



The Standardbred Owners Association of New York

NEWS & VIEWS

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VOTERS TO DECIDE ON MORE CASINOS FOR NEW YORK THIS NOVEMBER

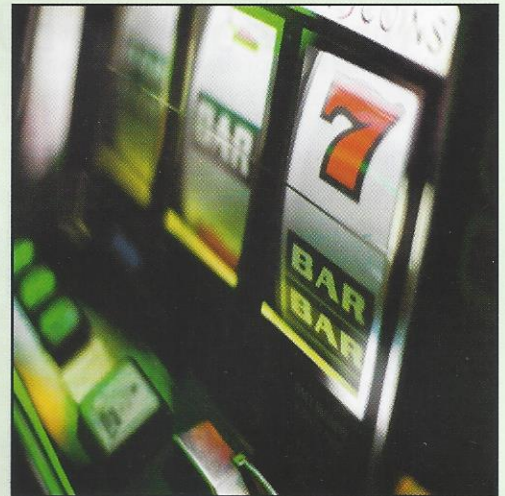
A big casino expansion referendum awaits New York voters this November as State legislators and Governor Andrew Cuomo presented details for their gaming expansion plan last month.

Under the proposed legislation, which would need approval by voters in a referendum this fall, four new Las Vegas style casinos would be sited in three different regions in upstate New York. Those regions are the Catskills, the Albany area and the Southern Tier. There would be no further casino expansion for seven years after which three more locations would be chosen. The plan also calls for two video lottery terminal facilities in Nassau and Suffolk counties.

This legislation would mean no new local competition for the existing racinos at Yonkers and Aqueduct.

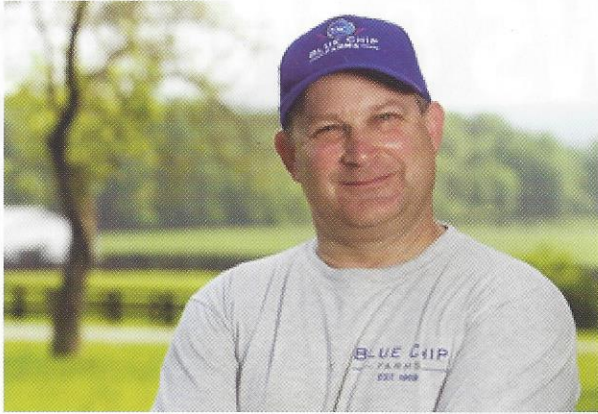
The legislation requires payments to continue to the racing industry when casino expansion arrives, but those payments would be frozen at 2013 levels and then adjusted for inflation based on the consumer price index.

The failure to include us in real future growth commensurate with that of our racetrack partners was disappointing to say the least. It is a setback for the agriculture industry in NYS.



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SOA OF NY DIRECTOR MIKE KIMELMAN NAMED TO SIRE STAKES BOARD

Blue Chip Farms President and Standardbred Owners Association of New York Director Mike Kimelman was recently appointed to the Board of the Agriculture and New York State Horse Breeding Development Fund. Also known as the Sire Stakes Fund, Kimelman's appointment was made by the New York State Senate Majority at the recommendation of Senator John Bonacic.

Kimelman has been an active participant in the harness racing industry since childhood. His grandfather Oscar Kimelman established Blue Chip Farms in Walkill, NY where Mike is now President. He has also trained and driven horses and notched nearly 500 victories in his racing career.

Kimelman has been an SOA of NY Director since 2002.

The Board of Agriculture and New York State Horse Breeding Development Fund's core mission is to promote agriculture through the breeding of standardbred horses and the conduct of equine research in New York. The Fund administers the New York Sire Stakes races, Excelsior/State Fair Series races, and County Fair Races. The Fund also provides assistance to county agriculture societies and contributes to the statewide 4-H program and to the Harry M. Zweig Fund for Equine Research.

CASALE RETIRES, DADOYAN NAMED NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Earlier this year, longtime Meadowlands Racetrack executive Alex Dadoyan was appointed to the Executive Director position with the SOA of NY. Previous Director George Casale retired at the end of 2012 after nine years of service with the organization.

Dadoyan spent more than 15 years at the Meadowlands working in all aspects of racetrack management including publicity, television production, simulcasting, off-track wagering and racing operations.

