

FEBRUARY
2024

PTHA POST

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2023 HORSEMENS AWARDS

FEBRUARY 17, 2024



www.patha.org



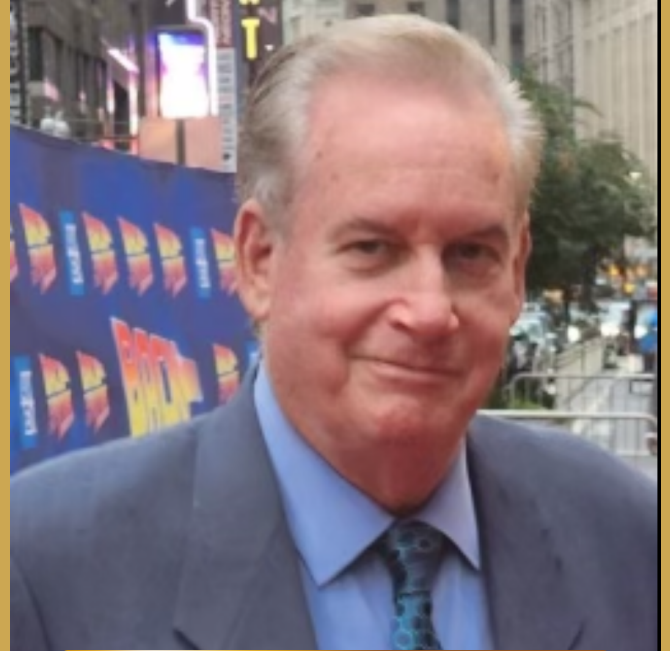
Memo from PTHA President ROBERT HUTT

As the calendar turns to February, hope springs eternal as we're only six weeks away from Spring. We've just experienced a brutal few weeks of winter weather which played havoc with training and forced two full weeks of racing cancellations.

Your PTHA is on top of it. PARX management has agreed to add additional racing days and races to make up for the races we've lost. Track Superintendent, Gerard Weipert, and his maintenance crew put in countless hours getting the track surface in great condition for all horsemen. Horse welfare must always come first and foremost before any other considerations.

I'm very pleased to announce the return of our Condition Book Committee who met for the first time with our Racing Secretary. We can't stress enough with the implementation of HISA rules how important it is to race to a Condition Book and not a "smorgasbord of Extra Races" on an Overnight; especially, when you can't race a horse for 14 days after you treat it (HISA). The new Condition Book will be tailored to the existing colony of horses on the backstretch.

Last, but not least, after many months of negotiations, we'll be announcing very soon the release of purse money to owners in good standing without having to wait for drug testing to be completed. We understand that you need your money on a timely schedule to meet your daily/weekly/monthly obligations. There are other many good things coming your way in 2024 as your PTHA Board works tirelessly to improve racing at PARX. Until next time, stay warm.



Robert "Bob" Hutt
PTHA PRESIDENT



Update from Executive Director JEFFREY A. MATTY, JR.

Horsemen: Winter Weather was a force to be reckoned with throughout the Mid-Atlantic over the last few weeks. To help our horsemen, the PTHA and Parx Racing have mutually agreed to add two days to our Live-Racing calendar for later in the year. Wednesday, May 1, 2024, & Wednesday, August 21, 2024, will now have Live-Racing. These days were originally not scheduled since we are running that Saturday of both weeks, but we now look forward to these weeks consisting of four days of Live-Racing.



Jeffrey A. Matty Jr.
PTHA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The 2023 Horsemen's Awards Banquet is generating a lot of buzz around the racetrack. The PTHA's very own Chris Griffin will be the producer of our awards show. We very much look forward to the production set forth by Chris, Bruce Casella, Dani Gibson, and a guest appearance from Rich Perloff. Please remember to mark your calendars, SATURDAY – FEBRUARY 17TH 5:30PM @ CELEBRATIONS.

In closing, the PTHA continues to work on projects both big and small here at Parx. We are working on a program surrounding purse releases while also reconstructing the trainers' test with help from the PHRC. Spousal Day-Passes are now unlimited, be sure to contact our office should you have any questions. Smarty Jones Day was moved to a Saturday this year, allowing us to bring family and friends out to celebrate the 20th anniversary of Smarty Jones capturing the Kentucky Derby.

