

MARCH
2024

PTHA POST

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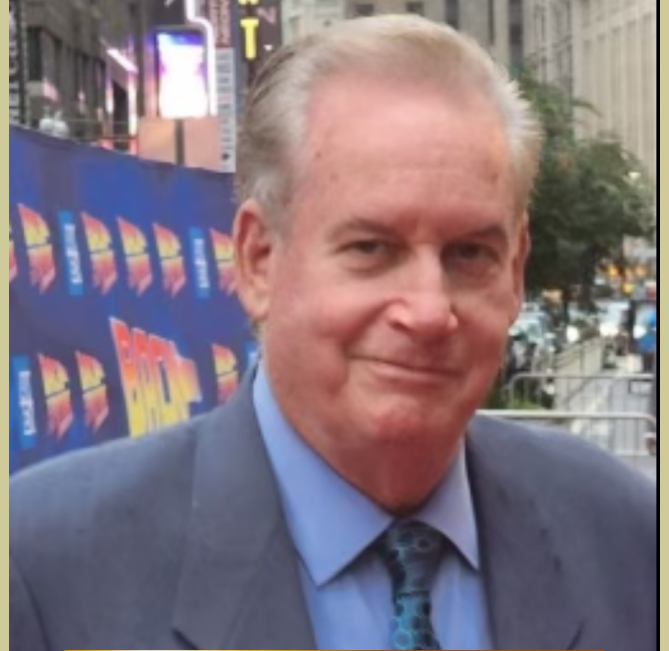
www.patha.org



Memo from PTHA President ROBERT HUTT

The 28th Annual PTHA Awards Banquet is in the books. I'd like to congratulate all of our winners who were so deserving of the accolades bestowed upon them. I'd also like to thank my Executive Director, Jeff Matty, Operations Manager, Vicky Mangini and her entire staff, Bruce Casella, Chris Griffin and Dani Gibson for organizing and hosting such a festive awards celebration. Last but not least, a great big shout out to all our hard working men and women on the backstretch for your day in, day out, dedication in taking care of the horses entrusted into your care!

The other day I sat in on our PTHA Condition Book committee with Dave O, Peter, PTHA Executive Director Jeff Matty, PHBA Executive Secretary Brian Sanfratello, and several of your fellow trainers. Dave could not be any nicer and more accommodating as we all exchanged ideas. I came away learning that writing a Condition Book is not as easy as it may seem? Dave understood that we must tailor the book to accommodate the stock on the PARX backstretch. He also recognized that with HISA's 14 day rule for treatment there must be a greater emphasis on actually filling the races in the Condition Book which translates to much fewer Extra's on the Overnight. If anything, Dave has been "too nice" in writing Extra's to try to accommodate those who have made requests. I truly believe that starting in April and the months to follow PARX's Condition Book will improve dramatically as you'll be able to point to a race with confidence knowing that your race is going.



Robert "Bob" Hutt
PTHA PRESIDENT

Finally, we're in the homestretch awaiting the Racing Commission's approval of an owner's optional waiver in getting paid on purses earned once your race has been declared official. Tentatively, subject to change, your funds would be available the following week on Thursday/Friday. All the exciting details shall be announced shortly. Until next time here's wishing you many winners.



Update from Executive Director JEFFREY A. MATTY, JR.



Horsemen:

This year's 2023 Parx Racing / PTHA Horsemen's Awards Banquet was a great success. We had a record turnout of over 350 people, the PTHA thanks its membership for their continual engagement and participation in all our events.

Congratulations to all winners on a great 2023 both on and off the track. A special congratulations to our Trainer of the Year & Horse of the Year. Robert E. Reid, Jr. having taken the title of Trainer of the Year, while David Dotolo's filly, Aoife's Magic capturing Horse of the Year. All nominees were worthy of hardware and recognition, our categories were full of excellence and promise.

As we turn the calendar into March, Triple Crown season is rapidly heating up. As of now, Parx is well represented on both the Derby and Oaks trails. Fingers crossed that all our connections successfully make it to the first Friday and Saturday in May.

