

April 2021

NEW-YORK BRED

# 2020 CHAMPIONS



NEW YORK THOROUGHBRED  
BREEDERS

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Annual Economic Impact to the New York State Economy:

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Total Economic Impact:  
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The Competition Sector



SUPPORTS  
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Adds  
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Total Economic Impact:  
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SUPPORTS  
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Total Economic Impact:  
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Beyond the Racing Sector, the Equine Industry is an Economic Engine that Includes Recreation and Competition.

- The Competition Sector
- The Recreation Sector

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## A MESSAGE FROM THE NYTB EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Traditionally held every April, the annual New York Thoroughbred Breeders' awards banquet is where the New York breeding and racing community meets to celebrate the achievements of all the Thoroughbred nominees and human connections of the previous calendar year. However, due to the current restrictions on public events as a result of the ongoing fight against the coronavirus pandemic, this year's in-person event was not held.

NYTB announced the 2020 New York divisional award winners, human honorees and New York-bred Horse of the Year and Broodmare of the Year in a special virtual event at [NYTB Awards.com](http://NYTB Awards.com) on April 5. I encourage each of you to visit this custom-designed website and view the video presentation for all nominees and winners.

As the world rapidly begins to chart a course to our new normal, I look forward to once again celebrating this special event with each of you in person next year. This commemorative program is being mailed to each of our members as an appreciation of your support and in celebration on the continued success of the New York-bred program.

Facing unprecedented circumstances last year, the equine industry and its participants adapted astoundingly. In a year in which more than three months of the New York racing calendar was lost, New York-breds continued to perform at a high level on the track and in

open company as well as against their peers.

The reigning New York Horse of the Year Tiz the Law won three Grade 1 races – the Curlin Florida Derby, Belmont Stakes Presented by NYRA Bets and the Runhappy Travers Stakes. Retiring after accumulating more than \$2.7 million in earnings, Tiz the Law – bred by Twin Creeks Farm, trained by Barclay Tagg and owned by Sackatoga Stable – undoubtedly raised the bar and profile of New York-breds nationally.

In addition to Tiz the Law's Grade 1 triumphs, New York-bred juvenile filly Simply Ravishing, bred by Meg Levy and owned by Harold Lerner, Magdalena Racing and Nehoc Stables, won the Grade 1 Darley Alcibiades at the Keeneland fall meet as the 2-1 second choice. Baoma Corporation's Varda, a daughter of Distorted Humor bred by Masters 2013 and the Distorted Humor Syndicate, won the Grade 1 Starlet Stakes at Los Alamitos last December.

Nine New York-breds won graded stakes in 2020. Joining Tiz the Law, Simply Ravishing and Varda were Brooklyn Strong (G2 Remsen, Aqueduct); Cross Border (G2 Bowling Green, Saratoga); Dot Matrix (G3 John B. Connally Turf Cup, Sam Houston); Red Knight (G3 Sycamore, Keeneland); Sharp Starr (G3 Go for Wand Handicap, Aqueduct); and Somelikeithot-brown (G2 Bernard Baruch Handicap, Saratoga).

Ny traffic, a 4-year-old son of Cross Traffic bred by Brian Culnan and owned by John Fanelli, Cash Is King, LC Racing, Paul Braverman and Team Hanley was the second highest-earning New York-bred in 2020, amassing \$494,900 against open company. He picked up notable seconds in the Grade 2 Twinspires.com Louisiana Derby at Fair Grounds, Grade 3 Matt Winn at Churchill Downs and in the Grade 1 TVG.com Haskell at Monmouth Park.

On the home front, Chester and Mary Broman's 7-year-old homebred Mr. Buff captured three New York-bred stakes in 2020 with the Jazil and Haynesfield at Aqueduct, and the marquee Empire Classic on Empire Showcase Day at Belmont Park last fall. Lawrence Goichman's homebred Myhartblongstoday, a 6-year-old mare by Scat Daddy, also had a notable year notching three victories including two New York-bred stakes in the Yaddo at Saratoga and Ticonderoga at Belmont.

New York-breds made more than 15,000 starts in North America and earned more than \$63 million worldwide, of which 74 percent was earned in-state. In a challenging year with the disruption of live racing and video lottery terminal revenue, the New York State Thoroughbred Breeding and Development Fund distributed an impressive 96 percent of all breeder, stallion and owner awards totaling more than \$8 million in 2020 and contributed more than \$1 million dollars in purse enrichment to NYRA tracks and Finger Lakes Racetrack.

As you can see, the hard work each of you display in breeding, foaling, breaking, training and racing in our state still reaps phenomenal awards and merit. I wish you continued success and hope this program and the stories of the nominees and winners within lead you to achieve greatness in the New York-bred program.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Najja Th" followed by a long horizontal flourish.

Najja Thompson  
Executive Director, New York Thoroughbred Breeders, Inc.

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## New York Thoroughbred Breeders 2020 Racing Season Honorees *NYTB Awards.com*

### **Horse of the Year and 3-Year-Old Male**

Tiz the Law. Breeder: Twin Creeks Farm. Owner: Sackatoga Stable. Trainer: Barclay Tagg.

### **Two-Year-Old Filly**

Simply Ravishing. Breeder: Meg Levy. Owners: Harold Lerner, Magdalena Racing, Nehoc Stables. Trainer: Kenny McPeck.

### **Two-Year-Old Male**

Brooklyn Strong. Breeders: Cheryl Prudhomme and Dr. Michael Gallivan. Owner: Mark Schwartz. Trainer: Danny Velazquez.

### **Three-Year-Old Filly**

Sharp Starr. Breeder: Stonewall Farm. Owner: Barry Schwartz. Trainer: Horacio DePaz.

### **Older Dirt Female**

Lucky Move. Breeders: Maltese Cross Stables and Stonegate Stables. Owners: Ten Strike Racing. Trainer: Juan C. Guerrero.

### **Older Dirt Male**

Mr. Buff. Breeders/Owners: Chester and Mary Broman. Trainer: John Kimmel.

### **Female Turf Horse and Female Sprinter**

Lead Guitar. Breeder: Windylea Farm. Owners: Jim and Susan Hill. Trainers: George Weaver, Eddie Kenneally.

### **Male Turf Horse**

Somelikeithotbrown. Breeders: Hot Pink Stable & Sand Dollar Stable. Owner: Skychai Racing & Sand Dollar Stable. Trainer: Mike Maker.

### **Male Sprinter**

Funny Guy. Breeder: Hibiscus Stable. Owners: Gatsas Stable, R.A. Hill Stable, Swick Stable. Trainer: John Terranova.

**Broodmare of the Year:** Tizfiz. **Breeder of the Year:** Twin Creeks Farm.

**Jockey of the Year:** Manny Franco. **Trainer of the Year:** Barclay Tagg.

**Lifetime Achievement Award:** Ellen Bongard; Frank and Patricia Generazio. **Special Award:** Jeffrey Cannizzo.

**Awards Program produced by ST Publishing,  
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Articles by Joe Clancy, Sean Clancy, Tom Law, Paul Halloran and Melissa Bauer-Herzog. Cover photo by Kathy Landman.  
Cover design by The Bell Group. Interior photos by Coglianese/NYRA Photos unless otherwise noted.

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## Horse of the Year • Three-Year-Old Male

# Tiz the Law

B. c. 2017, Constitution-Tizfiz, Tiznow. Breeder: Twin Creeks Farm.

Owner: Sackatoga Stable. Trainer: Barclay Tagg. 6-4-1-0. \$2,388,300.

2020 stakes: Holy Bull (G3), Florida Derby (G1), Belmont Stakes (G1), Travers Stakes (G1).

BY TOM LAW

Unprecedented times led to unprecedented accomplishments for Tiz the Law in 2020.

Already a Grade 1 winner with a New York-bred Horse of the Year and divisional championship in his holster, Tiz the Law added to that haul with two additional crowns and made more history along the way. He became the fifth back-to-back New York-bred Horse of the Year, joining Say Florida Sandy (2000-01), Funny Cide (2003-04), Haynesfield (2009-10) and Mind Your Biscuits (2016-17).

And it doesn't end there.

"You may know this, somebody told me that he's the only New York-bred to win four Grade 1s," Sackatoga's Jack Knowlton said in late March. "I know Funny Cide had three and I can't think of anybody that would have won four."

Knowlton and his stat provider are correct as Tiz the Law's victory in the 2019 Champagne and 2020 Florida Derby, Belmont Stakes and Travers Stakes make him the sole member of that four-win club since the practice of grading races started in 1970.

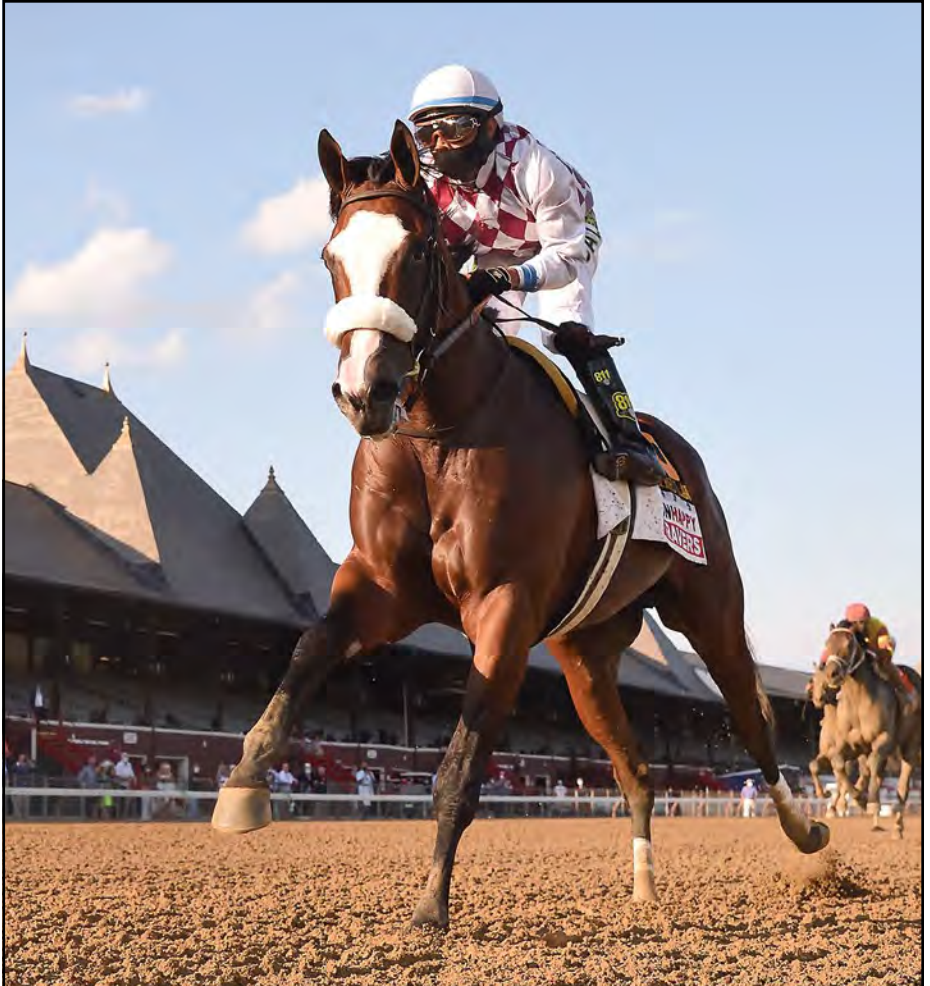
The son of Constitution did it under even more unique circumstances, starting the season like many classic hopefuls in South Florida with steady training and a final prep for the Kentucky Derby, only to see things unravel when the Covid-19 pandemic gripped the world and scuttled racing schedules across the country.

Uncertainty abounded but Tiz the Law proved the rare constant. He won the Grade 3 Holy Bull Stakes at Gulfstream Park Feb. 1, negating some of the ill-feelings from his troubled third in the Grade 2 Kentucky Jockey Club late in his 2-year-old season at Churchill Downs, and rapidly rose up the rankings of classic contenders.

Tiz the Law breezed five times from Dec. 30, 2019 to the Holy Bull, once more nine days after that win and four more times leading up to the Florida Derby in late March. By the time the Florida Derby was run – and won by 4 1/4 lengths by Tiz the Law – racing was being conducted without fans at Gulfstream and every other track in America.

Hopes of a normal run at the Kentucky Derby – where Tiz the Law likely would have been favored to give Sackatoga Stable and trainer Barclay Tagg a second victory after Funny Cide in 2003 – went up in smoke when Churchill Downs moved the race to Labor Day weekend.

"The way he was in the Florida Derby, if he went to the Kentucky Derby in a normal time frame he'd have been pretty tough to beat then," Knowlton said. "But you never know. (Bob) Baffert had different horses then, it wouldn't have been Authentic, it might have been one of the other ones. Who knows? You can't speculate about it."



Tagg kept Tiz the Law going and ready at a high level as winter folded into spring, staying in Florida longer than usual and sharpening the knife at Palm Meadows for whenever racing returned in the north. He breezed Tiz the Law 10 times from the Florida Derby until the rescheduled and shortened Belmont Stakes June 20, which they won without any fans in the stands in the first major sporting event in America since early March.

Knowlton and many members of Sackatoga Stable watched on television under a tent at Pennell's Restaurant in Saratoga Springs. "At least we had our people together," Knowlton said.

Tiz the Law and his people – Tagg and his longtime partner and assistant Robin Smullen, exercise rider Heather Smullen and groom Juan Barajas – continued to be the biggest story into the summer and after his 5 1/2-length victory in the Travers again in front of a spectator-less stand at Saratoga the train was rolling. He suffered back-to-back defeats in his final two starts – a second in the Kentucky Derby and a sixth in the Breeders' Cup Classic, both races won by Authentic.

The three Grade 1s in succession and his Champagne score put Tiz the Law above the three other New York-breds with three Grade

**Continued On Page 10**

# *Congratulations to All.*

The NTRA's federal legislative team celebrates all New York-bred divisional champion nominees for your year of success on the track.



