

NORTHEAST/MID-ATLANTIC



Tim Little and Anne Morgan, with Nicholas, at Mill Creek Farm in upstate New York

Mill Creek Rolls On

Consistent, quality care comes from Tim Little, Anne Morgan

BY EVAN HAMMONDS
 PHOTOS COURTESY YVONNE BASTAIN

THERE IS NOTHING RUN OF THE MILL about Anne Morgan and Tim Little's Mill Creek Farm. Called "horse heaven" by one of their clients, the full-service farm outside Saratoga Springs, N.Y., has been rolling along for some 30 years. Several of their clients have been with them for more than 20 years.

The biggest compliment any going concern can receive comes from satisfied customers, and longtime New York breeder and owner Phil Birsh had this to say about Morgan and Little:

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Northeast Leaders **BIG BROWN** and **FROST GIANT**
Rank among **2017's Top Ten Leading North American
Sixth-Crop Sires** by **Cumulative Black-Type Winners!**



BIG BROWN

THIRD LEADING NY SIRE IN 2017

Sire of back-to-back stakes winner SEND IT (\$398,414), stakes-placed Zitman and two additional stakes performers world-wide. Top five NA sire standing under \$10,000 by percentage of Avg. Beyer Speed Figures of 90+ at 5.8%

Reduced to \$5,500 LF for 2017

FROST GIANT

2016's Leading Northeast Sire of Two Year Old Winners with 18 Including two nominees for NY Bred Championship Honors MISS FREEZE winner of the Lynbrook S., and Bobby On Fleek, 2nd Funny Cide S. plus sire of *four other stakes-placed juveniles* Sonido, Passportvictory, Frosty Nurse and Remstin

\$5,000 LF



Also Standing **FROST GIANT's** full brother **HEAVY BREATHING** at Dutchess Views Farm



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Stallions

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2017 LEADING SIRE IN NEW YORK



