

# NORTHEAST/MID-ATLANTIC



Lois Engel at her Pucker Ridge Farm near Warrensburg, N.Y.

## Kiss and Tell

*Lois Engel shares her love of horses at Pucker Ridge Farm*

BY ERIN SHEA

**FOR MANY HORSE LOVERS** the dream of owning their own farm and finding success is a familiar one. While some abandon the dream and move on to other life pursuits, others never let it go and do all they can to make it come true. Lois Engel is living that dream at her Pucker Ridge Farm near Warrensburg, N.Y.

“My parents were both schoolteachers, and I was always told, ‘When you can afford it, you can have your own horse,’” she said. “And it took me many, many years to get to that point.”

Growing up on Long Island, Engel rode horses and watched the races, but her real obsession with getting involved in the sport came after a trip to Saratoga Race Course with her hus-

band, Paul, whose family owned horses at one time.

“When he took me to Saratoga, I fell in love with it,” she said. “And I thought someday I’d like to own a racehorse.”

The idea of racehorse ownership bounced around in Engel’s mind. When she mentioned it to her husband, he told her to do some research into joining a partnership. With the green light to research freely and her willingness to learn, Engel did indeed join a partnership. Soon after, she ended up where most racehorse owners aspire to be: the winner’s circle at Saratoga. From that point, there was no going back.

“We started off with a few percentages of horses, and, of course, one of them wins at Saratoga first time out,” Engel said. “I was hooked.”

### ADVERTISERS’ INDEX

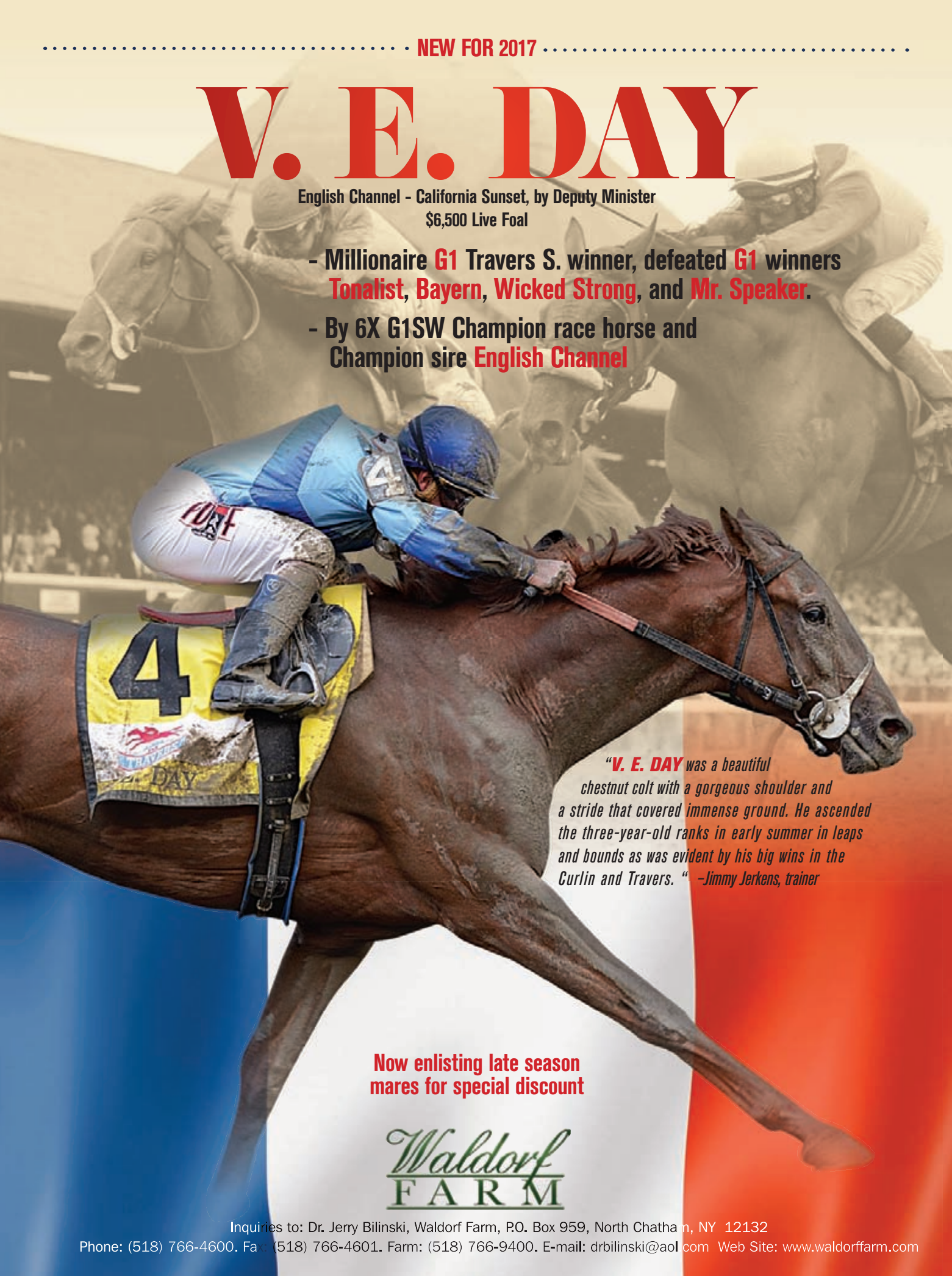
McMahon of Saratoga Thoroughbreds ..... 45	Spendthrift Farm ..... 47
www.mcmahonthoroughbreds.com	www.spendthriftfarm.com
Rockridge Stud ..... 49	Waldorf Farm..... 43
www.rockridgestud.com	www.waldorffarm.com

..... NEW FOR 2017 .....

