

PTHA POST



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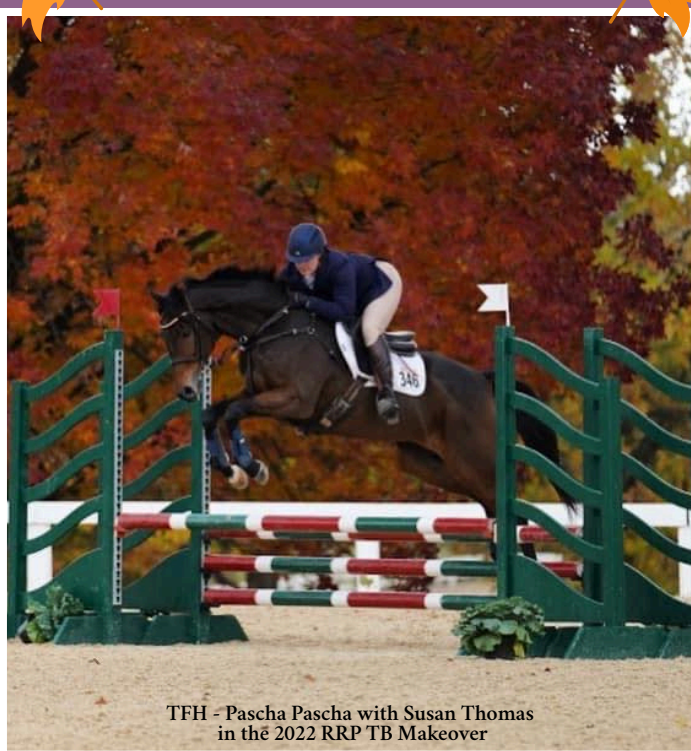
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OCTOBER 2025

Happy Autumn!



TFH - Pascha Pascha with Susan Thomas
in the 2022 RRP TB Makeover

SPECIAL THANK YOU

BRIAN MERMELSTEIN & TEAM
EQUI-PHOTO
COLLEEN MATTY
RUDY LAULETTA

PTHA PRESIDENT'S CORNER

PTHA PRESIDENT
Robert "Bob" Hutt



Pennsylvania Day At The Races and the Pennsylvania Derby have come and gone, as the two days of racing were a huge success! A great time was had by all attending. A great big shout out to Brian Sanfratello and his PHBA Board for rolling out the red carpet, and the same to PARX COO Joe Wilson, who equally matched Brian with a sumptuous lunch up on the third floor.

I'd like to thank my PTHA Board and especially Executive Director, Jeff Matty, for the fabulous charity golf outing he arranged last week. Perhaps Jeff missed his calling in life, as he's a hell of a party planner.

I'd also like to acknowledge my PTHA staff, especially Vicky, Nikki & Jackie, for organizing the wonderful Pennsylvania Derby cocktail party. These three women outdid themselves, as I received many compliments, as they left nothing to chance. Great food! Great time!

I would be amiss if I did not acknowledge Bruce Casella, who, for 34 consecutive years, has arranged all the great programming shown for two and a half hours on NBC Sports, leading up to the Pennsylvania Derby. Did anyone notice that Bruce used an overhead drone for his aerial shots?

Bruce is denying any responsibility for the alien drones that were flying over PARX last spring, as he told me he knew nothing. LOL. Seriously, Bruce is fantastic and is the genius behind the camera and solely responsible for the content, editing, and directing. And how about our two on-air television stars appearing on NBC Sports? I'm talking about our own sportswriter and TV personality, Dick Jerardi, who is being inducted next month into the Philadelphia Sports Hall of Fame, a well deserved honor. And how about his partner in crime, the lovely Danielle Gibson-Rodriguez whose timely interviews on NBC Sports captured the moment and were very entertaining. I don't say it often enough, but how lucky am I to have Bruce, Dick, and Dani? They even make me look good! Great job, guys!

As we head into the home stretch of 2025, we now have WiFi thanks to fellow Board member John Julia, who has been my right-hand for the past 3 years. John cares strongly about doing right for our PTHA horsemen - all 2,500 strong, not just the chosen few. Thank you, John, as you're a good man!

Last but not least, we're putting the finishing touches on opening the finest turf course in the Mid-Atlantic region come next spring. I'm not talking about putting a Band-Aid on it, but a turf course at PARX that will be the envy of every racetrack in the Northeast. Something we can all be proud of. Come the end of October, early November, you'll see us laying the foundation for what's to come next spring!

It's hard to believe that 3 years have come and gone. See you all at the Nomination General Meeting in the Recreation Hall on Wednesday, October 8th. We need a few good women and men to join us on our new Board. The status quo of self serving interests must change! We have real problems to solve on many fronts! We need a complete changing of the guard if we are not only to survive, but flourish. Nothing less is acceptable on my watch. You need a Board of like minded business people ready to roll up their sleeves and get to work! Until then my door is always open!