For daily updated sire lists visit BloodHorse.com

Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2017 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	BT SWnrs/ Wns	Rstret SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2017 Earnings	Foals	Cumulative		
									Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	BELLAMY ROAD (02, Concerto), Dutchess Views Farm	\$7,500	82/19	0/0	0/0	(Daisy Cutter, \$45,200)	\$494,983	*536	26	1.18	1.28
2	FREUD (98, Storm Cat), Sequel Stallions New York	\$10,000	56/9	1/1	0/1	(Sharp Azteca, \$210,490)	\$472,660	*1142	44	1.58	1.27
3	BIG BROWN (05, Boundary), Dutchess Views Farm	\$7,500	66/18	1/1	1/1	(Send It In, \$60,000)	\$407,568	*580	17	1.23	1.65
4	HOLD ME BACK (06, Giant's Causeway), Irish Hill Century Farm	\$5,000	55/13	0/0	0/0	(Hold On Momma, \$32,810)	\$272,091	237	6	1.14	1.21
5	DUBLIN (07, Afleet Alex), Keane Stud	\$2,500	28/7	1/1	1/1	(Dublin Girl, \$93,000)	\$271,575	136	1	1.01	1.20
6	BUSTIN STONES (04, City Zip), Waldorf Farm	\$5,000	21/9	0/0	0/0	(Tribecca, \$39,900)	\$238,954	156	4	1.36	1.41
7	HERE'S ZEALOUS (97, Dehere)	N/A	18/9	1/1	0/1	(Green Gratto, \$75,000)	\$218,005	191	1	1.00	0.99
8	FROST GIANT (03, Giant's Causeway), Keane Stud	\$5,000	43/4	0/0	0/0	(Katie Ice, \$34,800)	\$160,888	*316	7	1.34	1.19
9	DESERT PARTY (06, Street Cry), Irish Hill Century Farm	\$2,500	32/6	0/0	0/0	(Top of the Game, \$34,800)	\$143,646	175	3	1.01	1.43
10	MISSION IMPAZIBLE (07, Unbridled's Song), Sequel Stallions New York	\$7,500	14/3	0/0	0/0	(Mission Leader, \$38,400)	\$112,484	73	1	1.38	1.16
11	GIANT SURPRISE (09, Giant's Causeway), Rockridge Stud	\$5,000	9/3	1/1	1/1	(Super Surprise, \$60,000)	\$103,514	38	2	2.20	1.20
12	NOBLE CAUSEWAY (02, Giant's Causeway)	Died, 2014	24/5	0/0	0/0	(Cause He's Western, \$26,220)	\$92,335	240	8	0.81	1.07
13	TEUFLESBERG (04, Johannesburg), McMahon of Saratoga Tbred	\$3,500	10/4	0/0	0/0	(Crystal's Cantata, \$27,520)	\$82,187	96	4	1.47	1.16
14	MR. SEKIGUCHI (03, Storm Cat)	N/A	10/4	0/0	0/0	(Yourdreamsormine, \$40,470)	\$81,507	*93	2	1.01	1.22
15	HERE COMES BEN (06, Street Cry), McMahon of Saratoga Tbred	Private	20/3	0/0	0/0	(Bene, \$25,740)	\$71,690	84	0	0.64	1.13
16	DISCO RICO (97, Citidancer)	Died, 2014	9/2	0/0	0/0	(Playthatfunnymusic, \$33,950)	\$69,853	267	12	1.35	1.21
17	BOYS AT TOSCONOVA (08, Officer), Questroyal North	\$2,500	5/1	0/0	0/0	(Bertranda, \$30,400)	\$67,850	31	0	0.73	1.25
18	COSMONAUT (02, Lemon Drop Kid)	N/A	12/1	0/0	0/0	(Dream On, \$36,200)	\$57,423	88	2	1.10	1.03
19	COURAGEOUS CAT (06, Storm Cat), Questroyal North	\$6,000	14/5	0/0	0/0	(Unbridledadventure, \$28,000)	\$55,656	106	1	1.03	1.17
20	D' FUNNYBONE (07, D'wildcat), Rockridge Stud	\$2,500	8/1	0/0	0/0	(Play Me a Memory, \$34,867)	\$49,561	*53	2	1.12	1.23
21	BANK HEIST (07, Maria's Mon), Kaz Hill Farm	\$5,000	8/2	0/0	0/0	(Single Heist, \$18,600)	\$46,080	26	1	1.26	1.32
22	MARSH SIDE (03, Gone West), Dutchess Views Farm	\$2,500	7/3	0/0	0/0	(Dr Luber's Kiss, \$16,608)	\$44,234	*139	0	0.34	1.21
23	GOLDEN MISSILE (95, A.P. Indy), Milfer Farm	\$3,500	7/2	0/0	0/0	(Papa's Missile, \$18,250)	\$36,689	*649	14	1.02	1.48
24	MIRACLE MAN (02, Yankee Victor)	Died, 2015	2/1	0/0	0/0	(Quiet Miracle, \$12,600)	\$23,650	10	1	2.05	1.54
25	SOARING EMPIRE (07, Empire Maker), Rockridge Stud	\$3,500	4/0	0/0	0/0	(Ten Twenty Nine, \$18,800)	\$23,510	34	0	0.50	1.17

“They are terrific horse professionals. I have known them two decades, and they have brought professionalism and friendliness and humor to this complex world that we all enjoy so much.

“They’re smart and successful people

who have always put their clients first, and they love the animal and have made a lifetime’s devotion to their craft,” Birsh continued. “The results, which are in many ways excellent, are just a tip of the iceberg. Their true results are they have made



The main parcel of Mill Creek Farm is 100 acres outside Saratoga Springs

Special Note For Sire Lists:

