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ALL BREEDS & DISCIPLINES

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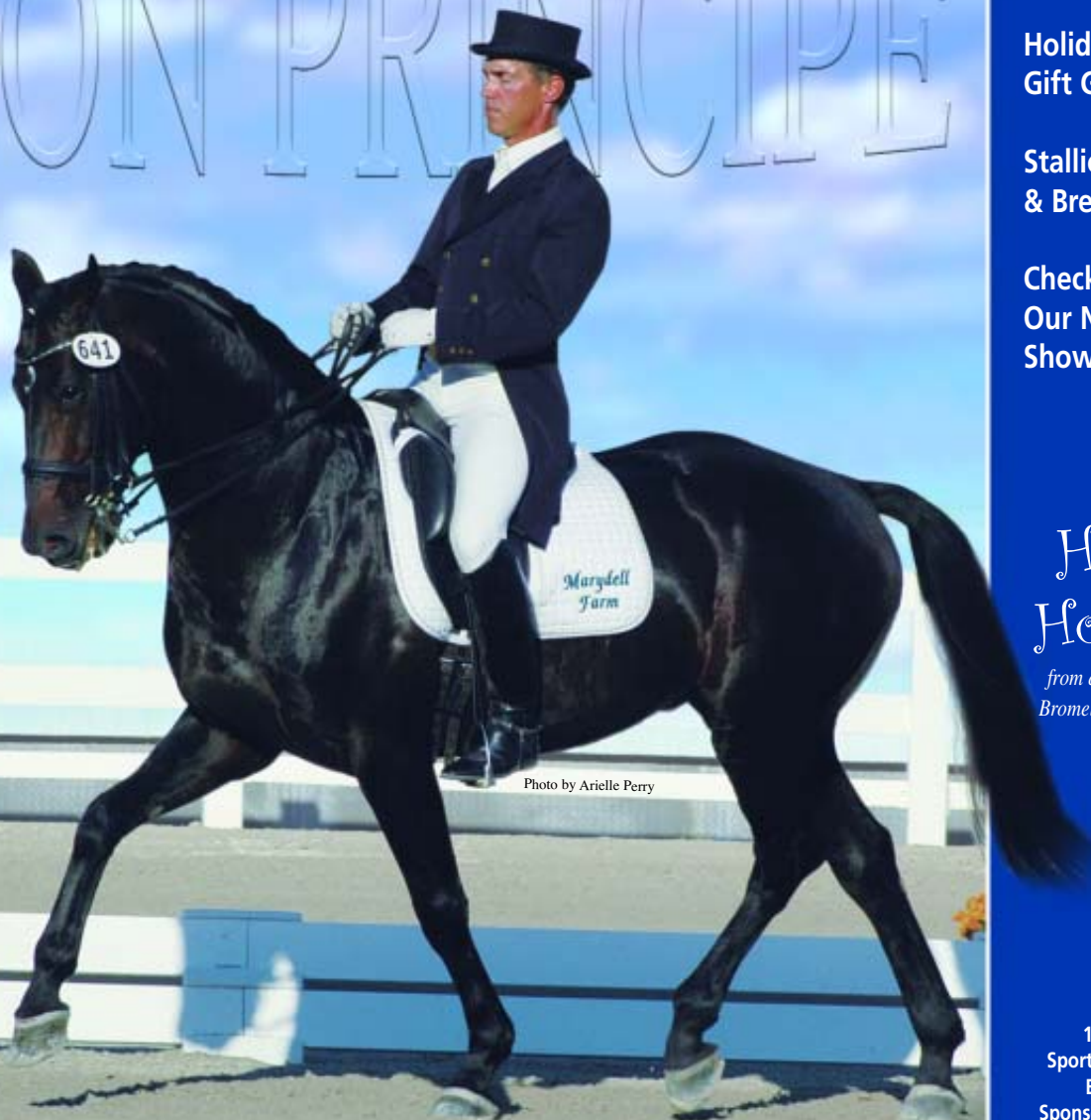