# V. E. DAY

English Channel - California Sunset, by Deputy Minister  
\$6,500 Live Foal

- Millionaire **G1** Travers S. winner, defeated **G1** winners **Tonalist, Bayern, Wicked Strong, and Mr. Speaker.**
- By 6X **G1SW** Champion race horse and Champion sire **English Channel**



*"V. E. DAY was a beautiful chestnut colt with a gorgeous shoulder and a stride that covered immense ground. He ascended the three-year-old ranks in early summer in leaps and bounds as was evident by his big wins in the Curlin and Travers." -Jimmy Jerkens, trainer*

**Now enlisting late season  
mares for special discount**

*Waldorf*  
**FARM**

Inquiries to: Dr. Jerry Bilinski, Waldorf Farm, P.O. Box 959, North Chatham, NY 12132

Phone: (518) 766-4600. Fax: (518) 766-4601. Farm: (518) 766-9400. E-mail: drbilinski@aol.com Web Site: www.waldorffarm.com

# 2017 LEADING SIRES IN NEW YORK



For daily updated sire lists visit [BloodHorse.com](http://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	Siks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	<b>BELLAMY ROAD</b> (02, Concerto), Dutchess Views Farm	\$7,500	97/28	0/0	0/0	(Maddizaskar, \$64,400)	<b>\$929,308</b>	*540	26	1.18	1.30
2	<b>FREUD</b> (98, Storm Cat), Sequel Stallions New York	\$10,000	68/15	1/1	0/1	(Sharp Azteca, \$310,490)	<b>\$765,792</b>	*1145	44	1.58	1.27
3	<b>BIG BROWN</b> (05, Boundary), Dutchess Views Farm	\$7,500	84/29	1/1	1/1	(Send It In, \$72,500)	<b>\$626,849</b>	*591	17	1.21	1.64
4	<b>HOLD ME BACK</b> (06, Giant's Causeway), Irish Hill Century Farm	\$5,000	70/20	0/0	0/0	(Hold On Momma, \$44,410)	<b>\$479,069</b>	242	6	1.12	1.20
5	<b>BUSTIN STONES</b> (04, City Zip), Waldorf Farm	\$5,000	26/16	0/0	0/0	(Tribeca, \$53,010)	<b>\$469,789</b>	158	4	1.37	1.41
6	<b>DUBLIN</b> (07, Afleet Alex), Keane Stud	\$2,500	36/11	1/1	1/1	(Dublin Girl, \$93,000)	<b>\$414,330</b>	137	1	1.01	1.20
7	<b>FROST GIANT</b> (03, Giant's Causeway), Keane Stud	\$5,000	52/12	0/0	0/0	(Katie Ice, \$39,500)	<b>\$396,508</b>	*324	7	1.34	1.19
8	<b>HERE'S ZEALOUS</b> (97, Dehere)	N/A	19/11	1/1	0/1	(Green Gratto, \$76,334)	<b>\$309,053</b>	191	1	1.01	0.99
9	<b>DESERT PARTY</b> (06, Street Cry), Irish Hill Century Farm	\$2,500	37/9	0/0	0/0	(Top of the Game, \$34,800)	<b>\$228,082</b>	178	3	1.00	1.43
10	<b>GIANT SURPRISE</b> (09, Giant's Causeway), Rockridge Stud	\$5,000	10/6	1/1	1/1	(Super Surprise, \$60,000)	<b>\$211,193</b>	38	2	2.22	1.20
11	<b>HERE COMES BEN</b> (06, Street Cry), McMahon of Saratoga Tbreeds	Private	26/4	0/0	0/0	(Bene, \$60,540)	<b>\$162,795</b>	84	0	0.65	1.12
12	<b>MR. SEKIGUCHI</b> (03, Storm Cat)	N/A	14/7	0/0	0/0	(Yourdreamsormine, \$40,470)	<b>\$148,143</b>	*93	2	1.02	1.21
13	<b>MISSION IMPAZIBLE</b> (07, Unbridled's Song), Sequel Stallions New York	\$7,500	17/3	0/0	0/0	(Ethan Hunt, \$42,568)	<b>\$143,698</b>	77	1	1.31	1.17
14	<b>NOBLE CAUSEWAY</b> (02, Giant's Causeway)	Died, 2014	29/5	0/0	0/0	(Altissimo, \$43,560)	<b>\$137,774</b>	240	8	0.81	1.07
15	<b>TEUFLESBERG</b> (04, Johannesburg), McMahon of Saratoga Tbreeds	\$3,500	10/6	0/0	0/0	(Crystal's Cantata, \$27,520)	<b>\$110,923</b>	96	4	1.47	1.16
16	<b>BOYS AT TOSCONOVA</b> (08, Officer), Questroyal North	\$2,500	6/2	0/0	0/0	(Groton St Scout, \$38,000)	<b>\$108,197</b>	33	0	0.83	1.27
17	<b>D' FUNNYBONE</b> (07, D'wildcat), Rockridge Stud	\$2,500	10/1	0/0	0/0	(Play Me a Memory, \$70,267)	<b>\$106,770</b>	*54	2	1.13	1.23
18	<b>DISCO RICO</b> (97, Citidancer)	Died, 2014	10/2	0/0	0/0	(Playthatfunnymusic, \$40,950)	<b>\$104,227</b>	267	12	1.35	1.21
19	<b>COURAGEOUS CAT</b> (06, Storm Cat), Questroyal North	\$6,000	18/6	0/0	0/0	(Unbridledadventure, \$39,110)	<b>\$94,280</b>	112	1	1.01	1.17
20	<b>SOARING EMPIRE</b> (07, Empire Maker), Rockridge Stud	\$3,500	5/2	0/0	0/0	(Ten Twenty Nine, \$33,200)	<b>\$82,826</b>	34	0	0.66	1.16
21	<b>COSMONAUT</b> (02, Lemon Drop Kid)	N/A	13/2	0/0	0/0	(Dream On, \$36,200)	<b>\$82,208</b>	89	2	1.09	1.02
22	<b>BANK HEIST</b> (07, Maria's Mon), Kaz Hill Farm	\$5,000	9/3	0/0	0/0	(Salori's Bank, \$28,690)	<b>\$78,969</b>	26	1	1.24	1.32
23	<b>MARSH SIDE</b> (03, Gone West), Dutchess Views Farm	\$2,500	9/5	0/0	0/0	(Dr Luber's Kiss, \$18,138)	<b>\$66,123</b>	*142	0	0.35	1.20
24	<b>GOLDEN MISSILE</b> (95, A.P. Indy), Milfer Farm	\$3,500	8/2	0/0	0/0	(Papa's Missile, \$23,860)	<b>\$46,174</b>	*649	14	1.02	1.48
25	<b>THE CLIFF'S EDGE</b> (01, Gulch)	Pnsd	16/2	0/0	0/0	(Gabbi's Amor, \$10,664)	<b>\$38,660</b>	244	4	0.79	1.15
26	<b>CONGRESSIONALHONOR</b> (01, Forestry)	N/A	5/1	0/0	0/0	(Superling, \$21,080)	<b>\$28,710</b>	161	1	0.73	0.94
27	<b>MIRACLE MAN</b> (02, Yankee Victor)	Died, 2015	2/1	0/0	0/0	(Quiet Miracle, \$12,850)	<b>\$24,857</b>	10	1	2.04	1.57
28	<b>ALEX'S PAL</b> (99, Valid Expectations)	Died, 2015	8/1	0/0	0/0	(Gypsy Fire, \$13,050)	<b>\$22,115</b>	107	2	1.21	0.92
29	<b>WICKED RICH</b> (06, Yes It's True), Buckridge Farm	\$2,500	4/1	0/0	0/0	(Jersey Rich, \$13,156)	<b>\$17,896</b>	12	0	0.49	1.49
30	<b>WELL NOTED</b> (95, Notebook), Monhill Farm	\$2,000	3/0	0/0	0/0	(Court Note, \$12,560)	<b>\$14,790</b>	*86	0	0.75	1.03