For stallions that stand, will stand, or stood (deceased) in the states featured in this section (stallions that are dead or exported prior to 2013 are excluded), and have runners in North America. Listed below are all available statistics for the Northern Hemisphere through February 19, 2017. As supplied to BloodHorse by The Jockey Club Information Systems Inc., include adjusted money from Japan, Hong Kong, and Singapore. Adjusted earnings are put on par with average North American earnings from the previous year. For example, the average North American purse per starter in 2016 is \$22,141 or 45% of the 2016 average purse in Japan. To put earnings on par, all Japanese progeny earnings are multiplied by 45% before being credited to a sire's progeny earnings. Hong Kong earnings are adjusted by 17%; Singapore by 65%. Current year stakes winners include all N.H.-foaled stakes winners worldwide and any S.H.-foaled horses that won a N.H. stakes. *Foal counts include Southern Hemisphere. Cumulative stakes winners includes all countries. (A † indicates a sire represented by his first crop to race).

*AVERAGE-EARNINGS INDEX and COMPARABLE INDEX: Lifetime AVERAGE-EARNINGS INDEX indicates how much purse money the progeny of one sire has earned in relation to the average earnings of all runners in the same years; average earnings of all runners in any year is represented by an index of 1.00; COMPARABLE INDEX indicates the average earnings of progeny produced from mares bred to one sire, when these same mares were bred to other sires. Only 32% of all sires have a lifetime AVERAGE-EARNINGS INDEX higher than their mares' COMPARABLE INDEX.

2017 NEW YORK SIRE WINNERS

Sire	Rnrs	Wnrs
Bellamy Road	82	19
Big Brown	66	18
Hold Me Back	55	13
Freud	56	9
Bustin Stones	21	9
Here's Zealous	18	9
Dublin	28	7
Desert Party	32	6
Noble Causeway	24	5
Courageous Cat	14	5
Frost Giant	43	4
Mr. Sekiguchi	10	4
Teuflesberg	10	4
Here Comes Ben	20	3
Mission Impazible	14	3
Giant Surprise	9	3
Marsh Side	7	3
Disco Rico	9	2
Bank Heist	8	2
Golden Missile	7	2

FREEDOM CHILD



Malibu Moon – Bandstand, by Deputy Minister
\$3,000 S&N

SUPER NINETY NINE



Pulpit – Exogenetic, by Unbridled's Song
\$4,000 S&N

Standing at Country Life Farm in MD

NORMANDY INVASION



Tapit – Boston Lady, by Boston Harbor
\$4,000 S&N

Standing at Keane Stud in NY

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2017 LEADING SIRES IN PENNSYLVANIA



