



The Horsemen's Newsletter

October 2016

Vol. 26 • Number 10



New Online Resource for Job Hunters Within the Maryland Racing Industry

A new online resource is available to link employers in the Maryland racing industry with those seeking jobs in the business.

The Facebook page "Maryland Racing Jobs" allows employers to post job openings and those seeking work to post information about themselves and positions they are seeking. Potential employers are asked to include a description of the job as well as contact information.

The MTHA is offering assistance to those who need help writing a post or translating a post. Information is available at 410-902-6842.

The new Facebook page allows for the posting of photos and videos, so it also serves as yet another portal to the Maryland horseracing industry.

MTHA members such as trainers and breeders in particular should take advantage of the "Maryland Racing Jobs" site. But if any industry employer has an open position, please post it on the Facebook page with the necessary description and contact information.

Based on an economic impact study commissioned by the American Horse Council, the Maryland horseracing industry accounts for roughly 15,000 total jobs.

Horsemen's Health Fair Coming to Laurel Park on October 27

The latest impact of the Maryland Thoroughbred Horsemen's new health care program will be seen Thursday, Oct. 27, when the MTHA and MedStar Sports Medicine unveil their new Free Health Fair in the Laurel Park recreation room.

While the MTHA has sponsored a health fair for more than 20 years, this one will be noticeably different, according to Diana Pinones, center director for the Horsemen's Health System, as free flu shots will be given, along with lipid profiles, prostate, blood pressure, body fat composition, carbon monoxide and skin cancer tests and screenings. Cholesterol tests also will be given, and participants are advised to fast for 10 hours prior to the test.

For the first time participants will receive follow-up care. Depending on test results, MedStar Sports Medicine will help track employees to get the services they need, whether it be a follow-up visit or something more extensive, like a mammogram or a colonoscopy.

All results will be kept confidential and will be sent to the address participants provide.

The fair will run from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Oct. 27. A free shuttle will run from Pimlico, leaving the stable gate at 11:30 a.m., allowing participants to finish their morning work before taking the shuttle to Laurel Park.

Pinones said those at Pimlico who want to participate should register for the shuttle by calling the van driver and

MTHA recreation director Dan Mangum at 410-802-5798.

If more Pimlico workers sign up for the shuttle than there are seats, Mangum said arrangements will be made to take care of the additional participants.

At Laurel Park, MedStar Sports Medicine Dr. Kelly Ryan (pictured) will be onsite to administer flu vaccines and help participants fill out paperwork to get into the health system.

Pinones says the Free Health Fair is a wonderful addition to the weekly care being given by the MedStar Sports Medicine doctors.

"Even though a doctor is here every week, there are a lot of people who don't have the time to come or have to work," Pinones says. "Especially the pony people and exercise people don't get the time to come. This will be a big help to them."

It also will be a big help to the Horsemen's Health System because before MedStar doctors arrived records were not kept on the health condition of workers.

"Because records weren't kept, we have no idea how many people are out there who need care," Dr. Ryan says. "This fair will, we hope, enable us to get more backstretch personnel into the system and we will follow up on the results of the testing we do."

"As it is now, people only come to see us when they're sick. This is a great service [being] provided because a lot of people don't get checkups."

It's a good opportunity for us to find out how many people we have there, to find out how many we need to look at getting in the program and to find ways to get them the services they need in a



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Thank You Dr. Usman

The Maryland Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association would like to express their deepest appreciation to Dr. Saif Usman for the excellent care he has provided Maryland's horsemen for the past year.

Dr. Usman has been one of the four MedStar Sports Medicine doctors as part of the new Horsemen's Health System which began in September 2015 and was named one of Washington, D.C.'s top 100 Doctors by Washingtonian Magazine.

Dr. Usman and his family have decided to pursue other opportunities out of state which requires him to relocate.

We wish him and his family well!



