

SOUTHEAST

# Mark Up

## *GoldMark Farm adds stallions to thriving operation*

BY CYNTHIA McFARLAND  
PHOTOS BY LOUISE E. REINAGEL

**SOME PEOPLE ARE BORN** into the horse industry, raised in families with generations immersed in the business. For others, the passion for horses was always there, but it didn't have the opportunity to flourish until later in life.

Paul Bulmahn falls into the second category. As a child in rural Indiana, he would sneak rides on the broad bare backs of the neighbor's draft horses at pasture. Growing up, Bulmahn had limited exposure to the world of Thoroughbred racing, but in 2002 he won a prize package courtesy of the Maker's Mark distillery to attend the Kentucky Derby (G1) at Churchill Downs. Sitting in a box at the historic racetrack with

his wife, Nancy, and Maker's Mark president Bill Samuels, Bulmahn was mesmerized as he watched War Emblem take home the roses. That experience cemented his decision to get involved in the industry.

Bulmahn was already well familiar with risk and reward, thanks to his involvement in the international offshore oil and gas business. He founded ATP Oil & Gas Corp. in 1991 and ran it



for many years before making the decision to focus strictly on horses and developing his GoldMark Farm.

At the time Bulmahn attended that Kentucky Derby in 2002, his brother, who lived in Orlando, was fighting lung cancer.



Top: GoldMark Farm owner Paul Bulmahn; above, a horse gallops over the training track at GoldMark

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**9-Time SW** Of \$804,395.  
Best Son Of **WILDCAT HEIR.**

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**2018**



2018 Fee: **\$3,500 S&N**  
Wildcat Heir - Rainbow Pride,  
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## **FASTEST BEYERS** in 2018 stakes:

Gun Runner	119
West Coast	115
Unique Bella	109
Wellabled	107
<b>RAINBOW HEIR</b>	<b>105</b>
Roy H	105



Source: DRF, thru 2/16

## 2017 LEADING SIRES IN FLORIDA

For daily updated sire lists  
visit [BloodHorse.com](http://BloodHorse.com)

Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB, Sire), Where Stands	2018 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>WILDCAT HEIR</b> (00, Forest Wildcat)	Died, 2015	225/141	9/13	4/9	(Pay Any Price, \$267,258)	<b>\$6,327,120</b>	*685	34	1.40	1.36
2	<b>FIRST DUDE</b> (07, Stephen Got Even), Double Diamond Farm	\$10,000	161/79	2/4	0/2	(Skye Diamonds, \$378,920)	<b>\$3,653,163</b>	265	5	1.15	1.26
3	<b>HIGH COTTON</b> (03, Dixie Union)	Pnsd	163/79	3/4	1/3	(Talk Logistics, \$205,850)	<b>\$3,562,859</b>	*387	11	0.98	1.26
4	<b>ADIOS CHARLIE</b> (08, Indian Charlie), Ocala Stud	\$3,000	76/52	2/3	1/2	(Mo Cash, \$246,984)	<b>\$2,801,633</b>	115	3	1.49	1.31
5	<b>GONE ASTRAY</b> (06, Dixie Union), Northwest Stud	\$5,000	107/59	4/6	2/4	(Starship Bonita, \$389,100)	<b>\$2,608,810</b>	*174	6	1.06	1.14
6	<b>SONGANDAPRAYER</b> (98, Unbridled's Song), Journeyman Stallions	\$3,000	149/73	1/1	0/1	(Abbaa, \$159,325)	<b>\$2,222,547</b>	*969	35	1.12	1.43
7	<b>WITH DISTINCTION</b> (01, Storm Cat)	N/A	116/60	0/0	0/0	(Padilla, \$97,412)	<b>\$2,001,831</b>	*504	11	1.07	1.17
8	<b>TWO STEP SALSA</b> (05, Petionville), Get Away Farm	\$5,000	123/57	3/3	1/3	(Driven by History, \$126,200)	<b>\$1,909,980</b>	230	7	0.98	1.00
9	<b>IN SUMMATION</b> (03, Put It Back), Ocala Stud	\$2,500	100/64	0/0	0/0	(Calculator, \$148,020)	<b>\$1,803,993</b>	219	5	0.97	1.35
10	<b>BIG DRAMA</b> (06, Montbrook), Stonewall's Prestige Stallions	\$5,000	84/44	1/1	0/1	(Smile Big, \$131,242)	<b>\$1,543,070</b>	139	3	0.96	1.30
11	<b>OVERDRIVEN</b> (09, Tale of the Cat)	Pnsd	65/33	1/1	0/1	(Overnegotiate, \$164,765)	<b>\$1,527,767</b>	107	1	0.92	1.16
12	<b>AWESOME OF COURSE</b> (00, Awesome Again), Ocala Stud	\$4,000	88/46	0/0	0/0	(Awesome Banner, \$245,855)	<b>\$1,510,355</b>	*201	10	1.51	1.35
13	<b>EXCLUSIVE QUALITY</b> (03, Elusive Quality), Journeyman Stallions	\$1,500	88/43	0/0	0/0	(Dreaming of Neno, \$120,372)	<b>\$1,243,725</b>	299	7	0.95	1.08
14	<b>GREATNESS</b> (99, Mr. Prospector), Stonewall's Prestige Stallions	\$3,500	47/33	0/0	0/0	(Mr Manning, \$159,875)	<b>\$1,150,289</b>	*255	7	1.31	1.01
15	<b>BIONDETTI</b> (08, Bernardini), Woodford Thoroughbreds	\$4,000	62/31	0/0	0/0	(My Darling Sofia, \$82,535)	<b>\$945,322</b>	98	0	0.65	1.46
16	<b>BACKTALK</b> (07, Smarty Jones), Goldmark Farm	\$2,250	29/19	1/2	1/1	(Soutache, \$405,000)	<b>\$943,885</b>	47	1	1.21	0.75
17	<b>FLASHSTORM</b> (04, Storm Cat), Northwest Stud	\$2,500	42/26	0/0	0/0	(Cinderella El Crome, \$116,900)	<b>\$749,335</b>	82	3	0.94	1.00
18	<b>POSEIDON'S WARRIOR</b> (08, Speightstown), Pleasant Acres Stallions	\$6,500	29/6	1/2	0/1	(Firenze Fire, \$449,100)	<b>\$598,466</b>	*110	1	0.98	1.09
19	<b>TREASURE BEACH (GB)</b> (08, Galileo), Pleasant Acres Stallions	\$10,000	32/14	0/0	0/0	(Ambassador Jim, \$82,500)	<b>\$588,439</b>	*160	0	0.79	1.46
20	<b>J P'S GUSTO</b> (08, Successful Appeal), Bridlewood Farm	\$2,000	33/19	1/1	0/1	(Remember Willy, \$56,242)	<b>\$559,884</b>	57	1	0.91	1.12
21	<b>FIELD COMMISSION</b> (05, Service Stripe), Solera Farm	\$2,500	30/15	0/0	0/0	(Ten Hut, \$102,910)	<b>\$549,859</b>	68	0	0.73	0.95
22	<b>MONTBROOK</b> (90, Buckaroo)	Died	34/21	0/0	0/0	(Schivarelli, \$112,598)	<b>\$530,782</b>	*895	47	1.45	1.48
23	<b>HEAR NO EVIL</b> (00, Carson City), Ocala Stud	\$2,500	29/12	0/0	0/0	(Toni Ann's Miracle, \$80,040)	<b>\$486,043</b>	114	7	1.58	1.47
24	<b>BRETHREN</b> (08, Distorted Humor), Arindell Farm	Private	18/6	0/0	0/0	(Tip Sheet, \$118,500)	<b>\$483,056</b>	35	0	1.22	1.82
25	<b>SOLDAT</b> (08, War Front), Woodford Thoroughbreds	\$5,000	43/13	0/0	0/0	(Pete Marwick, \$51,215)	<b>\$453,269</b>	82	0	0.52	1.32
26	<b>TELLING</b> (04, A.P. Indy), Stonewall's Prestige Stallions	\$5,000	30/16	0/0	0/0	(Arcelor, \$46,551)	<b>\$421,647</b>	41	0	0.59	1.24
27	<b>SILVER TREE</b> (00, Hennessy)	N/A	20/13	0/0	0/0	(Tree Fire, \$51,834)	<b>\$410,792</b>	44	1	0.81	1.17
28	<b>HELLO BROADWAY</b> (06, Broken Vow), Ups and Downs Farm	\$3,000	11/7	0/0	0/0	(My Sweet Dove, \$108,020)	<b>\$377,709</b>	22	1	1.03	0.83
29	<b>IQBAAL</b> (06, Medaglia d'Oro), Ward Ranch	Private	12/8	0/0	0/0	(Big City Dreamin, \$63,141)	<b>\$359,405</b>	20	0	1.02	1.18
30	<b>PROSPECTIVE</b> (09, Malibu Moon), Ocala Stud	\$3,000	28/9	0/0	0/0	(Piven, \$55,311)	<b>\$338,914</b>	59	0	0.62	1.15
31	<b>BURNING ROMA</b> (98, Rubiano), Stonewall's Prestige Stallions	\$2,500	17/10	0/0	0/0	(I Zoom, \$49,829)	<b>\$244,113</b>	*181	5	0.98	1.13
32	<b>WAGON LIMIT</b> (94, Conquistador Cielo), Bridlewood Farm	\$2,000	13/5	0/0	0/0	(Delta Bluesman, \$58,625)	<b>\$225,158</b>	196	7	1.31	1.09
33	<b>ROCK HAMPTON</b> (04, Storm Cat)	N/A	19/7	0/0	0/0	(Stone Heart, \$56,380)	<b>\$192,658</b>	53	0	0.60	1.05
34	<b>DARK KESTREL</b> (03, Stormy Atlantic), University of Florida Vet Med Center	\$1,500	5/2	0/0	0/0	(Buckeye Bullet, \$107,820)	<b>\$171,151</b>	23	1	1.66	1.47
35	<b>CAUSEWAY'S KIN</b> (06, Giant's Causeway)	N/A	6/3	0/0	0/0	(Causeway Cutie, \$79,449)	<b>\$170,121</b>	10	0	1.02	0.76
36	<b>FORTY GRAMS</b> (04, Distorted Humor)	N/A	14/5	0/0	0/0	(Forty Kilos, \$49,810)	<b>\$162,093</b>	27	0	0.81	1.13
37	<b>RATTLESNAKE BRIDGE</b> (08, Tapit), Hartley/De Renzo Thoroughbreds	\$7,500	23/5	0/0	0/0	(Little Bridge, \$34,370)	<b>\$155,726</b>	43	0	0.31	1.15
38	<b>DONERAILE COURT</b> (96, Seattle Slew), Stonewall's Prestige Stallions	\$2,000	25/8	0/0	0/0	(Scherer Magic, \$34,815)	<b>\$153,143</b>	*698	18	0.99	1.27
39	<b>SEÑOR SWINGER</b> (00, El Prado), La Mancha Farm	\$5,000	18/4	0/0	0/0	(Hoof Hoof Away, \$44,297)	<b>\$141,337</b>	91	0	0.43	1.00
40	<b>CORFU</b> (11, Malibu Moon), Bridlewood Farm	\$3,500	12/3	0/0	0/0	(Flashing Diamond, \$39,950)	<b>\$111,169</b>	26	0	0.45	0.97