For daily updated sire lists visit BloodHorse.com

Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2017 Stud Fee	Rnrs/Wnrs	BT SWnrs/Wns	Rstret SW/BT	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2017 Earnings	Foals	Cumulative		
									Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	JUMP START (99, A.P. Indy), Northview PA	\$10,000	88/17	0/0	0/0	(Prayer for Relief, \$250,000)	\$884,534	*1293	41	1.47	1.33
2	ROCKPORT HARBOR (02, Unbridled's Song)	Died, 2013	61/13	0/0	0/0	(Weast Hill, \$90,000)	\$363,372	470	25	1.33	1.42
3	SILVER TRAIN (02, Old Trieste)	Died, 2013	47/9	0/0	0/0	(Devine Dental, \$35,050)	\$213,565	*513	11	0.97	1.28
4	WEIGELIA (01, Safely's Mark), WynOaks Farm	\$3,500	14/5	1/1	0/1	(Storm Advisory, \$75,000)	\$184,802	*83	5	1.40	1.03
5	FAIRBANKS (03, Giant's Causeway), Northview PA	\$2,500	31/4	0/0	0/0	(Alaskan Prince, \$16,800)	\$129,790	219	3	1.08	1.27
6	TALENT SEARCH (03, Catienus), Diamond B Farm	\$2,500	29/6	0/0	0/0	(Hollywood Talent, \$17,335)	\$115,154	*124	2	0.96	1.24
7	LORD SHANAKILL (06, Speightstown), Pin Oak Lane Farm	\$4,000	20/5	0/0	0/0	(Time Shanakill, \$36,638)	\$92,025	141	1	1.25	0.93
8	BULLSBAY (04, Tiznow), Northview PA	\$3,000	11/3	0/0	0/0	(Bullheaded Boy, \$43,200)	\$89,865	53	3	1.60	1.29
9	CORINTHIAN (03, Pulpit), Pin Oak Lane Farm	\$2,500	26/3	0/0	0/0	(Coop N Nugget, \$24,300)	\$70,579	*505	11	0.75	1.41
10	CAL NATION (08, Distorted Humor), Kingfisher Lane Farm	\$5,000	8/2	0/0	0/0	(Faze the Nation, \$44,460)	\$68,149	31	0	0.60	1.20
11	MESSNER (08, Bernardini)	N/A	6/2	0/0	0/0	(Diamondback Jack, \$19,980)	\$62,691	25	0	0.72	0.65
12	MEDALLIST (01, Touch Gold), Northview PA	\$2,000	16/2	0/0	0/0	(Bailey's Island, \$12,267)	\$52,739	194	7	1.27	1.39
13	GOT THE LAST LAUGH (04, Distorted Humor), Diamond B Farm	\$2,500	9/1	0/0	0/0	(Sepicato, \$26,640)	\$52,290	48	0	1.15	1.18
14	ANDIRON (06, A.P. Indy), Xanthus Farms	\$2,000	9/2	0/0	0/0	(I Am So Jealous, \$19,980)	\$48,411	43	1	0.95	0.55
15	ALBERT THE GREAT (97, Go for Gin)	Pnsd	12/1	0/0	0/0	(Ginner, \$32,170)	\$45,858	*387	8	1.13	1.13
16	POWER BY FAR (95, Power of Mind)	N/A	4/0	0/0	0/0	(Power of Snunner, \$30,000)	\$34,143	111	2	1.21	1.16
17	PARTNER'S HERO (94, Danzig)	N/A	6/1	0/0	0/0	(Zipper's Hero, \$18,228)	\$33,284	453	15	1.19	1.31
18	RIMROD (00, Danzig), Castle Rock Farm	\$1,500	10/1	0/0	0/0	(Checkbouncin Billy, \$25,200)	\$29,373	103	2	1.32	1.15
19	STONECOLDBROKE (98, Unbridled)	N/A	4/1	0/0	0/0	(Ice Cold Cash, \$17,640)	\$28,710	50	0	0.61	1.15
20	WILDCAT BRIEF (06, Forest Wildcat), Foxfield Farm	\$1,500	1/1	0/0	0/0	(Bubba's Will, \$25,260)	\$25,260	6	0	0.54	0.60

friends and relationships throughout the state and region. I'm quite fond of them."

The main parcel for Thoroughbreds at Mill Creek consists of 100 acres. Morgan and Little have an additional 400 acres about 25 miles away, but there are no horses on it.

"We also rent a couple of hundred acres for hay because Tim does all of our baling, and he's very particular about the hay the horses get," Morgan said. "We also get our feed from a local mill that makes it specifically for us each week."

Certainly particular about the care their horses receive, Morgan and Little keep a relatively low profile.

"We are primarily a service farm," Morgan said. "We don't care if your horse is worth two cents or two million dollars, they all get treated the same. We have a lot of individual care. Every horse gets fed for its needs; it's not a factory situation."

"Even though we stand a couple of stallions for our clients, we do the foaling and we raise babies. We do a limited amount of sales prep, but we don't advertise for business. Ninety-nine percent of our business comes from word of mouth."

Morgan and Little are quick to point out Mill Creek is a hands-on operation.

"We try to be as comprehensive and control as many things as we can to make

it best for the horses," Morgan said. "Our employees have been with us for years, and they all know how particular we are."

"We don't stay in the house. We are out there with them. A lot of our employees have worked at other farms and say working here is awesome because we are out there—good, bad, or ugly."

Morgan and Little don't mind getting out to work the farm because they were instrumental in the layout and design of the operation. When they purchased the property back in the 1980s, it was cow pasture.