HORSEMEN

Update from
PTHA Executive Director

Horsemen,

As September draws to a close and we welcome in October, I want to take a moment to thank all of you for an extraordinary month of racing here at Parx. This month is always the pinnacle for Pennsylvania Racing.

The highlight of the month, of course, was Pennsylvania Derby Day, a celebration of excellence that once again brought national attention to our track. From the packed grandstand to the world-class competition on the track, the day was a reminder of how far our program has come, and the pride we share in calling Parx Racing home. The card was loaded from top to bottom, and our local horsemen held their own against some of the best in the country. *PTHA Horsemen* made 88 starts on the card, both in overnights and stakes. Of those starters, 7 wins – 9 seconds – 12 thirds, were earned by the hometown horsemen, a great credit to every one of you.



PTHA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Jeffrey A. Matty Jr.

I continue to work with Parx Racing and C6 Turf Management on the implementation and plans to get us back on the turf in 2026. This has been a long process and I, along with our board, look forward to getting this across the finish line. The PTHA remains committed to advocating for our horsemen, supporting our charitable programs, and ensuring that our backstretch community has the resources and representation they deserve day-in and day-out.

In the months ahead, we'll continue advancing key initiatives additional to the turf course; 2026 outlook and schedule, the newly formed Next Generation Committee, PTHA Events and Fundraisers, and new efforts to engage fans and introduce more people to the sport we love. This will be highlighted by a backstretch tour and breakfast on the apron, on Breeders' Cup Day, Saturday November 1st.

On October 8th, we will have our PTHA Board Nomination Meeting. We very much appreciate and welcome participation not only at the meeting but running for director positions. Our board has been through an interesting few years to say the least. The one driving force that we have remained united on is the desire and passion to move the PTHA forward. We may have different viewpoints on how that looks, but we all genuinely have put the association first, with the intent for improvement.

Going forward, I have much optimism on where we are, and where we can go. Even with divided opinions, we have still managed a great deal of initiatives and projects for the betterment of the PTHA and racing at Parx. There is no reason this cannot continue and even expand.

On behalf of our Board of Directors and staff, thank you for your continued trust, support, and partnership. Let's keep the momentum strong as we race into fall.

Thank you,

Jeffrey A. Matty, Jr.



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UPDATES.
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ALERTS AND OUR
NEWSLETTER.**

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QUE TAMBIÉN
ESTÁ
DISPONIBLE
PARA TI**

**EN
ESPAÑOL**

Trainers: the end of the year is fast approaching! Check your starts and percentages to maintain your health insurance eligibility. You must have a minimum of 25 starts with 75% based at Parx, as well as being stabled here for six months. A complete copy of the health and pension guidelines can be found on our website PATHA.ORG or stop by the office and see Jaclyn DeSanctis.



**PTHA'S
NON-QUALIFIED
PENSION PLAN**

Trainers, if you're turning 65 in 2025 and are fully vested in our non-qualified pension plan, there's something important you should know: According to IRS rules, once you hit 65, your pension income is considered "constructively received." That means it's treated as taxable income—even if you don't take any money out of the plan.

You'll get a 1099 for the full balance at the end of the year. If you'd prefer to leave the money in the plan but want to withdraw enough to cover the taxes, we can help you. Just reach out to the office and we'll walk you through the next steps.

2025 PTHA ELECTIONS

Attention Owners & Trainers

THE PTHA WILL HOLD THE
2025 NOMINATION MEETING ON
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8TH, 2025
11:00 AM @ PARX RACING REC-HALL



COFFEE & DONUTS @ 10:30 AM



OWNERS AND TRAINERS

THIS IS A PTHA ELECTION YEAR, SO PLEASE
UPDATE YOUR ADDRESS WITH
THE PTHA OFFICE
AND WITH THE
PA RACING COMMISSION.

****If you have questions about the PTHA elections please stop by our office.****



-2025 Pennsylvania Derby- Baeza runs from back to front in PA Derby

By Dick Jerardi



John Shirreffs has experienced just about everything in his half-century training career. He has seen his Giacomo win the 2005 Kentucky Derby at 50-1. He oversaw the brilliant career of Zenyatta, one of the most accomplished and beloved horses of the 21st Century.

Why, therefore, was his first visit to Parx with the most expensive (\$1.2 million yearling) horse he ever had in his barn so memorable and so exciting for him?

Shirreffs had sent Baeza to Parx the Saturday before the \$1 million Pennsylvania Derby. He was there all week to oversee the horse's training. It was Baeza's fourth trip east since May from his California base. The horse tried so hard against Sovereignty and Journalism without reward.

The trainer knew how talented the colt was, but he also knew he had spent the spring and summer playing catch up against colts with more experience. He also knew that on the final Saturday of summer, Baeza was ready to run the race of his life.