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## THREE-YEAR-OLD MALE FINALISTS

**Captain Bombastic.** Ch.c. 2017, Forty Tales-Stolen Star, Cat Thief. Breeders: Chester and Mary Broman. Owner: Team Hanley. Trainer: Jeremiah Englehart. 7-2-2-1. \$175,200. Started season with back-to-back seconds at Oaklawn before win in Mike Lee Stakes at Belmont, fourth in Grade 1 H. Allen Jerkens at Saratoga and victory in Times Square division of New York Stallion Series. Ended season with third against older foes in Hudson Stakes on Empire Showcase Day.



**Chestertown.** Gr.c. 2017, Tapit-Artemis Agrotera, Roman Ruler. Breeders: Chester and Mary Broman. Owners: West Point Thoroughbreds, Chester and Mary Broman, Woodford Racing, Siena Farm and Robert Masiello. 8-2-3-0. \$167,775. The \$2 million 2-year-old purchase flirted with classics trail in the spring before returning to state-bred ranks to win Albany Stakes at Saratoga and season-ending optional at Aqueduct.

**City Man.** Dk.b/br.c. 2017, Mucho Macho Man-City Scamper, City Zip. Breeder: Moonstar Farm. Owners: Reeves Thoroughbred Racing, Peter Searles and Patty Searles. Trainer: Christophe Clement. 6-1-2-0. \$113,800. Raced on dirt and turf with success in 2020, including close fourth in Grade 3 Transylvania at Keeneland, a second in the Albany Stakes at Saratoga and a win over open company in Gio Ponti at Belmont.



**Dream Bigger.** Gr.c. 2017, Mission Impazible-Downtown Daria, Sky Mesa. Breeders: Sequel New York, Twin Creeks Racing and Pamela Zielinski. Owner: Repole Stable. Trainer: Rudy Rodriguez. 5-1-1-2. \$106,350. On the board in all four main track starts, including victory in Damon Runyon Stakes at Aqueduct in mid-March and placings in the Mike Lee at Belmont and Times Square division of New York Stallion Series at Saratoga in August.

**Ny Traffic.** Gr.c. 2017, Cross Traffic-Mamie Really, Graeme Hall. Breeder: Brian Culnan. Owners: John Fanelli, Cash Is King, LC Racing, Paul Braverman and Team Hanley. Trainer: Saffie Joseph Jr. 7-1-3-1. \$494,900. Started season with optional win at Gulfstream before placings in Grade 2 Risen Star and Grade 2 Louisiana Derby at Fair Grounds, Grade 3 Matt Winn at Churchill and Grade 1 Haskell Invitational at Monmouth to earn trips to the Kentucky Derby and Preakness Stakes.



**Scilly Cay.** B.c. 2017, Fed Biz-French Satin, French Deputy. Breeder/Owner: Alpha Delta Stables. Trainer: Linda Rice. 5-1-0-0. \$72,430. Kicked off season that included three fourth-place finishes with victory in Rego Park Stakes at Aqueduct.

## Tiz the Law —

### ■ Continued from page 8

1 wins – Mind Your Biscuits, Dayatthespa and Funny Cide – and into a class with two other leading runners bred in the Empire State with multiple major victories in Questionnaire and Mr. Right. Questionnaire, a foal of 1927, won the 1931 Metropolitan and Brooklyn handicaps in 1931 and the Paumonok and Kings County handicaps in 1932. Mr. Right, a foal of 1963, won the Dwyer and Roamer in 1966, Trenton and Queens County in 1967 and Santa Anita Handicap, Woodward (defeating Damascus at equal weights) and another edition of the Trenton in 1968.

Comparisons to those throwbacks aren't so far-fetched when considering Tiz the Law's workload throughout his two seasons, where he won six of nine before being retired with bone bruising in January. From his arrival in Tagg's barn in the spring of 2019 until he retired, Tiz the Law breezed a remarkable 56 times – 19 at 2

and 37 at 3 – including 19 bullet works without a break.

“We kept going because we never knew,” Knowlton said. “Once Covid came, for the longest time we didn't know when we were going to race, where we were going to race or which race it was going to be.”

“Barclay doesn't get enough credit for what he was able to do with him under those tremendously unique circumstances, to keep him at a peak for that long. Basically from breaking his maiden in August in his 2-year-old year to getting to the (Breeders' Cup) Classic. He was never away from the barn.”

Bred by Twin Creeks Farm, foaled at Sequel New York in Hudson and out of now two-time New York Broodmare of the Year Tizfiz, Tiz the Law took up residence in one of the stallion barns at Coolmore's Ashford Stud in Versailles, Ky., this season. He's standing his first season for \$40,000, proving popular among breeders and Knowlton is already looking forward.

“There will be some Tiz the Law New York-breds coming soon,” he said. “That will be fun.”



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*Two-Year-Old Filly*

# Simply Ravishing

B. f. 2018, Laoban-Four Wishes, More Than Ready. Breeder: Meg Levy.  
Owners: Harold Lerner, Magdalena Racing, Nehoc Stables. Trainer: Kenny McPeek.  
5-3-0-0. \$414,200. 2020 Stakes: P.G. Johnson, Alcibiades (G1).

BY SEAN CLANCY

“I can no longer say I paid \$500 for the mare.”

That’s how Meg Levy updated the status of Four Wishes in March. It was days after Dr. Nathan Slovis and his team at Hagyard Equine Medical Institute performed a C-section on the 13-year-old, delivering a healthy chestnut filly by Speightster.

So what if the vet bills are more – way more – than the purchase price? Four Wishes is worth it.

The once \$500 mare produced the 2020 New York-bred champion 2-year-old filly Simply Ravishing. Bred by Levy, owned by Harold Lerner, Nehoc Stables and Magdalena Racing and trained by Kenny McPeek, the daughter of Laoban won her first three starts in 2020, scooping a maiden on the turf at Saratoga, the rained-off P.G. Johnson at Saratoga and the Grade 1 Alcibiades at 1 1/16 miles on the dirt at Keeneland.

The light-moving, long-legged bay filly finished the year with respectable fourths in the Grade 1 Breeders’ Cup Juvenile at Keeneland and the Grade 2 Golden Rod at Churchill Downs.

For Levy, who sold Simply Ravishing for \$50,000 as a yearling, it was all magical.

“We have all watched so many races and this time we’re standing out in the sunshine, leaning over the rail because nobody was in our way,” said Levy said about the Alcibiades. “I actually just couldn’t believe it. I couldn’t believe it the way she drew off like that. God, how many races have we watched for other breeders, clients and friends? I just couldn’t believe it. She crossed the wire and we’re all screaming, it was like the movies.”

For Levy, the movie began when she got a call about a mare who needed a home. She bought Four Wishes, in foal to Revolutionary, for \$500, mostly because she liked her eye and knew she needed a break. Four Wishes produced a colt, later sold for \$8,000 as a yearling by Levy’s Bluewater Sales, and went to New York-based stallion Laoban.

Levy’s husband, Mike, had a breeding right after brokering the stallion deal on the Jim Dandy winner and it seemed like a natural move – wife’s \$500 mare, husband’s unclaimed breeding right, done.

Long before she was named, Simply Ravishing was exactly that. From Day 1.

“So much is out of her hands, we can breed the best to the best or the perceived best to the best, get it or not get it but a lot of it is up to nature. The one lesson I’ve learned is that the physical will win out,” Levy said. “Just being able to identify that type of horse and that filly was that type of horse from the time she was born. Maybe that’s the lesson, some of them are born with that physical



and no matter what kind of across-the-tracks kind of page they have they’ve got a chance, they’ve got the physical attributes and if they have the mental toughness and the desire, they can do it.”

Simply Ravishing proved she can do it, combining those three bullion cubes into a championship broth. Freshened for the winter, she was due to make her 3-year-old debut in the Grade 1 Ashland at Keeneland April 3.

You can be sure the Bluewater team will be there, hoping for another moment like the Alcibiades in October when Meg and Mike Levy, Bluewater’s Paul Randall and family and friends leaned over the rail at a surreal Keeneland and watched a filly they raised win a Grade 1 at their local track.

“It was a crazy experience, as a hardened veteran of horse sales and horse races, you never really let yourself think it can happen,” Levy said. “You always think it can happen for someone else but as far as happening for the home team on a \$500 mare, it’s like, ‘Well, it’s great we got here, it’s great she’s here, super fun, this will be one of these chalk-it-up-to experience moments.’ Then all of a sudden they draw away and you hear the announcer and you’re like, ‘What just happened?’”

What just happened? Simply Ravishing, a product of instinct and the intangible accomplished the most improbable.

“I guess the story has the highs and lows that everybody experiences,” Levy said days after saving Four Wishes’ life for the second time. “You just never know. You just never know.”

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## TWO-YEAR-OLD FILLY FINALISTS

**Laobanonaplayer.** B.f. 2018, Laoban-Raffie's Choice, Raffie's Majesty. Breeder: Christina Deronda. Owner/Trainer: Danny Velazquez. 4-2-1-1. \$232,400. Back-to-back placings in open maiden races at Delaware Park set up back-to-back stakes victories in the Maid Of The Mist at Belmont and Fifth Avenue division of the New York Stallion Series at Aqueduct.



**Mischievous Dream.** B.f. 2018, Into Mischief-Just Livin a Dream, Trippi. Breeder/Owner: Patricia Generazio. Trainer: Christophe Clement. 5-2-1-0. \$133,200. Topped males in her debut sprinting on the grass at Saratoga before a close fourth there against open company in the Bolton Landing Stakes. Stretched to 1 mile and beat open company in the Sorority Stakes at Monmouth before a second there against males in the Nownownow Stakes.



**No Mo' Spending.** B.f. 2018, Uncle Mo-Stopspendingmaria, Montbrook. Breeder: Repole Stable. Owners: Randall Bloch, Six Column Stables, David Hall, Michael Steele, Jim Gladden and Gene Rice. Trainer: Ian Wilkes. 4-2-0-1. \$97,416. Stretched out to 6 1/2 furlongs for third start and scored in late August maiden at Saratoga to set up season-ending win in Joseph A. Gimma Stakes at Belmont Park.



**Party At Page's.** B.f. 2018, Gemologist-Auntgrace, Lion Heart. Breeder: T/C Stable. Owners: Gold Star Racing Stable, Emcee Stable and Brian McKenzie. Trainer: Jeremiah Englehart. 5-2-1-1. \$138,652. Just missed in debut at Saratoga before front-running victory there late in the meet and an off-the-pace score in Lady Finger Stakes at Finger Lakes. Ended season with fourth and third in stakes company.

**Samborella.** B.f. 2018, Outwork-Light and Variable, Tiznow. Breeder: WinStar Farm. Owners: Gold Square, It's All About The Girls, Paul Braverman, Fortune Farm and Harlow Stables. Trainer: Jeremiah Englehart. 2-1-0-1. \$89,940. Bounced back from third following slow start in debut to break her maiden on the lead in Seeking The Ante Stakes on Saratoga Showcase Day.

**Vacay.** Dk.b./br.f. 2018, Not This Time-Florida Sun, Belgravia. Breeder: J Stables. Owners: Repole Stable and Eclipse Thoroughbred Partners. Trainer: Todd Pletcher. 2-2-0-0. \$83,600. Handled sloppy track to win debut in mid-October at Belmont before 5 1/2-length score in Key Cents Stakes a month later at Aqueduct.



Benoit Photo

**Varda.** B.f. 2018, Distorted Humor-She'll Be Right, Sky Mesa. Breeders: Masters 2013 and Distorted Humor Syndicate. Owner: Baoma Corporation. Trainer Bob Baffert. 3-2-1-0. \$254,500. Debut win at Del Mar earned a trip to the Grade 1 Chandelier Stakes at Santa Anita – where she finished second – before upset score in Grade 1 Starlet at Los Alamitos.



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# CONGRATULATIONS!



Sackatoga Stable and Belmont and Travers Stakes winner Tiz the Law congratulate New York-bred divisional champion nominees and winners.



SACKATOGA  
STABLE



*Two-Year-Old Male*

# Brooklyn Strong

B.g. 2018, Wicked Strong—Riviera Chic, Medaglia d'Oro.

Breeders: Cheryl Prudhomme and Dr. Michael Gallivan. Owner: Mark Schwartz.

Trainer: Danny Velazquez. 4-3-0-1. \$195,000. 2020 Stakes: Sleepy Hollow, Remsen (G2).

**BY PAUL HALLORAN**

It's not every day a state-bred, \$5,000 purchase – out of a broodmare who was given to the breeders – runs into the Kentucky Derby conversation, but that's what happened with the champion New York-bred 2-year-old male of 2020.

Brooklyn Strong broke his maiden for a tag at Delaware Park and ran third and first in New York-bred stakes, before winning the Grade 2 Remsen at Aqueduct Dec. 5. His 3-0-1 record from four starts accounted for \$195,000 in earnings.

"It was almost like dumb luck," trainer Danny Velazquez said. "After he broke his maiden, Mark (Schwartz) said, 'Let's go to New York and take a shot.' We expected a little and got a lot."

There were no compelling reasons for the owner or trainer to have high expectations, but the gelding would change that. Brooklyn Strong ran a good third despite a bad break and wide trip in the Bertram F. Bongard Stakes at Belmont Oct. 2. He came back three weeks later with a 2 1/4-length triumph in the Sleepy Hollow, a one-turn mile.

"He was flying at the end of the (7-furlong) Bongard and we knew he wants to go longer," said Schwartz, who only had to raise his hand twice at the 2020 OBS Spring 2-year-olds in training sale, delayed from April to June by the pandemic.

"They started the bidding at \$50,000 and it went all the way down to \$1,000. I probably would have gone to \$10,000," said Schwartz, who had some success as a partner with the Winning Move Stable syndicate, but prior to Brooklyn Strong was 0-for-24 as a principal owner. "This is like hitting the lottery for me. I've never had a horse like this."

Having checked the New York-bred stakes box, it was time to dive into the deep end in the Remsen, a Kentucky Derby prep offering 10 qualifying points to the winner.

Brooklyn Strong was fourth of five down the backstretch, asked for run at the half-mile pole by Joel Rosario and managed to track down 6-5 favorite Ten for Ten, who had opened a 3-length lead turning for home. Brooklyn Strong registered the highest Brisnet speed figure (107) of the year for 2-year-olds and the sixth-highest Beyer (94).