"Everything is set up to make it easy, not only for the horses but for the employees," Morgan said. "There are no long walks to any of the fields. Tim set this whole farm up. Everything you see was organized and built by Tim, myself, and our employees."

"When the van companies come in, they say, 'We love to come here because no matter what the weather is you can get in and you can get out.' It is all set up for big equipment. It just makes life a lot easier."

"The horse business has been very good to us," Little said. "But you are married to it seven days a week."

Morgan and Little have been married to horses and farming throughout their professional careers. It hasn't gone unnoticed.

"Anne and Tim have been a staple of the New York breeding program at Mill Creek for a very long time," said Jeffrey Cannizzo, executive director of the New York Thoroughbred Breeders. "They've raised so many foals and cared for a large part of



Little, Morgan emphasize individual care at Mill Creek Farm

2017 LEADING SIRES IN MARYLAND



For daily updated sire lists
visit BloodHorse.com

Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB, Sire), Where Stands	2017 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	BT SWnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2017 Earnings	2017 Foals	Cumulative Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	NOT FOR LOVE (90, Mr. Prospector)	Died, 2016	41/10	0/0	0/0	(Stolen Love, \$42,135)	\$303,711	971	80	1.68	1.45
2	FRIESAN FIRE (06, A.P. Indy), Country Life Farm	\$4,000	40/11	0/0	0/0	(Shoe Loves Shoe, \$36,000)	\$289,801	133	1	1.09	1.26
3	GREAT NOTION (00, Elusive Quality), Northview Stallion Station	\$3,500	31/10	0/0	0/0	(Crabcakes, \$46,122)	\$252,009	268	15	1.51	1.24
4	ROCK SLIDE (98, A.P. Indy)	N/A	21/5	1/1	0/1	(Ten Carat Rock, \$49,755)	\$161,456	276	10	1.02	1.18
5	PETIONVILLE (92, Seeking the Gold), Murmur Farm	\$5,000	29/6	0/0	0/0	(Island Romance, \$21,519)	\$135,946	*725	42	1.29	1.27
6	STREET MAGICIAN (04, Street Cry)	N/A	19/3	0/0	0/0	(Magician's calendar, \$33,945)	\$131,608	96	2	1.07	1.29
7	LION HEARTED (96, Storm Cat)	Died, 2015	30/8	0/0	0/0	(Victorious Heart, \$15,111)	\$113,812	*613	18	1.19	1.27
8	ORIENTATE (98, Mt. Livermore), Northview Stallion Station	\$5,000	31/4	0/0	0/0	(Into the East, \$23,643)	\$98,280	*804	32	1.25	1.65
9	LOUIS QUATORZE (93, Sovereign Dancer), Murmur Farm	\$2,500	18/2	0/0	0/0	(Just a Taste, \$34,440)	\$96,074	*982	21	1.14	1.31
10	OUTFLANKER (94, Danzig), Shamrock Farm	\$3,000	14/3	0/0	0/0	(Outbacker, \$17,000)	\$87,060	*542	21	1.36	1.13
11	CUBA (01, Not For Love)	N/A	4/1	0/0	0/0	(Laki, \$51,870)	\$65,952	13	0	0.72	0.51
12	SCIPION (02, A.P. Indy), Murmur Farm	\$2,500	19/1	0/0	0/0	(Senor Quickie, \$18,837)	\$57,284	135	3	1.06	1.06
13	REDEEMED (08, Include), Northview Stallion Station	\$3,000	7/2	0/0	0/0	(Wolfinbarger, \$20,007)	\$54,219	56	0	0.63	1.01
14	BALTIMORE BOB (05, Malibu Moon), Shamrock Farm	\$2,500	2/1	0/0	0/0	(Baltimore Street, \$26,433)	\$39,810	13	0	0.42	1.10
15	ADMIRAL ALEX (07, Afleet Alex), Shamrock Farm	\$1,500	4/1	0/0	0/0	(Get Rid Of, \$18,198)	\$33,138	13	0	0.69	0.89
16	CHEROKEE'S BOY (00, Citidancer)	Pnsd	10/1	0/0	0/0	(Dr Bolt, \$14,160)	\$25,219	100	1	1.05	1.00
17	M EIGHTY (99, Lite the Fuse)	N/A	3/1	0/0	0/0	(Wolfinbarger, \$13,689)	\$23,491	15	0	1.35	0.91
18	NICANOR (06, Dynaformer), Shamrock Farm	\$2,000	2/1	0/0	0/0	(Nicamore, \$18,712)	\$20,032	21	0	0.29	0.90
19	ETCHED (05, Forestry), Bonita Farm	\$3,500	6/1	0/0	0/0	(Too Hot to Trot, \$6,300)	\$17,590	37	0	0.53	1.04
20	SIR SHACKLETON (01, Miswaki), November Hill	To Be Announced	4/1	0/0	0/0	(Ameridude, \$16,200)	\$17,272	*99	1	0.72	1.02

