

PTHA NEWS

Pennsylvania Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association Newsletter

We ARE Pennsylvania Racing

Spring 2019

Perfect Aztec Sense Crowned Parx Horse of the Year

The PTHA partnered with Parx Racing on March 27, 2019 to honor the top horsemen and their equine athletes from 2018. A record number of guests - *over* 400 - attended the event, which in addition to the awards included cocktails, hors d'oeurves, dinner and dancing. Attendees were also entertained by surprise guest comedian Joe Conklin.

Headlining the evening as the 2018 Parx Racing Horse of the Year was Aztec Sense, who was undefeated in eight starts last year, including four at Parx. Trained by Jorge Navarro for longtime Parx owner Joseph Besecker, the gelding was claimed for a mere \$12,500 in 2017 and once he found his stride in 2018, became unbeatable. The son of Street Sense won the \$150,000 PA Derby Champion Stakes, the \$100,000 Turning for Home Stakes and the \$100,000 Salvaore M. DeBunda PTHA President's Cup Stakes at Parx. Aztec Sense also captured the award for Outstanding Older Male.

John Servis has accomplished every horseman's dream in winning the Kentucky Derby, Kentucky Oaks and a Breeders' Cup championship race. Yet it took until 2018 before he nailed down a Leading Trainer title at his home track. Frankie Pennington successfully earned his sixth career Leading Jockey crown (and



PTHA President **Sal DeBunda** presents the trophy for **Horse of the Year** to **Troy & Jeff Matty**, who accepted on behalf of the connections for **Aztec Sense**.



Aztec Sense wins the \$150,000 PA Derby Champion Stakes en route to being named **2018 Parx Horse of the Year**.

fifth straight, breaking the tie for consecutive titles with Kendrick Carmouche). Leading Owner resulted in a tie as Jagger, Inc. and Top Notch Racing both finished the year deadlocked at 24 victories.

Leading "Division B" Owner went to Michael R. Cox, while Howard "Roger" Brown, Jr., took the Leading "Division B" Trainer award. Jann Hernandez won the Leading Apprentice Jockey title.

2018 marked the return of the Special Achievement category. The award is reserved for those who have brought special recognition to Parx Racing. Three talented horses captured Grade 1 races in 2018:

Eclipse Award Champion Two-Year-Old Filly Jaywalk, two-time Grade 1 winner Imperial Hint and the hard-knocking older colt Discreet Lover.

Also honored with awards were stakes-placed Tara's Talent (Two-Year-old Female), Grade 2 winner Maximus Mischief (Two-Year-Old Male), Grade 3 winner Dixie Serenade (Three-Year-Old Female), listed stakes winner Navy Commander (Three-Year-Old Male), PA-Bred stakes winner Zipper's Hero (Older Female), Champagne Chuck (Claiming Horse of the Year & Winningest Horse), and Wonderfully Tuned (Outstanding Claim of the Year).

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

S notos: Nikki Shermar



President's Message

Salvatore M. DeBunda, Esq.

We are at a crossroads right now, with the recent breakdowns in California. I want to clarify that I believe

their initial outlawing of Lasix was a deflection of the main issue. In my opinion, abandoning Lasix is not the answer. There is a combination of factors that are just as important, if not more so, including genetics, training practices, tapping, imperfect pre-race vet checks, track surface, and the employment of proper safety officials. This is a battle that we must address together as an industry in order to see our sport survive.

Back here at Parx Racing, we have several new programs that should be a great help to our own. I am excited to relay that by the end of 2019, the PTHA should be able to distribute workmen's compensation funds to eligible Parx trainers. Exact details are still being finalized, but we truly believe that the number to be divided will be in the six figure amount.

In addition, Pony Up will guide horsemen and their employees toward a clear path for a new life - away from addiction and/or mental health issues. Another concern has been the decreased number of backstretch workers, so A Leg Up was created to be a liaison between horsemen and job-seekers outside of the stable gate.

On Wednesday, March 27th, we celebrated the very best of Parx Racing, and I was honored to present the Horse of the Year trophy for Aztec Sense. I would also like to express my heartfelt congratulations to the other champions!

Every year at this time, our PTHA Board must join together and work to educate our PA state legislators. This year is especially tough, as there are many new freshman legislators. Rest assured that Executive Director Mike Ballezzi and I will be joining our lobbyists in Harrisburg over the next few months to educate these "newbies" and make sure that our funds remain safe with the horsemen right here in PA.

Parx Horsemen Around the Nation

Feb. 2 - HOLY BULL S. (G2) Gulfstream Park, 1 1/16 miles

3rd - MAXIMUS MISCHIEF

- O: Cash Is King LLC & LC Racing
- T: Robert Reid, Jr.
- J: Jose Ortiz

Feb. 3 - BUSANDA S.

Aqueduct, 1 1/8 miles 3rd - AFLEET DESTINY

- O: Uriah St. Lewis
- T: Uriah St. Lewis
- J: Anthony Salgado

Feb. 16 - WIDE COUNTRY S.

Laurel Park, 6 furlongs

2nd - OUR SUPER FREAK

- O: Jagger Inc.
- T: Jamie Ness
- J: Angel Suarez

Mar. 16 - BEYOND THE WIRE S.

Laurel Park, 1 mile

- 3rd OUR SUPER FREAK
 - O: Jagger Inc.
 - T: Jamie Ness
 - J: Angel Suarez

Mar. 30 - BELLE GALLANTEY S.

Aqueduct, 7 furlongs

3rd - FLASHNDYNAMITE

- O: Kasey K Racing Stable LLC & Michael Day
- T: Michael Moore
- J: Silvestre Gonzalez

Mar. 30 - VIDEOGENIC S.

Aqueduct, 6 furlongs

3rd - BOW TOWN CAT

- O: Charles Orfe
- T: Alfredo Velazquez
- J: Kendrick Carmouche

Mar. 30 - STUD MUFFIN S.

Aqueduct, 1 1/8 miles

- 3rd COLONEL JUAN
 - O: Dun Roamin Farm, Inc.
 - & Harriette Waldron
 - T: John Servis
 - J: Kendrick Carmouche

Apr. 6 - **ASHLAND S. (G1)**

Keeneland, 1 1/16 miles

3rd - JAYWALK

- O: D.J. Stable & Cash Is King
- T: John Servis
- J: Javier Castellano

ATTENTION TRAINERS

Be sure to stop in to the PTHA office to update your Trainer Retirement Plan Beneficiary Form. Many trainers have not yet completed their form. You may speak with Nikki Guzman or Michael Colucci at the door across from the main PTHA office should you have any questions.

Sign up for text alerts from the Parx Racing Office! Message "parxracing" to 95577.

Please make sure to submit your 2019 employee registration list to both Chris Forbes at security **AND** PTHA Benefits Coordinator Amanda-Kate Lenzi at the PTHA. Stable employees will not be eligible for health, dental or eyecare benefits until all paperwork has been properly filed. Take care of it early so that your employees can be ready for medical care at any time.