"The Remsen was the icing on the cake," Velazquez said. "We could have stayed with the New York-breds, but we knew we eventually had to try open company."

Watching from their Shamrock Hill Farm in Fort Edward were proud breeders Cheryl Prudhomme and her husband, Dr. Michael Gallivan.

"We always follow them," said Prudhomme, who handpicked Wicked Strong to breed their Medaglia d'Oro mare Riviera Chic to in 2017. "I put a lot of time and effort into the breeding selection. I wanted a big stallion. I liked Wicked Strong"



The \$10,000 stallion fee seemed reasonable – though it was later dropped to \$5,000 and Wicked Strong now stands for \$3,500 in Pennsylvania – especially considering they did not pay for the broodmare.

Shamrock Hill had boarded Riviera Chic when she was in foal to Twin Creeks stallion Mission Impazible in 2016. Wally Burleson asked Prudhomme if she wanted to keep the mare and she gladly accepted.

"She was a stakes-placed Medaglia d'Oro mare. Absolutely, we took her," said Prudhomme, who did not breed Riviera Chic in 2016.

The Wicked Strong breeding resulted in a bay colt born Jan. 20, 2018 at Shamrock Hill. Prudhomme and Gallivan sold him to Jeremiah Engelhart as a weanling for \$30,000. The horse was a two-time RNA as a yearling – for \$42,000 and for \$6,000 – before Schwartz got what looks like the deal of the century.

"I did some research and saw a few things I liked," said Schwartz, who named the horse after the sire and the borough where he grew up. "I knew the consignor (Jesse Hoppel of Coastal Equine) and he said I couldn't go wrong for that price. And, he ran a 10.2 (furlong) at the sale."

Schwartz sent the horse to Velazquez, who quickly decided to geld him, due to an anatomical abnormality.

"He had these ginormous (testicles)," Velazquez said. "It was so uncomfortable. There's no way he would have made it to the races."

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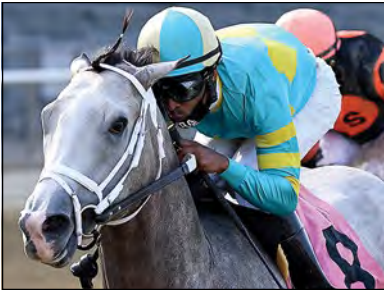
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## TWO-YEAR-OLD MALE FINALISTS

**Blue Gator.** Gr.c. 2018, Liam's Map-Candy Cat Can, Langfuhr. Breeder: Morera Breeding and Racing. Owner: Three Diamonds Farm. Trainer: Mike Maker. 3-2-1-0. \$179,445. Started career with back-to-back wins – a maiden at Belmont and the New York Breeders' Futurity at Finger Lakes – before a second in the Notebook Stakes at Aqueduct.

**Eagle Orb.** B.c. 2018, Orb-Lady On Holiday, Harlan's Holiday. Breeder: Barry Ostrager. Owner: E.V. Racing Stable. Trainer: Rudy Rodriguez. 5-2-2-0. \$153,100. Closed the season with a victory in the Notebook Stakes at Aqueduct after placing in two stakes – Funny Cide at Saratoga and Sleepy Hollow at Belmont.



**Hold the Salsa.** B.c. 2018, Hold Me Back-Northern Mambo, King Cugat. Breeder/Owner/Trainer: Richard Lugoich. 6-3-0-0. \$237,775. Upset early July maiden race at Belmont at 26-1 and scored stakes victories in September in Bertram F. Bongard at Belmont and Great White Way division of New York Stallion Series in December.

**Step Dancer.** B.c. 2018, War Dancer-Just Be Steppin, English Channel. Breeders: Sugar Plum Farm and Richard Pressman. Owners: Hayward Pressman and Diamond M Stable. Trainer: Barclay Tagg. 3-2-0-1. \$96,100. Ran off to 3 1/2-length victory in two-turn maiden on the grass at Saratoga before two strong efforts against open company on turf at Belmont – a third in the Grade 3 Pilgrim Stakes and a win in the \$80,000 Awad Stakes.



**Thin White Duke.** Dk.b./br.g. 2018, Dominus-Aberdeen Alley, Distorted Humor. Breeder/Trainer: Phil Gleaves. Owners: Steven Crist, Ken deRegt, Bryan Hilliard and Phil Gleaves. 7-2-2-3. \$214,091. After two thirds and two seconds to start career he scored back-to-back victories in the Funny Cide Stakes at Saratoga and Aspirant Stakes at Finger Lakes.



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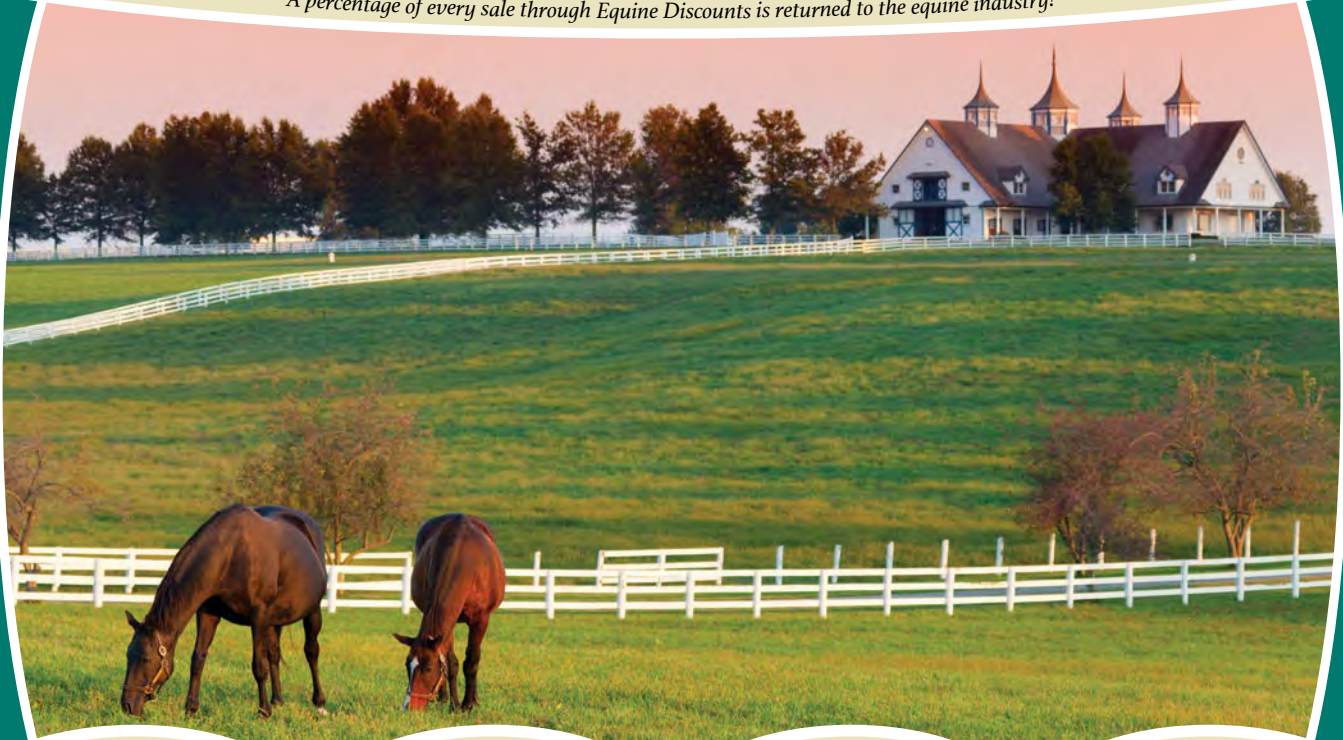


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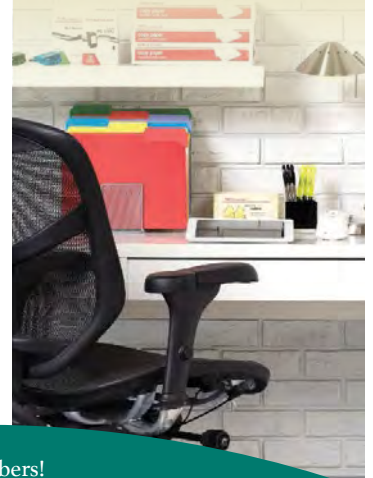


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## Three-Year-Old Filly Sharp Starr

Dk. b./br. f. 2017, Munnings-Mindy Gold, A.P. Indy. Breeder: Stonewall Farm.

Owner: Barry Schwartz. Trainer: Horacio DePaz. 8-3-2-1. \$166,815.

2020 Stakes: Go For Wand (G3)

BY TOM LAW

**H**oracio DePaz walked from one end of the shedrow to the other of his Clare Court barn last summer, talking about every member of his mid-sized Saratoga string and the opportunity afforded him by owner/breeder Barry Schwartz.

“Barry gave me an opportunity to come up here and I’m appreciative of that,” said DePaz, who ended an approximately three-year stint as private trainer for Sagamore Farm to open a public stable in 2018. “He’s a real good guy, been in the game a long time and there’s nothing you can surprise him with. I’ll probably learn more from him. He’s a handicapper, so he likes to play the horses. It’s been good, really, really good. I’m real fortunate to talk to him one-on-one about what’s going on.”

Schwartz, the co-founder and former CEO of Calvin Klein who also served as chairman of the New York Racing Association in the early 2000s, not only plays the horses, he owns and breeds some of the best produced in New York off his Stonewall Farm in Westchester County. Sharp Starr, a daughter of Munnings out of the A.P. Indy mare Mindy Gold he purchased privately in 2011, became the latest top-tier runner to carry Schwartz’s black and white colors and the New York-bred champion 3-year-old filly of 2020.

Sharp Starr, who won back-to-back starts including Aqueduct’s Grade 3 Go For Wand Handicap to close the season, joins fellow Stonewall Farm homebreds Voodoo Song, The Lumber Guy, Lovely Lil and Turnofthecentury with New York-bred championships.

Schwartz bought Mindy Gold privately after she did not sell in foal to Distorted Humor on a final bid of \$145,000 at the 2011 Keeneland November breeding stock sale. She joined the broodmare band at Stonewall and in 2012 produced a colt by Distorted Humor subsequently named Papa Shot. Gelded and campaigned by Schwartz, Papa Shot placed in five stakes including the Grade 1 Keeneland Korea Cup at Seoul Racecourse in 2017.

Mindy Gold did not produce foals in 2013 and 2014 before eventual winners Speke and Paved With Gold were born in 2015 and 2016, respectively. Sharp Starr followed, a dark bay filly with a white stripe down her face.

Initially with DePaz and his Maryland string at Pimlico Race Course, Sharp Starr made it to the races at 2 and finished third going 6 ½ furlongs against state-breds in mid-December 2019. She finished second in a similar 7-furlong maiden in mid-February to start her 3-year-old season and looked poised to shed her maiden until the pandemic took over. Sharp Starr was entered just before racing was shut down March 19 due to the spread of Covid-19.

“She was entered the Friday that racing was canceled back in March and she was the favorite that day,” DePaz said. “We had that little break with no racing.”

DePaz took his time from there, with the blessing from Schwartz, and Sharp Starr didn’t return to the work tab until early May. She benefited from the short break, and after one more run sprinting



she won three times and placed twice in six starts at 8 or 9 furlongs the rest of the year.

“We ran her three-quarters first time back and we knew that probably wouldn’t be to her liking, but she would benefit from the experience,” DePaz said. “It ended up working out when we stretched her out to a mile and she won pretty convincingly.”

Sharp Starr started her run toward the championship with that 5-length maiden win at a mile followed by a close second to older fillies and mares in a 9-furlong optional at Saratoga a third by three-quarters of a length in the \$150,000 Fleet Indian on Saratoga Showcase Day. Those runs earned a trip to the Grade 2 Black-Eyed Susan on Preakness Day in October, where she finished seventh after some trouble at the start.

Sharp Starr returned to form after the trip to Pimlico, blasting an allowance field by 15 ¾ lengths going 1 mile at Aqueduct and coming back a month later to win the Go For Wand at the same distance.

“After the Black-Eyed Susan, I thought maybe I wasn’t reading the filly right, but she came back with a very honest effort back at Aqueduct,” DePaz said.

Sharp Starr continued her career in 2021 with a second in the \$93,000 La Verdad at Aqueduct Jan. 3, a sixth in the Grade 3 Barbara Fritchie at Laurel Park Feb. 20 and finished third in an optional back at Aqueduct April 1. Her two younger siblings – the 3-year-old Street Sense colt V Pattern who raced once last year for DePaz and the 2-year-old Twirling Candy filly Moam – are also in training for Schwartz. Mindy Gold is the dam of a yearling New York-bred colt by Cairo Prince foaled last April and was bred back to that same stallion last year.

# 2021 STALLIONS



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## THREE-YEAR-OLD FILLY FINALISTS

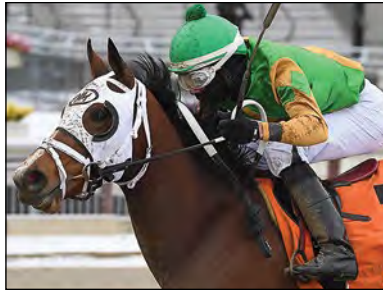
**A Freud of Mama.** B.f. 2017, Freud-Mama Theresa, Carson City. Breeder/Owner: William Butler. Trainer: Mike Maker. 1-1-0-0. \$57,750. Half-sister to four winners out of multiple stakes-placed mare added Franklin Square Stakes in mid-January at Aqueduct to stakes victory late in her 2-year-old campaign in 2019.

**Critical Value.** B.f. 2017, Bodemeister-See the Forest, Forestry. Breeders: Marshall Gramm and Clay Sanders. Owner: Ten Strike Racing. Trainer: Jeremiah Englehart. 5-1-0-1. \$70,955. The 2019 New York-bred champion 2-year-old filly started sophomore campaign with victory in Bouwerie Stakes at Belmont.

**Fresco.** B.f. 2017, Freud-Lady Renaissance, Smart Strike. Breeder/Owner: Oak Bluff Stable. Trainer: Christophe Clement. 9-1-3-3. \$121,030. Full-sister to turf male finalist and multiple stakes winner Therapist made most of consistent campaign highlighted by maiden-breaking score in Statue of Liberty division of New York Stallion Series at Saratoga.