And when 7-5 favorite Baeza blew past most of the field heading into and around the far turn and then caught the final horse in front with 200 yards to go, Shirreffs knew it was Baeza's time and his time. The official margin was 2 1/4 lengths, but it felt like more. Baeza was just that dominant.

"Today was one of the most exciting races I have ever participated in to tell you the truth and that includes races that included Zenyatta," Shirreffs said. "This was like 'prove yourself today.' And he did. Because of all the hope we had for Baeza, all that buildup, and working at the barn. It was just like 'this is it today.'"

And it was. There was no doubt about the best horse in this Pa. Derby. The colt was put in proper position by jockey Hector Berrios. And when called upon around the half-mile pole, Baeza started to move and never stopped moving, looking like a certain winner by the far turn.

Shirreffs was eating dinner in the Parx Casino one night when he looked at replays of what he remembers as the last 20 Pennsylvania Derbies.

"Look at all the great horses that have won it," he said.

The group would include 2014 Breeders' Cup Classic winner Bayern, 3-year-old champions and Travers winners Will Take Charge (2013) and West Coast (2017) as well as 2024 Preakness winner Seize the Grey.

The horses that have run in the race, but were not good enough to win it include two-time Horse of the Year California Chrome, Horse of the Year Gun Runner and Kentucky Derby winner Nyquist.

Hard to know how Baeza's career will turn out, but his Pa. Derby win could very well be a springboard to proving that someday, he could be included on the list of great horses which have won it that Shirreffs so admired.

The Derby was race 14 of 15 on a card that stretched from just after 11 a.m. until just before 7 p.m. It was some show from start to finish with no race worth less than \$100,000, total purses of \$4 million and seven stakes races.

The bettors reacted very positively to all the action. They started firing early and never really slowed down, accounting for a total handle of \$17,800,334.

The local stars of the day were unquestionably jockey Paco Lopez and trainers Lou Linder and Freddie Velazquez. Lopez won four races, including two of the stakes. He won the \$400,000 Gallant Bob on 23-1 longshot Mad House, with a classic Paco front running ride on a horse that was coming off a 3-race win streak at Canterbury Park. Nobody really knew how to put that streak in context. Now, they do. The form translated.

Lopez also won the finale, the \$150,000 Parx Sprint, on 2-1 favorite Buccherino for Velazquez. The jockey put the horse right into the race, battled the other speed horses much of the way and then held off the closers to win comfortably in the end.

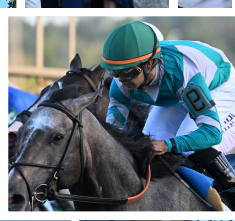
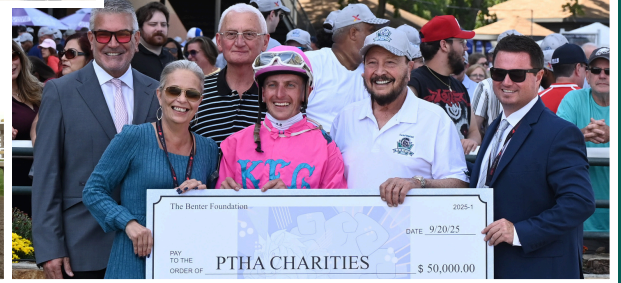
Linder may not have won any races, but his barn put on some show anyway with horses that hardly got bet at all. Praetorian Guard (38-1) was third in the Greenwood Cup. Volleyball Princess (13-1) was second in the Liberty Bell. And Ourdaydreaminggirl (42-1) ran an incredible race to finish third in the \$1 million Grade I Cotillion.

The Cotillion's three Grade I winners (Scottish Lassie, La Cara and Good Cheer) were nowhere at the finish. Indiana Oaks winner Clicquot (5-1) was a neck in front of Cathryn Sophia winner Dry Powder (7-1) who was a head in front of Ourdaydreaminggirl. So less than a half-length from glory at the trainer's home track.

In the end, you get what you get. Linder's horses earned a tidy \$152,000 in the stakes races, a great showing on the track's biggest day of the year.

And, as it has been every September since the Pa Derby and Cotillion were moved to the same day and surrounded by a first-rate card put together by the racing office, Pennsylvania Derby Day was a wonderful experience. Can't wait for 2026.

PA DERBY moments...



Photos by Rudy Lauletta, LGR & PTHA



PARX RACING SPECIAL DATES MARK YOUR CALENDAR



DelVal Day at the Races
\$1,000 SCHOLARSHIPS TO BE PRESENTED AFTER
RACES 1-5 FROM THE PTHA



A day to honor and celebrate the
2025 Parx Hall of Fame
inductees



Enjoy the action of the
Breeders' Cup races during this
special Saturday at Parx Racing



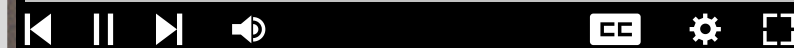
After a day of shopping, come
to Parx to relax and have a
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DURING LIVE RACING

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7TH
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Check out Parx Racing race day entries on

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AROUND THE OVAL

by Dani Gibson

September Stakes at Parx Racing over 2 action packed days of racing

Parx Racing's "PA Day at the Races" card on Friday, September 19, showcased three \$100,000 stakes restricted to Pennsylvania-bred or sired runners. Each race highlighted the strength of the local breeding program and delivered plenty of drama.