PTHA Launches New Benevolence Programs

The Pennsylvania Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association is proud to announce the creation of two new benevolence programs that will greatly assist the horsemen on the Parx Racing backstretch: A Leg Up and Pony Up.



A LEG UP

RIDERS UP! Did you ever wonder what it would be like to work in the Thoroughbred industry? The PTHA will now provide the opportunity for interested job seekers to jump into the action. No experience with horses? No problem!

A Leg Up's goal is to provide the opportunity for fresh faces to work their way into all aspects of the racing industry and to help them find their niche in the Sport of Kings. This revolutionary new mentoring program gives interns the chance to work for a few days under an approved mentor trainer, learning how to hotwalk racehorses. Once approved by the mentor, the PTHA will assist in pairing up new hotwalkers with a stable at Parx Racing.

"Our goal is to match efforts with interested workers to explore the many jobs that racing offers," said Danielle Montgomery of the PTHA. "Starting on the bottom and working your way up the ladder is the way most backstretch workers began this way of life, and we are excited to offer 'A Leg Up' to anyone who wants to work in the racing industry."

Once on the backside, opportunities abound beyond the barn as well. Valets, pony riders, jockey's agents, racing office, marketing, and many more positions throughout the industry can be explored!

For more information, contact the PTHA office at (215) 638-2012 or email alegup@patha.org.



PONY UP

Sometimes it can feel like you're swimming against a never-ending current while trying to overcome addiction. Just a handful of symptoms include:

Aggression • Anxiety • Avoidance • Blackouts • Criminal Activity • Defensiveness • Denial • Depression • Dizziness • Domestic Violence • Drinking to Cope with Problems • Financial Problems • Forgetfulness • Hallucinations • Headaches • Homelessness • Insomnia • Irritability • Lethargy • Loss of Interest in Favorite Activities & People • Memory Problems • Mood Swings • Numbness • Paranoia • Poor Coordination • Repetitive or Slurred Speech • Sepsis • Sexual Dysfunction • Thoughts of Suicide • Unusual Body Odors • Vision Problems • Weight Changes • Work Problems

Sound familiar? The PTHA is here to help with its new Pony Up program, which is set up to guide backstretch workers toward a clear path for a new life.

"The most difficult part of overcoming any dependency or personal struggle is seeking help," said Pony Up Coordinator Amanda-Kate Lenzi. "It is our responsibility to offer a confidential and professional program for those who come to us asking for assistance. The PTHA has partnered up with programs in Bucks County to support these individuals. Pony Up is a judgment-free program that promises discretion and compassion."

For more information, contact the PTHA office at (215) 638-2012 or email ponyup@patha.org.

2018 Best of Parx Racing

JAGGER, INC.

Leading Owner (TIE)

2018 Parx Record:

106-24-14-17 for \$585,046

2018 Parx Highlights:

Winning at a 23% clip, some of Jagger, Inc.'s best Parx horses in 2018 included Banana Anna, stakes-placed Even Thunder, King Koa and Noble Kent.



PTHA Board Member **Phil Aristone** presents the trophies for **Leading Owner** to **Jamie Ness** of **Jagger, Inc.** (*left*), and **Martin Shaw** (*right*) of **Top Notch Racing**.

TOP NOTCH RACING

Leading Owner (TIE)

2018 Parx Record:

173-24-31-33 for \$1,031,164

2018 Parx Highlights:

Finishing on the board in more than 50% of their races, some of Top Notch Racing's best Parx horses in 2018 included Ignite, Mr. Brix and the stakes-placed Ruby Bleu.



Phil Aristone presents the trophy for Leading "B" Owner to Jamie Ness, who accepted on behalf of winner Michael Cox.

MICHAEL R. COX

Leading "Division B" Owner

2018 Parx Record:

15-7-2-4 for \$273,970

2018 Parx Highlights:

Michael Cox experienced the year of a lifetime in 2018 as his homebred Smokin Nitro emerged as a solid sprinter, capturing six of his ten starts, including five at Parx.



PTHA President Sal DeBunda presents Frankie Pennington & his family with the Leading Jockey trophy.

FRANKIE PENNINGTON

Leading Jockey

2018 Parx Record:

665-153-100-102 for \$5,181,286

2018 Parx Highlights:

Frankie Pennington captured his 5th straight riding title at Parx, and his 6th overall. He also won stakes aboard Always Sunshine, Diamond King, Maximus Mischief, Someday Jones and Vision Perfect.



Jann Hernandez receives the award for Leading Apprentice Jockey of 2018 from Sal DeBunda.

JANN N. HERNANDEZ

Leading Apprentice Jockey

2018 Parx Record:

327-48-43-35 for \$1,113,157

2018 Parx Highlights:

Some of Jann Hernandez's top mounts of 2018 included 4x winner Danny O, 2x winner Moon Shock, 2x winner Family Crest and Pnutbutter Special.



Parx Director of Racing **David Osojnak** presents **John Servis** with his first ever **Leading Trainer** trophy.

JOHN SERVIS

Leading Trainer

2018 Parx Record:

327-48-43-35 for \$1,113,157

2018 Parx Highlights:

John Servis has been a household name nationally for years, but he finally captured a training title at his home track of Parx Racing, posting an incredible 27% win rate.



PTHA Executive Director Mike Ballezzi presents the award for Leading "B" Trainer to Howard Brown, Jr.

HOWARD R. BROWN, JR.

Leading "B" Trainer

2018 Parx Record:

98-19-14-19 for \$497,533

2018 Parx Highlights:

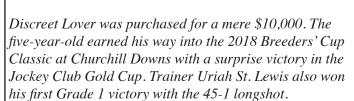
Howard "Roger" Brown finished on the board in more than 53% of his 2018 starts, including victories by 4x Printer.

DISCREET LOVER

Special Achievement

Owner: Trin-Brook Stables, Inc. **Trainer:** Uriah St. Lewis

2018 Stats: 10-2-0-0 for \$903,825





Sportswriter Dick Jerardi presents the trophy for Special Achievement to Uriah St. Lewis owner and trainer of Discreet Lover.

IMPERIAL HINT

Special Achievement

Owner: Raymond Mamone **Trainer:** Luis Carvajal, Jr. **2018 Stats**: 6-4-0-1 for \$767,500



With his easy victory in the Vosburgh, Imperial Hint clinched a "Win and You're In" berth in the Breeders' Cup Sprint on November 3rd at Churchill Downs. The small but mighty horse was 2nd in the Breeders' Cup Sprint to Roy H at Del Mar in 2017 and 3rd in 2018.



Phil Aristone presents the Special Achievement trophy to Francis Vaughn and Francis Chiumiento of Evolution Stable, who accepted on behalf of the connections of Imperial Hint.