Her obsession snowballed into wanting to breed her own Thoroughbreds. Following the dangerous route they had traveled before jumping into ownership, Engel's husband told her to do research and then left it entirely up to her. When he took a trip out of the country, Lois found herself at a nearby Thoroughbred auction.

"I have a bad habit of doing things like that," she said. "He made the mistake of

leaving the country for three weeks. He comes back (home) and asks, 'How was the auction? How many did you buy?' And I said, 'One plus.' And he said, 'What does that mean?' And I said, 'We now have a broodmare and foal.'

"He regrets when he tells me to go research because something always happens."

What did happen in October 2003 at the



LINDA FOUNTAIN

Pucker Ridge is home to mares and foals, as well as to retired Thoroughbreds

## 2017 NEW YORK SIRES BY WINNERS

Sire	Rnrs	Wnrs
Big Brown	84	29
Bellamy Road	97	28
Hold Me Back	70	20
Bustin Stones	26	16
Freud	68	15
Frost Giant	52	12
Dublin	36	11
Here's Zealous	19	11
Desert Party	37	9
Mr. Sekiguchi	14	7
Courageous Cat	18	6
Giant Surprise	10	6
Teufflesberg	10	6
Noble Causeway	29	5
Marsh Side	9	5
Here Comes Ben	26	4
Mission Impazible	17	3
Bank Heist	9	3
The Cliff's Edge	16	2
Cosmonaut	13	2
Disco Rico	10	2
Golden Missile	8	2
Boys At Tosconova	6	2
Soaring Empire	5	2

# TEUFLESBERG

Grade I *Eclipse Award* Sire



16 other active North American stallions have sired a Grade 1 Eclipse Award winner in the last 5 years