Photo by Arielle Perry

Holiday  
Gift Guide

Stallions  
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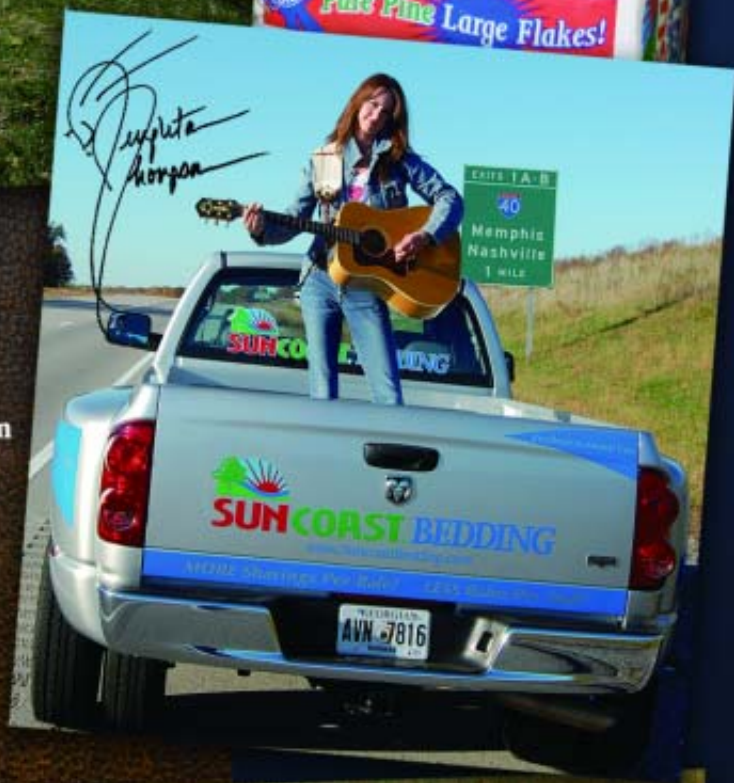
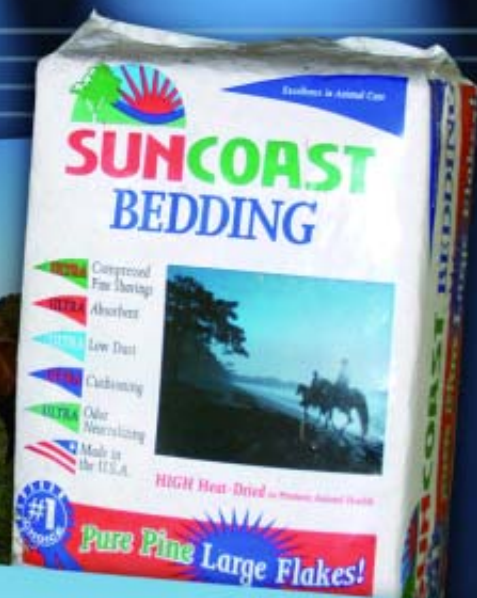
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Page 23

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# SOUTHEAST EQUINE MONTHLY

**On the Cover**

Marydell Farms will help sponsor the first annual Sporthorse Stallion Exhibition on January 5, at the Raleigh Hunt Horse Complex. Don Principe, right, was the 2007 third place USEF Developing Horse Final, Intermediare, GIAG Champion, and sire of many top 10 USDF Horse of the Year winners

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- 13 **Voss wins third level championship at Eastern States show**  
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New transportation uses Volvo truck chassis



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## SOUTHEAST EQUINE

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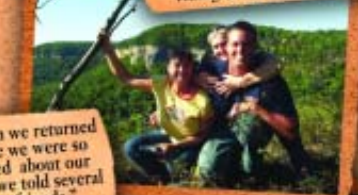
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## VQHA news update

**Fun Fact: The Quarter Horse originated in Virginia** – The American Quarter Horse is reputed to be the oldest all-American breed. The origins of this breed started as early as the 1600s, soon after settlement of the Americas by the British. In order to produce a horse suitable for both work and sport, English horses, with a background of Arab, native, and Spanish blood were crossed with stock of Spanish origin already in America.

Planning for the **2007 VQHA awards banquet** is underway. The banquet will be held March 7-8 at the Holiday Inn Convention Center in Staunton, Va. Visit [www.vaquarterhorse.com](http://www.vaquarterhorse.com) for more information.

**BIP** – The VQHA Stallion Service Sale is

in progress. This is one of the biggest breeding sales in the country, offering hundreds of fabulous stallions and followed up with the highly successful VQHA Futurity Show to reward the stallions and their offspring. Because breedings are sold for 60 percent of the 2008 stud fee, your money will go much further. Go to the Breeder's Incentive page at [www.vaquarterhorse.com](http://www.vaquarterhorse.com) for full details along with a list and links to the stallions offered.