JAYWALK

Special Achievement

Owner: D. J. Stable LLC & Cash Is King LLC Trainer: Patricia Farro

2018 Stats: 5-4-1-0 for \$1,384,200



Jaywalk won the Frizette Stakes (G1) by 5 3/4 lengths. Continuing her winning ways, Jaywalk streaked home by 5 1/2 in the \$2,000,000 Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies at Churchill Downs on November 3rd and was named Eclipse Award Champion Two-Year-Old Filly of 2018.



Sal DeBunda presents the trophy for Special Achievement to John Servis and Lois & Leonard Green of D.J. Stable for winner Jaywalk.

2018 Best of Parx Racing

MAXIMUS MISCHIEF

2yo Colt or Gelding

Owner: Cash Is King LLC &

LC Racing

Trainer: Robert E. Reid, Jr. **2018 Stats**: 3-3-0-0 for \$192,100

Hyped as the best horse to grace the grounds of Parx Racing since the immortal Smarty Jones, Maximus Mischief captured all three of his 2018 starts by a combined total of nearly 20 lengths, including the \$250,000 Remsen Stakes (G2) at Aqueduct.



Trainer Robert "Butch" Reid, Jr. accepts the trophy for Champion 2yo Colt or Gelding winner Maximus Mischief from Parx Director of Racing David Osojnak.

TARA'S TALENT

2yo Filly

Owner: Stony Brook Stables LLC Trainer: Edward J. Coletti, Jr. 2018 Stats: 6-2-2-2 for \$100,510



Tara's Talent broke her maiden by 5 1/4 easy lengths in her third career start at Parx Racing. She was third in her career debut - just a head behind Eclipse Award winner Jaywalk - and finished 3rd in the \$100,000 Blue Mountain Juvenile Fillies at Penn National to close out her season.



PTHA Board Member **Kate DeMasi** presents the trophy for **Champion 2yo Filly** to trainer **Ed Coletti, Jr.** for the connections of winner **Tara's Talent**.

NAVY COMMANDER

3yo Colt or Gelding

Owner: Swilcan Stables Trainer: Robert E. Reid, Jr. 2018 Stats: 11-5-0-0 for \$216,303



Navy Commander captured four of five starts at Parx Racing in 2018 by a combined total of more than twenty-five lengths, and capped that off with a victory in the \$100,000 Long Branch Stakes at Monmouth Park.



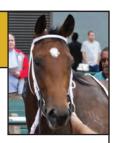
Kate DeMasi presents the trophy for Champion 3yo Male to Butch Reid, trainer of winner Navy Commander.

DIXIE SERENADE

3yo Filly

Owner: Uptowncharlybrown Stud LLC

Trainer: Edward J. Coletti, Jr. **2018 Stats**: 7-3-2-1 for \$221,750



Earning the most in her category by far in 2018, Dixie Serenade won two in a row at Parx Racing early in the year. She followed that up with two stakes-placed performances sandwiched around a thrilling 45-1 upset score in the \$150,000 Victory Ride (G3) at Belmont Park.



PTHA Board Member **Butch Reid, Jr.** presents the award for top **Three-Year-Old Filly** of 2018 to the connections of **Dixie Serenade**, including trainer **Ed Coletti., Jr.** and **Uptowncharlybrown Stud LLC** Managing Director **Bob Hutt**.

AZTEC SENSE

4yo & Up Colt or Gelding & Horse of the Year

Owner: Joseph E. Besecker Trainer: Jorge Navarro

2018 Stats: 8-8-0-0 for \$408,540



Undefeated overall in 2018, Aztec Sense was four-for-four at Parx Racing, including emphatic victories in the \$100,000 Turning for Home Stakes, \$100,000 Salvatore M. DeBunda PTHA President's Cup Stakes and \$150,000 PA Derby Champion Stakes.



Butch Reid presents the trophy for Champion 4yo & Up Colt or Gelding to Jeff & Troy Matty, who accepted on behalf of Joseph Besecker, owner of Aztec Sense.

ZIPPER'S HERO

4yo & Up Filly or Mare

Owner: Mario O. Mangini Trainer: Edward J. Coletti, Jr. 2018 Stats: 6-4-1-1 for \$199,370



Zipper's Hero was on the board in every 2018 start, and had the highest earnings of any in the category. The PA-Bred is by stallion Partner's Hero. Her year was highlighted by a victory in the \$120,000 Dr. Teresa Garofalo Memorial Stakes.



PTHA Board Member **Kate DeMasi** presents the trophy for **Champion Older Female** to **Zipper's Hero's** owner **Mario Mangini**, trainer **Ed Coletti, Jr.**, and regular rider **Johan Rosado**.

CHAMPAGNE CHUCK

Winningest Horse & Claiming Horse of the Year

Owner: Twinkling Star Stable

Trainer: Patricia Farro

2018 Stats: 19-7-3-2 for \$141,770



It's impossible to ignore the horse who won the most races at Parx in 2018. Champagne Chuck went from a maiden to seven-time winner by the conclusion of the year, including three victories for Twinkling Star Stable.



PTHA Board Member **Nick Saponara** presents **Champagne Chuck**'s award for **Winningest Horse** to owners **Twinkling Star Stable**. The gelding also won **Claiming Horse of the Year**.

WONDERFULLY TUNED

Outstanding Claim of the Year

Owner: Smart Angle LLP Trainer: Michael V. Pino

2018 Stats: 17-5-3-5 for \$182,867



Wonderfully Tuned was claimed for \$25,000 in September and went on to capture four more races including two allowances and a starter allowance. The PA-Bred son of Show Tune has fluorished since joining the Mike Pino barn at Parx.



PTHA Board Member **John Servis** presents **Wonderfully Tuned's** award for **Outstanding Claim** of 2018 to **Jackie Gordon**, stable foreman for trainer **Michael Pino**.

Horsemen's Awards Memories



Trainers Urged to Contact Lockton About Workmen's Comp Rates

Several years ago the PTHA partnered with Lockton to help deliver the best health insurance for our trainers available anywhere. Lockton has done an incredible job at keeping costs in check for the PTHA and we rely on their expertise on matters related to insurance.

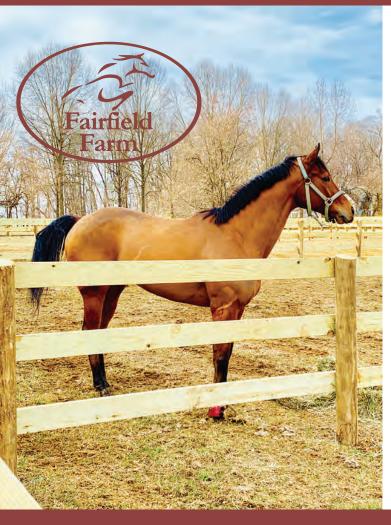
At our request, Lockton has secured incredibly favorable rates for Worker's Compensation Insurance for the members of the PTHA. The rates have been specially set and are based upon the strong record of safety and compliance shown by the members of the PTHA. Plus, these policies are eligible in all 50 states.