A graduate of the University of Pennsylvania and New York's Fordham Law School, Dadoyan has also served as USTA director for District 12 since 2007.

EMPIRECITYBETS.COM HAS ARRIVED

Phone and Internet wagering has never been easier or more attractive. Yonkers Raceway, in partnership with the SOA of NY, recently launched a new wagering site: www.empirecitybets.com. Signing up is free and members can wager on races via phone or Internet and receive access to live video feeds and race replays from harness and thoroughbred tracks across the country.

New members can receive up to a \$150 sign up bonus, and all members will receive cash rewards on virtually all wagers placed on the site. Best of all, there will be an 8% reward on all wagers placed on races from Yonkers Raceway.

YONKERS 50 CENT PICK 5 OFFERING STRONG RETURNS TO PLAYERS

The 50 cent Pick 5 wager at Yonkers Raceway has proven to be a very attractive new wager for horseplayers.

After one month of wagering, through 22 race cards, the Pick 5 has yielded an average payoff of \$1,641 for a 50 cent base wager. There has been a carryover on 3 of the 22 programs.

"The half mile racing at Yonkers by nature is going to produce more winning favorites and shorter priced horses," said Standardbred Owners Association of New York Executive Director Alex Dadoyan. "But the new Pick 5 wager has allowed bettors to key off on a couple of short priced winners and still see a nice return."

Favorites have won 39 percent of the races in the Pick 5 sequences. Each of the three times there was a carryover, there was only one winning favorite in the Pick 5 races.

The highest 50 cent Pick 5 pool to date occurred on Thursday, June 27 as \$20,309 was wagered following a \$7,500 carryover on the previous card.

The 50 cent Pick 5 wager at Yonkers is guaranteed with a \$10,000 pool on Mondays and Tuesdays and is held on races five through nine every racing night. The Standardbred Owners Association of New York has partnered with Yonkers Raceway and the USTA's Strategic Wagering Program to offer the guaranteed pools. Free past performances for the Pick 5 races are available Mondays and Tuesdays at www.ustrotting.com or www.trackmaster.com/usta

OLIVIA AMITRANO AND STEPHANIE LAUER WIN SCHOLARSHIPS

Last month, the SOA of New York/Yonkers Raceway Scholarship Committee announced the winners of the 2013-2014 Scholarship Awards. The first place \$5,000 award went to Olivia Amitrano and the second place \$3,000 scholarship was awarded to Stephanie Lauer.

Amitrano is enrolled at Fordham University/Rose Hill, New York, where she is majoring in psychology. She has made tremendous strides this past semester towards her goal of creating awareness to the importance of nutrition, along with providing counsel to others to make and maintain healthy dietary and nutritional choices as a Psychologist/Nutritionist.

Lauer is planning on attending Radford University in Radford, Virginia this fall where she will study recreational therapy. Her goal is to teach others how to ride and work with horses, mainly standardbreds, and show how the calming effect of this therapy can

impact those with special needs and improve their quality of life.

Olivia Amitrano is the daughter of trainer Vincent Amitrano. Stephanie Lauer is the daughter of trainer Bruce Lauer.

Scholarship Committee Chairman Bob MacDougall noted that the academic records of both winners, along with their participation in extracurricular activities were excellent and should serve as examples for all high school and college students. The Committee wishes all of the applicants the very best as they continue on with their education.

The annual SOA/Yonkers Raceway scholarships are awarded to SOA members or members of their immediate families or to covered individuals (backstretch personnel) or a member of their immediate families for study beyond the high school level. The recipient is chosen on the basis of merit and financial need.



July 27, 2013 SOA/Yonkers Raceway Scholarship Award Presentation to Olivia Amitrano, the First Place Winner. Photo by Mike Lizzi



July 27, 2013 SOA/Yonkers Scholarship Award Presentation to Second Place winner, Stephanie Lauer. Photo by Mike Lizzi

STRONG TURNOUT TO SUPPORT WESTCHESTER FOOD BANK

The SOA of NY once again teamed with Yonkers Raceway and Empire City Casino employees to volunteer and support the local Food Bank for Westchester in Elmsford, New York.

Dozens of employees and SOA of NY directors were joined by Yonkers Raceway General Manager Bob Galterio, SOA President Joe Faraldo and drivers Jason Bartlett, Brent Holland, Mark McDonald, Larry Stalbaum and Jordan Stratton.