Average 2017 stud fee: \$91,406

**TEUFLESBERG** is an absolute steal at \$3,500!

.....  
Siring an outstanding 9% Stakes Winners

**McMAHON**  
of Saratoga  
THOROUGHBREDS

# 2017 LEADING SIRES IN PENNSYLVANIA



For daily updated sire lists visit [BloodHorse.com](http://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	Foals	Cumulative		
									Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	<b>JUMP START</b> (99, A.P. Indy), Northview PA	\$10,000	98/33	0/0	0/0	(Prayer for Relief, \$250,000)	<b>\$1,395,987</b>	*1296	41	1.46	1.32
2	<b>ROCKPORT HARBOR</b> (02, Unbridled's Song)	Died, 2013	79/20	0/0	0/0	(Weast Hill, \$110,000)	<b>\$620,255</b>	470	25	1.32	1.42
3	<b>SILVER TRAIN</b> (02, Old Trieste)	Died, 2013	60/12	0/0	0/0	(Extrasexyexotkminx, \$64,680)	<b>\$421,756</b>	*517	11	0.97	1.27
4	<b>WEIGELIA</b> (01, Safely's Mark), WynOaks Farm	\$3,500	17/11	1/1	0/1	(Storm Advisory, \$75,833)	<b>\$340,941</b>	*83	5	1.41	1.03
5	<b>FAIRBANKS</b> (03, Giant's Causeway), Northview PA	\$2,500	39/9	0/0	0/0	(Brother Slick Nick, \$32,786)	<b>\$253,576</b>	219	3	1.08	1.26
6	<b>TALENT SEARCH</b> (03, Catienus), Diamond B Farm	\$2,500	32/8	0/0	0/0	(Talentedloveaffair, \$43,500)	<b>\$226,617</b>	*125	2	0.96	1.24
7	<b>LORD SHANAKILL</b> (06, Speightstown), Pin Oak Lane Farm	\$4,000	32/7	1/1	0/1	(Dark Kingdom, \$52,962)	<b>\$178,371</b>	149	2	1.24	0.93
8	<b>CORINTHIAN</b> (03, Pulpit), Pin Oak Lane Farm	\$2,500	36/7	0/0	0/0	(Not So Lovely, \$33,529)	<b>\$165,252</b>	*505	11	0.74	1.41
9	<b>BULLSBAY</b> (04, Tiznow), Northview PA	\$3,000	12/5	0/0	0/0	(Bullheaded Boy, \$44,610)	<b>\$145,058</b>	53	3	1.59	1.30
10	<b>MESSNER</b> (08, Bernardini)	N/A	9/5	0/0	0/0	(Wildcat Cartridge, \$33,720)	<b>\$137,760</b>	25	0	0.91	0.66
11	<b>GOT THE LAST LAUGH</b> (04, Distorted Humor), Diamond B Farm	\$2,500	10/5	0/0	0/0	(Kelly and Kiley, \$36,250)	<b>\$132,599</b>	48	0	1.16	1.18
12	<b>CAL NATION</b> (08, Distorted Humor), Kingfisher Lane Farm	\$5,000	8/2	0/0	0/0	(Faze the Nation, \$74,040)	<b>\$131,061</b>	31	0	0.73	1.18
13	<b>ALBERT THE GREAT</b> (97, Go for Gin)	Pnsd	15/4	0/0	0/0	(Little Fat Albert, \$39,524)	<b>\$122,459</b>	*387	8	1.13	1.13
14	<b>RIMROD</b> (00, Danzig), Castle Rock Farm	\$1,500	14/2	0/0	0/0	(Checkbouncin Billy, \$39,680)	<b>\$87,251</b>	104	2	1.31	1.16
15	<b>MEDALLIST</b> (01, Touch Gold), Northview PA	\$2,000	17/3	0/0	0/0	(Louise's Legacy, \$20,920)	<b>\$83,514</b>	194	7	1.27	1.38
16	<b>PARTNER'S HERO</b> (94, Danzig), Castle Rock Farm	\$1,500	8/2	0/0	0/0	(Zipper's Hero, \$29,428)	<b>\$66,648</b>	454	15	1.19	1.31
17	<b>ANDIRON</b> (06, A.P. Indy), Xanthus Farms	\$2,000	9/2	0/0	0/0	(I Am So Jealous, \$20,115)	<b>\$66,210</b>	43	1	0.95	0.56
18	<b>POWER BY FAR</b> (95, Power of Mind), Castle Rock Farm	\$1,500	4/0	0/0	0/0	(Power of Snunner, \$47,500)	<b>\$58,281</b>	111	2	1.21	1.16
19	<b>REFLECT TIMES (JPN)</b> (05, French Deputy), Whirlwind Stables	\$1,000	2/1	0/0	0/0	(Hopeful Times, \$45,843)	<b>\$50,679</b>	24	0	1.39	0.30
20	<b>UPTOWNCHARLYBROWN</b> (07, Limehouse), Diamond B Farm	\$1,500	4/1	0/0	0/0	(Midtowncharlybrown, \$31,740)	<b>\$49,863</b>	15	0	0.98	0.72
21	<b>GIMMEAWINK</b> (00, Elusive Quality)	N/A	10/3	0/0	0/0	(Gimmeadrink, \$12,660)	<b>\$47,256</b>	*223	1	0.77	1.04
22	<b>MAD FLATTER</b> (05, Flatter), Diamond B Farm	Died, 2016	7/2	0/0	0/0	(Go Placidly, \$20,922)	<b>\$44,956</b>	30	0	0.86	1.17
23	<b>SNOW RIDGE</b> (98, Tabasco Cat)	Died, 2012	3/1	0/0	0/0	(Overland Park, \$42,248)	<b>\$42,648</b>	*288	5	0.99	1.14
24	<b>CITY SHARPSTER</b> (99, Carson City), Woodvale Farm	\$1,000	10/1	0/0	0/0	(Diadema, \$17,017)	<b>\$39,433</b>	63	0	0.71	0.70
25	<b>TRAJECTORY</b> (97, Gone West)	N/A	3/2	0/0	0/0	(Brokencall, \$21,978)	<b>\$39,320</b>	378	14	1.08	1.33

J.T. Minton Auctions in Saratoga Springs (which has since been replaced with Fasig-Tipton Saratoga's fall mixed sale) was Engel's purchase of Charmed Aura in foal to group 1 winner Lycius for \$11,500.