Lockton will be scheduling time to meet with Trainers onsite every few weeks. However, you do not need to wait for these onsite meetings in order to obtain

a competitive quote. You are strongly encouraged to speak with PTHA Benefits Coordinator Amanda-Kate Lenzi in the PTHA office to learn more. Or you can reach out directly to David Griffin from Lockton at dgriffin@lockton.com or (215) 982-7003.



Bucks County's Premier Lay-up Facility



FAIRFIELD FARM

- Private 24-acre horse farm
- Short & long term lay-ups
- 40+ stalls
- 20+ pastures & paddocks
- Wash stall & heated tack room
- Equiciser & round pen
- 100' x 200' outdoor ring
- 15 min. to Mid-Atlantic Equine Medical Center
- 35 min. to Parx Racing
- 80 min. to Monmouth Park
- 2 hrs. to Penn National Racetrack

2019 Parx Racing Stakes Schedule

<u>Date</u>	Race	Age		Gender	<u>Purse</u>	Dist.	Surf.	Nom. Close
04/27/19	Foxy J G Stakes	3 & Up	PA-Bred	Fillies & Mares	\$100,000	6 F	Dirt	04/13/19
04/27/19	Lyman Handicap	3 & Up	PA-Bred		\$100,000	7 F	Dirt	04/27/19
06/22/19	Crowd Pleaser Stakes	3	PA-Bred		\$100,000	1 1/16	Turf	06/08/19
06/22/19	Power By Far Stakes	3 & Up	PA-Bred	Fillies & Mares	\$100,000	5 F	Turf	06/08/19
06/22/19	Turning for Home Starter Handicap Stakes	3 & Up			\$75,000	1 1/16	Dirt	06/08/19
07/02/19	Dr. James Penny Memorial (G3)	3 & Up		Fillies & Mares	\$200,000	1 1/16	Turf	06/18/19
07/06/19	Parx Dash (G3)	3 & Up			\$200,000	5 F	Turf	06/22/19
08/03/19	Banjo Picker Sprint	3 & Up	PA-Bred		\$100,000	6 F	Dirt	07/20/19
08/03/19	Mrs. Penny Stakes	3 & Up	PA-Bred	Fillies & Mares	\$100,000	1 1/16	Turf	07/20/19
08/03/19	Marshall Jenney Handicap	3 & Up	PA-Bred		\$100,000	5 F	Turf	07/20/19
08/03/19	Dr. Teresa Garofalo Memorial	3 & Up	PA-Bred	Fillies & Mares	\$100,000	6 F	Dirt	07/20/19
08/03/19	Roanoke Stakes	3 & Up	PA-Bred		\$100,000	1 1/16	Dirt	07/20/19
09/02/19	Smarty Jones Stakes (G3)	3			\$300,000	1 1/16	Dirt	08/12/19
09/02/19	Turf Monster (G3)	3 & Up			\$300,000	5 F	Turf	08/12/19
09/02/19	Cathryn Sophia Stakes	3		Fillies	\$150,000	1 M 70	Dirt	08/12/19
09/02/19	Bensalem Stakes	3 & Up	MATCH		\$100,000	6 F	Dirt	08/12/19
09/02/19	Neshaminy Stakes	3 & Up	MATCH		\$100,000	7.5 F	Turf	08/12/19
09/02/19	Salvatore M. DeBunda PTHA President's Cup Stakes	3 & Up	MATCH	Fillies & Mares	\$100,000	1 1/16	Turf	08/12/19
09/02/19	Roamin Rachel Stakes	3 & Up	MATCH	Fillies & Mares	\$100,000	6 F	Dirt	08/12/19
09/21/19	Pennsylvania Derby (G1)	3			\$1,000,000	1 1/8	Dirt	08/31/19
09/21/19	Cotillion Stakes (G1)	3		Fillies	\$1,000,000	1 1/16	Dirt	08/31/19
09/21/19	Gallant Bob Stakes (G2)	3			\$300,000	6 F	Dirt	08/31/19
09/21/19	Parx Dirt Mile	3 & Up			\$150,000	1 M	Dirt	08/31/19
09/21/19	Turf Amazon Stakes	3 & Up		Fillies & Mares	\$150,000	5 F	Turf	08/31/19
09/21/19	Alphabet Soup Handicap	3 & Up	PA-Bred		\$100,000	1 1/16	Turf	08/31/19
09/21/19	Plum Pretty Stakes	3 & Up	PA-Bred	Fillies & Mares	\$100,000	1 1/16	Dirt	08/31/19
10/05/19	Greenwood Cup (G3)	3 & Up			\$200,000	1 1/2	Dirt	09/14/19
12/07/19	Pennsylvania Nursery Stakes	2	PA-Bred		\$100,000	7 F	Dirt	11/16/19

UPTOWNCHARLYBROWN

#1 Stallion Moving Mares Up!
Highest AEI/CI RATIO in North America

5th Highest AEI in all of N.A. Average Earnings Index 2.15 Comparable Index 0.81

Higher AEI than INTO MISCHIEF, CANDY RIDE,
MEDAGLIA D'ORO, KITTEN'S JOY, UNCLE MO,
MALIBU MOON, SPEIGHTSTOWN, JUMP START,
WARRIOR'S REWARD, etc.

LIFETIME PROGENY STATS:

\$81,762 AVERAGE EARNINGS/STARTER
20% STAKES HORSES FROM STARTERS
70% WINNERS FROM STARTERS

Uptowncharlybrown's
DIXIE SERENADE named 2018
Parx Champion 3YO Filly

\$4,500 LFSN. \$3,500 to PA-foaling mares

Inquiries to Bob Hutt 732-241-6606 BobHutt99@aol.com www.utcbstud.com



Mohrsville, PA

Glenm and Becky Brok
DiamondBFarmPA.com

© Nikki Sherman



Thank You for Your Support 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



The PTHA's Turning for Home and the Granny Youmans Fund, which provides scholarships for backside employees and their families, were once again the charitable beneficiaries of Parx Racing's 2018 Annual Horsemen's Awards Banquet. We truly appreciate all the hard work that goes into organizing the auctions and the many fantastic prizes donated by our loyal sponsors. Prizes included golf outings, over 60 fun baskets full of gift cards and beautiful items, and one-of-a-kind silent auctions like a 1980 signed World Series baseball bat, sports memorabilia, and a really fancy, fold-up bicycle. In fact, there were so many great prizes, on top of an already amazing night overflowing with dazzling guests, delicious food, delightful entertainment and professional videos of the award-winning horses, that we had to push through very quickly and many baskets were delivered on the backside the next day. Of course, the best part of the evening was witnessing our fellow horsemen accept their awards for their hard-earned victories and for the special horses they were responsible for in the prior year.

Our fundraising, which covered the costs for three retiring horses that shipped to Mid-Atlantic Equine Medical Center this week for surgeries, would not be possible without longtime Volunteer Coordinator Joi Hollinger



We would like to thank the following groups who generously donated items to the basket & silent auctions at the Horsemen's Awards Banquet.

