

June 6 - LIGHT HEARTED S. Delaware Park, 1 mile 70 yd

2nd - BLUE STRIKE

- O: D. J. Stable
- T: John Servis
- J: Feargal Lynch

June 6 - TRUE NORTH S. (G2) Belmont Park, 6 1/2 furlongs

- 1st IMPERIAL HINT
- O: Raymond Mamone
- T: Luis Carvajal, Jr.
- J: Javier Castellano

June 23 - TURNING FOR HOME STARTER HANDICAP S.

Parx Racing, 1 1/16 miles

- 2nd MOON GATE WARRIOR
 - O: Over the Moon Racing
 - T: Louis Linder, Jr.
- J: Luis Rodriguez Castro
- 3rd RUBY BLEU
- O: Top Notch Racing
- T: Joseph Taylor
- J: Joshua Navarro



Smooth B becomes a stakes winner with an easy victory in the \$100,000 Danzig Stakes at Penn National Race Course.



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Trainer Becomes Author at Age 82

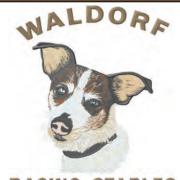
J. Willard Thompson is most well-known in the racing world as a longtime trainer of top-class racehorses, including Grade 1 winner Golden Horde and Grade 2 winners Roanoke and Dazzle Me Jolie. He also captured three training titles at Monmouth Park and back-to-back titles at the Meadowlands Racetrack.

Yet Thompson has kept a secret over the past fifty years: in the 1960s, he started writing a fiction novel, but it got lost over the years.

"Recently, I found the book at the bottom of my desk drawer," notes Thompson in the book's preface. "Now, at the age of 82, I finally got around to finishing it. Things seemed simpler back then and in other ways they're still the same - people still yearn to be successful without really knowing what that is or whether they have achieved it."

<u>The Mission</u> is now available for purchase on Amazon, Barnes & Noble and Google Play.

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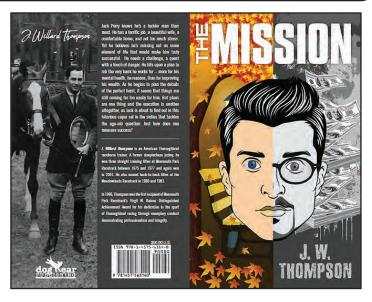


RACING STABLES





STEVIE Q. | SILENT INDIAN



THE MISSION REVIEW

Set in Garden City, New York, in the 1960s, <u>The Mission</u> features Jack Perry, a loan officer at a New York City bank. He's married to his beautiful college sweetheart Ashley, has a lovely home and doesn't have much stress in his life. But everything changes one night when he wakes up with the overwhelming sense that something is missing. His solution: rob the bank he works for, which will provide the excitement, risk and reward he's looking for.

Planning the perfect heist goes well, including buying a suitable disguise, but making it happen could be another story altogether. After all, the bank he plans to rob is the one that keeps him gainfully employed. Add to this mix a best friend who makes his living as a private eye, and this humorous novel tells a rollicking story even as it raises age-old questions about how people measure success and what it takes to be content in their lives.



Backstretch Views



Eugene Eleuthere duPont Weymouth passed away on June 11, 2018 at the age of 85. The longtime equestrian was a successful steeplechase jockey and even competed in the English Grand National. At the age of 24, he began training

racehorses and was a leading trainer at several New England tracks. From 1984 until his retirement in 2010, he trained horses at Fair Hill Training Center. He was never one to brag or boast and was always quick to encourage and congratulate other horsemen on their achievements. In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to the National Steeplechase Association, The Steeplechase Fund, 400 Fair Hill Drive, Elkton, MD 21921.



Charles Kai Bishop Lyman IV was born on May 4, 2018, weighing in at 9 lb., 2 oz. He is the first son of Nina & Charlie Lyman, of Maui Meadow Farm.



Apprentice Jockey
Mario Sanchez and
wife Emely Padron
De Sanchez
welcomed their
first child, daughter
Mariana Miranda
Sanchez Padron on
April 24, 2018.



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Robert L. Walter, III, lover of life, family, animals and humor, passed away on May 21, 2018. He was well-known in the Standardbred industry (having built and managed

Showplace & Gaitway Farms in New Jersey), but also held a soft place in his heart for Thoroughbreds - he loved days spent foxhunting aboard his own OTTB, Brophy. In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to Turning for Home at P. O. Box 300, Bensalem, PA 19020.

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, or message us on Facebook.

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Miss Tiago



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Trouble Kid 2015 Parx Horse of the Year



Chaplain's Corner Chaplain Rick Bunker

"I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will guide you with My eye." - Psalm 32:8 (NKJV)

We know that good horsemen look into the eyes of their horses. That tells them a lot and it communicates a lot to the horse as well. It is awesome to think that God speaks of His relationship with us as guiding us with 'eye contact'.

It is a promise from God in this Psalm after David has just expressed his awareness of his need for confession and confidence in God's forgiveness and provision. This action and awareness of David's activated, if you will, the relationship between David and God of guidance. Guidance through times where there is clearly great difficulty, and guidance through times where difficulty is not as clearly recognized. How can this guidance actually give me resilience?

The first thing to do when facing difficulty is to make sure you recognize it as soon as possible. It sounds obvious, but it's one thing people who survive life-threatening situations have in common. What do doctors say when they have successfully treated something? "Good thing we caught it early."

Second, don't panic. Resilient people acknowledge difficult situations, keep calm and evaluate things rationally so they can make a plan and act. And, focus on what is important,

which means quitting some things – as someone said, "You can do anything – when you stop trying to do everything."

Being confident will help – a lot. As someone said, "Successful people are all delusional." Knowing that God is guiding you (if you let Him) is great reason to have confidence.

Joe Simpson broke his leg at 19,000 feet, while climbing a mountain. He actually shattered his calf bone. He and his climbing partner thought he was a dead man, but he survived. As he says, by making it a game and celebrating small wins.

Realize how important you are. You must be if God is giving you this kind of close attention. Giving help can help you. It can bring meaning to your life. Leon Weliczker says he survived the Holocaust not only because of his resourcefulness – but because he felt he had to protect his brother.

I have been very brief in giving about eight keys to resiliency. The *integrating* key that permeates all the techniques, methods, and motivations is that God is with you – guiding you – if you but ask. Guiding you right on to Heaven - if you but ask Him.

"18Behold, the eye of the LORD is on those who fear Him, On those who hope in His mercy, 19To deliver their soul from death, And to keep them alive in famine. 20Our soul waits for the LORD; He is our help and our shield." - Psalm 33:18-20 (NKJU)

Now Collecting Book Bags & School Supplies

The chaplain's office is now collecting donations of new book bags and school supplies. You may also sign up in the recreation hall if you would like a relative to receive a book bag. The book bags and school supplies will be distributed beginning in mid-August, to sync up with the various school start dates for the new school year. Thank you and God bless you!



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