The PTHA continues to make improvements throughout our programs. Please remember to stop in the office for new Health and Pension guidelines. The total for the trainer's yearly starts, along with Parx percentages have increased from last year, please be mindful of this for your 2024 requirements, for 2025 coverage. Furthermore, the PTHA has initiated an automatic purse-release program that will be up-and-running by month's end.

Lastly, check out our 2024 racing calendar. We will be racing all Triple Crown Saturdays, along with Father's Day Sunday. This year we have ten weekend days planned, where we will have family-fun for all.

Continued success at the races,

Jeffrey A. Matty, Jr.



Jeffrey A. Matty Jr.
PTHA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



AROUND THE OVAL

by Dani Gibson



Trainer Jamie Ness had a fabulous February winning the \$100,000 Miracle Wood Stakes at Laurel Park on 2/24/24 with homebred gelding Speedyness with jockey Jaime Rodriguez riding for owners Morris Kernan, Jr. and owner/breeder Jagger Inc.

On 2/21/24 Jamie Ness won 4 races at Parx Racing, 2 at Penn National and 1 at Tampa Bay Downs - an incredible showing the strength of his teams at all 3 race tracks including a win with barn favorite Sevier who won an incredible 29th lifetime win with jockey Frankie Pennington riding for wonders Morris Kernan, Jr., Yo Berbs Racing & Jagger Inc. Charming Way won the \$100,000 Nellie Morse Stakes at Laurel Park for owners Troy Johnson and Jagger Inc with jockey Jamie Rodriguez riding the gray mare.

Hollywood Jet was back with a big win at Parx Racing with regular jockey Luis Ocasio in Monday's 9th race for trainer Jose Gonzalez-Milian & owner Gonzalez Racing Stable on 2/19/24.

Off their leading rider titles Apprentice jockey Eliseo Ruiz & jockey Mychel Sanchez finished 1st and 2nd for trainer Mike Pino in Monday's 2nd race with Soulful Tara getting the victory for owner Bing Cherry Racing Inc at Parx Racing on 2/19/24.

A double win day for the connections of owner Jack Armstrong & trainer Bobby Mosco with Beyond a Million winning race 7 with jockey Julio Correa & R Goodtime Charlie winning race 8 with jockey Dexter Haddock on Wednesday's card at Parx Racing on 2/7/24.

Trainer Marya Montoya finishes 1st & 2nd in Wednesday's 4th race with her 2 entries, the gray PA Bred filly Swans Island & jockey Mychel Sanchez got the victory for owner Robert Roffey, Jr. At Parx Racing on 2/7/24.

Lots of emotions as 1st time starter PA Bred All American Rod won his debut with jockey Ramon Moya riding for trainer Dee Curry in Tuesday's 7th race for owner Isaiah 4031 Racing Stables at Parx Racing on 2/6/24 .

1st time starter Alcalá won her debut for owner Angel Alciro Castillo, Jr, & trainer Felix Flores Caba with jockey Wilfred Vazquez riding in Tuesday's 3rd race at Parx Racing on 2/6/24.

PA Bred Clancy O'Toole broke his maiden with jockey Dexter Haddock riding for trainer Daniel Velazquez and owner Burns Thoroughbred Racing LLC at Parx Racing on 2/5/24.

On 2/3/24 PA Bred Uncle Heavy won the \$250,000 Grade 3 Withers at Aqueduct for trainer Robert Reid, Jr. and owner Milam Racing Stables with jockey Mychel Sanchez riding the promising 3-year-old colt by sire Social Inclusion.