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Published by the

Maryland Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association

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Ladies Spa Day

Thursday, October 6, 2016 • 12:30 p.m. • Laurel Park Rec. Room

Yoga, seated massage, lunch and much more available to the ladies of the backstretch.



Backstretch Health Fair

timely fashion – things like colonoscopies and mammograms.”

Dr. Ryan says there are services available and she will work at finding out what individuals are eligible for.

“We can also go to a local hospital and say, ‘We need this many colonoscopies,’” she says. “Some hospitals do pro bono work. We can go to them and say, ‘We need five’ or ‘We need 50.’ We’re trying to gather information and get as many people covered as possible.”

Dr. Ryan says she wants to encourage as many backstretch workers as possible to participate, especially in regard to flu shots.

She says that while flu shots are recommended for the young and those over 60, they also are advised for people who live and/or work in close quarters – like the military, college students, el-

ementary school students, sports teams and, yes, backstretch workers, many of whom live at Laurel Park and Pimlico Race Course.

“A lot of the backstretch employees are at risk because they live in close quarters,” Dr. Ryan says. “If one gets [the flu], many will get it.”

Besides Dr. Ryan, Pinones says there will be at least four nurses on site to do the blood tests.

“Last year we did the fair in August, but this year we waited so we could do the flu shots,” Pinones says. “It will be interesting to see how many people come for the flu shots. I think we had about 70 people participate last year. I think, because of the flu shots, more people will be coming this time.”

For more information on the Free Health Fair, call the MTHA office at 410-902-6842.

Sponsored By



MTHA Clothing Drive Efforts

The MTHA Clothing Drive makes necessary clothes, shoes, books, winter coats, etc., available to backstretch workers in need at Laurel Park via a distribution center open seven days a week.

Two collection bins are easily accessible for donations at Laurel Park located in front of the stable gate and at the horsemen's entrance to the track.

All donations to the program are tax-deductible. Please email info@mdhorsemen.com with the details of your donation for an IRS-approved donation letter.





Rec Report

Cookout

The MTHA Backstretch Appreciation cookout was a tremendous success with a record turnout of 457 backstretch workers and their families. Everyone had a great time enjoying the pit beef, ham, chicken and sides provided by Russell Clark.

MTHA would like to sincerely thank Sal Sinatra and Tim Ritvo for their generosity donating the cash prizes for our backstretch employees.

Also, we would like to thank Fran Heck, Diana Harbaugh, Carrie Everly and Tony Edwards for all their help in making our event a huge success.

Orioles Ticket Winners

The final winners of the Orioles ticket packages were: 9/3 vs. NY Yankees, Elliced Torres (Ollie Figins); 9/16 vs Tampa Bay, Rays Juan Ramires; 9/19 vs Boston Red Sox, Miguel Fuentez; 9/22 vs Boston Red Sox, Anthony Acuirre Jr.; 9/24 vs Arizona Diamondbacks, Mark Dillow (Gary Capuano).

MTHA Express Van Service

The MTHA is sponsoring a van service for employees on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

The service includes transportation for shopping, pharmacy, lunch, movies, doctor and dentist appointments etc.

You must sign up in the track kitchen each week for the service. For information please call Dan Mangum at 410-802-5798.

Poker Tournament Results

The winner of the Poker tournament on Monday, Sept. 12 was Tony Aguirre, finishing second was TJ Aguirre and Charles "Snake" Frock finished in third. We will be holding our next poker outing on Monday, Oct. 10.

Golf Tournament Results

The winners of the MTHA Golf Tournament on Monday, Sept. 26 were: Ron Loudon, Ed Henry, Jerry Hroblak and Donny Faltynski

We had a two-way tie for second place between the team of J.D. Brown, Fred Whiteside and John Dawson and also Jack Adamecz and Orvie Thumel. The winner of the longest drive and shortest to the pin was Jerry Hroblak. The winner of the raffle for the Baltimore Oriole tickets was Jack Adamecz. Terry Haffelfinger won the tickets to the Bowie BaySox

Basketball Tournament

We will be holding another 3-on-3 basketball tournament and picnic on Tuesday, Oct. 4 at the track kitchen in Laurel Park. If you are interested in competing, please contact Marty Leonard at 203-733-1367.