**Makingcents.** B.f. 2017, Goldencents-Mischief Maker, Cape Town. Breeder: Windhorse Thoroughbreds. Owner: Fortune Farm. Trainer: Jeremiah Englehart. 6-3-0-3. \$183,380. Scored back-to-back open-length victories – one before the pandemic shut down racing in New York and one after – before third in open-company allowance and a victory in the Fleet Indian Stakes on Saratoga Showcase Day.

**Officer Hutchy.** Dk.b./br.f. 2017, Boys At Tosconova-A. P. Hutchy, Patriot Act. Breeder: Green Polka Farms. Owners: Green Polka Farms; Sanford Goldfarb, Irwin Goldfarb, Ira Davis. Trainers: Linda Rice; Rob Atras. 8-3-1-1. \$141,380. Claimed out of win for \$25,000 in mid-August at Saratoga, followed up with victory in Park Avenue division of New York Stallion Series at Saratoga, fourth in Iroquois Stakes at Belmont and third in Staten Island division of Stallion Series at Aqueduct.





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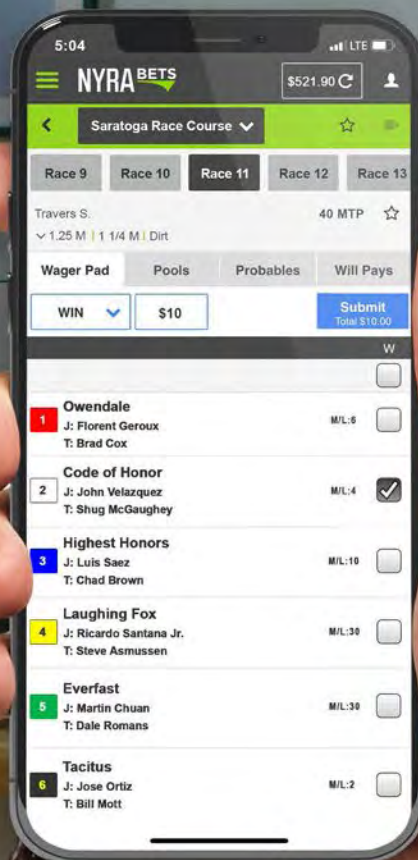
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## Older Dirt Female

# Lucky Move

B. m. 2014, Looking At Lucky-Quiet Mover, Quiet American.

Breeders: Maltese Cross Stables and Stonegate Stables. Owner: Ten Strike Racing.

Trainer: Juan C. Guerrero. 9-3-1-1. \$257,849. 2020 Stakes: Obeah, Empire Distaff, Bay Ridge.

BY TOM LAW

Marshall Gramm went looking for a horse with a pedigree to match the 9-furlong dirt trip at Saratoga Race Course and found it at Churchill Downs on the Tuesday of Kentucky Derby Week in 2019.

A daughter of Lookin At Lucky and the Quiet American mare Quiet Mover – a pedigree line Gramm calls a “dream” for one lap on the dirt at the Spa – Lucky Move delivered for her new owner and his Ten Strike Racing partner Clay Sanders first in July 2019 and then into 2020 with a New York-bred older dirt female championship.

“She had a great year, won three stakes and won a quarter of a million dollars,” said Gramm, an economics professor at Rhodes College in Tennessee. “She’s such a fun horse.”

Bred by Maltese Cross Stables and Stonegate Stables and foaled at Stonegate in Fort Edward, Lucky Move sold as a yearling for \$57,000 at the 2015 Fasig-Tipton Saratoga fall mixed sale. She didn’t make the races until late in her 3-year-old season, at Fair Grounds with trainer Mark Casse before being claimed for \$20,000 by John Hancock at Keeneland in April 2018.

Lucky Move won that day but didn’t in three subsequent starts for Hancock before she showed up in New York for Jeremiah Englehart in a state-bred allowance going 6 furlongs at Saratoga. Back with Hancock in Kentucky, Lucky Move finished second twice and fourth once in four starts to end the 2018 season.

Gramm took note when she returned in spring 2019, finishing 10th of 11 in a Keeneland allowance won by eventual multiple graded stakes winner Juliet Foxtrot with Grade 3-placed Malakeh second. When Hancock dropped Lucky Move in for \$30,000 17 days later, Gramm and Sanders made their move.

“She’d been a horse I had been following for a long time before I claimed her,” Gramm said. “She was a Lookin At Lucky out of a Quiet American mare, so her pedigree just screams distance. They had been running her on grass and I was just really excited.

“I felt very good about claiming her and getting her to that state-bred a-others than in Saratoga. When I think about what my goals were, they were, ‘Hey, we can claim this horse, she’s going to love going a mile-and-an-eighth at Saratoga, let’s get her to that spot.’ ”

Claimed in April, Lucky Move almost didn’t make that Saratoga spot after finishing third in a starter allowance in her first start in Gramm’s black and purple Ten Strike Racing colors at Churchill Downs June 14. A win would have made her ineligible for the condition at Saratoga, but she ran just well enough and headed to New York – winning an \$80,000 optional claimer for Ten Strike and trainer Bentley Combs July 25. The race almost didn’t happen.

“It was one of those great deals, perfectly executed,” Gramm said. “I happened to be there with my family. It was the day it stormed like hell and they had to cancel the rest of the card. They ran her race, then a turf race and the skies opened up. I remember being at the track and trying to figure out how to get back to our



rental with the skies opening up. She ran really big that day, against Ratajkowski, who is a nice filly.”

Lucky Move continued to run big in 2019, placing in two stakes with a win in a starter allowance at Parx Racing for trainer Juan Carlos Guerrero.

That set up an even better 2020, which started with a second in the Ladies Handicap at Aqueduct and two decent efforts in optional claimers in New York before the pandemic shut down racing across the East Coast – which Gramm said proved beneficial for the mare – and a restart that produced stakes wins in the Obeah at Delaware Park, Empire Distaff Handicap at Belmont Park and the Bay Ridge at Aqueduct.

“She had a good year, winning those two New York-bred races,” Gramm said. “The second one, the Bay Ridge, was run with that ridiculously slow pace. I thought it was her best effort, well, that and maybe the Obeah off the layoff. That Bay Ridge, given the pace and how far back she was, it was a really game effort. Either way we’re ecstatic. We were happy that she was going to be a high-level claimer, allowance horse in New York.

Gramm considered retirement for Lucky Move but given dips in the bloodstock market due to the pandemic and the mare’s earnings potential decided to bring her back. She finished fourth in the Ladies Jan. 17 and fourth in the Nellie Morse Stakes at Laurel Park Feb. 20 to start the season.

“These Lookin At Luckys, they tend to get better as they get older and now she’s 7,” Gramm said. “We were planning to run her in (the Biogio’s Rose March 7) at Aqueduct but had a foot abscess and we had to scratch. But she’s doing well now, and we hope to make the Top Flight Invitational (April 10 at Aqueduct). We’re going to give her some shots this year while looking at New York-bred stakes, too.”

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## 2020 NOMINEES

### CHAMPION FEMALE SPRINTER

Collegetown Girl  
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Lead Guitar  
Mentality  
Prairie Fire

### CHAMPION 2YO FILLY

Laobanonaprayner  
Samborella  
Simply Ravishing  
Vacay  
Varda

### CHAMPION 3YO MALE

City Man  
Dream Bigger  
Ny Traffic  
Tiz the Law

### CHAMPION MALE SPRINTER

Funny Guy  
Tribecca

### CHAMPION 3YO FILLY

Makingcents

### CHAMPION 2YO MALE

Blue Gator  
Brooklyn Strong  
Eagle Orb

### CHAMPION MALE TURF HORSE

City Man  
Cross Border  
Rinaldi  
Therapist

### CHAMPION FEMALE TURF HORSE

Classic Lady  
Fifty Five  
Lead Guitar  
Myhartblongstodady

### CHAMPION OLDER DIRT FEMALE

Lucky Move  
Ratajkowski

### CHAMPION OLDER DIRT MALE

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## OLDER DIRT FEMALE FINALISTS

**Mrs. Orb.** Dk.b./br.m. 2015, Orb-Gypsy Angel, Silver Train. Breeder: Rhapsody Farm. Owners: Ruggeri Stable, Richard Coburn, Script R Farm and Mike Miceli. Trainer: Mike Miceli. 6-0-5-0. \$118,500. Returned from pandemic shutdown and placed in five straight stakes from 7 furlongs to 1 1/8 miles, including the Grade 3 Turnback The Alarm in early November at Aqueduct.

**Newly Minted.** B.f. 2016, Central Banker-Newbie, Bernardini. Breeders: Chester and Mary Broman. Owner: Beach Haven Thoroughbreds. Trainer: Linda Rice. 4-1-2-0. \$97,125. Started season with back-to-back seconds at Aqueduct in the Biggio's Rose Stakes and Heavenly Prize Stakes, the latter against open company. Came off five-month break to win Union Avenue Handicap at Saratoga.



**Ratajkowski.** Ch.m. 2014, Drosselmeyer-Quiet North, Quiet American. Breeders: John Hicks and H&H Farm. Owner: Gary Broad. Trainer: Graham Motion. 3-1-0-0. \$82,650. Started abbreviated season with victory in Critical Eye Stakes on Big Apple Showcase Day before fifth in Union Avenue Handicap at Saratoga and fourth in Empire Distaff Handicap at Belmont.



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## Older Dirt Male

# Mr. Buff

Ch. g. 2014, Friend Or Foe–Speightful Affair, Speightstown.  
Breeders/Owners: Chester and Mary Broman. Trainer: John Kimmel.  
8-3-2-0, \$307,500. 2020 stakes: Jazil, Haynesfield, Empire Classic.

BY SEAN CLANCY

It's March and you're calling John Kimmel. The phone rings once.

"The one and only, Mr. Buff," Kimmel says, knowing it's that time of year.

Indeed, the one and only, Mr. Buff. The 7-year-old earned his second consecutive New York-bred older dirt male title in 2020. Owned and bred by Chester and Mary Broman, born at their farm in Chestertown and trained by Kimmel, Mr. Buff punched his indelible ticket with three wins and two seconds from eight starts in 2020. The chestnut gelding netted three stakes wins, the Jazil against open company and the Haynesfield and Empire Classic against New York-breds.

As for 2021, yeah, you guessed it, wins in the Jazil and Stymie. So far. That makes the towering throwback a cool 17-for-44 for more than \$1.3 million.

"I don't think I've ever had a horse win 17 races," Kimmel said in March.

Not many have.

Mr. Buff goes way back with the Bromans and Kimmel on the top side of his pedigree as sire Friend Or Foe and grandsire Friends Lake both raced in the green and white and for Kimmel. Dam Speightful Affair was purchased for \$80,000 at Fasig-Tipton Kentucky in 2013. In addition to Mr. Buff, she has produced winners Cain Is Abel, Daddy Knows, Organic Gemini and unraced 3-year-old filly Miss Buff (a full-sister).

"He gets better and better all the time. He's just been an iron horse," Kimmel said. "Once we figured out a few things about him, he kept losing his shoes, we've been gluing his shoes on for 2 1/2 years now. He's got white feet, they're kind of brittle, once he had shoes that didn't fall off, he's run a little better and a little better. He can use that big stride to his advantage.

"The one thing we know about him, he doesn't have to be committed to the lead and once the riders have the confidence that he doesn't have to be committed to the lead, you're going to get a little better result. For him, it's all about rhythm."

Mr. Buff has been using rhythm like Dizzy Gillespie used a trumpet, loping or pressing the pace, establishing an up-tempo cruising speed that breaks races open. He broke his maiden in September of his 2-year-old season.

He won twice more as a 3-year-old and started 14 times as a 4-year-old – winning starts nine, 12, 13, and 14 – the last a stakes win in the Alex M. Robb.

As good as that campaign was, Mr. Buff took things another step forward in 2019 with wins in the Jazil in January, the Saginaw in June, the Evan Shipman in August, the Empire Classic in October and the Robb once again in late December.

In 2020, the beat went on as Mr. Buff dominated the Jazil by 5 lengths and the Haynesfield by 20. He followed that with a second in the Commentator, a fifth in the Grade 2 Suburban and a fifth in the Grade 1 Whitney. Back to New York-bred competition, Mr.



Buff earned another win in the Empire Classic before a fifth in the Grade 1 Cigar Mile and a second in the Alex M. Robb.

In two starts this year, Mr. Buff has proven he's as good as ever. Mr. Buff has made a living against New York-breds while failing to hit the board in six attempts against graded stakes horses. Not that Kimmel has given up, he was lining up the Grade 3 Excelsior for Mr. Buff's next start.

"He has these New York-breds over a barrel, now it's see how he fares in open company," Kimmel said. "He hasn't been that fortunate in that situation, but hopefully this year maybe riders will have more confidence in him and not send him off his feet, he doesn't have to be on the lead. If that doesn't work, we'll just have to say, 'We are just a really good New York-bred.'"

One of the best ever.

A small check in his next start would catapult him past Friendly Island as the 27th leading New York-bred in history.

"He's got solid bone, he's easy on himself, he's a fit horse, he does things real comfortably, he's not tough to manage. Once you get over the hump with those older horses, they kind of know and they sustain themselves," Kimmel said. "He's happy doing what he's doing, I don't see any need to stop him, his body is certainly able to handle what we dish out. He's a fit horse, just keep him on edge."

With two championships in the books and a 2-for-2 start to 2021, the edge is still razor sharp.

"This game can go from one extreme to the other," Kimmel said. "That's what makes the good times so amazing because you've experienced so many negative times. When something happens, you embrace it, it's a great feeling when something positive happens and he's been giving us a lot of positive moments."



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Tod Marks



## OLDER DIRT MALE FINALISTS

**Bankit.** B.c. 2016, Central Banker-Sister in Arms, Colonel John. Breeders: Hidden Brook Farm and Blue Devil Racing. Owners: Winchell Thoroughbreds and Willis Horton. Trainer: Steve Asmussen. 12-1-4-3. \$278,850. Well-traveled, he started season with five starts (three stakes placings) at Oaklawn before stakes placings in New York at Belmont and Aqueduct. Finished season with win in Alex M. Robb Stakes at Aqueduct.