SAVE THE DATE

2024 PTHA'S TURNING FOR HOME, INC.

GOLF OUTING

THURSDAY - MAY 2, 2024
11:00AM SHOTGUN START

BENSALEM TOWNSHIP COUNTRY CLUB



MORE INFORMATION:

CONTACT THE PTHA OFFICE @ 215-638-2012

OR EMAIL: TURNINGFORHOME@PATHA.ORG



PTHA'S Turning For Home Golf Outing

SPONSORSHIPS & TEAM INFO



Please complete this form and return to the PTHA office
(215.638.2012) or email to turningforhome@patha.org

SPONSORSHIP PACKAGES

Grade 1	2 Foursomes, 8 Additional Dinner Tickets, Logo/Silks on Hole Sign, Venue Signage, Ads on Social Media, and an Appearance on Let's Go Racing	\$3,000
Grade 2	1 Foursome, 4 Dinner Tickets, Logo/Silks on Hole Sign, and Venue Signage or Comparable	\$2,000
Grade 3	1 Foursome, 4 Dinner Tickets, and Logo/Silks on Hole Sign	\$1,000

PLAY PACKAGES

1 Foursome	Tickets Include Dinner	\$500
Individual Golfer	Ticket Includes Dinner	\$125
Dinner Ticket		\$50

Business, Stable or Individual to be listed:

Email:

Phone Number:

Address:

Packages:

(Please check one) Grade 1 Grade 2 Grade 3 1 Foursome
 Individual Golfer Dinner Ticket - \$50

Team Name - Give your team a fun name to be selected to win a prize. Examples: Philly Four;

Superfectas; Gopher Golfers :

Player 1:

Player 2:

Player 3:

Player 4:

Donation Only:

I cannot attend but would like to make a tax deductible gift of \$_____

Name:

Email:

Phone Number:

Please make checks payable to:

Turning for Home
P.O. Box 300, Bensalem, PA 19020

PTHA & PARX RACING
2023
HORSEMEN'S AWARDS

LEADING OWNER

**OVER THE MOON
RACING STABLE LLC**

STARTS: 220
RECORD:
35 WINS 36 2NDS 32 3RDS
WIN PCT: 16%
\$1,034,982 EARNINGS



WINNINGEST HORSE

**CAUSES
TROUBLE**

STARTS: 16
WINS: 7
\$134,850

LEADING TRAINER >21 STALLS

JAMIE NESS

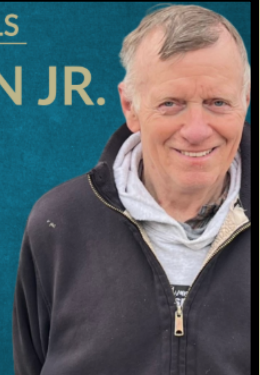
STARTS: 598
RECORD:
154 WINS 123 2NDS 88 3RDS
WIN PCT: 26%
\$4,732,840 EARNINGS



LEADING TRAINER <21 STALLS

HOWARD BROWN JR.