With these winter temperatures, let's all remember that Turf Season is just around the corner,

Jeffrey A. Matty, Jr.



AROUND THE OVAL

by Dani Gibson



ACTION HEATING UP ON-TRACK DURING A FRIGID JANUARY

Jockey Mattie Martin teamed back up with Power Agenda to win back-to-back for trainer Miguel Penaloza and owner Pleasant Fields at Harmony Hill LLC on 1/10/24 and 1/31/24 proving to be quite the dynamic duo.

Trainer Hugo Padilla had 2 wins at Parx Racing with Western Dream and Nuedorf both for owner John Parker, with apprentice jockey Eliseo Ruiz riding.

Hard work pays off for owner/trainer Tony Perez Flores getting a nice victory with his filly Secret Temptation with apprentice jockey Daylor Berrios-Lopez riding on 1/29/24.

First time starter Telephone Line was impressive in her debut win for trainer Kate DeMasi and owners Pewter Stable and Montour Stable, capturing a Maiden Special Weight on 1/24/24 with apprentice jockey Luis Rivera, Jr. riding.

Trainer Michelle Castillo had an impressive 2-win day on 1/24/24 with her horses Mob Justice and Mr. Sandman both scoring double victories.

Trainer Jennifer Truehart won with PA Bred gelding Big Boys Answer with her daughter celebrating with her by her side on 1/2/24 with jockey Abner Adorno riding.

STAKES NEWS

We are excited to announce on March 5th, Parx Racing will host our first stakes of the 2024 calendar - The Main Line Stakes and The City of Brotherly Love Stakes will both be a springboard for the 2024 Stakes program at Parx Racing.

The Main Line Stakes

\$75,000

For Fillies Three-Year-Olds

1 Mile 70 yards

Nominations Close February 20th

\$50.00 Nomination Fee

The City Of Brotherly Love

\$75,000

For Fillies Three-Year-Olds

1 Mile 70 yards

Nominations Close February 20th

\$50.00 Nomination Fee



**LAST SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH
ONE FULL HOUR!!**



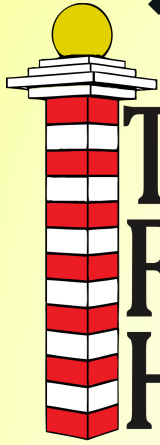
**STARTS AT 10 AM ET
CATCH THE ACTION ON**



BRINGING PARX FANS TWO SHOWS!!

There is Always a Story to Tell about Racing

Thoughts from Program Administrator Danielle Montgomery



PTHA'S **Turning For Home**

RACEHORSE RETIREMENT PROGRAM

PTHA's Turning for Home Inc. finished its fifteenth year with record support for retiring racehorses by our Parx Owners, who have donated over 4,044 horses for proper rehabilitation, retraining, and rehoming. You might notice a fourth effort we support: *reloved*. It's the message we shared on our first visit to the Pennsylvania Farm Show in coordination with the Pennsylvania Horse Racing Association (PHRA). Our focus was to let the public know more about horseracing and aftercare, by showing how our racehorses are loved first by their breeders and racing connections who support our mission to find them homes where they are "reloved."

The Farm Show was a new experience, and it was surprising how many people had no idea of horseracing's positive impact in the Commonwealth, from supporting open spaces to providing good jobs and even to the agricultural impact of our manure supporting the largest cash crop in Pennsylvania: mushrooms! Samantha Potts and I, assisted (thankfully) by Nicole Pessanha and her father, Ney, handed out over 2,000 magnetic calendars from TFH, which influenced passers-by to ask questions about racehorse retirement and racing or visit our website later. We met quite a few OTTB enthusiasts, and with the help of the PHRA's Virtual Racing, we interacted with many new faces. Tony Black put us on the phone live from Farm Show with *At the Races* with Steve Byk, and you can listen to the archives at www.stevebyk.com for the January 11th broadcast.