The two brothers often relaxed by driving around central Florida together, and it was on these excursions that Bulmahn became enamored with the Ocala area. It reminded him of Kentucky—minus the winter weather—and he felt at peace there, so he began looking for property where he could build a Thoroughbred training center.

Bulmahn met realtor Terri Kitchens and told her he needed a consultant. Kitchens put him in touch with longtime horseman Todd Quast, who had the industry experience Bulmahn needed. Quast had spent 10 years working for Hall of Fame trainer D. Wayne Lukas, first as an assistant trainer at the track and then at Lukas' Westerly

Training Center near Santa Ynez, Calif. During his years with Team Lukas, Quast was directly responsible for the breaking, early training, and rehabilitation of three Kentucky Derby winners, three Preakness Stakes (G1) winners, four Belmont Stakes (G1) winners, seven Breeders' Cup winners, nine Eclipse Award winners, and one Horse of the Year.

As a direct result of his connection with Lukas, Quast moved to Ocala in 1998 to work as training center manager of the newly established Padua Stables, a position he held until July 2001. After meeting Bulmahn in 2002 and learning of his vision for a state-of-the-art training facility,

Quast agreed to be part of GoldMark Farm from its inception.

Late in 2002 Bulmahn purchased 500 partially developed acres in northwest Marion County. Over the next 3½ years, homes, barns, and a six-furlong track were built, and additional acreage was purchased to bring the property north of 2,500 acres.

Quast decided to install a Safetrack synthetic surface, a product consisting of a blend of washed silica sand with small synthetic fibers and rubber chips that are coated with wax. A drainage system and rock base are installed and then topped with a geotextile membrane that allows

**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 December 31, 2017. As supplied to *BloodHorse* by The Jockey Club Information Systems Inc., lists 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 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 Northern Hemisphere black-type stakes results from all available countries. \*Foal counts include Southern Hemisphere. Cumulative stakes winners include 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.

**New for 2018**  
Standing at  
**Ocala Jockey Club**



# IRISH SURF

(Giant's Causeway - Surfside, by Seattle Slew)

**ROYALLY BRED:**  
**CHAMPION SIRE.**  
**CHAMPION DAM.**  
**CHAMPION GRANDDAM.**



**PROVEN ON THE TRACK:**  
**106 BEYER.**  
**25 LIFETIME STARTS.**  
**TRACK RECORD HOLDER.**

**\$5,000 LFSN**

◆ Broke the Del Mar track record while winning the **Cougar II Handicap (G3)** by 8 1/4 lengths

◆ Was second in the **Las Vegas Marathon (G2)**.