STARTS: 150
RECORD:
17 WINS 17 2NDS 24 3RDS
WIN PCT: 11%
\$527,814 EARNINGS



LEADING JOCKEY

MYCHEL SANCHEZ

STARTS: 713
RECORD: 145-114-90
WIN PCT: 20%
\$5,014,152 EARNINGS



LEADING APPRENTICE JOCKEY

ELISEO RUIZ

STARTS: 369
RECORD: 48-56-49
WIN PCT: 13%
\$1,392,976 EARNINGS



PTHA & PARX RACING
2023
HORSEMEN'S AWARDS

TWO-YEAR-OLD
MALE
CHAMPION



Notice of Action

THREE-YEAR-OLD
FEMALE
CHAMPION



Foggy Night

THREE-YEAR-OLD
MALE
CHAMPION



Gordian Knot

OLDER
MALE
CHAMPION



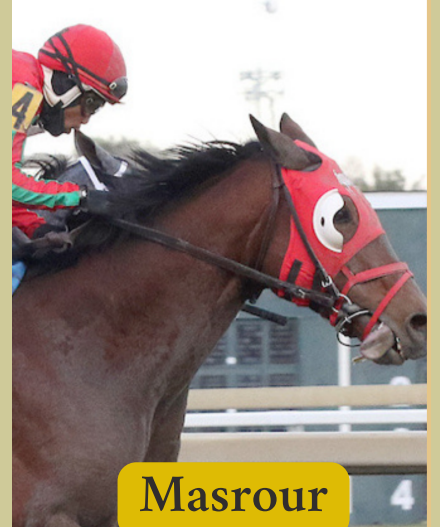
Nimitz Class

OLDER
FEMALE
CHAMPION



Morning Matcha

CLAIMING HORSE
OF THE
YEAR
CHAMPION



Masrouf

*Congratulations to our
Two-Year Old Female Champion &
2023 Horse Of The Year!*



**HORSE OF THE YEAR 2023
AOIFE'S MAGIC**



A AND J RACING STABLE, LLC, OWNER - DAVID DOTOLO, TRAINER
WILFRED VASQUEZ, JOCKEY



Aoife's Magic



**HORSE OF THE YEAR 2023
AOIFE'S MAGIC**



A AND J RACING STABLE, LLC, OWNER - DAVID DOTOLO, TRAINER
WILFRED VASQUEZ, JOCKEY



*Congratulations to our 2023
Trainer Of The Year!*



Robert E. Reid, Jr.



**TRAINER OF THE YEAR 2023
ROBERT E. REID, JR.**





Pennsylvania Equine Coalition

News

On Tuesday, February 6, Governor Josh Shapiro delivered his annual budget address to a joint session of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives and Senate. As is typical, Governor Shapiro used the opportunity to highlight his public policy priorities and initiatives. That same day, Governor Shapiro presented the fine details of his proposed executive budget, which lays out his recommended spending priorities for each state government department and agency.

The Governor's budget proposal serves as a starting point for the House and Senate, which then typically introduce their own modified versions of the budget that reflect their respective funding and policy priorities.

Overall, the Governor's proposed budget was good news for Pennsylvania's horseracing and breeding industry. Prior Governors have previously proposed funding new, large-scale policy initiatives by transferring significant money from – or in some cases eviscerating – the Race Horse Development Trust Fund (RHDTF), which supports the industry's purse structure and breeder incentives. Fortunately,

Governor Shapiro did not recommend any major new transfers of money from our industry.

The Governor did, however, recommend the continued transfer of money from the RHDTF to support the Pennsylvania Fairs, the Pennsylvania Veterinary Lab, and the Animal Health and Diagnostic Commission for a total transfer of \$14.659 million. These are line-items that have come out of the trust fund for the past decade, although as part of last year's budget the PTHA and the other horsemen/breeder groups that make up the Pennsylvania Equine Coalition successfully worked with our supporters in the legislature to eliminate the transfer of \$5.35 million for the Animal Health and Diagnostics Commission. Further reducing these transfers, which impact our purses, will be one of our industry's top priorities during this year's budget process.

The PTHA and the Pennsylvania Equine Coalition also are closely monitoring legislation that would regulate and tax so-called "Games of Skill." These are unregulated machines, which perform almost exactly like slot machines, that you may have seen at corner convenience stores, clubs, or bars. There is little doubt that these games of skill are cutting into slot machine revenues at brick and mortar casinos like Parx.

This is a concern because the Race Horse Development Trust Fund is funded entirely by an assessment on slot machine revenue. As a result, the cannibalization of slot machine revenue due to games of skill has had a direct impact on the funds available for purses and breeder incentives. This cannibalization – from both games of skill and other forms of expanded gaming, such as online slots and sports wagering – has resulted in a 17.2 percent decrease in money paid into the trust fund over the past five years. Our goal is not only to reverse that decline, but ensure that the RHDTF returns to full funding so that we once again have robust purse structures to support our horsemen.

The PTHA and the Pennsylvania Equine Coalition's goal for this year is to allocate a portion of the revenue from the Games of Skill or other forms of gaming to help offset the cannibalization of the RHDTF that has occurred. In the coming weeks and months, the leadership of the PTHA will be meeting with legislators to educate them about the importance of the racing industry to the state's agricultural economy, explain how the cannibalization has adversely impacted horsemen, and make the case for increased funding.

What is the Race Horse Development Trust Fund?