The assembly line of volunteers worked together to bag and label nearly 4,000 pounds of rice into smaller one-pound bags that could then be distributed to those in need.

"Just knowing you're helping is rewarding," Holland said.

"It's something we can do to make a difference for people who really need it," Bartlett said.

"It was my first time here, and you could see all the good work they do," MacDonald said.

"Helping out the people here is great," Stalbaum said. "If everybody did a little extra, it would make a big difference."

"You take a few hours out of your day to make someone's life a little easier," Stratton said.

Yonkers Raceway and the horsemen will be presenting the Food Bank with a donation at the racetrack later this year.

The Food Bank for Westchester, one of eight food banks in New York State, is the backbone of the county's emergency food network. It acquires, warehouses and distributes more than seven million pounds of food annually to over 220 frontline hunger-relief organizations. Those organizations include food pantries, soup kitchens, shelters, day care and residential programs.

In early 2012, the Food Bank moved to a larger warehouse (200 Clearbrook Road in Elmsford), getting more food out to the estimated 200,000 people in Westchester who are hungry or at risk of hunger. The Food Bank's mission is to lead, engage and educate county residents in creating a hunger-free environment.

SOA of NY director Sandra Kaufman was once again instrumental in organizing the event and rallying support for the food bank.

For more information, contact the Food Bank (914-923-1100), or visit them on-line (www.foodbankforwestchester.org).

SOA of NY JOINS THE SOCIAL MEDIA WORLD

Facebook and Twitter users can now keep up with the latest news and information from the SOA of NY. Facebook users can follow or 'like' the SOA page by searching for Standardbred Owners Association of New York. On Twitter, just follow @SOAofNewYork.

Content will include racing updates, scheduling notes, membership information and pertinent news. Stay connected and follow our social media pages today.

SOA of NY WEB SITE GETS A FRESH LOOK

The SOA of NY web site recently received a face lift. A visit to www.soaofny.com now provides the reader with the latest news, updates and information relating to racing in New York and on the national scene.

Visitors can also find links for entries, results, condition sheets and the weekly Hilltop Helper handicapping sheet prepared by SOA of NY Vice President Peter Venaglia.

DIRECTOR ATTENDANCE AT SOA OF NY BOARD MEETINGS

	9/12	12/12	3/13	6/13		9/12	12/12	3/13	6/13
Atherton, I	P	P	A	P	MacDougall, R.	P	P	P	A
Brennan, J.	P	P	P	P	Noga, S.	P	P	P	P
Faraldo, J.	P	P	P	P	Schnittker, R.	A	P	P	A
Forte, M.	P	P	P	A	Stratton, J.	P	P	P	P
Fucci, E.	P	P	P	P	Venaglia, P.	P	P	P	P
Gargiulo, H.	P	P	P	P	Wittstruck, C.	P	P	P	P
Kaufman, S.	P	P	P	A	Younger, P.	P	P	P	P
Kimelman, M.	A	P	A	P					

P= Present A= Absent *=Excused Absence

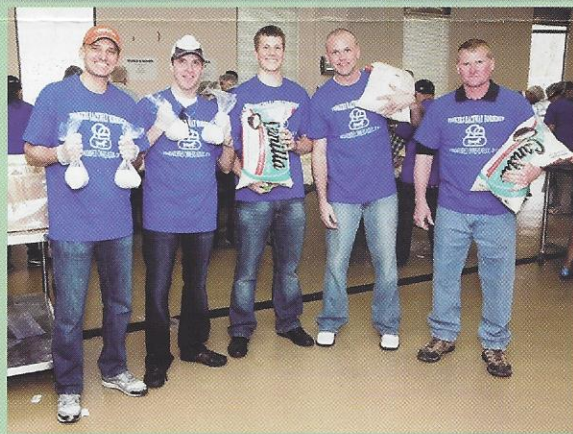


Retirement Celebration Dinner for former Executive Director, George Casale, held on April 20, 2013. Present along with all of George's family were SOA Board of Directors, and current SOA Executive Director, Alex Dadoyan and Yonkers Executives, Robert Galterio, Robert Miccuna and Ed Ryan. *Photo by Mike Lizzi*