**Danny California.** Ch.g. 2015, Afleet Alex-Cinco de Mayo Mio, El Corredor. Breeders: West Point Thoroughbreds and 3C Thoroughbreds. Owner: Noda Brothers. Trainer: Orlando Noda. 12-4-1-2. \$201,509. Won back-to-back starts at Saratoga – one against open company – before front-running victory going 12 furlongs in the Miner’s Mark Stakes at Belmont Park in mid-September.

**Funny Guy.** B.c. 2016, Big Brown-Heavenly Humor, Distorted Humor. Breeder: Hibiscus Stable. Owners: Gatsas Stable, R.A. Hill Stable and Swick Stable. Trainer: John Terranova. 6-3-1-0. \$229,000. Returned from layoff to score back-to-back victories in the 1-mile Commentator Stakes at Belmont and 7-furlong John Morrissey Stakes at Saratoga. Ended season with win in Thunder Rumble division of New York Stallion Series after fourth in the Grade 1 Forego and second in the Grade 2 Vosburgh.

**Sea Foam.** B.h. 2015, Medaglia d’Oro-Strike It Rich, Unbridled’s Song. Breeder/Owner: Waterville Lake Stable. Trainer: Christophe Clement. 5-2-0-1. \$106,525. Returned from pandemic shutdown with back-to-back victories in optional at Belmont and open-company optional at Saratoga before a third in the Empire Classic at Belmont and fourth in Alex M. Robb at Aqueduct.

**Tribecca.** Ch.g. 2014, Bustin Stones-Heck, Heckle. Breeders: Laurel Least and Joseph Lech. Owner: Ronald Brown. Trainer: Chris Englehart. 6-3-1-0. \$169,413. Won open-company optional sprints before and after the pandemic shutdown and ended season with victory in Hudson Handicap on Empire Showcase Day at Belmont and close fourth in the Grade 3 Fall Highweight Handicap at Aqueduct.



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# Lead Guitar

B. f. 2016, Maclean's Music-Eleadora, Finality. Breeder: Windylea Farm.  
Owners: Jim and Susan Hill. Trainers: George Weaver, Eddie Kenneally.  
7-5-0-0. \$211,278. 2020 stakes: Floral Park, Autumn Days.

**BY MELISSA BAUER-HERZOG**

**T**he Queen of New York by number of wins by any New York-bred filly or mare last year was Lead Guitar, but that was far from the only thing the daughter of Maclean's Music achieved in 2020.

After spending her first season of racing in 2019 with George Weaver, Lead Guitar spent much of 2020 in Eddie Kenneally's barn before returning to Weaver's shedrow. During her time with Kenneally, she earned an allowance victory at Churchill Downs and was only 3 lengths behind the winner in her only career start on dirt at Keeneland.

When racing shifted to Saratoga Race Course, Lead Guitar started to shine. Back in her home state, she started a four-race win streak with a neck victory in a New York-bred optional going 5 1/2 furlongs on turf for Kenneally. That victory convinced owners Jim and Susan Hill to keep her in the Empire State and transfer her back to Weaver, who was excited to see his charge back in the barn.

"We were really excited, we're very fond of her and we were just glad to have her back," he said. "She's a big, good looking mare and she's obviously talented. For her to go on that win streak and get as good as she was, hopefully she'll come back and be even better this year."

Moving to Belmont Park after the Saratoga meet, Lead Guitar went on a tear with a 3 1/4-length gate-to-wire victory in another optional for the second victory in the streak. A step up to stakes company came next, to see if she could keep the momentum.

Taking on open company for the first time since her move back to New York, Lead Guitar showed she was up to the task in the Floral Park Stakes.

Versatile and able to race from any position, Lead Guitar changed it up from her previous victory by closing from sixth. By the final sixteenth of the 6-furlong Floral Park, Lead Guitar was in command and won by three-quarters of a length to secure her first stakes victory. Weaver's assistant Blair Golen was thrilled with the victory.

"One thing I love about her is that every time she races, whether she's on the lead or if she has to come from off the pace, it's not a problem for her," said Golen. "She's just a real racehorse. Horses like that are so nice to have in your barn and make you look good."

Lead Guitar ended her season with another race against open company in the Autumn Days Stakes at Aqueduct and made easy work of the race. Racing behind horses early on in the 6-furlong event, she took command at the top of the stretch and waved good-bye on the way a 3 1/4-length win.

All five of Lead Guitar's 2020 victories came while sprinting on the turf, earning her New York-bred championships in the Female



Turf and Female Sprinter categories. Weaver had an inkling she'd like the surface from the first time he breezed her on it and that thought has come true with the mare running on it in all but one start for a turf record of 6-2-1 in 10 starts.

"She always acted like she could run but from the first time I worked her on the grass I told her owner, Mr. Jim Hill, that she was really nice on the grass and it was something to look forward to," he said.

Foaled at McMahon of Saratoga Thoroughbreds in Saratoga Springs for breeder Windylea Farm, Lead Guitar showed promise early. She was purchased for \$35,000 as a weanling by Sally Thomas out of the McMahons of Saratoga consignment at the Fasig-Tipton Saratoga fall mixed sale before coming back to the same sales ring the following summer.

She proved to be in greater demand that time and the Hills landed her for \$200,000 – the 13th highest price and sixth most expensive filly of the 2016 Fasig-Tipton Saratoga New York-bred yearling sale.

Out of stakes-placed Finality mare Eleadora, Lead Guitar is half-sister to a New York-bred 4-year-old filly by Forty Tales named Chazy, a 3-year-old New York-bred Central Banker filly named Mypharm and a colt by Mo Town born in January. Eleadora had a full sister to Lead Guitar in 2019 and is returning to Maclean's Music again this season.

Lead Guitar spent the winter on a break at her owners' Margaux Farm in Kentucky with plans calling for her to return to the track in hopes of extending her streak into 2021.

## FEMALE TURF HORSE FINALISTS

**Classic Lady.** Dk.b./br. m. 2015, Jimmy Creed-Elle Tish Slew, Eltish. Breeders: Seth Gregory and Robert Barney. Owners: Michael Dubb and Bethlehem Stable. Trainer: Christophe Clement. 3-1-1-1. \$84,750. Just missed in Mount Vernon Stakes at Belmont before victory in the Dayatthespa Stakes at Saratoga. Also third in Yaddo Stakes on Saratoga Showcase Day card.



**Fifty Five.** B.m. 2014, Get Stormy-Soave, Brahms. Breeder: Empire Equines. Owner: Peter Brant. Trainer: Chad Brown. 1-1-0-0. \$55,000. Champion 3-year-old filly in 2017 and champion turf female in 2019 scored in her lone start at odds-on over fellow finalist Classic Lady in the Mount Vernon Stakes at Belmont.



**Fresco.** B.f. 2017, Freud-Lady Renaissance, Smart Strike. Breeder/Owner: Oak Bluff Stable. Trainer: Christophe Clement. 9-1-3-3. \$121,030. Full-sister to turf male finalist and multiple stakes winner Therapist made most of consistent campaign highlighted by maiden-breaking score in Statue of Liberty division of New York Stallion Series at Saratoga.

**Myhartblongstodady.** Dk.b./br.m. 2015, Scat Daddy-Elusive Rumour, Elusive Quality. Breeder/Owner: Lawrence Goichman. Trainer: Jorge Abreu. 4-3-0-1. \$213,850. Confirmed frontrunner employed that style during three-race win streak highlighted by victories in the Yaddo Stakes on Saratoga Showcase Day and Ticonderoga Stakes on Empire Showcase Day.



**Niko's Dream.** Ch.f. 2016, Central Banker-Adriatic Dream, Wild Desert. Breeder: Nick Peros. Trainer: Barclay Tagg. Defeated open company at Gulfstream in both victories in 2020 – optional in May and My Charmer Stakes in December. Also placed in Ticonderoga Stakes on Empire Showcase Day.

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## FEMALE SPRINTER FINALISTS

**Cash Offer.** B.f. 2016, Shackleford-Monono, Whywhywhy. Breeders: Taylor Brothers Properties and To Kalon. Owner: Reddam Racing. Trainer: Mark Hennig. 2-1-1-0. \$81,625. Carried over productive 3-year-old campaign into early 2020 with season-opening victory in La Verdad Stakes at Aqueduct and a second in the Broadway Stakes a month later.

**Collegeville Girl.** B.f. 2016, Central Banker-Lifelong, Vindication. Breeder: Andy Beadnell. Owner: Robert Brittingham, Salvatore De Bunda and Wire to Wire Stable. Trainer: Richard Vega. Enjoyed her best season with early March allowance victory at Aqueduct and season-ending come-from-behind score in Iroquois Stakes on Empire Showcase Day at Belmont.

**Critical Value.** B.f. 2017, Bodemeister-See the Forest, Forestry. Breeders: Marshall Gramm and Clay Sanders. Owner: Ten Strike Racing. Trainer: Jeremiah Englehart. 5-1-0-1. \$70,955. The 2019 New York-bred champion 2-year-old filly started sophomore campaign with victory in Bouwerie Stakes at Belmont after racing returned following pandemic break.

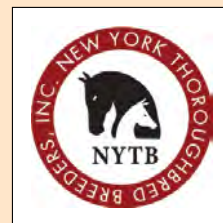
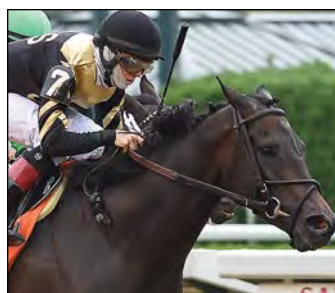
**Espresso Shot.** B.f. 2016, Mission Impazible-Glory Gold, Medaglia d'Oro. Breeder: Twin Creeks Farm. Owner: N Y Final Furlong Racing Stable, Maspeth Stable and Parkland Thoroughbreds. Trainer: Jorge Abreu. 6-1-1-0. \$90,380. A finalist for 2-year-old filly and 3-year-old filly the last two seasons, she added her third career stakes victory in late November in Staten Island division of New York Stallion Series.

**Mentality.** B.m. 2015. Freud-Lemon Drop's Love, Lemon Drop Kid. Breeder: Joemar Racing Stable. Owner: Lindy Farms. Trainers: Wesley Ward, Philip Antonacci. 4-1-1-0. \$55,250. Prepped for return to stakes company with second in open optional at Churchill before victory in 6-furlong Hessonite Stakes on the grass at Belmont in late June.

**Newly Minted.** B.f. 2016, Central Banker-Newbie, Bernardini. Breeders: Chester and Mary Broman. Owner: Beach Haven Thoroughbreds. Trainer: Linda Rice. 4-1-2-0. \$97,125. Started season with back-to-back seconds at Aqueduct in the Biagio's Rose Stakes and Heavenly Prize Stakes, the latter against open company. Came off five-month break to win Union Avenue Handicap at Saratoga.

**Officer Hutchy.** Dk.b./br.f. 2017, Boys At Tosconova-A. P. Hutchy, Patriot Act. Breeder: Green Polka Farms. Owners: Green Polka Farms; Sanford Goldfarb, Irwin Goldfarb, Ira Davis. Trainers: Linda Rice; Rob Atras. 8-3-1-1. \$141,380. Claimed out of win for \$25,000 in mid-August at Saratoga, followed up with victory in Park Avenue division of New York Stallion Series at Saratoga, fourth in Iroquois Stakes at Belmont and third in Staten Island division of Stallion Series at Aqueduct.

**Prairie Fire.** Ch.f. 2016, Posse-Swallow Falls, Smoke Glacken. Breeders: Mary E. Eppler Racing Stable and A. Leonard Pineau. Owner: McCourt Racing. Trainer Linda Rice. 12-4-4-2. \$238,894. Started season with back-to-back wins in seven-day span in January and just missed in only stakes efforts, finishing second in Iroquois at Belmont and Staten Island division of New York Stallion Series at Aqueduct.



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## Male Turf Horse

# Somelikeithotbrown

B. c. 2016, Big Brown–Marilyn Monroan, Tapit.

Breeders: Hot Pink Stable & Sand Dollar Stable. Owner: Skychai Racing & Sand Dollar Stable.

Trainer: Mike Maker. 9-3-2-1. \$277,860. 2020 stakes: Bernard Baruch (G2), Mohawk.

BY SEAN CLANCY

“That would be a really good day because that’s my birthday.”

April 5. That’s the day the New York-bred champions get announced and that’s the day Harvey Diamond, co-owner of Somelikeithotbrown, was born.

For the third year in a row, Diamond awaits the announcement about his New York-bred star. So far, so good, as the turf standout has garnered championship honors each year. This year? It looked like a battle with Mike Maker-trained stablemate Cross Border.