**DID
YOU
KNOW
?**

The Race Horse Development Trust Fund (RHDTF) serves as a source of funding for purses, breeder incentives, and health/pension benefits for the Pennsylvania racing and breeding industry. It was created by Act 71 of 2004 (The Pennsylvania Race Horse Development and Gaming Act), legislation that legalized slot machine gaming in the Commonwealth with a primary intent to enhance live horse racing in the state.

The legislature created the RHDTF because it wanted to ensure that rural, agricultural areas of Pennsylvania benefitted from legalized gaming. Legislators also realized that gaming expansion would adversely impact the handle, or wagering on horseracing, which traditionally funded racing purses and breeder incentives.

The fund is supported through a casino assessment that is calculated based on the slot machine gross terminal revenue at the state's six Category 1 casinos.

Following efforts by past Governors and some in the legislature to use the RHDTF to fund other government programs, the PTHA and other horsemen and breeder groups were successful in adding legislative language that restricts the ability to utilize the fund for non-racing related budget items. Specifically, Act 42 of 2017 states that the assessments "are not funds of the Commonwealth" and that "the Commonwealth shall not be rightfully entitled to any money" from the trust fund. The language, however, did permit the transfer for certain "historical" line-items transfers that had previously been approved by the legislature.

The State Budget Process in Pennsylvania

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has a complex system to pass an annual state budget, with the so called "budget season" officially kicking off in early February of each year with the Governor's Budget Address to the legislature. During his budget address, the Governor typically highlights his policy priorities and goals. The same day as his budget address, the Governor submits his proposed budget to the legislature.

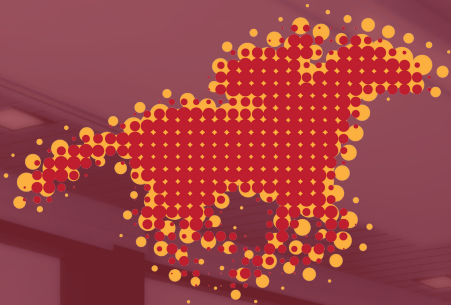
The Governor's budget proposal, as its name implies, is just that:

a recommendation/request from the Governor to the legislature. Shortly after the budget address, the Pennsylvania House of Representative and Senate typically hold several weeks of budget hearings. Usually, each hearing focuses on a specific state agency or department during which the leadership of the respective agency outlines their budget priorities and fields questions from legislators.

Following these budget hearings, the House and Senate each develop a budget bill that reflects the priorities of their respective chamber. This typically involves numerous changes to the Governor's proposal. The budget bill then goes through the normal legislative process, providing both the House and Senate with the opportunity to amend and approve the bill. This usually involves negotiations between the Republican and Democratic leadership of both the House and Senate, as well as the Governor's Office to reach a compromise budget bill that reflects the priorities of each chamber and the Governor. Those budget negotiations and sometimes be contentious, particularly when the majority in the House and Senate, as well as the Governor, are from different parties.

The legislature's goal is to adopt a new and final budget by the start of each fiscal year, which commences on July 1. Once the budget bill is approved by a majority of members of both the House and Senate, it is then sent to the Governor for his approval.

FROM THE RACING OFFICE



parxracing



I AM EXCITED TO RELEASE THE 2024 PARX STAKES BOOK. THIS YEAR PARX IS OFFERING 40 STAKES WITH TOTAL PURSES OF OVER \$6,300,000. AS USUAL - OUR ANNUAL BIG DAY IS PA DERBY / COTILLION DAY WHICH IS SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21. ON THAT DAY , IN ADDITION TO THESE TWO \$1,000,000 GRADE 1 RACES - WE HAVE ANOTHER 9 STAKES RACES AND WILL BE PAYING OUT CLOSE TO \$4,000,000 IN PRIZE MONEY.

THIS YEAR - AS A LEAD UP TO OUR 9/21 SUPER SATURDAY - ON AUGUST 24 WE WILL BE HOSTING OUR PA DERBY / COTILLION 2024 PREVIEW DAY - AND ON THAT DAY - WE WILL BE OFFERING 6 STAKES THAT WILL SERVE AS PREPS FOR OUR 9/21 SUPER SATURDAY CARD.