With farm ownership aspirations swirl-

ing in her mind, Engel later jumped at the opportunity to purchase a facility when a friend mentioned a property for sale near Warrensburg, about 30 miles north of Saratoga. In 2004 the Engels became farm owners. The day-to-day running of

the operation has been a huge learning opportunity, one that Engel relishes.

"I've done a lot of hands-on, which I never thought that I'd do," she said. "I've handled babies; I've handled foaling; all of these things that I never expected to do.



LINDA FOUNTAIN

**Pucker Ridge Farm is about 30 miles north of Saratoga**

**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 April 2, 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.

## 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*

**The Breeders' Farm**

spendthriftfarm.com | TOLL FREE: 888.816.8787

# 2017 LEADING SIRES IN MARYLAND



For daily updated sire lists visit [BloodHorse.com](http://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	Siks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	<b>NOT FOR LOVE</b> (90, Mr. Prospector)	Died, 2016	46/16	0/0	0/0	(Stolen Love, \$76,230)	<b>\$507,133</b>	971	80	1.68	1.45
2	<b>FRIESAN FIRE</b> (06, A.P. Indy), Country Life Farm	\$4,000	50/17	0/0	0/0	(Shoe Loves Shoe, \$41,000)	<b>\$505,685</b>	134	1	1.09	1.27
3	<b>GREAT NOTION</b> (00, Elusive Quality), Northview Stallion Station	\$3,500	35/15	0/0	0/0	(Moonspell, \$46,475)	<b>\$487,594</b>	269	15	1.51	1.24
4	<b>STREET MAGICIAN</b> (04, Street Cry), Heritage Stallions	\$3,000	26/8	0/0	0/0	(My Magician, \$58,786)	<b>\$315,897</b>	97	2	1.09	1.31
5	<b>PETIONVILLE</b> (92, Seeking the Gold), Murmur Farm	\$5,000	33/9	0/0	0/0	(Indominus Rex, \$41,220)	<b>\$264,830</b>	*727	42	1.29	1.26
6	<b>LION HEARTED</b> (96, Storm Cat)	Died, 2015	32/13	0/0	0/0	(Katie's Caddie, \$32,801)	<b>\$235,803</b>	*613	18	1.19	1.27
7	<b>ROCK SLIDE</b> (98, A.P. Indy), Shamrock Farm	\$2,000	23/7	1/1	0/1	(Ten Carat Rock, \$50,220)	<b>\$224,420</b>	277	10	1.02	1.18
8	<b>LOUIS QUATORZE</b> (93, Sovereign Dancer), Murmur Farm	\$2,500	20/7	0/0	0/0	(Just a Taste, \$36,960)	<b>\$210,389</b>	*982	21	1.14	1.31
9	<b>ORIENTATE</b> (98, Mt. Livermore), Northview Stallion Station	\$5,000	38/6	0/0	0/0	(Teakwood, \$37,643)	<b>\$195,497</b>	*805	32	1.25	1.64
10	<b>REDEEMED</b> (08, Include), Northview Stallion Station	\$3,000	12/3	0/0	0/0	(Saint Main Event, \$30,286)	<b>\$153,214</b>	57	0	0.74	1.00
11	<b>OUTFLANKER</b> (94, Danzig), Shamrock Farm	\$3,000	15/4	0/0	0/0	(Pinkout, \$25,720)	<b>\$143,553</b>	*543	21	1.36	1.13
12	<b>SCIPION</b> (02, A.P. Indy), Murmur Farm	\$2,500	21/3	0/0	0/0	(Senor Quickie, \$29,237)	<b>\$143,372</b>	136	3	1.06	1.06
13	<b>CUBA</b> (01, Not For Love), Royal Wux Farm	\$1,500	4/1	1/1	1/1	(Laki, \$96,870)	<b>\$111,752</b>	13	1	0.98	0.52
14	<b>BALTIMORE BOB</b> (05, Malibu Moon), Shamrock Farm	\$2,500	3/1	0/0	0/0	(Baltimore Street, \$30,283)	<b>\$49,920</b>	13	0	0.53	1.10
15	<b>M EIGHTY</b> (99, Lite the Fuse), Shamrock Farm	Private	3/1	0/0	0/0	(Star Eighty, \$39,312)	<b>\$49,114</b>	15	0	1.36	0.91
16	<b>CHEROKEE'S BOY</b> (00, Citidancer)	Pnsd	11/1	0/0	0/0	(Dr Bolt, \$25,275)	<b>\$46,712</b>	100	1	1.05	1.00
17	<b>ETCHED</b> (05, Forestry), Bonita Farm	\$2,000	7/2	0/0	0/0	(My Sistersledge, \$26,340)	<b>\$42,319</b>	37	0	0.54	1.03
18	<b>ADMIRAL ALEX</b> (07, Afleet Alex), Shamrock Farm	\$1,500	4/1	0/0	0/0	(Get Rid Of, \$18,858)	<b>\$37,548</b>	13	0	0.72	0.89
19	<b>NICANOR</b> (06, Dynaformer), Shamrock Farm	\$2,000	2/1	0/0	0/0	(Nicamore, \$21,802)	<b>\$23,662</b>	21	0	0.35	0.91
20	<b>SIR SHACKLETON</b> (01, Miswaki), November Hill	To Be Announced	5/1	0/0	0/0	(Ameridude, \$16,700)	<b>\$19,952</b>	*100	1	0.71	1.02