Imphy Stakes (3-year-old fillies, 7 furlongs)

Carousel Queen proved best in the feature for state-bred fillies, drawing clear under jockey **Mychel J. Sanchez**. Trained by **Scott A. Lake** and bred and owned by **Dennis Johnson**, with a professional victory in the seven-furlong test.

Prince Lucky Stakes (3-year-olds, 7 furlongs)

Drama unfolded in the Prince Lucky as **Come Prima**, ridden by **Ricardo Chiappe**, was elevated to the win after **Beyondexpectations** was disqualified for interference in the stretch. The official time was 1:23.74. Come Prima is conditioned by **Bernard Houghton** for **Red Barn Farm LLC**, who celebrated the victory after the stewards' ruling reversed the order of finish.

Storm Cat Stakes (3-year-olds & up, 1 mile + 70 yards)

In a thrilling stretch battle, **Ninetyprcentmaddie** held on gamely to capture the Storm Cat Stakes with **Eliseo Ruiz** aboard. The colt, trained by **Robert "Butch" Reid Jr.** and owned and bred by **LC Racing LLC**, benefitted from a distance change and the addition of blinkers, which sharpened his effort and helped secure the win.

PA Derby Day Stakes races

Pennsylvania Derby Day at Parx Racing delivered thrilling action, and our local horses rose to the occasion, showing grit, heart, and competitive spirit on one of the biggest racing stages in the state.

\$200,000 Grade 3 Greenwood Cup Stakes at Parx Racing showcased stamina and determination over 1½ miles on the dirt. **Ni Bien Ni Mal** powered to victory by 1¾ lengths, with local horses finishing second - Double Your Money and jockey -Melvis Gonzalez for owner/trainer Ben Dunn & owner Chris Manusi pressing the pace and putting up a sustained stretch battle before yielding to the winner. **Third Place – Praetorian Guard with jockey Paco Lopez for trainer Louis C. Linder, Jr.,** owners Conway Racing LLC, Over The Moon Racing, & Innovest BC LLC closing well to overtake the late rivals securing third.

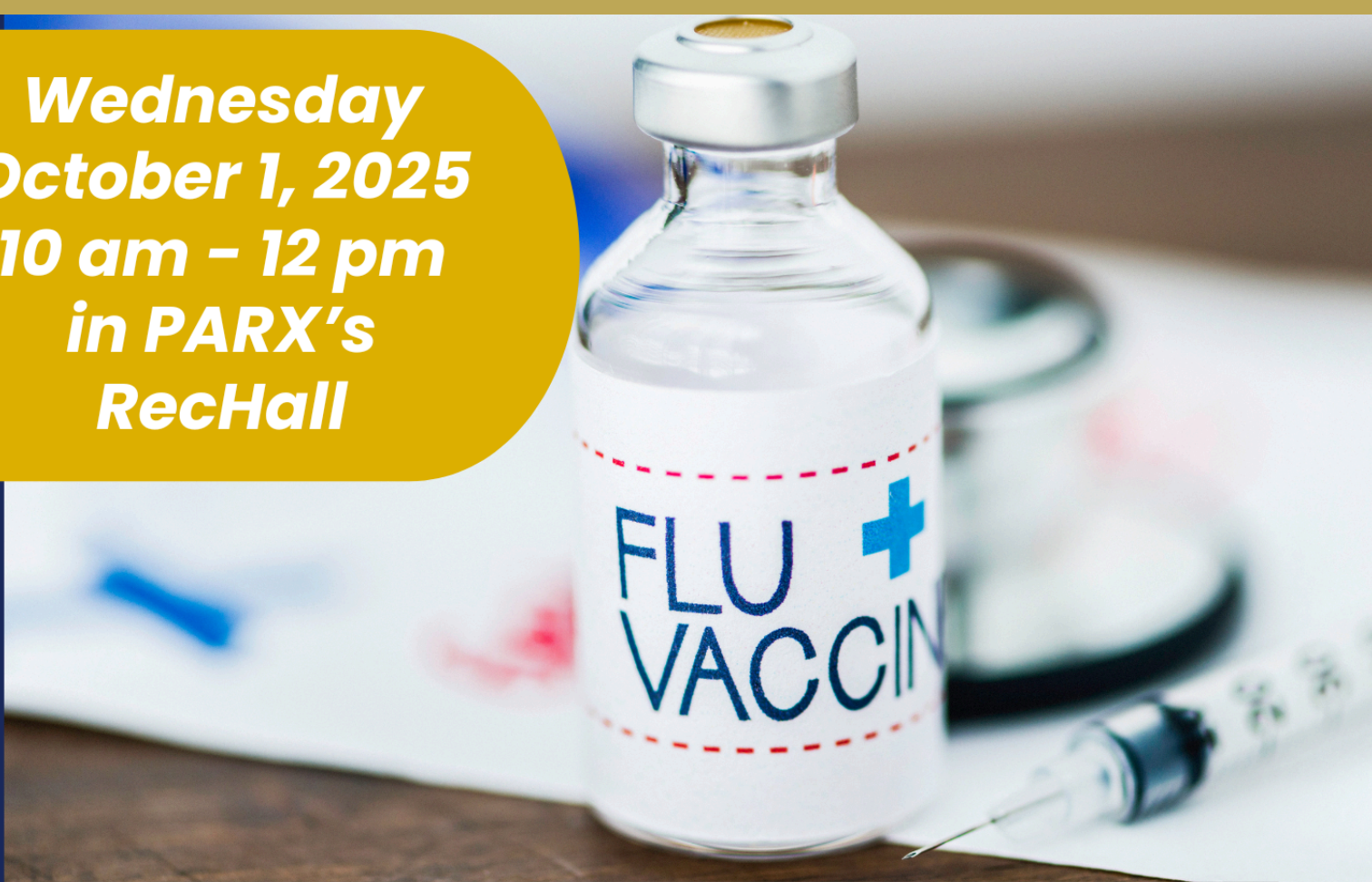
\$150,000 Liberty Bell Stakes winner Mystic Lake with Volleyballprincess & jockey Dylan Davis flying late to finish second for trainer Lou Linder, Jr., owners Bran Jam Stable & Dave Clark. Bella Queen & jockey Julio Correa finished third for trainer Howard Brown, Jr. & owner M & B Racing Stables inc after overcoming a stumbling start going 6 ½ furlongs