THE PARX WINTER RACING FESTIVAL - DECEMBER 30 & 31 - WILL CLOSE OUT 2024 WITH A BANG WITH 7 STAKES AND INCREASED PURSES FOR OUR OVERNIGHT RACES.

2024 IS GOING TO BE A BLAST.

-DAVE OSOJNAK
PARX RACING SECRETARY AND DIRECTOR OF RACING

PTHA TROPHY WINNERS FEBRUARY 2024

February 6

Owner - Jireh Stable

Trainer - Miguel Rodriguez

Jockey - Dexter Haddock



Boss Cara



Wicked Lady

February 20

Owner - J. Refugio Guerrero

Trainer - J. Guadalupe Guerrero

Jockey - Eliseo Ruiz



Pistol Liz Ablazen

February 27

Owner - Madison Avenue
Racing St. Inc. & Jagger Inc

Trainer - Jamie Ness

Jockey - Mychel Sanchez

Pictures: Equi-Photo & Dani Gibson



The racing industry is trying to improve public perception and raise awareness of the many individuals involved in getting a racehorse to the track on race day. Young people's involvement in this industry is essential to the sport's survival and for evolving with innovative ideas. Here at PARX Racing, trainers' children are frequently seen carrying on their parents' legacy.

Born in Langhorne, PA Ben Dunn was raised by parents who are horse enthusiasts. Ben was motivated to continue his studies after graduating from Neshaminy High School by his mother Felissa Dunn, a trainer here at PARX, and his father John Dunn, a recently retired PARX trainer. Ben's original professional choice was to train people, not horses. While pursuing his original passion of being a bodybuilder and fitness instructor, he began working as a hotwalker for his parents to supplement his income. Ben loves the atmosphere at PARX, It's different than any other job you can have. "It's easier to work here. It's better than an office setting. I like being physical. You get good exercise and it's fun!" In keeping with it, as a self-described "math nerd" growing up, it was only natural that he developed an interest in the claiming game. His curiosity was piqued by the data, which showed him the value and prices of various horses. One day, his mother let him choose a \$5000 claiming horse, and Ben picked a bay mare named Just Stay Home. She ended up doing rather well for them. After that, his mother began letting him choose the horses for their stable. Thirsty Pappy, a chestnut gelding, is his current favorite horse in the barn. He watches racing replays and particularly enjoys Thirsty Pappy's latest victory. Ben beamed as he remembered the triumph, saying, "Nothing better than watching him with his ears up - just eight lengths clear."

As for Ben's future intentions, he mentioned that he respects and loves athletes and that he can't compete anymore owing to hip injuries from playing tennis. He quipped that training a horse is very different from training a person, "Humans can tell you that they eat this much, that they eat perfectly but really can be going out to the candy store and loading up on junk but horses, you give them their feed and hopefully they eat it."

When Ben believes he is ready, he wants to go on his own obtain his trainer's license and go as far as he can, "Everyone says that the Derby is the goal and I have the rest of my life to get there. When you got the rest of your life you shoot for the stars, hopefully, you hit the moon."

We are excited to watch Ben's career progress here at PARX and wish him all the best in the years to come.

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

WELCOME TO THE PTHA FAMILY

JAXSON TYLER SERVIS



Proud parents' trainer Tyler Servis and Shannon McCullough welcomed their beautiful baby boy on February 8th, 2024. Jaxson was 6lbs 1oz and 20.5 inches long. Cannot wait to see you at the races!



PTHA'S
**Turning
For
Home**

Horseworld expo 2024. Tfh representing thoroughbreds for their parade of breeds. Outreach is important to keep the public informed of racing commitment to aftercare. Our horses show their versatility in equitation, hunters, and western roping. They show their amazing brains dealing with crowds and roping a costumed cow.