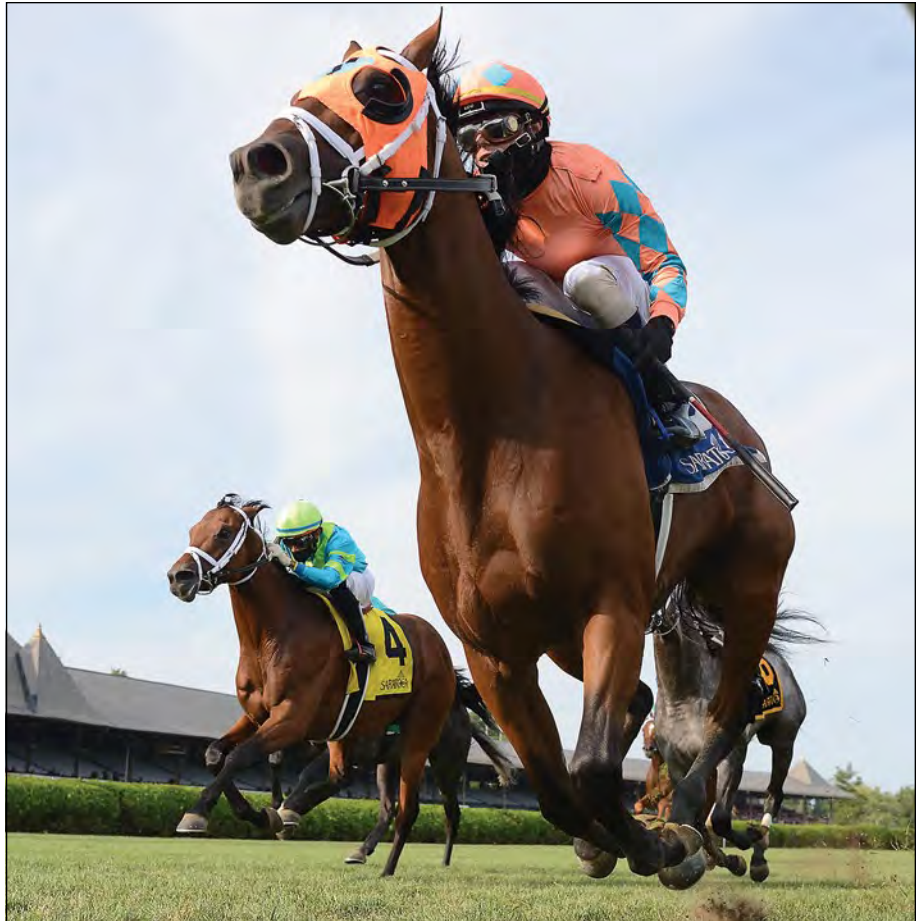
Somelikeithotbrown won three times, including the Grade 2 Bernard Baruch at Saratoga. Cross Border won twice, a state-bred romp in the Lubash and the Grade 2 Bowling Green when he was placed first after Sadler’s Joy interfered late at Saratoga. With the votes long since tallied, Diamond is still pitching.

“Who’s in there, Cross Border? Winning a Grade 2 at Saratoga . . . and we beat Cross Border in their only match, I just don’t know how you can take Cross Border over him,” Diamond said in March. “I don’t know . . . I asked the trainer which one he liked and he blew a little smoke. I asked him how Hotbrown was doing. He’s a man of few words, he just said, ‘Super.’”

Somelikeithotbrown completed his third super season in 2020. Returning from a nine-month break, the bay colt finished 11th at Gulfstream Park in January but came right back to win an allowance on the Polytrack at Turfway Park. He finished second in the Kentucky Cup Classic over the same surface in March before homing in on his home state. A third in the Grade 2 Fort Marcy prepped him for the Bernard Baruch where he wired five rivals in his best performance. Back on the road, he failed to land a blow in the Grade 1 Turf Classic at Churchill Downs in September before finishing second in the Grade 2 Dinner Party at Pimlico in October, winning the Mohawk against New York-breds at Belmont in October and finishing his season with a ninth in the Grade 2 Ft. Lauderdale at Gulfstream Park in December. A three-win season increased his career earnings to \$671,221 and earned a third consecutive New York-bred title.

“We had really good luck racing in 2020 but unfortunately it was so tough to go to the races. Two big thrills – Hotbrown winning up there at Saratoga and our homebred Fancy Liquor winning on Derby Day,” Diamond said. “It was the first year I missed going to Saratoga. It was very exciting but sitting there watching it on TV isn’t like being there live getting a picture. He sure likes that track up there. It was probably the highlight as far as his career goes. We won two Grade 2s last year with homebreds, we are a small operation, it was really special.”

Somelikeithotbrown was bred by Hot Pink Stables and co-owner Sand Dollar Stable and foaled at Sequel New York in Hudson.



Dam Marilyn Monroan, a daughter of Tapit, failed to win a race in eight starts for Hot Pink Stable, Skychai Racing and Sand Dollar Stable. She has made amends as a broodmare.

“I’ve had a lot of horses,” Diamond said. “Some have run bad, some have run good and all of them have been pretty.”

As for 2021, Diamond has bigger plans for himself and his big horse. The owner is vaccinated and looking forward to Keeneland, the Derby and Saratoga while Somelikeithotbrown has posted five breezes at Gulfstream Park.

“Life is starting to happen again. I felt like I was in jail for a year. Mike wants to run him in the Maker’s Mark Mile, so we’ll take a shot at a Grade 1, that would sure look good on his resume. He’s only 5, he’s in his prime,” Diamond said. “I would like to win a Grade 1 at every major racetrack in the country. Grade 1s are few and far between. Obviously living in Louisville, I would like to win the Derby. Other than that Saratoga is as good as it gets, to bring a New York-bred up there and whip the Kentucky boys, it’s special.”

And lucrative.

“I just got a check from the New York Breeders. New York is strong, they pay very well for beating both, but open company is even better,” Diamond said. “I’m getting ready to put it into the bank. Hopefully we’ll get that trophy for the third year in a row, that would be a beautiful thing.”

Happy Birthday, Harvey.

## MALE TURF HORSE FINALISTS

**Battle Station.** Dk.b./br.g. 2015, Warrior's Reward-Uriel, Unbridled. Breeder: Lansdowne Thoroughbreds. Owner: RB Racing. Trainer: Cipriano Contreras, Daniel Velazquez, Rob Atras. 13-2-3-2. \$137,727. Made the most starts of any finalist at seven tracks, with a victory in open optional at Delaware Park and the Lucky Coin Stakes at Saratoga.



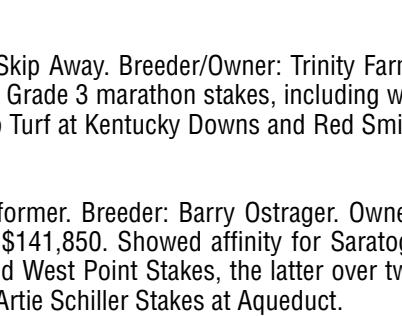
**City Man.** Dk.b./br.c. 2017, Mucho Macho Man-City Scamper, City Zip. Breeder: Moonstar Farm. Owners: Reeves Thoroughbred Racing, Peter Searles and Patty Searles. Trainer: Christophe Clement. 6-1-2-0. \$113,800. Raced on dirt and turf with success in 2020, including close fourth in Grade 3 Transylvania at Keeneland, a second in the Albany Stakes at Saratoga and a win over open company in Gio Ponti at Belmont.



**Cross Border.** Dk.b./br.r. 2014, English Channel-Empress Josephine, Empire Maker. Breeders: Berkshire Stud and B.D. Gibbs. Owner: Three Diamonds Farm. Trainer: Mike Maker. 9-2-4-1. \$388,200. Won Lubash Stakes and Grade 2 Bowling Green Stakes at Saratoga before a close second there in Grade 1 Sword Dancer Invitational during season that included three other stakes placings.



**Dot Matrix.** B.g. 2013, Freud-Aunt Dot Dot, Gulch. Breeder: Truxton Stable. Owner: Ten Strike Racing. Trainer: Brad Cox. 8-1-2-0. \$181,250. Started the year strong with victory in the Grade 3 John B. Connolly Stakes at Sam Houston. Placed in two other stakes – the Tiller at Belmont and West Point at Saratoga.



**Red Knight.** Ch.g. 2014, Pure Prize-Isabel Away, Skip Away. Breeder/Owner: Trinity Farm. Trainer: Bill Mott. 4-1-2-0. \$223,900. Each start came in Grade 3 marathon stakes, including win in Sycamore at Keeneland and seconds in Kentucky Cup Turf at Kentucky Downs and Red Smith at Aqueduct.

**Rinaldi.** B.g. 2016, Posse-Dynamite Cocktail, Dynaformer. Breeder: Barry Ostrager. Owner: Bond Racing Stable. Trainer: H. James Bond. 5-2-1-0. \$141,850. Showed affinity for Saratoga again in 2020 with back-to-back victories in optional and West Point Stakes, the latter over two fellow finalists. Ended season with close fourth in open Artie Schiller Stakes at Aqueduct.

**Therapist.** Ch.g. 2015, Freud-Lady Renaissance, Smart Strike. Breeders: Oak Bluff Stable and Christophe Clement. Owner: Oak Bluff Stable. Trainer: Christophe Clement. 6-2-2-1. \$169,000. Champion 2-year-old male in 2017 continued consistent career with open company victories in First Defence Stakes at Belmont and Artie Schiller Stakes at Aqueduct along with two other stakes placings.

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Coady Photo



## Male Sprinter

# Funny Guy

B. h. 2016, Big Brown-Heavenly Humor, Distorted Humor. Breeder: Hibiscus Stable. Owners: Gatsas Stable, R.A. Hill Stable, Swick Stable. Trainer: John Terranova. 6-3-1-0. \$229,000. 2020 Stakes: Commentator, John Morrissey, NY Stallion Series Thunder Rumble.

### BY JOE CLANCY

Sometimes Mike Gatsas attends the sales to help look for racing prospects. Other times, he offers input over the phone. Regardless, he listens when trainer John Terranova and wife Tonja put horses in front of him.

And boy is he glad he answered the phone in April 2018.

"Mike, I'm going to send you some videos of a horse," Tonja said from the Ocala Breeders Sales Co.'s barn area. "See what you think."

Gatsas looked at the video and scoffed. The 2-year-old colt by Big Brown had everything, but would surely blow right past the budget.

"What is this horse gonna cost?" Gatsas asked. "Can we afford him?"

The Terranovas weren't sure, organized a veterinary inspection anyway and hoped. Then they bid to \$45,000 – and bought a star. Bred by Hibiscus Stable and foaled at Waldorf Farm in North Chatham, Funny Guy won six of 18 starts, finished second in six others and earned \$638,645. His 2020 mark – six starts, three wins, a second and \$229,000 – landed him the prize as New York-bred champion male sprinter. Gatsas, who brought in partners Randy Hill and Greg Swick, enjoyed every moment of the ride which came to an earlier-than-anybody-wanted end with Funny Guy's retirement after an injury in the General George Stakes at Laurel Park Feb. 20.

"He was a fun horse to own, a beautiful-looking horse and he didn't run in lousy races," said Gatsas. "It was a thrill to watch John and Tonja, and the whole staff there, work with him."

Funny Guy made his debut as a 2-year-old in September 2018 and finished fourth. He won the next time, at Aqueduct in late December. As a 3-year-old, he won the Times Square division of the New York Stallion Series at Aqueduct in April, finished second in three other stakes that spring/summer and won the Albany Stakes on the New York-bred Showcase Day at Saratoga in August. A sixth in the Grade 3 Oklahoma Derby closed the season with \$352,925, tops among all state-bred 3-year-olds, but Funny Guy lost the championship nod to graded winner Somelikeithotbrown.

Funny Guy started 2020 like he was mad about the election, winning back-to-back stakes in the Commentator (over Mr. Buff) at Belmont Park in June and Saratoga's John Morrissey in late July. The wins earned Funny Guy a start in Saratoga's Grade 1 Forego a month later. Sent off as the 3-1 favorite in a field of 11, he settled for fourth as Win Win Win rallied from way back in a driving rainstorm. Funny Guy started as the favorite in his next start too, Belmont's Grade 2 Vosburgh in September, but finished second to Firenze Fire. Funny Guy couldn't handle Mr. Buff at 1 1/8 miles in the Empire Classic, finishing fourth, and rebounded to win a 7-furlong Thunder Rumble division of the Stallion Series Nov. 22 to cap the season.

Even with the coronavirus pandemic, it was a year to remember.

"We didn't get to see him run as much as we wanted to, which wasn't fun, but we still enjoyed it," Gatsas said. "When you've got a



good horse, it always makes life a lot easier."

Even when you no longer own them.

Hibiscus Stable runs racing and breeding partnerships and spent \$25,000 on Funny Guy's dam Heavenly Humor at Fasig-Tipton's Saratoga mixed sale in 2015. Carrying the future champion, she snuck in under the budget for the team of Mike Oliveto, Jon Taisey and Sean Feld. They sold Funny Guy for \$10,000 as a yearling, but have been paid back many times over with breeders' awards and other Heavenly Humor foals Three Jokers (bought by Gatsas) and an Overanalyze filly sold last year as a yearling for \$120,000. The 20-year-old Heavenly Humor did not get in foal for 2020 or 2021, but will get another chance or two.

"She's a little older so we're getting toward the end of her breeding career unfortunately, but she's done well for us," said Taisey. "Funny Guy has earned tons of breeders' awards and we've had fun watching him. He and Three Jokers won the same day at Saratoga (in 2019) and I was lucky enough to be there and see it. It's been great."

Funny Guy was supposed to have a long 5-year-old season and got things started with a second in the Say Florida Sandy at Aqueduct in January before a dull sixth in the General George Feb. 20. He emerged with an injury and was retired. The timing didn't help his stallion prospects, not this year anyway, so for now Funny Guy soaked up more attention in the Terranova barn.

"We'll miss him, but it's not life-threatening and he's loving life at the barn now," said Gatsas. "I'd like to think he could be a stallion in New York. He never won a graded stakes and next year everybody's going to want the new penny. We'll see. I've owned a lot of horses, and horses like him become part of the family. Even the grandkids ask me, 'How's Funny Guy?'"

He's good, kids. And he's a New York-bred champion.



### MALE SPRINTER FINALISTS

**Arthur's Hope.** Ch.h. 2014, Smart Bid-Prom Dance, Citidancer. Breeder: Monhill Farm. Owner: Raul DelValle. Trainer: Marco Salazar and Larry Demeritte. 7-2-0-1. \$108,486. Started the year fast with victory in Say Florida Sandy Stakes at Aqueduct before adding another win in Laurel Park allowance and placing in the Russell Road Stakes at Charles Town.

**Battle Station.** Dk.b./br.g. 2015, Warrior's Reward-Uriel, Unbridled. Breeder: Lansdowne Thoroughbreds. Owner: RB Racing. Trainer: Cipriano Contreras, Daniel Velazquez, Rob Atras. 13-2-3-2. \$137,727. Made the most starts of any finalist at seven tracks, with a victory in open optional at Delaware Park and the Lucky Coin Stakes at Saratoga.

**Captain Bombastic.** Ch.c. 2017, Forty Tales-Stolen Star, Cat Thief. Breeders: Chester and Mary Broman. Owner: Team Hanley. Trainer: Jeremiah Englehart. 7-2-2-1. \$175,200. Started season with back-to-back seconds at Oaklawn before win in Mike Lee Stakes at Belmont, fourth in Grade 1 H. Allen Jerkens at Saratoga and victory in Times Square division of New York Stallion Series. Ended season with third against older foes in Hudson Stakes on Empire Showcase Day.