I kind of just expected to sit in the stands and watch, and now (I've) gotten very involved."

She's had a lot to take in, both from taking courses with textbook information and working through the situations that arise when dealing with the unpredictable nature of working with horses. Although Engel is still based on Long Island, where she now works in real estate, she regularly travels upstate to the farm and takes every opportunity she can to ask questions and deepen her knowledge. With a few years' experience behind her, she's comfortable handling the farm by herself if need be.

"(Running a Thoroughbred farm is)

very different than riding," she said. "It's knowing that you need to get licenses, knowing that you need to have a trainer. There are medication restrictions; there are so many different things. There are the financial aspects with partnerships and tax implications. It really was a learning experience for me."

In addition to asking as many questions as she can when the vet is around, she has also taken a few classes, including one that was for grooms on how to care for racehorses.

"It's definitely a learning experience; you get out of it what you put in," she said.

"Do you want to be hands-on; or do you

want to sit up in the stands and watch the horse run?"

For Engel it's definitely the former.

"I feel that a lot of folks miss that (experience), particularly with the partnerships," she said. "Every once in awhile they may get to go to the barn and give the horse a carrot or maybe watch a workout, but not everybody gets to be there for when the vet comes or when the farrier comes.

"I think the last 13 years I have learned a tremendous amount to the point where if we have a horse with an issue, I can sit there with the staff and be like, 'It could be this, it could be this, or it could be this.' Or when the vet comes and they're rattling things off, we can actually have a back-and-forth dialogue; it's not one-sided."

Her efforts have taken the small idea that was planted in her mind many years ago when she visited the Spa to where Pucker Ridge is now, a 40-stall farm that is expecting to foal out 16 broodmares this season and is making strides toward its future. Looking to do more on the breeding and sales side, Engel hired Kevin Bitler as a farm manager to join the team.

"My relationship with Lois is a friendship and a business. We are partners with getting the farm together," said Bitler, who also runs Finger Lakes Bloodstock from his base of Geneseo, N.Y.

"I'm working with her (on) upgrading mares and partnering out some racehorses...rebreeding mares that are coming here and seeing how we can get the farm



COURTESY LOIS ENGEL

Engel, a board member of the New York Thoroughbred Breeders, showcases her farm

# SOARING *into* BLACKTYPE



## 1<sup>st</sup> CROP BLACKTYPE HORSE

A **\$110,000 OBS 2YO** purchase,  
**1st Crop 3YO REASON TO SOAR**  
followed up his **6 1/4-length MSW debut win** with a strong  
**3rd** in the \$100,00 Ocala  
Breeders' Sales Sophomore S.  
for West Point Thoroughbreds.

Only Son of **EMPIRE MAKER** in the Northeast

# SOARING EMPIRE

*Empire Maker* – *Flying Passage*, by A.P. Indy | \$3,500 LFSN

## Graded SW From a World-Class Family

Family of VERRAZANO, CHIC SHIRINE, HUNGRY ISLAND, EL PADRINO, SOMALI LEMONADE, etc.  
Sire Line of Grand Slam Winner AMERICAN PHAROAH



Erin Robinson 859.421.7531 Lere Visagie 518.851.6616  
5384 Route 9H-23 Hudson, New York 12534  
www.rockridgestud.com