TFH was also well-represented at the First Frontier Finals Rodeo, which took place over the weekend, with the only Thoroughbred finishing in the top twelve (5th) in Barrel Racing, *Sweetly Talented*, ridden by Ali Montgomery. The *Another Spin* program found many homes in Western disciplines for our prior horses, widening the outlets for many previously overlooked small, agile retired racehorses. The program could not run without the support of so many people: the PTHA, led by President Bob Hutt and Executive Director Jeff Matty, which sponsors TFH, and the Owners who donate with every start, the Parx Jockeys, who, led by Tony Black back in 2008, became the first jockey colony to support aftercare with a take-out for each win and place finish, Parx Management who support our *Turning for Home Day* this coming Labor Day, and every day, the Pennsylvania Horse Breeders Association (PHBA) who supports us and raises extra funding with auctions, raffles, and support for our upcoming events, and the racing public whose much appreciated donations (80% of expenses) go right to our horse care via stipends to supporting Partner Farms.

The biggest compliment we can give our Horsemen is that, along with our Veterinary community, TFH has witnessed improved soundness and future rideability of the horses coming into our program since its inception. All professional athletes experience injuries, and the medical staff is there to help them in any way to realize their dreams. Racehorses also have setbacks and injuries, and in this Mid-Atlantic region, racing supports quality equine clinics and top-notch surgeons who help us help them. Promising racehorses have owners who can afford cutting-edge therapies to help them come back to racing, and these medical breakthroughs trickle down to offer specialized equine medicine to all. But the fundamental safety of our horses lies with their Trainers and staff. Owners who work with their Trainers to make proactive decisions that put the welfare of horses and their riders above all else are the key. Over the years, professional advice has helped our program help as many horses as we needed to, and we are proud to say that, over all these years, we have never turned away an eligible horse for our rehoming program or been unable to perform life-saving surgeries when it was possible, thanks to our supporters.



TFH OUTREACH

2024

PA Farm
Show
January



Horseworld
Expo
Feb. 29th

PTHA Golf
Outing
May 2nd

TFH Day
Sept. 9th

RRP
Makeover
Oct. 9th

TB
Showdown
Nov. 2-3

37th PA Farm Show
January 6th through January 15th
"Largest indoor agricultural expo."
• Livestock + Equipment Displays
• Arts + Crafts
• Food Vendors + Demonstrations
• Show Complex, Harrisburg

Frontier Polecats
January 11th, 12th + 13th
• Website for tickets!
• Show Complex, Harrisburg



15 YEARS

4,040

HORSES ASSISTED

PTHA's Turning for Home, Inc.

Rehab. Retrain. Rehome. Relove.



28TH ANNUAL PTHA & PARX RACING HORSEMEN'S AWARDS

FULL LIST OF NOMINEES

TWO-YEAR-OLD FEMALE

- AOIFE'S MAGIC
- DEWEY DOIT
- SIRANI
- BETSY IS THE GAL
- FOR SALE
- JODY'S RUBY

TWO-YEAR-OLD MALE

- KELLY'S KIDZ
- NOTICE OF ACTION
- UNCLE HEAVY
- TWILIGHT DANCER

THREE-YEAR-OLD FEMALE

- FOGGY NIGHT
- MAJESTIC CREED
- NEECIE MARIE
- WARRIOR'S RANSOM

THREE-YEAR-OLD MALE

- GORDIAN KNOT
- NINETYPRCENTMADDIE
- YOUNG SQUIRE
- MOVISITOR
- DAYDREAMING BOY
- OFFALY COOL
- PRAETORIAN GUARD
- VEESON
- TIME TO CRUISE

OLDER FEMALE

- DISCO EBO
- MIA TOSCA
- MORNING MATCHA
- CAUSE I SAID
- MIDNIGHT IN ALASKA

OLDER MALE

- BUY LAND AND SEE
- NIMITZ CLASS
- TWISTED RIDE
- BEREN
- IRISH EXIT
- KING KUMBALAY
- MAGICNTHEMOONLIGHT
- TALENTED MAN
- UNCLE ERNIE
- WINDSOR GOLD

CLAIMING HORSE OF THE YEAR

- CAUSES TROUBLE
- MASROUR
- PEAK OF CHIC
- GEEBERT
- HE'S INCREDIBLE
- MARION GRACE
- OLYMPIC ROMP
- PONTIFFANY
- TAKE IT TO THE MAX



CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE NOMINEES IN 2023

PTHA TROPHY WINNERS JANUARY 2024



THE "PTHA" TROPHY
Maiden / Purse - \$26,000

Ricardo Alvarez, Owner
Carlos Caban, Trainer
Wilfred Vasquez, Rider
6 1/2 Furlongs 1:22 1/5