**Tribecca.** Ch.g. 2014, Bustin Stones-Heck, Heckle. Breeders: Laurel Least and Joseph Lech. Owner: Ronald Brown. Trainer: Chris Englehart. 6-3-1-0. \$169,413. Won open-company optional sprints before and after the pandemic shutdown and ended season with victory in Hudson Handicap on Empire Showcase Day at Belmont and close fourth in the Grade 3 Fall Highweight Handicap at Aqueduct.



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## Broodmare of the Year • Breeder of the Year

# Tizfiz & Twin Creeks Farm

B.m. 2004-2019, Tiznow–Gin Running, Go For Gin.  
Breeder: Diamond A Racing Corp. Owner: Twin Creeks Farm.  
Dam of Horse of the Year and champion 3-year-old male Tiz the Law.

BY SEAN CLANCY

It's a simple strategy. Stand stallions in New York. Support those stallions with mares. For Twin Creeks Farm, that simple approach has worked better than a Bill Belichick bye-week game plan, all the way to the top of the leaderboard in New York. Twin Creeks snapped the four-year reign of Chester and Mary Broman, producing 20 wins from 157 starts for \$3,005,207 to lead all New York breeders in 2020.

Bred and raised by Twin Creeks, Tiz the Law pulled the float, winning the Grade 3 Holy Bull, Grade 1 Florida Derby, Belmont and Travers to provide \$2,388,300 of that title-clinching total. The son of Constitution's exploits kept Tizfiz atop the broodmare list to earn her second consecutive title as the state's premier producer. She joins Jazzmane, Broadway Joan and three-time winners Loose Wire and Lolli Lucka Lolli as multiple New York Broodmare of the Year winners.

Twin Creeks sold Tiz the Law as a yearling for \$110,000 and enjoyed the ride from Saratoga debut winner to four Grade 1 stakes scores to a spot in the coveted lineup at Coolmore America. Sadly, Tizfiz died of colic as Tiz the Law began to flourish in his 2-year-old season.

"We've been in the business a long time, so we know the ups and downs, we're thrilled that Tiz the Law did what he did," Twin Creeks' Randy Gullatt said. "It's hard to raise something that good. We raced the sire, had the mare, we're mega proud of all of that. You can't look back. It's a difficult business, we do our best every day. When good things happen like Tiz the Law, you've got to be happy for it."

And looking ahead. Twin Creeks has a half-sister and a half-brother to Tiz the Law still in the pipeline.

Angel Oak, by Mission Impazible, suffered a stress fracture in a hind tibia as she was getting to the races last year and has recently returned to training. The 3-year-old filly has impressed Gullatt.

"We absolutely love her, she's going to take the place of her mom and I think she's going to do a really good job," Gullatt said. "She was one work from running, we had to stop and give her some time. She's shown plenty of ability in the morning, just very impressive, just class. She has the same class her mom and her brother have so we're excited about that."

Infeasible, a full-brother to Angel Oak, is in Ocala, learning the ropes and showing potential. The gray colt failed to sell for \$245,000 at the Fasig-Tipton Selected Yearling Showcase in 2020.

"We'll race him. A very stocky, strong colt," Gullatt said. "We're going to be patient with him, he hasn't even breezed yet, he's in Ocala, we'll see what he tells us."

Gullatt purchased Tizfiz for \$210,000 at the Keeneland November breeding stock sale in 2014. She produced Tiz the Law, a broad-shouldered, white-faced colt in 2017. Gullatt



Tizfiz was recognized with her second New York Broodmare of the Year award.



Randy Gullatt (left) leads Tiz the Law's sire Constitution after the Florida Derby in 2014.

sees the mare in all her offspring.

"She was very, very classy," Gullatt said. "Stocky, strong mare that was easy to work with, showed plenty of class, you just hope she could be that good."

In addition to Tiz the Law, Twin Creeks produced female sprinter finalist Espresso Shot. The daughter of Mission Impazible captured the New York Stallion Series Staten Island division in November. The 5-year-old mare opened 2021 with a third in the La Verdad and a win in the Biogio's Rose and has now earned \$469,105.

Back to that mission.

"It is mainly around supporting Mission Impazible, a horse we raced and loved and wanted to be a part a lot of his offspring, we thought a lot of him," Gullatt said. "The breeding program has been around him, rotating some mares to him and Constitution. That's the approach."

Twin Creeks owns between 25 and 30 mares, utilizing its Kentucky base and Sequel Stallions in New York to ride the wave of Thoroughbred racing and breeding. Leading breeder in New York? Just part of that wave.

"This game will humble you. It's a very hard game and when things go right, it helps us keep going," Gullatt said. "I didn't think we could knock off Broman for sure. He has such a good program, breeds them so well, he's got the numbers, the foundation, he's the guy at the top. We were just doing our own thing and it just happened. We didn't really have any goal other than giving Mission the best chance and knowing that we were going to enjoy running his offspring and Constitution's offspring."

Hey, whatever works.



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## Jockey of the Year

# Manny Franco

Led all jockeys in New York-bred victories and earnings. Rode Horse of the Year and champion 3-year-old Tiz the Law.

BY SEAN CLANCY

**M**anny Franco played shortstop. Watched Derek Jeter. Cheered for the Yankees. Franco was quick, deft at turning a double play, fast on the basepaths, could hit a curve. Baseball was all he wanted to do, dreaming of the big leagues.

But there were those Sundays. With his dad. For the stakes. At the track.

“Every Sunday I knew I was going to go to the racetrack so I was excited when the Sundays came. I fell in love with the horses,” Franco said last summer. “I loved baseball, too, but I was small, a little bit small for baseball.”

Franco's dad bought him a horse.

“A street horse,” Franco said. “Just a street horse.”

They kept the horse with a friend of his dad's, in a stall behind the house in the city, five minutes from the Hipodromo Camarero, the racetrack named after the great horse who won 56 races in a row. Franco, 15, in a “big” saddle, rode the street horse in the street, of course. His dad, his friend, anyone who he could find, leading him at the walk. Then jogging on his own, never a gallop.

“I would practice on that horse,” Franco said. “That's how I started. In the streets. In the streets.”

All in preparation for the Escuela Vocacional Hipica Agustin Mercado Reveron, the famed jockey school that has turned out legends John Velazquez, brothers Jose and Irad Ortiz Jr. and so many others.

As baseball slipped to a childhood pipedream, Franco filled out the paperwork, applied and waited for his ticket.

“I knew before I went to the school, ‘Man, this is what I want to do,’” Franco said. “You've got to be lucky to see if they'll call you back.”

They called back. Franco was one of 12 students to be accepted in the 2011 class, a year behind future Eclipse Award winner Jose Ortiz. The boys arrived at Camarero at 6 in the morning and went home at 3, learning everything, grooming, mucking, walking, riding came last.

Franco idolized Velazquez, Mike Smith, of course, but also watched local legends, Juan Carlos Diaz, Joel Cruz and Luis Jurado. Franco watched his first Travers in 2012, the dead heat between Alpha and Golden Ticket. Jockeys always remember the jockeys.

“Ramon Dominguez and David Cohen,” Franco said in awe. “I remember that one. I watched it all the time. After that, I said, ‘I want to be there one day, I want to go to America and be a success.’”

Franco won his first race aboard Skylight Citizen at Camarero Jan. 2, 2013, was in America two months later, at Parx for two weeks and at Aqueduct by March.

“By that time, Jose Ortiz was almost finishing his bug year,” Franco said. “I was waiting for his year to be over.”

By the end of that first season, Franco had won 130 races and joined classmates Edgard Zayas and Victor Carrasco as Eclipse



Tod Marks

Award finalists for leading apprentice. Carrasco won the award. Franco banged out 155 wins for \$8.2 million in 2014. In April, 2015, Franco's agent Mike Gonzalez was expelled from NYRA grounds for illegal use of NYRA's computer system and Franco transferred to agent Angel Cordero Jr. They didn't miss a beat, winning 151 races for \$9.3 million by the end of that season. Franco won his first Grade 1 aboard Joking in Oct. 2016, his second a week later with Yellow Agate in the Frizette, part of a 192-win \$12.4 million haul that season. In 2017, he kept it rolling with 187 wins for \$12.6 million. By 2018, Franco 252 races for \$17 million and was leading jockey in New York.

And then he had his breakthrough. On his way to defending his NYRA title in 2019, Franco picked up the ride aboard New York-bred champion Tiz the Law in the Grade 1 Champagne when Junior Alvarado stuck with Saratoga Special winner Green Light Go. Franco saw his name next to Barclay Tagg's bay colt on the overnight, went home, watched a replay of Tiz the Law's effortless debut win at Saratoga and knew this was the chance of a big horse.

“My agent doesn't really tell me I was going to ride the horse,” Franco said. “I knew he was a very nice horse with a good chance.”

Whether he learned it from watching Jeter or Velazquez, Franco turned the play, winning the Champagne Oct. 5, clinching a New

York-bred Horse of the Year title for Tiz the Law and the first New York-bred Jockey of the Year title for Franco.

"I was very impressed, like this is a very nice horse," Franco said.

In 2020, Tiz the Law went from being a very nice horse to one of the best horses, winning the Holy Bull Stakes, Florida Derby, Belmont Stakes and Travers before finishing second in the Kentucky Derby and sixth in the Breeders' Cup Classic. He retired at the end of the year.

As for Franco, he rode the Tiz the Law train to his second consecutive New York-bred Jockey championship in 2020, winning 65 races for \$5.7 million aboard New York-breds as part of an overall season in which he won 140 of 1,011 rides and put up earnings of more than \$12.3 million. In addition to Tiz the Law, Franco rode

Channel Maker to Grade 1 victories in the Sword Dancer and Joe Hirsch Turf Classic, and won Grade 2 races aboard Beau Recall, Sharing, Mr Freeze and Venetian Harbor. Franco won New York-bred stakes with Danny California and Eagle Orb.

"He gives you a lot of confidence. He's more mature, he's growing up, he's settled more than before, that helps a lot," Franco said after the Travers. "You can turn it on and he goes. When you ask him to turn it off, he turns it off. When I asked him, he surprised me, he took off with me. It's unbelievable feeling."

From street horse to super horse.

*Updated from a column in the Aug. 12, 2020 edition of The Saratoga Special newspaper.*

## TRAINER OF THE YEAR

### Barclay Tagg

When Barclay Tagg engineered a \$1.9 million season with New York-bred Funny Cide in 2003 – winning the Kentucky Derby and Preakness Stakes and picking up legions of fans along the way – few would have predicted that the trainer might do it again.

But, there he was in 2020, at the highest levels of racing with a New York-bred 3-year-old. Again.

The success put Tagg ahead of all trainers by New York-bred earnings with \$2,620,215 despite sending out fewer starters than anyone in the top 30. Tagg's 28 New York-bred starts trailed runner-up Christophe Clement by 149 and third-place finisher Linda Rice by 238. Such was the power of Tiz the Law, who earned \$2,388,050 while winning four of six starts. The triumphs were all major – coming in the Grade 2 Holy Bull and Grade 1 Florida Der-

by, Belmont Stakes and Travers Stakes. A convoluted coronavirus schedule put those latter two before the Kentucky Derby, where Tiz the Law started as the 4-5 favorite in early September but settled for second behind eventual national Horse of the Year and champion 3-year-old Authentic. With no Triple Crown on the line, Tagg skipped October's Preakness and targeted the Breeders' Cup.

The season closed with a sixth in the Classic, and a late December injury in training sent him to the breeding shed at Coolmore's Ashford Stud in Kentucky. Though it ended too soon, the Tiz the Law ride was a good one – delivering for Sackatoga Stable, for racing, for his trainer.

"I've been doing this a long time and I've always wanted to win the Travers," Tagg said after that historic win. "The Travers has been in my head my whole life. I've always wanted to win the Travers, I don't know why. And now it happened so it couldn't be better."

Beyond the big horse and his big moments, Tagg's New York-bred string included stakes winners and championship finalists Niko's Dream (\$108,690 in 2020) and Step Dancer (\$96,100).

# SEQUEL...

Captain Bombastic, Dream Bigger, Tiz The Law, **MISSION IMPAZIBLE**, A Freud Of Mama, Newly Minted, Somelikeithotbrown, Simply Ravishing, **LAOBAN**, Laobanonaprayer, Fresco, Dot Matrix, Espresso Shot, Mr. Buff, Chestertown, **FREUD**, Therapist, Mentality  
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## Special Award of Merit

# Jeffrey Cannizzo

Former Executive Director of the New York Thoroughbred Breeders

BY TOM LAW

Jeff Cannizzo walked through the back door of 57 Phila Street two blocks off Broadway in downtown Saratoga Springs, took the elevator up one floor, stepped into his new digs and felt like he went back in time.

"I certainly remember that first day," said Cannizzo, not even 30 at the time and on Day 1 as executive director of the New York Thoroughbred Breeders Inc. that July 2008 morning. "I'd come from a world with 100,000-plus employees, big corporate spaces and here I was, walking into the NYTB office and it was 1,000 square feet with three desks and one other person there, with, at the time, antiquated technology. Literally not even any computer software.

"I sat down at the desk and was like, 'Whoa, what did I just do?' No IT staff to set things up, no HR, formal transition team, on-boarding process. All those big corporate processes that are part of a new hire, this was the polar opposite of it. That was literally my first day."

A lot changed from that first day in 2008 to his last day in January 2021, and much more than bringing the NYTB's accounting from a hand-written journal to professionally audited books. Cannizzo's tenure saw the association continue its rise among the nation's state-bred programs thanks to runners making headlines by winning Triple Crown and Breeders' Cup races and participants hauling in breeders' bonuses that are the envy of the world.

"I'm just thankful and appreciative for being acknowledged for being a part of something that was a lot bigger than me," said Cannizzo, honored with a special award for his exemplary service to the NYTB. "I played a small role in it all, a lot of stuff over a long period of time. Looking at photos, when I started I was young, just 29 years old. They took a shot with me. It was a good period of my life, and I'm definitely appreciative.

"I'm thankful for the many different relationships with so many different people that are key parts to New York breeding and racing. I definitely value that, and a lot of friendships that came out of my time with the NYTB."