**2008 VQHA calendar of events** – Events and dates will be added as we get the information. Dates and information are subject to change. Check often for updates at [www.vaquarterhorse.com](http://www.vaquarterhorse.com).

February 14 - 17 – Martinganza at Senator Bob Martin Agricultural Center, Williamston, NC. Contact Beth Tew at 252-753-8069 for stall reservations or visit [www.martinganza.com](http://www.martinganza.com) for more information.

April 7 - 13 – East Coast Championship at Virginia Horse Center, Lexington, VA. Call 703-791-4283 or email [ecchshows@aol.com](mailto:ecchshows@aol.com) for more information.

June 6 - 8 – Southern States Showdown at Virginia Horse Center, Lexington, VA. Call Beth Tew at 252-753-8069 for more information.

June 18 – Maryland State Quarter Horse Association All-Novice Show, Culpeper, VA. Call Sandi Collins at 443-695-5654 or email at

[scollins@pfginc.com](mailto:scollins@pfginc.com) or visit [www.msqha.com](http://www.msqha.com) for more information.

June 19 - 22 – Maryland State Quarter Horse Association Show, Culpeper, VA. Call Sandi Collins at 443-695-5654 or email at [scollins@pfginc.com](mailto:scollins@pfginc.com) or visit [www.msqha.com](http://www.msqha.com) for more information.

August 13 – Maryland State Quarter Horse Association All-Novice Show, Culpeper, VA. Call Sandi Collins at 443-695-5654 or email at [scollins@pfginc.com](mailto:scollins@pfginc.com) or visit [www.msqha.com](http://www.msqha.com) for more information.

August 14 - 17 – Maryland State Quarter Horse Blackeyed Susan Circuit, Culpeper, VA. Call Sandi Collins at 443-695-5654 or email at [scollins@pfginc.com](mailto:scollins@pfginc.com) or visit [www.msqha.com](http://www.msqha.com) for more information.

September 6 - 7 – September Spectacular at Frying Pan Park, Herndon, VA. Contact Chris Monson at [chris.monson@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:chris.monson@fairfaxcounty.gov) for more information.

## Tracy Mack, Lucky Four win NA League jumper finals

Tracy Mack had lots of luck on her side when she entered the ring for the jump-off for the \$10,000 North American League adult jumper finals at the Pennsylvania National Horse Show.

As the last of the nine riders with no penalties from the first round, Mack had an opportunity to watch as the other competitors negotiated the course and plot her strategy with her trainer John Brennan of North Run.

"I told her to be slow and patient to the first fence," said Brennan.

Those were not the instructions Mack heard. "I translated that to mean run," said a laughing Mack after the class. "I knew that if I could just stay on we would be okay. I turned, I kicked, and he went! I've been second a lot. I just wanted to win."

The desire to win showed during the first round as Mack and Lucky Four, a powerful gray gelding owned by Mack, Missy Clark and North Run, negotiated the course with power and determination.

Out of a starting line-up of twenty-nine, nine horse and rider combinations advanced to the jump-off.

Mack, 20, is currently a sophomore at Mt. Holyoke College, majoring in sociology with plans to be a lawyer. She competes on their intercollegiate team and missed a show to be at Harrisburg for the NAL final. "This class was a big deal," said Mack.

Results of \$10,000 NAL adult jumper final

1. Lucky Four/Tracy Mack
2. Kick The Clouds/Rebecca Forbes
3. Heidi Hi/Emily Straw-Colella
4. Conto/Barbara Rochford
5. Mio W/Gwen M. Holliday
6. Quest D'Or/Kris Hoffman Kennedy
7. Lamington/Dana Tourville
8. Time Honored/Julie Velloff-Helmer
9. Lady Belle/Darby J. Mazzarisi

The North American League (NAL) runs season-long series in six hunter-jumper divisions. The qualifying period kicks off on September 1 and runs through August 31. Top riders in the final series standings compete in a championship final at the Pennsylvania National Horse Show each October. Riders need not be members of the NAL to compete in any qualifying classes, but only current members earn points toward year-end finals.



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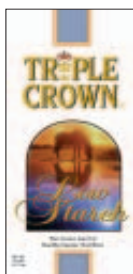


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## Wellington Equestrian Partners finalize stadium acquisitions

Wellington Equestrian Partners, LLC (WEP) has finalized the acquisition of the last remaining parcel of land to complete its \$55 million purchase of the old Palm Beach Polo Stadium and the Equestrian Club show grounds.