Dos de Oros

Myheartwillgoon 2nd
Financial District 3rd
January 3, 2024
© EQUIPHOTO.COM

parx
racing



THE "PTHA" TROPHY
Purse - \$28,000

Pleasant Fields at Harmony Hill, LLC, Owner
Miguel Penaloza, Trainer
Mattie Martin, Rider
6 1/2 Furlongs 1:19 1/5

Power Agenda

Geebert 2nd
Jarlan 3rd
January 10, 2024
© EQUIPHOTO.COM

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racing

JANUARY 3

OWNER – RICARDO ALVAREZ
TRAINER – CARLOS CABAN
JOCKEY – WILFRED VASQUEZ

JANUARY 10

**OWNER – PLEASANT FIELDS AT
HARMONY HILL, LLC**
TRAINER – MIGUEL PENALOZA
JOCKEY – MATTIE MARTIN



THE "PTHA" TROPHY
Purse - \$23,000

Luis Orantes, Owner
Patricia Farro, Trainer
Eliseo Ruiz, Rider
1 Mile 70 Yards 1:46 3/5

Deplane

Midnight Cat 2nd
Quickening 3rd
January 24, 2024
© EQUIPHOTO.COM

parx
racing



THE "PTHA" TROPHY
Purse - \$18,000

V Q Racing Stable LLC, Owner
James Nicholson, Jr., Trainer
Ramon Moya, Rider
1 Mile 70 Yards 1:51 2/5

Not a Trace

Ambitiously Placed 2nd
Kentucky Pride 3rd
January 30, 2024
© EQUIPHOTO.COM

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racing

JANUARY 24

OWNER – LUIS ORANTES
TRAINER – PATRICIA FARRO
JOCKEY – ELISEO RUIZ

JANUARY 30

OWNER – V Q RACING STABLE LLC
TRAINER – JAMES NICHOLSON JR.
JOCKEY – RAMON MOYA



PTHA THE "PTHA" TROPHY PTHA



PTHA THE "PTHA" TROPHY PTHA

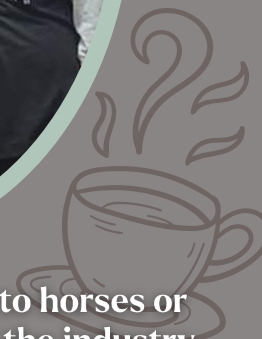


PTHA THE "PTHA" TROPHY PTHA



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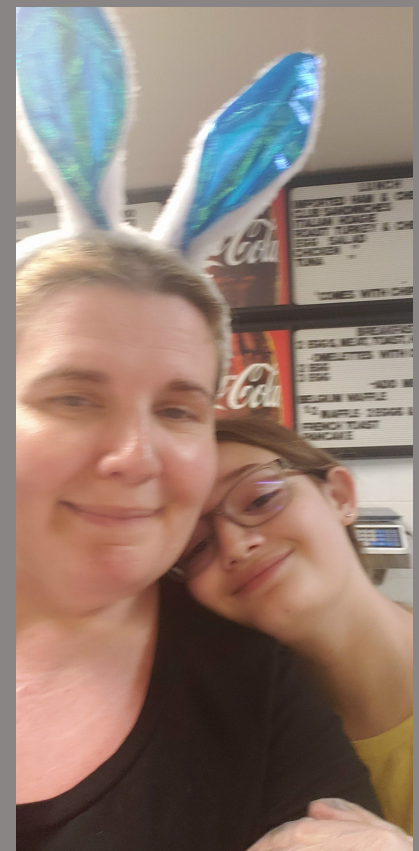
of the BACKSTRETCH



Not all jobs on the backstretch are directly tied to horses or racing, but they are an important component of the industry. Those that labor and care for the horses have their own personal needs, which must be met. These needs might range from as simple as a quick cup of coffee to as substantial as a complete meal, which is where Angie Tonzelli of Ron's Backstretch Cafe plays a part. As a little girl growing up in Northeast Philadelphia, her parents would regularly take her to the racetrack. She recalls when they first broadcast the races on TV with Phonebet and how excited they were. She wasn't familiar with or understood all the behind-the-scenes details, but she found them intriguing.