Bowling League

If you are interested in the MTHA bowling league, please contact Dan Magnum at 410-802-5798 to reserve a spot for you or your team.

League play will begin on Oct. 17 at the Laurel AMF Lanes at noon. We have room for teams or individual bowlers.

Fire and Disaster Insurance Continues



Fire and disaster insurance has been renewed for another 12 months. Under this policy, MTHA members may be compensated for death or humane destruction of their horses due to a number of perils, including fire, lightning, wind storm, smoke and flood.

Coverage extends to horses located at or in transit to or from Laurel Park, Pimlico and Timonium. Additionally, horses are covered when in transit from Laurel Park, Pimlico or Timonium to race and return from out-of-state tracks.

Lloyds Underwriters, Inc. is the insurer.

Board Actions



MTHA Board Meeting – September 30, 2016

Members present: Timothy L. Keefe (President), Linda S. Gaudet (Vice President), R. Larry Johnson (Vice President), Katharine M. Voss (Secretary), A. Ferris Allen, Christine E. Bricker, Dale Capuano, Ellen M. Charles, JoAnn Hayden, Robert T. Manfuso, H. Graham Motion, Lawrence E. Murray, Charles J. Reed and Michael J. Trombetta.

Member absent: Michael F. Horning (Treasurer).

Election of Officers

The Board unanimously approved the existing slate of officers to continue their term for one year by acclamation.

Christmas Party

The Board unanimously voted to approve all expenditures related to the 2016 Horsemen's Christmas Party to be held in December at Laurel Park.

Counseling Program

The Board unanimously appropriated necessary funds to continue the Counseling Program through June 30, 2017, in partnership with MJC.

Perryville OTB

The Board unanimously voted to approve the proposed OTB to be located within Hollywood Casino Perryville.

Bonus Award

The Board unanimously voted to increase the Bonus award by \$20. The Bonus Award is paid to all horses who start an overnight race and finish beyond 6th place including horses who do not finish a race in which they started.

Beyond The Wire

The Board unanimously voted to approve the Beyond The Wire Thoroughbred aftercare program, a joint industry-wide effort under development in conjunction with Maryland Horse Breeders Association, Maryland Jockey Club and the Maryland jockey colony.

In addition, the Board authorized all current funds earmarked for aftercare endeavours be used for this program and authorized a \$25,000 contribution to support this new program.

Expedited Purse Release Program

MTHA has implemented a new program that allows the immediate release of purse monies after the required 72-hour waiting period for a race to be declared official by the stewards – provided the owner signs a notarized agreement affirming they will return purse money received in the event of a positive drug test result. To obtain a copy of this agreement, visit the MTHA race-track office or visit mdhorsemen.com.



Maryland Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association

Horsemen Services Guide

Maryland Horsemen's Assistance Fund



Horsemen's Services Guidebook Available

Stop by the Racing Office or the MTHA's Racetrack office and pick up the Horsemen's Services Guidebook.

Published by the MTHA, the Horsemen's Services Guidebook is your source for all services offered to Maryland trainers and backstretch workers by the Maryland

Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association, Maryland Horsemen's Assistance Foundation and the Maryland Jockey Club.

For more information or to obtain a booklet by mail, please contact the MTHA Business office at 410-902-6842 or email info@mdhorsemen.com.



MTHA

500 Redland Court, #105
Owings Mills, Maryland 21117

October 2016

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Obamacare Registration Assistance Provided



The MTHA will assist backstretch workers to learn more about and sign up for health care under the new Affordable Care Act.

For help in English or Spanish, stop in the MTHA racetrack office during live racing from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. or call Bobby Lillis at 410-902-6843 or Jessica Hammond at 301-776-0404.

Board of Directors

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