- Acme
- Applebee's
- Baldini
 - Communications
- Bensalem Country Club
- Bertucci's
- Boehringer Ingelheim
- Brandywine River Museum
- Cargill
- Carrabba's
- Chickie's & Pete's
- Courtyard by Marriott Bensalem, Pa.
- Dave & Buster's
- Dorney Park
- Fairfield Farm
- Geoffrey Moulton
- Godiva
- Hansen Properties,
- Helium Comedy Club
- Hogan Equine
- HPA
- Kate DeMasi
- Longwood Gardens
- Lou Linder, Jr.
- Dr. Tom Lurito
- Mad Golfer

- Mike Rosenbaum
- Museum of the American Revolution
- Nancy Lyons
- Outback Steakhouse
- Panera Bread
- Parx Racing
- Pat Wermuth
- Philadelphia Phillies
- Philadelphia Soul
- Philadelphia Theatre Company
- Philadelphia Wings
- Philadelphia Union
- Philly Pops
- Radisson Hotel Northeast Phila.
- Dr. Al Reed
- Leslie Saunders
- Dr. Art Stitzer
- Texas Roadhouse
- TFH Volunteers
- Toll Booth Saddle Shop
- Trenton Thunder
- Ultrazone
- Ware's Farm Supply
- Wells Fargo Center
- Winterthur Museum

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

Chris Benedetto Jeanne Capone Jean Fritz Nikki Guzman Joi Hollinger Donna Hural

Ali Montgomery Megan Montgomery Jan Palmer Ginny Suevo

Debbie Ulmer-Phillips

and her team of volunteers, as well as the dedication of TFH Assistant Director Danielle Gibson, who made sure everything ran smoothly in the busy environment. Many thanks to the PTHA staff and Parx representatives who work together every year for this event, and of course, to every person who bought a ticket or participated in the auction! Every donation goes directly towards helping find safe homes for our horses and education for our families.

On another note, we are always pleased to look around and see that more and more racetracks are following our lead, creating better lives for retiring horses, but it also means that there is more competition in the aftercare market. Current public opinion towards horse racing means that we have to go the extra mile, and protect our horses, our way of life, and the many families who work in this industry. That is a lot of responsibility riding on the backs of these born-to-run athletes. We are proud that our horsemen are doing

all they can to protect their horses and provide them a safe second career as well.

To highlight the amazing results of our aftercare program, we will celebrate Turning for Home Day again on June 22, 2019, honoring PA-Breds and TFH graduates alike. It promises to be a fun day of racing, including three stakes races - the \$100,000 Crowd Pleaser Stakes for PA-Breds, the \$100,000 Power by Far Stakes for PA-Bred fillies and mares, and of course, our featured \$75,000 Turning for Home Starter Handicap Stakes. We will do our part to bring new faces to the races. If you wish to sponsor a race or enjoy the lunch with us, please contact our office right away. Every year our sponsor list grows! Thank you for your ongoing support of this groundbreaking program which, by supporting racehorses after their careers are over, supports our continuing careers in this spectacular industry.





News from the THA

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.

One Corporate Center, 10451 Mill Run Circle, Suite 400, Owings Mills, MD 21117

410-356-8866 • www.tharacing.com

MID-ATLANTIC MANDATES BAN ON BIOPHOSPHONATES

The entire Mid-Atlantic region-- regulators, horsemen's organizations, breeders' organizations, racetrack operators and veterinarians-- has joined together to mandate an immediate and strict prohibition on the use of bisphosphonates in all horses under the age of 4.

The decision was made at the annual Mid-Atlantic Regulatory and Stakeholders meeting held at Delaware Park on March 21, 2019. The action followed a recommendation from the Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association (THA) Board of Directors on March 7, 2019 urging a regional and national ban.

The Mid-Atlantic mandate is as follows:

"The entire Mid-Atlantic region will impose, and strongly urges all Thoroughbred industry stakeholders and regulators to support, the enactment of an immediate prohibition on the use of bisphosphonates in all horses under the age of 4, unless and until the scientific and veterinary community determines that the use of such drugs does not compromise the health and welfare of the horse. The use of bisphosphonates in horses 4 years old and older should be limited to only those horses who have been diagnosed with navicular disease by a veterinarian and for whom the use of such drugs is warranted."

The National HBPA, which participated in the Mid-Atlantic meeting and voted at the meeting to support the directive, has issued its formal support and will urge all its affiliates to join with their Mid-Atlantic affiliates in a nationwide prohibition.

"There is absolutely no reason for these drugs to be administered to a horse, except under the very limited circumstance for which they were approved by the FDA. While we recognize that there are scientific and testing challenges, it is indisputable that there is no legitimate extra-label use for these drugs in racing and breeding and we must act to stop it now if we are to fulfill our commitment to the health and welfare of the horse," said Alan Foreman, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the THA and longtime coordinator of the Mid-Atlantic meetings.

"The regulatory community strongly supports this action and will take the necessary steps to see that it is enforced," said J. Michael Hopkins, Executive Director of the Maryland Racing Commission and Chairman of the Association of Racing Commissioners International. "I thank our Mid-Atlantic regulators and stakeholders for joining together quickly and unanimously to implement this prohibition and will seek the full support of the ARCI at our meeting in California."

"The National HBPA and its affiliates are, and have always been, committed to the highest standards of equine health and welfare. Together, we join with other major industry stakeholders and regulators in supporting an immediate prohibition on the off-label use of bisphosphonates, which we believe is in the best interest of our equine athletes and our industry," said NHBPA CEO Eric Hamelback.

Bisphosphonates are prescribed to treat bone loss in humans, but the Federal Drug Administration approves of their use to treat navicular disease, a common cause of lameness, only in horses four years old and older.

MID-ATLANTIC ADOPTS STRATEGIC PLAN TO REDUCE EQUINE FATALITIES

Concluding more than a year of regional discussion, study, review and consultation, the entire Mid-Atlantic region's Thoroughbred racing industry on March 21 voted unanimously to formally adopt and fully implement a long-term and forward-thinking Mid-Atlantic Strategic Plan to Reduce Equine Fatalities.

All of the region's racetrack operators, horsemen's organizations, breeders' organizations, racing commissions and regulatory and racetrack veterinarians participated in the preparation of the plan. Many phases of the plan are already in practice stemming from the 2012 New York Task Force Report on Race Horse Health and Safety, which initially served as the model for regional and national industry reform.

Since regional implementation of the task force's recommendations, and many others since that time, the incidence of equine racing fatalities in the Mid-Atlantic region has declined 29% based on Equine Injury Database statistics. In New York alone, the incidence of equine racing fatalities in 2018 was 1.29 per 1,000 starts, the lowest fatality rate in the state in decades and well below the national average of 1.68 per 1,000 starts.