Cannizzo's start coincided with plenty of uncertainty in the Empire State. Legislation passed in early 2008 to award a 25-year franchise license to the New York Racing Association to continue operation of Aqueduct, Belmont Park and Saratoga Race Course. The following year New York City OTB – the largest bet taker in the state and one of the largest in North America – closed. Resorts World Casino would also not open for another three years at Aqueduct – injecting essential video lottery terminal revenue into the state's racing and breeding industries.

Despite the uncertainty, Cannizzo waded in – without any blueprint for the job and somewhat limited knowledge of the ins and outs of the breeding segment of the sport. He'd grown up around racing, the son of a trainer based at Finger Lakes and part of a family involved in the game for multiple generations, but didn't have direct contact with the breeding side coming from a professional background at Lockheed Martin, Dell and Microsoft.



Jeff Cannizzo (left) presents a trophy to breeders Chester and Mary Broman and jockey Junior Alvarado at Belmont Park in 2019

"The first two years it seemed like it was problem after problem," Cannizzo said. "Again, 'What did I get into?' But doing it and going through it you really saw what people are made of and what's important to them."

Change eventually came, along with the VLTs coming online at Aqueduct in late 2011, but not without a lot of work. Cannizzo singled out a rally with hundreds of horsemen, farm employees and others associated with the industry on the lawn of the Capitol in Albany, complete with a truck and trailer carrying two broodmares, as one of his proudest moments at the NYTB. He's also proud of leading efforts, with the NYTB board's endorsement, to help protect the VLT revenue and change other laws related to purse enrichment, stallion relocation to the state and breeders' awards.

"And it wasn't just me, by any means. There were a lot of good people that were helpful," Cannizzo said. "The only reason we had some success, as it relates to me, is I had a board of directors, and the breeding industry in New York in general, that really gave me the reins to go.

"I wasn't micromanaged, I wasn't directed in certain directions. They allowed me to make up my own mind and that would benefit everyone the most collectively. We got lucky along the way, did some things right and it worked out. I had people above me that allowed me to spread my wings, go after things as I saw fit."

Cannizzo will be missed, but didn't go far as he took a new position called senior director of government affairs with NYRA.

"I'd like to thank the NYTB board of directors for their commitment to those working every single day on the 250 farms throughout New York," he said. "Thoroughbred racing is responsible for 19,000 jobs and more than \$3 billion in annual economic impact to New York. The sport creates good jobs in every corner of the state and sustains hundreds of small businesses. NYRA is the engine of that economy and continues to set the standard for safety and integrity at its three historic tracks. I look forward to advocating on their behalf to help shape the future of Thoroughbred racing in New York."

## LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

### Frank and Patricia Generazio

Two years ago, Frank Generazio Jr. talked about the state of the Thoroughbred business while touching on stable stars Disco Partner, Pure Sensation and others who flew the pink and green silks with distinction.

“It’s like shooting craps,” said Generazio, then 90, about breeding horses in a partnership with his wife Patricia for years. “We just love to watch them run.”

And who could blame them? They were naturals.

The Generazios bred and raced major winners Pure Sensation, Disco Partner, Discreet Marq (millionaires all) and scores of others over decades of participation in New York, New Jersey, Florida, pretty much anywhere Thoroughbreds raced and were raised. New York held a special place of late, as the birthplace of Grade 2 winner and 2017 New York-bred turf champion Disco Partner and Grade 1 winner and 2013 New York-bred female turf champion Discreet Marq.

“It’s been great for us,” said Generazio in 2019. “We’re big pushers of the program and it’s been really nice for us. We intend to breed a lot of New York-breds.”

They did, and will continue to, even with Frank’s death last November at 91.

“We’ve always been big supporters of the New York-bred program and will continue to breed in New York year-round,” said Patricia Generazio. “Frank always selected our breedings, and he loved the New York-bred program.”

The New York Thoroughbred Breeders board of directors paid tribute to that love, support and success with a Lifetime Achievement Award to the Generazios.



Arden Barnes/BloodHorse

“I’m very thankful and appreciative to receive this award on behalf of both of us,” said Patricia. “His loss still hurts and our stable will be reduced substantially, but we already have many Disco Partner babies and we will continue to have a presence in New York.”

A Massachusetts native, Frank Generazio owned New England Sand and Gravel company and got his start in the Thoroughbred industry at New England tracks Rockingham Park and Suffolk Downs. He was a trainer and an owner for years, winning graded stakes with Unreal Turn, Play It Again Stan and Concorde’s Gold and winning a career-high 58 races in 1992. In addition, Generazio trained homebred Don Six for much of his 10-win (and \$612,123) career. Generazio was a former president of the New England HBPA, vice president of the national HBPA and a board member of the New Jersey HBPA among other positions in racing.

All that background kept the Generazios focused on the most important pieces of the racing equation – the horses – and the owners were rewarded with long careers and strong relationships with a variety of trainers including Christophe Clement, Mary Hartmann, Jim Ryerson, Scott Lake, Tony Wilson, Bruce Alexander and others.

– Joe Clancy

## LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

### Ellen Bongard

Ellen Bongard wanted to honor her late father and many other pioneers from the New York Thoroughbred breeding industry in the mid-2000s. She figured it out and provided for the endowment to create the Bertram F. Bongard Room at the National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame in Saratoga Springs.

“Ellen was special,” said New York turf writer Michael Veitch, current historian at the Museum and a longtime friend of Bongard who worked with her on the project. “She wanted to salute the New York industry in a unique way. We came up with a list of probably 50 New York breeders, trainers and horses that have made a mark. The room is used as a conference room and she commissioned a large glass wall panel with the names inscribed on it.”

Bongard, posthumous recipient of a Lifetime Achievement Award from the New York Thoroughbred Breeders for excellence in the New York-bred program, made her own mark and certainly fit in with those on the Bongard Room’s wall. A pioneer in the New York Thoroughbred industry who owned Rojan Farm in the Town of Northumberland with her sister Barbara, Ellen Bongard passed away in early December at age 77.

“She’d be very pleased,” Barbara Bongard said. “I’m sure it would be unexpected, to win an award like this, if you know what I mean. Her greatest loves were golf and horses, and that’s about it. She devoted her whole life to both and enjoyed them very, very much.”

The Bongards’ late father, an attorney, played a key role in the formation of the New York State Thoroughbred Breeding and Development Fund and New York Thoroughbred Breeders. Rojan Farm traces its roots to 1960, when the Bongard family bought the



Ellen Bongard (dark blue hat) with her Saratoga winner Fancycase.

farm in Gallatin in Columbia County, about 90 miles south of Saratoga.

Rojan eventually moved north and became involved in several segments of the industry – breeding, raising, training, racing, selling and boarding. Ellen Bongard’s first involvement came in 1968 when she took her first yearlings to Kentucky. Rojan later stood stallions, sold horses on the commercial market and supported off-season training at the Oklahoma Training Track in Saratoga.

A graduate of Scarsdale High School and Russell Sage College in Troy, Ellen Bongard also raced the homebred mare Fight On Lucy with partners Carla Skodinski, Ellen Petrino, Kathleen Condon and her sister at the time of her passing. The 5-year-old by Musket Man out of the Lycius mare Loving Lucy that Ellen Bongard bought for \$12,000 in 2014 remains in training in New York with Pat Kelly.

“She knew so many people and did so many things for the New York breeding program, it’s hard to even start to talk about the highlights,” Barbara Bongard said. “When we were kids growing up it was, ‘Let’s go riding, let’s go get a horse.’ Always horses.”

– Tom Law

# The *Saratoga* Special



## We're back for 2021

After an online-only 2020 schedule, The Saratoga Special returns **in print and online** for its 21st season. Founded in 2001, The Special covers racing like no other publication – up-front, in-depth, personal, immediate and original. Our writers, handicappers and photographers are some of the best in racing and we look forward to delivering the coverage readers and advertisers appreciate.



The Special dives into the racing season at Saratoga Race Course on Opening Day, Thursday, July 15. The Special plans on 20 editions – Wednesday and Saturday plus an expanded schedule during Fasig-Tipton's world-famous Sales Week August 6-11. While not quite our traditional schedule of 34 editions spread over eight weeks of racing action, the schedule expands on our 2020 Covid calendar and returns to print editions (health and economic conditions permitting). Print distribution will be free, on track and around town with an estimated readership of 5,000 per edition.

**See publishing calendar for details.**

### SALES WEEK (FASIG-TIPTON'S 100TH SARATOGA SALE)

The Saratoga sales ring has seen some of racing's biggest names and Fasig-Tipton returns for its historic 100th sale after being moved to Kentucky in 2020. The 2021 version promises plenty of fireworks with selected yearlings, top-level consignors and high-end buyers combining with an unmatched setting. And The Special has you covered with **six consecutive editions August 6-11**. Coverage will include previews, reviews, features, some history and a chance to meet as many horses as possible. The Special is read by everybody on the sales grounds. You want to reach buyers, sellers and breeders? The Special is for you.

### READERSHIP HIGHLIGHTS



Despite a global pandemic and late changes to the production schedule, readers flocked to **The Special** in 2020.

#### Total Digital Readership:

More than 45,000 downloads and links to digital editions in 2020 – Up 50% from 2019.

#### Downloads/Opens Per Edition:

Up 190% from 2019.

#### Paid Readers Club Membership:

Up 49% from 2019.

#### Email Subscribers:

Up 16% from 2019

#### Twitter Impressions for Editions:

Up 700% from 2019.

#### Instagram Average Reach:

Up 39% from 2019.

#### Facebook Total Reach:

Up 16% from 2019.

### Distribution, Readership, Content

**The Special** will be distributed in print and online. The full edition is available free, though a paid base of Readers Club members receive first notice via email. All advertisements can be interactive with links to websites. Editions are emailed to a list of 5,000 and promoted via the website and various company and individual social media accounts. All editions feature Saratoga's best handicapping (you can look it up), previews, recaps, news, features and columns from (at least) three Eclipse Award winners and some of racing's best photography as part of a package you can't get anywhere else.

*“The Saratoga Special captures the very essence of what makes Saratoga such a wonderful season. Their team has a passion for racing, the horse and the people involved. And they can really write – some days they make you laugh, some days they make you cry and some days they make you think.”*

– Boyd Browning Jr., Fasig-Tipton Company

*“The Saratoga Special is the go-to publication during Saratoga; everyone's reading it, including me! It's a great spot to highlight the success of our stallions at the country's most prestigious meet.”*

– Bill Farish, Lane's End Farm

# The *Saratoga* **Special** Publishing Calendar for **2021** Season

A newspaper for the summer racing season at Saratoga Race Course

	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>J</b> <b>U</b> <b>L</b> <b>Y</b>					<b>Opening Day 15</b> <b>ISSUE #1</b> Schuylerville, Quick Call	<b>16</b> Forbidden Apple	<b>17</b> <b>ISSUE #2</b> Diana, Sanford
	<b>18</b> Coronation Cup	<b>19</b> No Racing	<b>20</b> No Racing	<b>21</b> <b>ISSUE #3</b> Rick Violette (NYB)	<b>22</b> Stillwater (NYB)	<b>23</b> Lake George	<b>24</b> <b>ISSUE #4</b> CCA Oaks, Caress
	<b>25</b> Shuvee	<b>26</b> No Racing	<b>27</b> No Racing	<b>28</b> <b>ISSUE #5</b> Honorable Miss Cab Calloway (NYSS)	<b>29</b> John Morrissey (NYB), A.P. Smithwick Steeplechase	<b>30</b> Curlin	<b>31</b> <b>ISSUE #6</b> Vanderbilt, Jim Dandy, Bowling Green
<b>A</b> <b>U</b> <b>G</b> <b>U</b> <b>S</b> <b>T</b>	<b>1</b> Amsterdam	<b>2</b> No Racing	<b>3</b> No Racing	<b>4</b> <b>ISSUE #7</b> Shine Again, Statue of Liberty (NYSS)	<b>5</b> Birdstone	<b>6</b> <b>ISSUE #8</b> Alydar, Troy, Hall of Fame	<b>7</b> <b>ISSUE #9</b> Whitney, Test, Lure, Saratoga Derby, Glens Falls
	<b>8</b> <b>ISSUE #10</b> Saratoga Oaks, Adirondack, De La Rose	<b>9</b> <b>ISSUE #11</b> No Racing <b>Fasig-Tipton Sales</b>	<b>10</b> <b>ISSUE #12</b> No Racing <b>Fasig-Tipton Sales</b>	<b>11</b> <b>ISSUE #13</b> Evan Shipman (NYB), Mahony	<b>12</b> Saratoga Dew (NYB)	<b>13</b> Tale Of The Cat	<b>14</b> <b>ISSUE #14</b> Fourstardave, Saratoga Special
	<b>15</b> Galway <b>Fasig-Tipton NYB Sales</b>	<b>16</b> No Racing <b>Fasig-Tipton NYB Sales</b>	<b>17</b> No Racing	<b>18</b> <b>ISSUE #15</b> Bolton Landing	<b>19</b> Union Avenue (NYB)	<b>20</b> Skidmore	<b>21</b> <b>ISSUE #16</b> Alabama, Lake Placid, Smart And Fancy
	<b>22</b> Summer Colony	<b>23</b> No Racing	<b>24</b> No Racing	<b>25</b> <b>ISSUE #17</b> John's Call	<b>26</b> Riskaverse NY Turf Writers Steeplechase	<b>27</b> <b>NY-bred Showcase</b> Albany, Fleet Indian, Funny Cide, West Point, Seeking the Ante, Yaddo	<b>28</b> <b>ISSUE #18</b> Travers, Forego, Ballerina, Jerkens, Sword Dancer, Personal Ensign, Ballston Spa
	<b>29</b> Better Talk Now	<b>30</b> No Racing	<b>31</b> No Racing	<b>1</b> <b>ISSUE #19</b> With Anticipation	<b>2</b> P.G. Johnson	<b>3</b> Lucky Coin	<b>4</b> <b>ISSUE #20</b> Jockey Club Gold Cup, Flower Bowl, Prioress, Saranac
	<b>5</b> Spinaway	<b>6</b> Hopeful, Bernard Baruch <b>Final day of live racing</b>	<b>7</b> No Racing	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	

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