\$400,000 Gr 2 Gallant Bob was won by Canterbury Park invader Mad House but local horse Fire Pit was kept to task by jockey Luis Saez to finish third for trainer Guadalupe Preciado & owner Travin Stables going 6 furlongs for 3 year olds.

\$1 Million Dollar Gr 1 Cotillion Stakes for 3 year old fillies going 1 mile & 1/16th was won by Clicquot, second place finisher was Dry Powder to back up her recent prep win in the Cathryn Sophia stakes with a huge surge to finish a valiant third place was local horse Ourdaydreaminggirl with jockey Eliseo Ruiz aboard for trainer Lou Linder, Jr. and owners Bran Jam Stable and Dave Clark.

\$150,000 Parx Sprint was a battle to the wire with Buccherino and jockey Paco Lopez pulling away to win for trainer Alfredo Velazquez and owner Happy Tenth Stable going 6 ½ furlongs with Full Moon Madness and Maximus Meridius coming in a dead heat for second place. PA Bred Maximus Meridius was ridden by jockey Mychel Sanchez for trainer Butch Reid, Jr. and owners LC Racing LLC, Cash Is King LLC & Wellesley Stable.

**Wednesday
October 1, 2025
10 am – 12 pm
in PARX's
RecHall**



FREE FLU SHOTS

***FREE flu vaccination sponsored by the
PTHA. Available for all licensed
backside employees and trainers.***



**Register at the PTHA
office with Jackie
DeSanctis by
September 24th.**



Charities, Inc.

The PTHA Charities, Inc., celebrated the 2025 Pennsylvania Derby with a charity golf outing on September 17, 2025, at the Bensalem Township Country Club.

Almost 100 players, including trainers, owners, vendors, and sponsors, joined us on a special day. A bit of rain couldn't stop our fiery golfers! The morning began with breakfast sandwiches from Redhouse Bagels and coffee from Thoroughbred Brew, along with giveaways for all participants. The Comcast team also joined us to talk with trainers about the coming WIFI services that will be available at the track.

During the day, a putting contest raised money for our charity. Pat Malloy was the winner and graciously gave some of his winnings back to the charity.

The event concluded with an exquisite dinner where guests applauded the day's winners for the best team (Ryan Crowell, Trevor Wagner, Louis Sharpe & Evan Crowell), the longest drive (Ryan Crowell), and the closest to the pin (Bill Dugan).

The entire PTHA team thanks all the participants and sponsors who helped make our first PTHA Charities, Inc. golf outing a great success!

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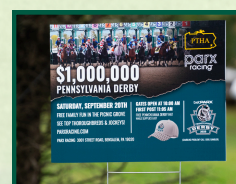
HOLE
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The Philadelphia Trust
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WINNER
TEAM



Congratulations to the winners of the PTHA "Diamond in the Rough" gardening contest, and thank you to all the participants. Stay tuned for more contests around the Holidays!

TEAM
DEMASI



TEAM
MOSCO



TEAM
J.SERVIS



2

1

3



parxracing

Attention Parx Trainers:
Please inform your employees that starting October 1, 2025, security will require all dorm residents to update their signed contracts. For more details, visit the Stable Gate to see Security.