The plan, drafted by New York State Gaming Commission Equine Medical Director and New York Task Force Chairman Dr. Scott Palmer, former American Association of Equine Practitioners Presidents and regional veterinarians Dr. Kathy Anderson and Dr. Reynolds Cowles, and Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association Chairman and New York task force member Alan Foreman, incorporates five key goals, including the establishment of regional safety best practices, improved methods to identify horses at increased risk of injury, the implementation of protective factors to reduce the risk of injury, information sharing and communication, and improvement of the general health and welfare of the horse.

The participants will use evidence-based decision making to ensure the integrity of the process at every level. The plan is intended to be a living document, with new strategies and practices implemented throughout the region as they become available.

"The conscientious use of risk-management techniques, including the introduction of protective factors, have been proven to be successful in reducing the risk of injury to racehorses," the plan states. "However, the use of risk-management programs is not uniformly practiced across all racing jurisdictions. The development of a strategic plan to reduce equine fatalities in the Mid-Atlantic region is an effort to develop and share regional best practices and communication tools that can be used to minimize equine fatalities on a broad scale."

"We've been a leader on racehorse safety in the Mid-Atlantic and nationally, the numbers show it, but we cannot rest on our laurels," said Joe Appelbaum, President of the Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association and the New York THA. "We need to focus on protecting our horses, and there's only one way to do it—collaboratively, collectively and comprehensively. We all have to contribute."

"Our plan is, and has to be, the number one priority for the racing industry," Palmer said. "The decrease in equine fatalities in the Mid-Atlantic region over the last four years is due in no small part to the introduction of a number of safety initiatives. That's a good piece of news. It is important to recognize the progress we have made and encourage other jurisdictions to follow.

"Now we have to get behind this plan in an aggressive fashion going forward."

Foreman, who initially proposed the concept of a regional strategic plan, praised the Mid-Atlantic stakeholders and regulators for their ongoing commitment to racehorse health and safety, but acknowledged that there is much work to be done.

"We have got to do better," he said. "The fatality rate is still too high. We have to continue to learn from our experiences and make the changes and adopt reforms that we know will make things better for our horses and our industry."

View the plan online at www.tharacing.com.



Dick Jerardi + Let's Go Racing Parx Present . . . Winchill's First Winner is Spectacular

Parx Racing Hall of Famer Dick Jerardi presents a new series dedicated to the hardworking people on our very own Parx backstretch. Below is just one of those articles; for more, check out www.letsgoracingparx.com, register for our digital mailing list on our website; and/or follow us on social media!

It was the first race at Parx on Feb. 11, a six-horse field of Pennsylvania-bred maidens. There was nothing to indicate anything unusual was about to happen.

Then, Word on a Wing happened. Making the second start of his career, the three-year-old got the lead at the start and just kept going and going and going, finally winning by a spectacular 16 1/2 lengths and getting an 84 Beyer Speed Figure.

Racing for the Pewter Stable of Kate and Greg DeMasi and trained by Parx Hall of Famer Kate DeMasi, Word on a Wing also happened to be the first winner for Pennsylvania stallion Winchill, a mainstay in the DeMasi barn from 2011 to 2014.

Purchased for \$53,000 at a 2011 dispersal sale, Winchill, originally trained by Dale Romans, had four wins and four seconds from 17 starts for his new owners, Pewter Stable and the late, great Bob Levy. Winchill won the 2013 First Responder Stakes at Parx and placed in three other stakes before being retired. His final start was June 16, 2014 at Parx.

As a son of North America's greatest living stallion, Tapit, and out of Exclusive Hold, twice stakes placed at Saratoga during her two-year-old season, Winchill had some potential stallion value.

"He's kind of a neat horse; we thought we'd take a shot, breed him and see what happens," Greg DeMasi said. "He didn't get a large group of mares. I think he got 30, 35 mares. Son of Tapit, taking a shot."

Word on a Wing is out of the DeMasi's mare Merry's Pegasus so he is owned and bred by Pewter and trained by DeMasi. Thus, this is all very exciting.

"I think he's got talent," Greg said. "I think he's probably good enough to win a stake. We're kind of excited."

Winchill stands at Timber Ridge Farm in Felton, Pa., not far from Gettysburg.



Word On A Wing

"Since Monday, I've had numerous phone calls about breeding to him," Greg said. "It's all about getting mares to him. Hopefully, this horse sparks interest. People around here breed late anyway. It's not like Kentucky. In Kentucky, they're already booked. You try to get a stallion that's popular now; (there's a good chance) you're not going to get him. We'll see what happens. It's a good start."

Winchill won \$288,294 on the track, almost all of it on fast dirt surfaces where he had six wins and four seconds from 15 starts.

Trish Bowman began working for the DeMasi barn in 2012 and was often around Winchill. A Bensalem native, a graduate of the Godolphin Flying Start Program and now a racing official at Laurel Park, Trish remembers Winchill well.

"He was like a golden retriever," she said. "That horse, he was like my best friend. I taught him how to do different tricks. I remember I would get alfalfa and hold it in my hand and tell him to speak and he would."

What did he say?

She would sit down in his stall after training and Winchill would fall asleep on her.

"You would never meet another horse like him," Trish said. "He has the biggest personality. I've been around hundreds of horses and nothing will ever come close to him."



The Pennsylvania Horse Breeders Association's 40th Annual Groquois Awards

Honoring the PA-Bred Champions of 2018 will be held Friday, June 7, 2019 at The Hotel Hershey

2-Year-Old Female

AMY FARAH FOWLER bred by Blackstone Farm LLC

PLEASE FLATTER ME bred by Mary Katherine Haire

TARA'S TALENT bred by Glenn E. Brok LLC

2-Year-Old Male

CALL PAUL

bred by Beatrice Patterson & Vicky Schowe

DELTA EXPRESS bred by Scott Bunker

& Cynthia Bartkowski

SPLICETHEMAINBRACE
bred by Swilcan Stables LLC

Turf Female

DADDY IS A LEGENDbred by HNR Nothhaft Horseracing LLC

FAHAN MURA bred by Michael J. Moran 3-Year-Old Female

COSMIC BURST bred by Pewter Stable

DIXIE SERENADE bred by Fantasy Lane Stable

SHAMROCK ROSE bred by Best A Luck Farm LLC

3-year-old Male

NAVY COMMANDER bred by Swilcan Stables LLC

SMOKIN' NITRO bred by Michael R. Cox

SMOOTH B

bred by St. Omers Farm & WynOaks Farm LLC

Turf Male

FAST AND ACCURATE bred by John R. Penn

SPRING QUALITY bred by George Strawbridge Jr.

Horse of the Year SHAMROCK ROSE

bred by Best A Luck Farm LLC

SPRING QUALITY bred by George Strawbridge Jr.