April 16, 2013 - All SOA and Yonkers volunteers at the Food Bank of Westchester. *Photo by: Sean Hamrock*

SOA
PHOTO GALLERY



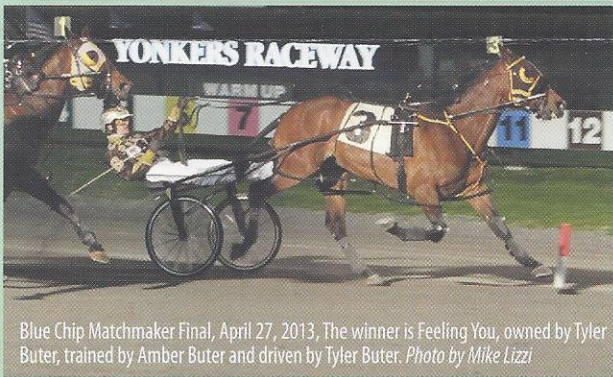
Drivers working at the Food Bank of Westchester facility on April 16, 2013, packaging rice to be distributed to needy families. From left to right are Brent Holland, Mark MacDonald, Jordan Stratton, Jason Bartlett and Larry Stalbaum. *Photo by: Sean Hamrock*



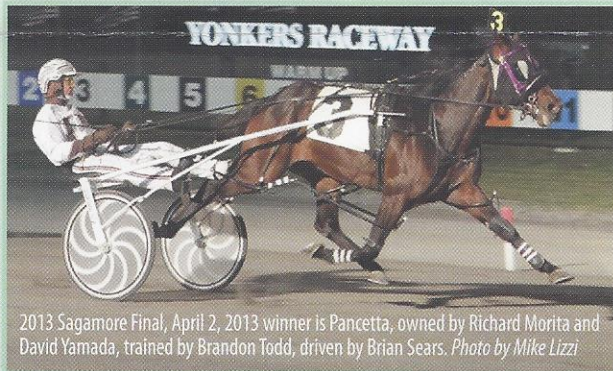
Nancy Lyons, Volunteer Coordinator at Food Bank of Westchester giving instructions to SOA and Yonkers Raceway volunteers. *Photo by: Sean Hamrock*



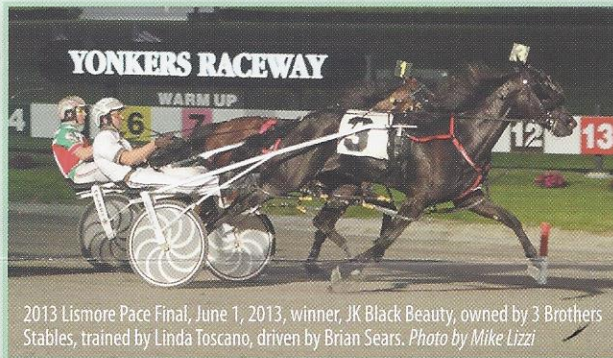
July 27, 2013 Winner of the Yonkers Trot, Dewycolorintheline, Owner/Trainer/Driver, Ray Schnittker. Photo by Mike Lizzi



Blue Chip Matchmaker Final, April 27, 2013, The winner is Feeling You, owned by Tyler Buter, trained by Amber Buter and driven by Tyler Buter. Photo by Mike Lizzi



2013 Sagamore Final, April 2, 2013 winner is Pancetta, owned by Richard Morita and David Yamada, trained by Brandon Todd, driven by Brian Sears. Photo by Mike Lizzi



2013 Lismore Pace Final, June 1, 2013, winner, JK Black Beauty, owned by 3 Brothers Stables, trained by Linda Toscano, driven by Brian Sears. Photo by Mike Lizzi



2013 Art Rooney Pace, June 1, 2013, winner is Doctor Butch, owned by Kenneth Jacobs, trained by Linda Toscano and driven by George Brennan. Photo by Mike Lizzi



2013 Levy Final, April 27, 2013, the winner is Razzle Dazzle, owned by Ira Kristel, trained by Mark Silva, and driven by Brian Sears. Photo by Mike Lizzi



2013 Petticoat Final, April 1, 2013, Winner is Fast and Fiesty. Owned by Victor Apolinario, trained by Tom Fanning, driven by Brian Sears. Photo by Sean Hamrock