Kristina Bauta on Zensational Dixie demonstrated hunters



Samantha Potts at our TFH table

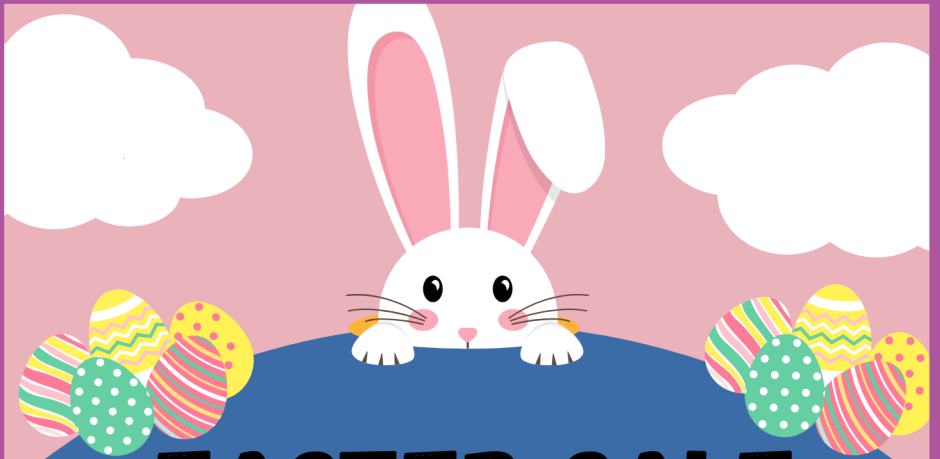


Ashlyn Tate on Pansy roped the cow



Morgan Yorio on Time Immemorial is showcasing a broodmare starting her third career and Kyla on Mucha Muchacha demonstrated jumpers and all participated in various clinics, with Lyndsey Partridge of Harmony Horsemanship

HORSEMEN'S PURCHASING
ASSOCIATION



EASTER SALE
TUESDAY APRIL 2, 2024

10% Off Equipment,
Supplements
and Supplies

Excludes Feed, Shavings and Winner Equine Products



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

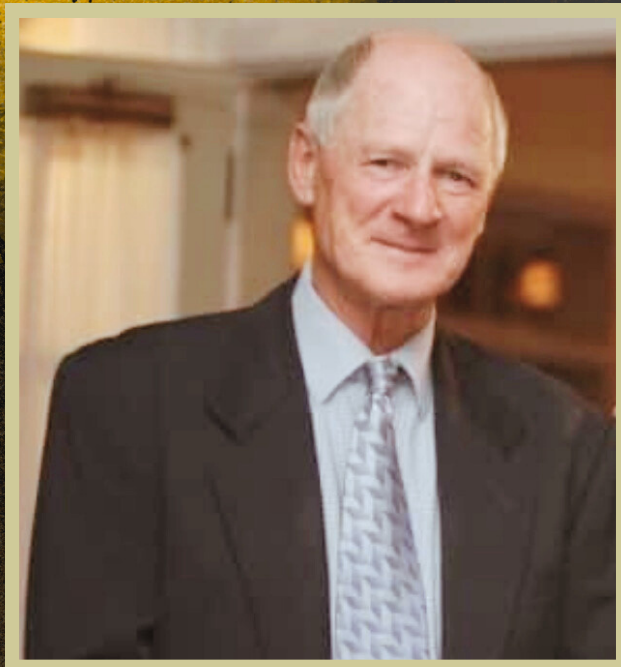


OUR CONDOLENCES...

Elizabeth Ann Becht passed away on February 14, 2024, surrounded by her loved ones. Liz as most of us here at PARX knew her was a complete one woman show, she was an owner, trainer, and jockey at one time.

Liz and her parents came from Sicily at the age of six and learned early that hard work paid off. Liz had a strong passion for gardening and her Doberman.

Nothing could compare the love she had for children and grandchildren and of course the love of her life Bruno Pasceri.



It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Al Dellape.

Al was not just a jockey agent but a great mentor and friend to all he crossed paths with. Al took great pride in his role in helping his riders, not just succeed on the track, but in life.

Your Parx's family will miss you greatly, rest easy.

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and get extra coverage online!
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!**