PTHA TROPHY RACE

SEPTEMBER 2025



Laugh Like Lucy

SEPTEMBER 2

Owner
Alexandria
Stables LLC

Trainer
John
Servis

Jockey
Luis
Ocasio

SEPTEMBER 9

Vanellope

Owner
Mireya
Franco-
Plascencia

Trainer
Ernesto
Padilla-
Preciado

Jockey
Silvestre
Gonzalez



Just Be Honest

SEPTEMBER 16

Owner
PTJ
Stable

Trainer
Silvino
Ramirez

Jockey
Julio
Correa

SEPTEMBER 23

Cruise Missile

Owner
Jack
Armstrong

Trainer
Robert
Mosco

Jockey
Mychel
Sanchez



Bermuda Run

SEPTEMBER 29

Owner
Bush Racing
Stable

Trainer
Timothy C.
Kreiser

Jockey
Angel A.
Rodriguez

Photo Credit: EQUI-PHOTO



PENNSYLVANIA
IS THE PLACE TO
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IN **2026**

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Seven breeders on
pace for **\$200,000**
in awards

Top two on pace to finish between
\$500,000 and
\$1 MILLION

To learn more, contact
Exec Sec Brian Sanfratello at
610.444.1050
or info@pabred.com

Over the last 10 years, the PHBA
Breeding Fund distributed an average of

\$27 MILLION

annually in Awards, Owner Bonuses & Restricted Race Purses

UP TO 40% in Owner Bonuses

UP TO 40% in Breeders Awards

**APPROXIMATELY
\$7 MILLION**

in PA-Bred stakes and restricted races

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pabred.com | #PABred on social media

Parx Backside Community Celebrates 2025 PA Derby with Picnic

The backside community at Parx Racing gathered on September 18th for a festive picnic to celebrate the upcoming 2025 PA Derby.

The event, held behind the Admin. building, was made possible through generous sponsorships from the Pennsylvania Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association (PTHA) and Parx Racing.

Attendees enjoyed a delicious meal prepared by Ron's Café.

To add to the community spirit, the Comcast team was on site to meet with dorm residents and discuss future Wi-Fi services on the grounds.

It was a wonderful afternoon filled with good food, music by DJ Lara, and a sense of community, all while looking ahead to the excitement of the 2025 PA Derby!



Danielle Montgomery

Program Administrator



September is the pinnacle of racing at Parx—from Labor Day through the Pennsylvania Derby and Cotillion. These moments remind us why we love Thoroughbreds: their beauty, athleticism, and joy on the track—and the amazing second careers they discover through aftercare.

This year's Turning For Home Day brought that full circle, as we honored four alumni pairs in the post parades and celebrated Marissa's Mission as our T-shirt ambassador.

There is something poignant about watching racehorses shift pace so completely—from running in Pennsylvania to mastering eventing, hunters, jumpers, dressage, western riding, and trail work. Horses that once dazzled with speed now show the forbearance and good sense to carry a youngster around a course or through autumn leaves. It is nothing short of extraordinary.

At the same time, our Pennsylvania roots were front and center on PA Day at the Races, where we thanked our breeder partners whose support enables our mission. And on Cotillion/PA Derby weekend, we cheered some of America's best—knowing most will one day need the same responsible pathways to second careers that we are proud to provide.

We feel grateful—for our partner farms, adopters, horsemen, breeders, and supporters—and inspired. We have magnificent horses; our task is to keep finding the right riders and programs who will love them in their second careers as much as we cherished them in their first.

Danielle Montgomery
Administrator, PTHA Turning For Home

Outreach Success...

- **TFH DAY:** TFH alumni led the Labor Day post parades, showing the heart and versatility of life after racing: Dancin Debbie from the Pino stable with Sophie Reed (Safe Haven Equine), Mouse with Charley D'Amodio (retired by Pam Shavelson), Spirit's Hero with Ryan Wood (Woodstock Eventing), and Kingsville with Jason Hillman (Castle Rock Farm). Plus, Alex Scaff's Marissa's Mission was the featured Fox Hunter on our free T-Shirts!
- **PA Day at the Races:** Our PA Breds shone, and TFH "connected the dots" with many breeders. Thank you for supporting the John Deere Gator raffle—won by trainer Lou Linder—which raised nearly \$4,000 to benefit PHBA and Turning For Home.
- **Pennsylvania Derby Day:** With thousands watching, our message was clear and consistent: every racehorse has a safe place to land. That reassurance matters and promotes timely retirements. Our volunteers were front and center publicising that message—and hosting kids' horseshoe and T-shirt decorating—so families heard about TFH, too.