"The newly acquired properties total almost 140 acres to support WEP's equestrian events," WEP Managing Partner Mark J. Bellissimo said.

"In addition to the \$55 million to buy the Polo Stadium property of 57 acres and the 82 acres Palm Beach Polo Equestrian Center, we are investing millions more to make them the best horse show facilities in the world."

The last piece of real estate to be acquired was an almost-nine-acre parcel on the corner of Pierson and South Shore Boulevard which is adjacent to the polo stadium.

The complete equestrian events complex has been named the Palm Beach International Equestrian Center while the polo stadium will be called "The Stadium" and what has been the Palm Beach Equestrian Club will be named "The ShowGrounds".

Bellissimo last week signed an unconditional special use permit (SUP) required by the village of Wellington for the erection of tents on the show grounds for the 2008 Winter Equestrian Festival. He had signed a similar one for the National Horse Show.

Major re-construction has already begun on the grandstand at The Stadium that was the birthplace and the heart of equestrian

activities in Wellington three decades ago. Highlights included sellout crowds to watch Britain's Prince Charles play polo and the creation of the first hunter-jumper shows that were the forerunner of the Winter Equestrian Festival now at the adjacent Palm Beach Polo Equestrian Club showgrounds.

Michael Stone, former secretary general of the International Equestrian Federation (FIE), who is heading up planning for events at The Stadium, said that re-construction of the

"We are planning to create equestrian events that are the best in the world and that all those who live in and visit our home in Wellington can be proud,"

— Mark J. Bellissimo

grandstand and installing Olympic-sized all-weather jumping, hunter and dressage rings is on schedule for the first shows to be held there in January.

Helping to plan the facilities is Simon Brooks-Ward who has created and produced equestrian spectacles around the world, including the celebrated Pavarotti horse show in Modena, Italy, the Al Maktoum Invitational in Dubai, the Windsor Horse Show outside Windsor Castle and his signature event, a combined jumping and dressage World Cup qualifying event at Olympia in the heart of London.

Bellissimo said that refurbishing the existing showgrounds has already begun, though major changes have to be scheduled around horse shows that include the National Horse Show Dec. 5-9, a Christmas show and the Winter Equestrian Festival that runs from Jan. 30 through Mar. 23 in Wellington.

"We are planning to create equestrian events that are the best in the world and that all those who live in and visit our home in Wellington can be proud," Bellissimo said.

## American Horse Council encourages horse industry participation in 2007 USDA census of agriculture

The American Horse Council (AHC) is calling on all members of the horse-owning community to participate in the 2007 Census of Agriculture to be conducted by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). The USDA census, taken every five years, is a count of U.S. farms, ranches and the people who operate them. A link to the census can be found on the American Horse Council's web site: [www.horsecouncil.org](http://www.horsecouncil.org)

The USDA reports that the 2007 Census of Agriculture will help to measure land use and ownership, operator characteristics, production practices, income and expenditures and many other areas. The AHC wants to ensure that the American horse industry is properly accounted for in the upcoming Census. There are three ways in which horse owners can participate in the USDA's 2007 Census of Agriculture:

1. If your farm received a survey for census participation in the past (the last census was taken in 2002), your farm will be mailed a survey that you can fill in and mail back.
2. If your farm was not part of the 2002 census, or you are not sure if you participated, you can fill out a basic USDA census registration form online by following the link from the AHC's web site: [www.horsecouncil.org](http://www.horsecouncil.org). Once this form is submitted online,

a survey will be mailed to you.

3. Finally, beginning in late December 2007, the census survey will be available to all farm owners and operators to fill out online even if they have not pre-registered.

According to an AHC report, the American horse industry has a \$102 billion impact on the U.S. economy and supports 1.4 million U.S. jobs. There are more than 9.2 million horses in the United States, making the U.S. horse-owning population the largest in the world.

AHC President Jay Hickey, stated, "The Census of Agriculture is our chance to stand and be counted." Hickey further stated, "It is everyone's responsibility to make sure that the equine community is accounted for in the 2007 Census of Agriculture."

Additionally, information on the 2007 Census of Agriculture can be found on the USDA's web site: [www.agcensus.usda.gov](http://www.agcensus.usda.gov).

Census forms will be mailed on December 28, 2007. The mailing will include further instructions about how to log in and respond to the Census via a secure web connection. All Census forms must be completed by February 2, 2008.

For more information about the American Horse Council, visit [www.horsecouncil.org](http://www.horsecouncil.org) or call 202-296-4031.



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