UNIQUE BELLA

bred by Brushwood Stable

Broodmare

SLEW'S QUALITY Dam of SHAMROCK ROSE

SPRING STAR
Dam of SPRING QUALITY

UNRIVALED BELLE Dam of UNIQUE BELLA Female Sprinter

SHAMROCK ROSE bred by Best A Luck Farm LLC

ZIPPER'S HERO bred by Peter Giangiulio

Male Sprinter

APPEALING FUTURE bred by Jon A. Marshall

ARMY MULE bred by Hope Hill Farm

FIELDER bred by HNR Nothhaft Horseracing LLC

SMOOTH B

bred by St. Omers Farm & WynOaks Farm LLC

Steeplechaser

LIL ROCKERFELLER bred by Brushwood Stable

SENIOR SENATOR bred by Charles CD McGill Older Female FAHAN MURA

bred by Michael J. Moran

IMPLY

bred by Barlar LLC

UNIQUE BELLA
bred by Brushwood Stable

Older Male

APPEALING FUTURE bred by Jon A. Marshall

ARMY MULE bred by Hope Hill Farm

red by Hope Hill Farm

RUBY BLEU

bred by Donald L. Brown
SPRING OUALITY

SPRING QUALITY bred by George Strawbridge Jr.

pabred.com

Pennsylvania Horse Breeders Association 701 East Baltimore Pike, Suite E, Kennett Square, PA 19348 • 610.444.1050





Medical care so advanced it almost makes you wish you were a horse.

MID-ATLANTIC

EQUINE MEDICAL CENTER

We offer every type of medical care your four-legged athlete could ever need. With board-certified specialists in all fields we provide everything from upper airway, arthroscopic and laparoscopic surgeries, to internal medicine, complex fracture fixation and advanced diagnostic imaging, including bone scans, MRIs and robotic CT — all in one place. It's enough to make a human jealous.

609.397.0078 40 Frontage Road Ringoes, NJ 08551 www.midatlanticequine.com

Around the Parx Oval



Do you have any writing, photos or news to share?

Send them over via email to nsherman@patha.org or share on our Facebook page!

PTHA Hosts First Ever Health Fair



Brandy Steenson won the grand prize raffle - a brand new Cannondale bicycle!

On Friday, April 12, 2019, the PTHA hosted its first annual Backstretch Health Fair at Parx Racing. Twenty vendors donated their time and resources to attend the four-hour event. Anyone with a Parx Racing license and access to the backstretch could join the festivities, which included free screenings by medical professionals and students. There were also raffles for \$50 Giant gift cards, donated baskets from the LaSalle nurses and the grand prize - a Cannondale bicycle courtesy of Lockton and Guy's Bicycles.

"What a great team effort!" said Laurie Colborn of the La-Salle Neighborhood Nursing Center. "Everyone at the PTHA was amazing and we are so glad to have the opportunity to help so many people on the Parx Racing backstretch."

Vendors included:

- Aetna
- · Beatriz Salamanca, Health Coach
- · Bensalem Chiropractic Center
- · Bensalem EMS
- Bucks County Area Agency on Aging Dr. Brian Rizen
- Bucks County Drug & Alcohol Commission, Inc.
- The Council of Southeast PA, Inc.
- Giant
- Dr. Michael Greenberg, Podiatry
- · Health Federation of Phila.
- Health Link Dental

- · LaSalle Neighborhood **Nursing Center**
- PTHA + Pony Up
- Race Track Chaplaincy
- · Ron's Backstretch Cafe
- Salus University
- · St. Mary Medical Center
- TD Bank
- · University of the Sciences
- YWCA Bucks County

"The PTHA provides a great number of services and benefits for the stable employees of Parx Racing. We hope this Health Fair created awareness and excitement over the many resources we have available," said PTHA Benefits Coordinator Amanda-Kate Lenzi. "I personally can't wait to see the impact it has. The stable employees are a fundamental part of the racetrack and this is our way of showing them support and appreciation."

Fair attendees were able to speak with any of the vendors at their own pace, and bilingual volunteers were also on-hand to assist with translations. The health screenings were very

popular, especially those offered by the twenty students and faculty of Salus University who performed basic vision and hearing screenings. La Salle Neighborhood Nursing Center also performed blood pressure screenings. The colleges were so excited about the event that several important faculty members stopped by, including Dr. Lindsay Bondurant (Director of the Pennsylvania Ear Institute), Dr. Linda Casser (Coordinator of Interprofessional Education Initiatives at Salus University), Dr. Kathy Czekanski (Dean of School of Nursing and Health Sciences at LaSalle University), Dr. Maria Parisi (Associate Dean for Optometric Clinical Affairs at the Pennsylvania College of Optometry), and James Yarrish (Associate Director for Interprofessional Education at the University of the Sciences).

"(The Health Fair) can only grow from here," said Beatriz Salamanca, who entertained the crowd for a short zumba session at midday. "I think the folks had fun with all the different information given to them from the vendors. They also seemed to enjoy the freebies and raffle table!"

The Health Fair also marked the official launch of the PTHA's Pony Up program, which guides backstretch workers toward a clear path for recovery, helping overcome issues such as drug and alcohol addiction and promote mental health awareness.



Backstretch Views



Trina Kossup passed away on January 15, 2019 in Davie, Fla. She graduated from Seton Hall with a nursing degree and was employed full time as an ER nurse. She also worked part time at Lutheran Senior Care in Moorestown, N.J. because she enjoyed taking care of the elderly. Trina got her trainer's license in 1982 and was an accomplished rider. She started horses at Garden State, Keystone, Atlantic City and Monmouth Park, and always worked the 7:00pm to 7:00am shift at the hospital in order to make it to the track during training hours. Trina retired and moved to Florida in 2009. She was kindhearted, generous and was a friend that you could count on no matter what was going on in her own life.



Best wishes to veteran jockey **John Bisono**, who was injured during a freak accident at Parx on March 11, 2019. Having just finished second aboard In Equality, John was unseated from his mount in the gallop out and fell. He sustained five broken ribs, a collapsed lung and a bruised kidney. He will be out of action for two to three months, according to agent Jim Boulmetis. A longtime mainstay in the jockeys' room at Parx, John had just returned here after a stint in the Midwest at Prairie Meadows and Remington Park. The Puerto Rican native has amassed over 1,000 career wins in North America after beginning his career as a star in Puerto Rico, winning more than 30 stakes races.



Joseph P. Evans passed away on Sunday, March 31, 2019. He was 58. Joe had a love of horses and worked at the track as a groom. He is survived by his son, Jeffrey R. Evans, and two sisters. A memorial service was held at Parx Racing on April 6th and the 5th race was named in his honor.

Isabel Caruso, granddaughter of longtime stewards' secretary **Sandy Caruso** (and husband **Antonio "Tony" Caruso**, retired trainer) and daughter of blacksmith **Pete Caruso**, played the best game of her young collegiate womens' basketball career on February 21, 2019. The DeSales University sophomore sport & exercise physiology major finished the game with a career-high-tying 14 points and four steals. Isabel gave her team the lead after being fouled after a rebound and then scored on four straight free throws, sending the Bulldogs to an easy victory over King's



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.