New York's mare population. They define hard work, and their farm's development and property is a testament to that."

Little's parents were in the cattle business, and when he got out of school in the early 1970s took a different tack and began

boarding Standardbreds.

Morgan's family was not directly involved with farming as her father was a manager for General Electric.

"We lived overseas when I was younger," she said. "When we moved back, my par-

ents bought a house that was across the street from a Thoroughbred farm. I was about 12 at the time. I begged and begged and begged some more until they let me start riding horses."

In college Morgan was galloping Thor-

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2017 LEADING SIRES IN WEST VIRGINIA



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Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2017 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	BT SWnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2017 Earnings	Cumulative			
								2017 Foals	Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	WINDSOR CASTLE (98, Lord Carson), Taylor Mountain Farm	\$2,000	50/14	0/0	0/0	(Royal Blue, \$19,120)	\$214,483	313	10	1.04	1.02
2	LIMEHOUSE (01, Grand Slam), O'Sullivan Farms	\$3,500	43/10	0/0	0/0	(Lime and Tequila, \$26,660)	\$213,605	*412	21	1.22	1.19
3	CHARITABLE MAN (06, Lemon Drop Kid)	Died, 2016	42/10	0/0	0/0	(Clearbrook Miss, \$14,955)	\$175,996	131	2	1.10	1.11
4	FIBER SONDE (05, Unbridled's Song), Beau Ridge Farm	\$1,000	26/7	0/0	0/0	(Moonlit Song, \$19,060)	\$124,060	165	7	1.28	0.84
5	DENIS OF CORK (05, Harlan's Holiday), Taylor Mountain Farm	\$500	26/5	0/0	0/0	(Romantic Cork, \$14,400)	\$90,309	114	4	0.74	1.12
6	SWISS YODELER (94, Eastern Echo), O'Sullivan Farms	\$2,000	24/4	0/0	0/0	(W. Giles, \$7,600)	\$49,870	769	15	1.00	1.04
7	COPELAN TOO (95, Copelan)	N/A	3/3	0/0	0/0	(Copelans Revenge, \$9,300)	\$27,180	31	0	0.71	0.89
8	OFFICER ROCKET (GB) (04, Officer), Bybee Road Farm	\$2,500	11/1	0/0	0/0	(Rocket Thunder, \$9,580)	\$26,625	20	0	1.00	0.64
9	PEAK DANCER (97, Mt. Livermore)	N/A	15/2	0/0	0/0	(Chute Boss, \$6,824)	\$24,088	90	4	0.89	0.84
10	REPARATIONS (96, Forty Niner)	N/A	6/1	0/0	0/0	(Roche, \$19,580)	\$21,945	145	3	0.91	0.80
11	GARNERED (98, Holy Bull), Naylee Farm	\$1,000	2/1	0/0	0/0	(Nay's Back, \$18,600)	\$19,735	100	0	0.64	0.73
12	HUNT CROSSING (09, Corinthian), O'Sullivan Farms	\$1,500	11/0	0/0	0/0	(Crossing the Blues, \$4,580)	\$18,954	90	0	0.39	0.68
13	PROSPECT BAY (92, Crafty Prospector), Naylee Farm	\$1,000	7/1	0/0	0/0	(Totethenote, \$5,940)	\$16,453	286	7	0.93	1.44
14	LUFTIKUS (96, Meadowlake), Taylor Mountain Farm	\$750	11/1	0/0	0/0	(Landra, \$6,360)	\$15,702	286	8	0.96	1.07
15	MESOPOTAMIA (93, Deputy Minister)	N/A	2/1	0/0	0/0	(Spring Ahead, \$11,580)	\$11,680	110	2	0.70	0.97