Trainer Lou Linder

2025 Program Snapshot...

- Horses Retired YTD: 260 (up from 229 in 2024)
- Year-over-Year Increase: +13.6%
- June Surge: +40 YOY; now stabilized at +30
- Stall Applications: Upcoming; expecting increased retirements as turf season ends
- Milestone: Dropsugar became TFH's 4,600th horse, donated by the Mosco barn (owner: Jack Armstrong)
- Adoptions/Placements: over 172 recorded as final in 2025, every eligible horse assisted



Rapid Intake, Stronger Outcomes

Despite record demand, TFH is averaging **6.5 days** in 2025 from Parx to a partner farm. (Min – same day, max-29 days)

That speed matters—it protects horses and reduces day rates for owners, making timely retirement easier.

Even with 30 more horses than this time last year, our Partner Farms are continuing to deliver top-tier rehabilitation, retraining, and placement.

Capacity is the Challenge

We are near the edge of our current capacity.

- Partner farm attrition is real
- New farm onboarding has slowed under current oversight
- Without additional help, we risk delays in intake

We've come this far because of strong support. Keeping the door open for every horse requires continued investment in the people and programs doing the work.

What's Needed Now

To sustain this pace and meet future demand, **we must bring on new Partner Farm trainers**—particularly those with:

- Thoroughbred rehab experience
- Show and lesson programs with good track records
- Ability to provide rehabilitation, retraining and rehoming to approved adopters
- Therapeutic and outreach programs with additional support for special needs horses

Resources must be used where they matter most—in **direct horse care**. Every dollar translates into faster retirements, stronger recovery, and long-term success in second careers.

Why This Matters

We do this for horses like **Pit Boss** —a hard-trying gelding who earned \$430,000, hit the board in over half his starts, and was still racing at the bottom claiming level at eight years old. Without TFH, horses like him—veteran geldings with heart and history—too often have nowhere to go.

Real Stewardship Means:

- **Retire on time** — before the risk is too great
- **Triage with discipline** — surgery and rehab only when recovery and quality of life justify it
- **Place with purpose** — miles matter; horses need structure and work
- **Elevate visibility** — better marketing bring

Looking Ahead...

RRP Thoroughbred Makeover

Seventeen TFH graduates will compete in ten disciplines at this year's Thoroughbred Makeover in Kentucky. It remains one of the strongest platforms for adoption and public awareness.

Local Momentum

An all-Thoroughbred show league is forming in our region. TFH supports this effort and its potential to open new doors for second careers.

Thank You to Our Partner Farms

You turn "track-fit" into "show-ready" through honest assessments, steady work, and the daily commitment it takes to help a horse thrive. Combined with the network of veterinarians and equine professionals we consult, including Mid Atlantic Equine Medical center, our horses receive their best outcomes.

How to Get Involved

Adopt or Train

Apply online. We'll help match you with available horses from trusted Partner Farms.
www.turningforhome.org

Join as a Partner Farm

We're actively seeking new farms with rehab and riding capacity.

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Gifts to our general fund cover medical and retraining costs—outreach drives adoptions, having extra means no horses are denied care



Kate Goldenberg



Pit Boss



My Brown Eyed Girl
& Ava Botterio



Thank you!

PTHA'S
Turning
For
Home

Turning For Home

HORSE UPDATES



Arctic Kid (ON)

Bay Gelding, foaled February 15, 2012
(Bold Executive - Kid Sparkle, by Glitterman)
Trainer: L. Calderon
Owner: Mario Mangini
Breeder: Paradox Farm Inc. & Hugh Sutherland



Arctic Kid, who retired in 2016 to Partner Farm, Full Gallop Farm with Lara Anderson, is now living the good life in Canada with his owner, Maxine. He's proven to be a versatile partner—competing up to 1.10m with a professional rider, jumping .9m with Maxine's students, and giving confidence to riders of all ages. In lessons, both kids and adults enjoy his kind and steady nature. Around the barn, he's just as gentle, happily sharing his space with dogs, cats, and even a mini donkey. Maxine says they feel very lucky to have him.

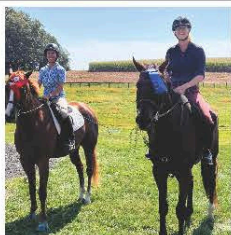


Quickening (KY)

Chestnut Gelding, foaled March 31, 2020
(Accelerate - True Way of Grace, by Yes It's True)
Trainer: Patrick Ashton
Owner: Ronald Owen Brady
Breeder: Peter O. Johnson



Quickening retired to Partner Farm, Granview Farm, where he enjoyed some well-earned downtime, stretching his legs, and floating across the field effortlessly. It wasn't long before he caught the eye of his adopter, who quickly fell in love with him. Now settled in his new home in New Hampshire, Quickening has gone straight to work and is thriving in his next chapter.