PHOTO © COGLIANESE/LAUREN KING



# 2017 LEADING SIRES IN WEST VIRGINIA



For daily updated sire lists visit [BloodHorse.com](http://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	Foals	Cumulative		
									Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	<b>WINDSOR CASTLE</b> (98, Lord Carson), Taylor Mountain Farm	\$2,000	60/29	0/0	0/0	(New Windsor, \$31,660)	<b>\$459,477</b>	314	10	1.04	1.02
2	<b>LIMEHOUSE</b> (01, Grand Slam), O'Sullivan Farms	\$3,500	51/16	0/0	0/0	(Karla With a K, \$62,375)	<b>\$381,346</b>	*412	21	1.22	1.18
3	<b>CHARITABLE MAN</b> (06, Lemon Drop Kid)	Died, 2016	47/14	0/0	0/0	(Charitable Harlow, \$29,950)	<b>\$311,271</b>	136	2	1.08	1.09
4	<b>FIBER SONDE</b> (05, Unbridled's Song), Beau Ridge Farm	\$1,000	30/17	0/0	0/0	(Moonlit Song, \$33,220)	<b>\$280,793</b>	166	7	1.28	0.83
5	<b>DENIS OF CORK</b> (05, Harlan's Holiday), Taylor Mountain Farm	\$500	31/9	0/0	0/0	(Romantic Cork, \$16,850)	<b>\$152,826</b>	114	4	0.73	1.11
6	<b>SWISS YODELER</b> (94, Eastern Echo), O'Sullivan Farms	\$2,000	28/5	0/0	0/0	(Snowmass Village, \$10,280)	<b>\$84,478</b>	769	15	1.00	1.04
7	<b>PEAK DANCER</b> (97, Mt. Livermore)	N/A	17/4	0/0	0/0	(Chute Boss, \$12,704)	<b>\$69,201</b>	91	4	0.89	0.84
8	<b>OFFICER ROCKET (GB)</b> (04, Officer), Bybee Road Farm	\$2,500	13/4	0/0	0/0	(Rocket Bid, \$19,255)	<b>\$60,796</b>	20	0	0.97	0.64
9	<b>LUFTIKUS</b> (96, Meadowlake), Taylor Mountain Farm	\$750	12/4	0/0	0/0	(Lucky Candy, \$16,315)	<b>\$56,458</b>	286	8	0.96	1.07
10	<b>REPARATIONS</b> (96, Forty Niner), Blue Spruce Farm	\$1,500	8/3	0/0	0/0	(Roche, \$20,306)	<b>\$46,976</b>	145	3	0.91	0.80
11	<b>XCHANGER</b> (04, Exchange Rate)	N/A	7/2	0/0	0/0	(Shes Not Nice, \$18,360)	<b>\$43,178</b>	56	0	0.37	1.11
12	<b>HUNT CROSSING</b> (09, Corinthian), O'Sullivan Farms	\$1,500	15/1	0/0	0/0	(Crossing the Blues, \$11,450)	<b>\$41,951</b>	90	0	0.39	0.88
13	<b>REAL ESTATE</b> (04, High Yield), Flamingo Run Farm	\$1,000	10/2	0/0	0/0	(Emblem's Estate, \$11,026)	<b>\$34,377</b>	39	0	0.67	0.82
14	<b>COPELAN TOO</b> (95, Copelan), Mullins Farm	Private	4/3	0/0	0/0	(Right On the Money, \$14,140)	<b>\$34,338</b>	31	0	0.71	0.89
15	<b>SIENTE EL TRUENO</b> (07, City Zip), Stehr's Farm	\$500	4/1	0/0	0/0	(Siente El Viento, \$10,385)	<b>\$29,425</b>	11	0	0.85	0.67
16	<b>DURING</b> (00, Cherokee Run), O'Sullivan Farms LLC	\$1,500	8/2	0/0	0/0	(Minnie Ball, \$8,076)	<b>\$27,105</b>	203	4	0.83	1.08
17	<b>GATTOPARDO</b> (05, Johannesburg), O'Sullivan Farms LLC	\$1,500	6/1	0/0	0/0	(Nite Blitzzen, \$12,740)	<b>\$24,870</b>	18	1	1.12	0.90
18	<b>GARNERED</b> (98, Holy Bull), Naylee Farm	\$1,000	4/1	0/0	0/0	(Nay's Back, \$18,600)	<b>\$24,289</b>	100	0	0.64	0.73
19	<b>PROSPECT BAY</b> (92, Crafty Prospector), Naylee Farm	\$1,000	7/1	0/0	0/0	(Totethenote, \$7,234)	<b>\$23,555</b>	286	7	0.93	1.44
20	<b>GHOSTLY MINISTER</b> (97, Deputy Minister), Buckstud	\$2,500	5/1	0/0	0/0	(Racings My Game, \$17,712)	<b>\$22,960</b>	69	1	0.83	0.94

to move forward,” he said. “It is possible we will get a stallion here. It’s just a matter of timing and what’s available that will actually fit.”

Bitler is aiming to secure younger mares with solid race records for Pucker Ridge and also hopes to do more sales prep at the farm to get their homebreds into good racing homes. The New York-bred incentives make the state-breds more attractive to buyers, but Pucker Ridge is also not opposed to running the horses themselves, particularly the fillies that could potentially be broodmares.

With his background and knowledge of the Thoroughbred marketplace, Bitler expects to fill a need and keep the mid-size

farm and its horses competitive.

“I think someone who knows a little bit about the bloodstock and the market part of it can help Lois, who knows a ton about horses and Thoroughbreds. She’s been doing this for a long time, and I think the combination of those two things will get us into the limelight,” he said.

And Pucker Ridge isn’t only focusing on the early stages of a Thoroughbred’s life. The farm is home to some of Engel’s retired runners, as she always keeps the barn doors open for any of her former horses that need a home. As she puts it, the farm does the whole life cycle.

“We’ll always take a horse back after it’s done racing,” Bitler said. “If we can’t find

a home, we’ll bring it back and retrain it. Lois is a pretty big stickler about (that); any horse always has a home, which is key in this business.”

The first horse Engel bred, the foal by Lycius out of Charmed Aura, is living out his retirement on the farm. Halation only scored once in his 13-race career—as a 72-1 shot in a state-bred maiden special weight at Belmont Park, a memory that is one of Engel’s favorites from the track—but now is occasionally ridden and is enjoying his life in the foothills of the Adirondacks.