oughbreds on the weekends and during the summers for trainer T.J. Kelly. After getting a degree in biochemistry at Plattsburgh State, she continued to work for Kelly for a few years.

"He was an amazing guy," she said. "The whole Kelly family is just chock full of unbelievable people."

Morgan took out her trainer's license while opening a tack shop on the side. That is where she met Little.

"I was still training a few horses, and it was the old 'We're not having any Thoroughbreds,'" she said of the time she and Little started doing business together. "Then people started calling: 'Will you take lay-ups? Will you take broodmares?'"

"It escalated from there," Little said.

"We swore we'd never have a Thoroughbred on this place..."

With the addition of children—now 29 and 24—the training life became difficult.

"When you've got kids and a farm, it's too tough to travel with racing," Morgan said. "I just kind of gave up the training. I'm not sorry I did. I love foaling mares. I love the babies."

Mill Creek is home to about 45 broodmares as the industry heads into foaling/breeding season in upstate New York. Mill Creek also has 11-12 yearlings and a handful of lay-ups.

"During November, December, and January we usually get a bunch of lay-ups—both Thoroughbred and Standardbred," Morgan said. "We give them a nice

break here. We have one particular client that calls this 'horse heaven,' which I feel is a huge compliment.

"We have some clients that come in year after year from other states," she continued. "They send mares here to foal and be bred here (in New York). We have about 45 clients. We also have a lot of partnerships. That is getting big now."

Mill Creek's equine population has been scaled back to about 65 horses. Morgan and Little both admit they had too many horses on the farm a few years ago.

"A lot of people have asked, 'Are you happy with that?'" Morgan said. "The answer is 'yes.'"

Mill Creek stands two stallions but is not a traditional stallion operation.

"Timmy had two very good New York-bred Standardbred stallions, and in the 1980s when the Thoroughbred business was coming on strong and the harness business was in a really bad slump, that's when we first got approached about standing Thoroughbreds," Morgan said. "We picked up a few when another farm got out of the business. Once you advertise a little, people start approaching you."

Along the way Mill Creek has been the home for horses such as grade 1 winner and Kentucky Derby (G1) runner-up Captain Bodgit and Mayakovsky.

Standing for 2017 at Mill Creek is Sir Whimsey and freshman sire Tencendur, owned by Birsh.

"I'd be afraid to face Annie if I went anywhere else; it's a fear-based decision," Birsh said jokingly.

Tencendur (Warrior's Reward—Still Se-



Morgan, a former trainer, now says 'I love the babies'

2017 LEADING SIRES IN VIRGINIA



For daily updated sire lists visit BloodHorse.com

Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2017 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	BT SWnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2017 Earnings	Cumulative			
								Foals	Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	FRIEND OR FOE (07, Friends Lake), Smallwood Farm	\$1,000	1/0	0/0	0/0	(Mr. Buff, \$5,700)	\$5,700	7	0	2.88	2.14
2	REBELLION (GB) (03, Mozart)	N/A	3/1	0/0	0/0	(Just Keep Driving, \$4,740)	\$4,995	*42	1	1.18	1.24
3	COSA VERA (05, Dynaformer), North Cliff Farms	Private	2/0	0/0	0/0	(Wing Fighter, \$4,620)	\$4,620	27	0	0.46	1.44