Running Late (KY)

Bay Gelding, foaled May 3, 2020
(Runhappy - Tarty to the Party, by Speightstown)
Trainer: John Kirby
Owner: Greg O'Donnell
Breeder: Kathryn Nikkel & Pegasus Stud LLC



After closing the book on his racing days in April 2024 with trainer John Kirby, Running Late is shining in a new arena. After some downtime, he's back in action - hitting the show ring and bringing home blue ribbons. Taken slow and steady, he's now moving up the levels in show jumping and showing plenty of potential. While he's still looking for his adopter, Running Late is in good hands with Partner Farm Maui Meadow and trainer Kelsey Johnson.



Exclusive Order (KY)

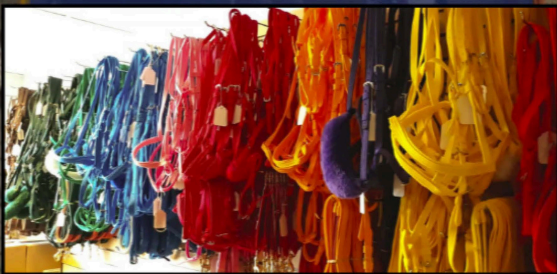
Bay Gelding, foaled February 21, 2019
(Union Rags - Anythingyoucando, by Curlin)
Trainer: Carlos Soto
Owner: Perez Stables LLC
Breeder: Woodford Thoroughbreds, LLC



On the track, Exclusive Order was a hard-trying competitor who raced consistently through 2024, carrying the colors of Perez Stables while training under Carlos Soto. He retired to Turning for Home and quickly stood out as an intelligent, willing horse with a strong presence. By spring 2025, he found his adopter, Robin, through Kate Goldenberg and Safe Haven Thoroughbred Rescue, one of TFH's trusted Partner Farms. Now thriving in his new career as a foxhunter, Exclusive Order is embracing the countryside and showcasing the stamina and elegance that made him such a reliable racehorse.



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Heartbeat of the Backstretch

By : Nikki Guzman



For one Delaware native, horses have always been more than a career; they've been a way of life. Growing up just eight minutes from Delaware Park on her family's horse farm, Maria Remedio-Adorno and her siblings spent their childhood riding in gymkhanas and farm shows with their mom, Patti Remedio, who would become her biggest supporter and inspiration.

It wasn't long before the racetrack itself became a second home. "We had bunk beds in the tack room and a fridge full of food," she recalls. "We were there from sunup to sundown." By the time she was 12, she was already hot walking for an Arabian trainer named Alex, later graduating to galloping thoroughbreds for Graham Motion right out of high school in 2003.

Her passion and fearless love of speed led her to the jockey's room in 2004, where she launched a riding career that spanned 14 years. Along the way, she balanced raising children with her work in the irons, riding in 2 prestigious NY stakes races: the Jerome and the Withers, notching 529 career victories, and guiding standout horses like Big Momma to remarkable winning streaks.

Though she hung up her tack in 2018, her journey with horses never stopped. She worked as an assistant trainer, then returned to galloping in 2023 before stepping into her current role as assistant to John Servis in 2024. She embraces every day as an opportunity to learn, drawing inspiration from trainers and horsemen around her, always eager to grow in her craft. Maria added, "I have to say, throughout my time at PARX, I have made some great friendships and met some interesting people."

But as much as she loves the racetrack, her proudest role is at home. She and her husband, jockey Abner Adorno, whom she calls her "heaven-sent" partner, are raising three children: Caleb (16), Arabella (14), and Mianna (6). Between football games, cheerleading events, and school activities, family life keeps them on the move. "My kids are my world," she says. "My goal is to be the best assistant I can be at work, and the best mom and wife I can be at home."

Looking back, there are unforgettable highlights: watching Abner ride in the Saudi Sprint Cup, savoring the thrill of graded stakes, ponying Baeza for the week leading up to the PA Derby, and celebrating hard-earned victories aboard horses she'll never forget. More than anything, her story is about a devotion to her family, to her horses, and to the track that raised her.

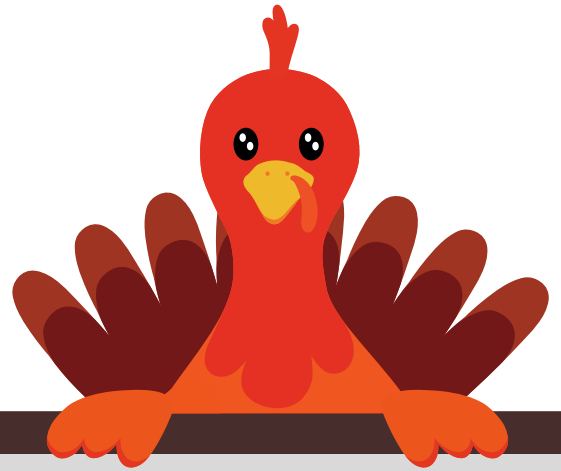
Through it all, Maria credits her mother, "If it wasn't for my mom, I would never be where I am today."

If you would like to nominate someone for our feature, please stop by the PTHA office or email nguzman@patha.org.

From the Race Track Chaplaincy of America at Parx

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