Two beloved Parx jockeys were married at the end of last year! **David** and **Molly Castillo** (left) tied the knot on November 16, 2018, while **Mychel Sanchez** and **Claudia Day** (right) made their match official on December 14, 2018.







Angel Aristone, daughter of trainer & PTHA Board Member Phil Aristone, was recently promoted to Executive Vice President of Communications for iHeartMedia. Angel will continue with iHeartMedia as a media and entertainment leader through proactive strategic communication efforts on both a local and national level. She will also continue to oversee media relations and external communications, and execute various strategic communication programs across various divisions including national programming, events, digital, entertainment enterprises, sales and partnerships, ventures and others. Angel joined the company in April 2011 as Vice President of Communications.



Scarlett Catherine Oliver was born on February 21, 2019 at 3:15 pm, weighing in at 6 lb. 10 oz. and 20 in. She is the second child of PTHA office assistant **Nicole Sasse** and **Ryan Oliver**.





Brady James Hicks was born on March 4, 2019, weighing in at 7 lb. 10 oz. and 20.25 in. He is the second grandson of Parx Racing steward **John Hicks**, and his proud parents are **lan** and **Amy Hicks**.





Ethan Martinez was born on March 14, 2019, weighing in at 5.8 lbs. and 19 in. He is the first grandchild of trainer **Eli Betancourt**. Ethan's happy parents are **Andrea Betancourt** and **Manuel Martinez**.





Luna Elizabeth Bolletino was born on April 8, 2019, weighing in at 9 lbs. and 20 in. She is the first grandchild of assistant trainer **Jill Auwarter** and former jockey **Nick Bolletino**. Luna's happy parents are **Nicholas Bolletino** and **Erica Dandridge**.





Chaplain's Corner Chaplain Rick Bunker

"15 will feed My flock and I will lead them to rest," declares the Lord GOD.
"16 will seek the lost, bring back the scattered, bind up the broken and strengthen the sick... I will feed them with judgment."

- Ezekiel 34:15-16 (NASB)

It is getting to the time of year when many will head out for some road trips, travel, and vacations. We may be going to places that we have never been before, and will be depending on the GPS for more than just getting around some construction delay or other sort of backup. I had forgotten to update my GPS for a while and there had been some construction in Philadelphia that eliminated a whole section of one street – what a challenge that was to my faith in the GPS. Another time there was an exit that had been reconstructed and moved about a hundred yards and that was a bit discombobulating. We all have many confusing GPS stories.

It is important to keep up-to-date, make sure connections are still good, and have a general idea of what lies beyond the GPS screen. In the Army we were expected to make regular communication checks to make sure that we were still 'in touch' with units around us, so that when it was necessary we would have open lines of communication, and not be surprised when we least needed another surprise like we could not report something, or call for help, or know where help was.

One thing I like about a GPS is it never yells at me, or calls me names It just says, "Recalculating" and then gives me the new directions that are needed to continue the trip – maybe after I took a wrong turn, or missed a turn. It never tries to point out whose fault it is for the needed recalculation. It just recalculates so we can get to where we need to go. I have

also never heard my GPS say, "Uh Oh," and I definitely never heard it say, "Oops".

I've been thinking that God is sort of like a glorious GPS. God doesn't force Himself on us, so we don't have to accept His guidance, but God is always there – ready, willing, and able to help. I was riding with a guy one time and he refused for the longest time to turn on the GPS until it was completely obvious that we were lost and late. When he turned the GPS on it didn't waste any time berating for not having turned it on sooner. It simply immediately began to help us find our way.

God, like our GPS, never says, "Oops", or "Uh Oh", or "What a mess you have got yourself into". God will definitely not take a moment to condemn, yell, or berate. God just goes to work recalculating how to get us to Heaven and in no time will have us on a path that will lead directly there.

God is even better than my GPS in that God is never out-of-date. God never has to charge a bit before starting. God never will take 'forever' to find a satellite. And, God will definitely never take you down a dirt logging road because it is a half mile shorter even though it takes an hour longer.

So whether going on vacation, or work, or wherever be sure to call on God to direct your steps. Turn to God early and often to regain and maintain your bearings along the complicated paths of life. I guarantee with God it will only get better – because God wants the best for you!

"5Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; fin all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths."

- Proverbs 3:5-6 (NKJU)



Quality Products and Discount Prices

Whether you're stabled right here at Parx Racing, or down for the day to saddle a horse, visit the HPA Store for all of your equine supplies!





Horsemen's Purchasing Association

Vicky Mangini, HPA Manager 267.223.3494 | 2786 Galloway Road (shipping) P.O. Box 300, Bensalem, PA 19020 (mailing) HOUI'S (every day except Wed.)
Tack Shop: 8:00 am - 4:00 pm
Feed/Shavings Trailers: 8:00 am - 1:00 pm
Ice House: 8:00 am - 2:00 pm (Race Days)

Pennsylvania Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association P.O. Box 300 Bensalem, PA 19020

215-638-2012: Fax 215-638-2919 www.patha.org

> **President** Salvatore M. DeBunda, Esq.

Executive Director Michael P. Ballezzi, Esq.

1st Vice President Steven A. Appel, DDS

2nd Vice President Philip Aristone

Treasurer Nicholas Saponara

Director/Owners Lisa Allen Steve Appel, DDS Charles Asensio Michael P. Ballezzi, Esq. Nicholas Saponara

Director/Trainers Philip Aristone Kathleen DeMasi Ronald Glorioso Robert Reid, Jr. John Servis

Officer Manager Connie Youmans

Horsemen's Purchasing Association Vicky Mangini, Manager

Turning for Home, Inc. Danielle Montgomery, Program Administrator

> Marketing & Publicity Nikki Sherman, Director

Health Care Amanda-Kate Lenzi, Coordinator

> **Controller & Pension** Michael A. Colucci, CPA

Attorneys Archer & Greiner, P.C.

FIRST CLASS PRESORT U.S. POSTAGE PAID PFRMIT #113 LANGHORNE, PA



The region's only Thoroughbred Racing TV Program Is Now on WPHL-TV Channel 17

For over 25 years, Let's Go Racing Parx has kept fans up-to-date on the latest in Thoroughbred Racing at Parx Racing and the latest from around the nation.

The program is sponsored and supported by The Pennsylvania Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association (PTHA).

LET'S GO RACING CAN NOW BE SEEN ON PHL-17 EVERY SATURDAY AT 10AM!

The show is also available at www.LetsGoRacingParx.com and on Facebook. Twitter and Instagram!



Join our hosts, Parx Racing Hall of Fame members Keith Jones and Dick Jerardi, for the latest in Thoroughbred news, behind the scenes access and more each Saturday at 10am on PHL-17!

LetsGoRacingParx.com

@letsgoracingpa







Must be 18 years or over to wager. Gambling problem? Call 1-800-GAMBLER