2017 LEADING SIRES IN NEW JERSEY

Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2017 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	BT SWnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2017 Earnings	Cumulative			
								Foals	Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	HEY CHUB (00, Carson City)	N/A	8/2	0/0	0/0	(Chublicious, \$15,000)	\$40,830	30	2	1.70	1.53
2	DEFRERE (92, Deputy Minister)	N/A	8/1	0/0	0/0	(Montrico, \$10,260)	\$22,299	*590	22	1.21	1.18
3	KING PUMA (06, Forest Wildcat), Sleeter Farm	Private	3/0	0/0	0/0	(Shot Gun Red, \$17,460)	\$19,210	18	0	0.83	1.58
4	DON SIX (00, Wild Escapade)	N/A	4/1	0/0	0/0	(One for Don, \$12,800)	\$17,730	80	3	1.19	1.25
5	CABLE BOY (04, Jump Start), Colonial Farms	\$1,000	2/0	0/0	0/0	(Liz's Cable Girl, \$5,800)	\$8,560	19	1	1.25	0.91

cret, by Hennessy) will stand for \$2,500. His biggest effort came in the spring of 2015 when he ran second to Frosted in the TwinSpires.com Wood Memorial Stakes (G1). The colt made his way to the Kentucky Derby where he was unplaced behind American Pharoah. Later in the year Tencendur ran second in the Ohio Derby. In eight starts with trainer George Weaver, Tencendur earned \$368,500.

Birsh likes the proximity of Mill Creek to his own farm in upstate New York and likes the fact it doesn't have a deep stallion roster.

"Sometimes if you place your unproven stallion at a farm full of popular fellows, you normally will have an uphill battle to find mares. Like the old baseball saying goes: 'You've got to hit 'em where they ain't.' Mill Creek offers us a focus for our stallion that is hard to get at other farms. Anne and Tim only have two stallions... and I think that works in my favor as far as attention."

Sir Whimsey raced for Harvey Weinstein's Turtle Bird Stable, which still owns the son of Jump Start—Apogee, by Star de Naskra. A winner of the Gulfstream Park Handicap (G2) in 2008 and of the 2010 R.R.M. Carpenter Jr. Memorial Stakes at Delaware Park, Sir Whimsey stands for \$2,500.

From limited opportunities Sir Whimsey has four winners from 10 foals of racing age (3-year-olds and up in early 2017) and one black-type winner.

"The guys that are involved with him—Toby Sheets, Steve Asmussen's as-



The layout of Mill Creek has been designed for horses and humans

sistant—get most of his offspring," said Little. "They get a fantastic level of care. He's going to have eight foals this year, and we're tickled to death.

"Our clients pretty much breed to race and not to sell. That makes a huge difference."

Another key difference in New York, of course, is the breeding incentive program through the New York State Thoroughbred Breeding & Development Fund.

"It's a big selling point for New York," Morgan said. "New York was never really considered a major part of breeding until they developed the state-bred program. You've got some serious power now in Thoroughbreds."

Birsh concurs.

"New York has a lot of opportunities," he said. "We have such a terrific breeding program. There is no question if you breed

a horse here and you sell the horse here that your own stallion has sired, the possible return on your investment is truly one of a kind."

One of the many success stories of 2016 for the New York-bred program was the \$569,000 earned by Royal Posse. Raised at Mill Creek, the son of New York leading sire Posse was bred and originally raced by Richard Troncone Jr. and Sr. Racing for Michael Dubb, Bethlehem Stables, and Gary Aisquith in 2016, Royal Posse won five times and ran second four times—all in stakes—in nine starts, bringing home big purses such as \$180,000 for winning the Empire Classic Handicap for state-breds at Belmont and \$110,000 in Gulfstream Park's Claiming Crown Jewel Stakes.

That's not your run-of-the-mill horse and is indicative of what can come off of Mill Creek Farm. **BH**