After losing her job at Coffee House in the Franklin Mills mall when the owner died in tragic circumstances, her uncle's girlfriend, who worked at Ron's Cafe, asked her if she wanted to work a couple of dark days. Angie began by simply operating the register, but after 20 years, she can be found preparing morning coffee, cooking, ordering supplies, cleaning, and even rushing to Monmouth Park to pick up deliveries that were mistakenly sent there. Angie expressed that her favorite aspect of her job is seeing the same people every day,

"IT'S ALMOST LIKE A FAMILY. I KNOW WHEN THEY WIN A RACE, HAVE A KID, EVEN WHEN THEY DON'T FEEL GOOD. THEY KNOW THE SAME ABOUT ME. IT'S SWEET."



IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO
NOMINATE SOMEONE FOR
OUR FEATURE,
PLEASE STOP BY THE PTHA
OFFICE OR EMAIL
NGUZMAN@PATHA.ORG.

Don't be shy to say hello to her
the next time you drop in.
I am sure we all appreciate Angie
keeping the hot coffee flowing
this winter.

JOCKEY MYCHEL SANCHEZ BECOMES A UNITED STATES CITIZEN



ON JANUARY 16, 2024 MYCHEL JOSE SANCHEZ NOVOA PARTICIPATED IN AN OATH CEREMONY IN AT THE UNITED STATES CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION BUILDING BECOMING A UNITED STATES CITIZEN



MYCHEL SANCHEZ MOVED TO THE U.S. WHERE HE MET HIS NOW WIFE CLAUDIA DAY



PLEASE JOIN US IN CONGRATULATING PARX BASED JOCKEY MYCHEL SANCHEZ ON COMPLETING THE COURSES AND BECOMING A UNITED STATES CITIZEN

10% Valentine's Day Sale

Wednesday February 14, 2024

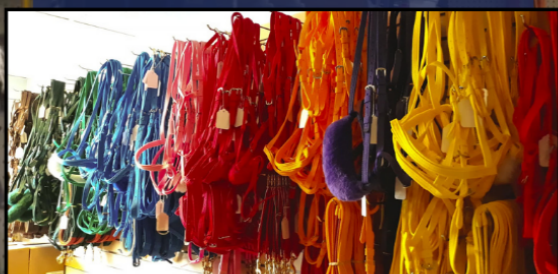
***10% off Equipment,
Supplements and
Supplies***

***Excludes
Feed,
Shavings
and Winners
Equine***





HORSEMEN'S PURCHASING ASSOCIATION



FOR ALL YOUR RACING NEEDS AT PARX RACING, INCLUDING BEDDING, FEED, EQUIPMENT, SUPPLEMENTS, SUPPLIES AND MORE!

STORE HOURS

Race Days	8 am to 4:30 pm
Th.-Fr.	8 am to 4 pm
Sat.	8 am to 2:30 pm

**Feed trailers open until 1 pm
Ice House open until 2 pm on Race Days**

CONTACT US:

Diane Day
HPA Manager

267-223-3140
dday@patha.org



OUR CONDOLENCES...

JANET POLACHEK

Janet Polachek, a trainer based at PARX who was endeared to many due to her genuine humility and love of horse racing, passed away on January 26, 2024. Janet's contagious love of fun, vast assortment of humorous t-shirts, and her unwavering devotion to her friends and family, especially her granddaughter Sophia, are just a few of the many voids her passing will leave for those left behind. The number of lives she touched and the impact that she was able to make might be her ultimate legacy. She had an unwavering kindness and was always willing to lend a hand to make a difference especially when it came to animals.



HARRY "HAT" SMITH

On January 6th, 2024, Harry "Hat" Smith passed away. For the last 25 years, Hat worked as a stable employee and a valued member of our starting gate crew. Harry loved spending time golfing and absolutely adored his wife, Alice, his daughter Samantha, and his grandchildren. Harry's family was the light of his life, and he will be greatly missed!



FRANCES SIEGEL

Lifelong horsewoman, horse owner and friend to all on the backstretch; recently lost her long hard fight to cancer. Fran was a full-time volunteer for the Chaplain for the past ten years. She gave countless rides to appointments for those in need. She was a shoulder to cry on, and always willing to do anything that was needed. She especially loved helping with and celebrating our holiday events. She loved working with children. She will be forever missed.