While she does try to move some horses into second careers, Engel keeps the ones that she’s most attached to.

“A lot of folks, to them, (the Thoroughbred industry is) a business, and, yes, you have to look at it as a business, but you have to have compassion to worry about the animal,” she said.

To move some retired runners into new homes, she works with Becky Hance, who has become a good friend after Hance happened to show up at Pucker Ridge in response to an ad about a horse for sale. After Engel showed Hance around the barn, the two connected and developed a friendship based on their love of the animal.

“Lois and I are good friends,” Hance said. “If she has a horse she thinks really needs to find a home, but we want it to go to the right home, she’ll call me and say, ‘We have this horse, what do you think we can do?’ Or if somebody calls me and says,



COURTESY, LOIS ENGEL

Engel is big on education and runs an ‘open farm,’ that hosts tour groups

# 2017 LEADING SIRES IN NEW JERSEY



For daily updated sire lists visit [BloodHorse.com](http://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	Foals	Cumulative		
									Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	<b>DON SIX</b> (00, Wild Escapade), Greenfields Farm	Private	5/3	0/0	0/0	(Royal Six Shooter, \$26,604)	<b>\$67,339</b>	81	3	1.20	1.25
2	<b>DEFERRE</b> (92, Deputy Minister)	N/A	8/2	0/0	0/0	(Ok Now, \$20,900)	<b>\$50,719</b>	*590	22	1.21	1.18
3	<b>HEY CHUB</b> (00, Carson City), Joe-Dan Farm	\$2,000	10/2	0/0	0/0	(Chublicious, \$15,000)	<b>\$46,123</b>	31	2	1.66	1.53
4	<b>CABLE BOY</b> (04, Jump Start), Colonial Farms	\$1,000	2/1	0/0	0/0	(Bay Rum, \$21,960)	<b>\$27,760</b>	20	1	1.26	0.92
5	<b>KING PUMA</b> (06, Forest Wildcat), Sleetor Farm	Private	3/0	0/0	0/0	(Shot Gun Red, \$17,460)	<b>\$19,710</b>	18	0	0.80	1.57

# 2017 LEADING SIRES IN VIRGINIA

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	Foals	Cumulative		
									Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	<b>FRIEND OR FOE</b> (07, Friends Lake), Smallwood Farm	\$1,000	3/2	0/0	0/0	(Mr. Buff, \$51,900)	<b>\$89,400</b>	7	0	3.11	2.12
2	<b>REBELLION (GB)</b> (03, Mozart), Hickory Tree Farm	\$3,500	4/2	0/0	0/0	(Rebellious Diana, \$15,472)	<b>\$20,844</b>	*42	1	1.19	1.24
3	<b>COSA VERA</b> (05, Dynaformer), North Cliff Farms	\$2,500	5/0	0/0	0/0	(Wing Fighter, \$5,940)	<b>\$11,770</b>	28	0	0.45	1.44

‘Hey, Becky, do you know of any horses?’ I’ll send Lois a message. Our whole goal is to make sure that they always get to the right place.

“She’s like me in that she wants to make money, but the longevity and the life of the horse are more important.”

In addition to putting the animal first, Engel is also a stickler on having an open-barn policy. As a person who has a deep appreciation of learning and enjoys sharing her knowledge, she welcomes the opportunity to educate visitors and potential owners.

“We are a very open farm; we encourage people to come and visit,” Engel said. “We encourage that kind of thing because I like to see the clients get involved more than just mail your check in once a month.

“We try to get folks to come up to the farm to spend time (here). I do a lot of educational things for 4-H; we used to have tour buses come through in the fall. I’m big on education and getting people involved in a more hands-on, emotional level.”

More than just providing an open facility, Engel also serves on the board of directors of the New York Thoroughbred Breeders. Recently re-elected to another two-year term, she works to help breeders’ voices be heard in the state capital at Albany, and specializes by working on the events committee and the education committee.

“We’ve recently started doing education seminars, and I enjoy my involvement with those,” Engel noted. “We’ve lobbied and tried to get things going in Albany,



LINDA FOUNTAIN

**Pucker Ridge is expected to foal out 16 broodmares in 2017**

and we continue to make sure that the New York-bred program is the best in the country. The government needs to understand the importance of the program and what it means to the upstate economy in terms of the jobs it creates.”

Engel has served six years on the NYTB board, motivated by her deep passion for the animals and for the sport.

“I love the animals,” she said. “I’m concerned that our industry isn’t attracting the next generation to racing and breeding. So I’m trying in my own little way to get the word out about how great these animals are and how people can get involved.”

Not only is the open-door policy helpful for Thoroughbred owners and potential owners, but Engel and Bitler believe it could help shed light on what kind of care

goes into running a breeding farm and eliminate misconceptions.

“If you have an open door policy, people will feel comfortable about their horses coming here, knowing that they can just pop in anytime they want,” Bitler said.”

But for Engel, having an open barn is about showcasing the sport and the animals that she loves and proving to others that it’s about the care of the animal, first and foremost.

“I think sometimes the industry has a negative image because of certain articles or certain organizations throwing things out there that will publicize one or two bad incidents,” Engel said.

“I feel that if they come and see the day-to-day, see the horses cared for, then they’ll get a different opinion of the industry.” **BH**