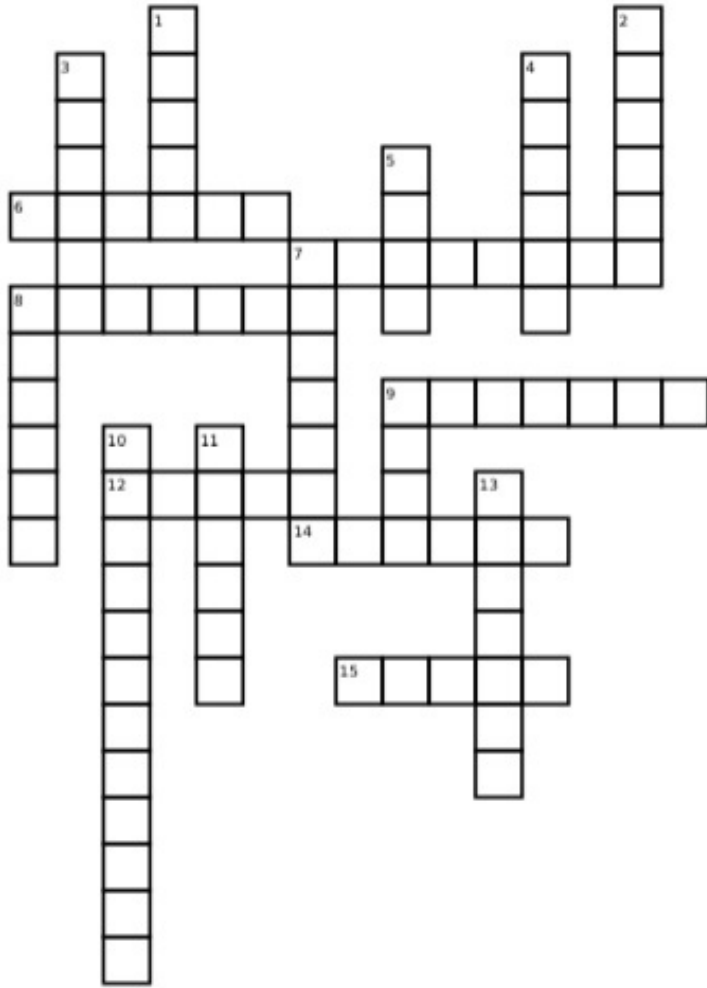
HORSEPLAY



Corner

LET'S GO RACING

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Down:

1. plastic shell
2. Feb. 17, 2024
3. zooming hotspot
4. title maker
5. boot? number? mate?
7. sounds like baseball
8. high atop the circle
9. short version
10. lives near birds
11. once a week
13. morning activity

Across:

6. star - guitar?
7. 5-6-7-8...
8. hall walker
9. meeting venue
12. probably one running around
14. no dummy
15. decision maker

**LOOK FOR THE
RIDDLE AND PUZZLE
ANSWERS IN THE
NEXT ISSUE!**

THE INVISIBLE JOCKEY

I RIDE WITHOUT FORM,
LIGHTER THAN AIR,
GUIDING WITH WHISPERS,
SHOWING CARE.
NO SADDLE NEEDED,
NO REINS TO HOLD,
WHAT AM I,
BRAVE AND BOLD?



SUDOKU

4	6	8		3		5	1	
7	5		4	1		3	9	8
1	3	9	5	8	7	6	2	4
	9	6	7			1		3
3	4	7	1	9	8	2		6
8	2	1	3	6	5	4	7	9
2	1	4		7			6	5
6	7							1
9	8	3	6	5	1	7	4	2

3		2	8	7		5	6	9
				3	2	4	7	8
8	7			9	4	1	3	2
9		1		8	7	2	5	
5	8	4	9	2	6	7	1	3
7	2			1	5	9	8	
6	1	7	2	4	3		9	5
2			1	5	8	6	4	7
	5	8	7	6	9	3		1

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215-638-2012 or email: vmangini@patha.org



Pennsylvania Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association

P.O. Box 300, Bensalem, PA 19020

Office: 215-638-2012 Fax: 215-638-2919

Hours: Mon - Fri, 8 am - 4 pm

www.patha.org

**SEE YOU IN THE
WINNER'S CIRCLE!**