◆ Posted 106 Beyer while running 5th in the **Pacific Classic (G1)**.

◆ By sire of sires **GIANT'S CAUSEWAY**, two-time Horse of the Year, Champion 2-year old in Europe.

◆ Out of **SURFSIDE**, multiple Grade 1 winner at 2, Eclipse Champion 3-year old filly, 4-time Grade 1 winner. Earned \$1,852,987

◆ Second dam is **FLANDERS**, Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies (G1) winner of \$805,000.

◆ From the female family of **AIR FORCE BLUE**.

◆ Durable: 25 Lifetime starts.

◆ Versatile: Ran on all surfaces: dirt, turf, all-weather.

water to drain through the surface. The track has recently been converted to a “hybrid” to keep with the times.

“The move in the U.S. has been away from synthetic tracks, so we’ve added more sand and we’re very, very happy with our hybrid track. It still drains well, but it’s now similar to the dirt tracks found on most racetracks,” noted Quast. “We had Mick Peterson of Racing Surfaces Testing Laboratory out to inspect it, and he absolutely loved it.”

GoldMark Farm is an official track for recording works; horses can get their gate cards and run right off the track.

No expense was spared in creating a top-notch facility designed to give young Thoroughbreds every chance at success.

GoldMark has 160 stalls, each of which has rubber kick walls and SoftStall flooring, a unique two-piece flooring system that uses rubber-filled mattresses for the bottom layer, protected by a highly durable, non-porous rubber cover. This top cover is held in place by anchor strips at the base of the stall so moisture can’t get beneath the flooring. The system is slip resistant and comfortable for the horses, and Quast has found they tend to lie down and rest more.

Recent additions to the farm’s already substantial amenities include a therapy barn that houses a cold saltwater ECB Equine Spa and vibration plates.

“All of the training horses use the spa



**Manager Todd Quast has been at GoldMark since the farm’s inception**

and the vibration plates as needed,” said Quast. “The spa is great for any kind of swelling or heat; we use it for anything we used to put ice on. The water is maintained at 30 degrees, so with the addition of salt, it’s like cold ocean water.”

The vibration plates have proved beneficial for general overall health and are especially helpful for horses with any soreness or swelling.

“It’s a non-invasive therapy that increases circulation without the negative side effects of counterirritants, such as blisters,” explained Quast. “It’s great for any kind of edema or swelling in the legs,

as well as sore muscles and sore backs. It even helps with bone issues and hoof problems such as quarter cracks because it makes the hoof grow faster. We probably put 60 horses a day on the vibration plates. For me, it’s one of the best things that’s come down the pike in a long time.”

In addition to having a stellar brick-and-mortar operation, Quast credits GoldMark’s success to a crew that he considers second to none.

“I would put our crew up against anybody’s as far as experience, caring, and the day-to-day well-being of the horses,” said Quast. “We started training in 2006, and the average employee has been with us at least six or seven years, which is remarkable in the horse business. My own assistant, Lee Guerrero, has been with me more than 25 years. We’re able to keep a very good crew of exercise riders, some of whom are former or current jockeys. We feel it sets us apart to have this level of riders.”

One of the greatest victories for GoldMark came when its Cross Traffic, a 2009 son of Unbridled’s Song, won the 2013 Whitney Invitational Handicap (G1). Bulmahn had breakfast with Marylou Whitney that morning and then was in the winner’s circle accepting the trophy from her that afternoon.

“People doubted the horse could go that far and for him to win that race, and for Paul to have the experience he did there, was one of our highlights,” noted Quast.

Grade 1 stakes winners that have trained and/or rehabilitated at GoldMark include Cross Traffic, Dullahan, Silver Max, Finnigans Wake, Gypsy’s Warning, Karlovy Vary, Paola Queen, Private Zone, Shackelford, Mr. Sidney, and Bustin Stones.

Numerous other stakes winners have called GoldMark home at one point in their careers, including Soutache, who is owned by GoldMark and is on the Triple Crown trail this year. The homebred colt by the farm’s stallion Backtalk has earned \$405,000 with a record of 3-0-1 from four starts. He won two legs of the Florida Stallion Series in 2017 as a juvenile: the \$400,000 Florida Sire In Reality Stakes and the \$200,000 FTBOA Florida Sire Affirmed Stakes. After a late fall break Soutache is back in training at GoldMark



**GoldMark stallion Backtalk, a son of Smarty Jones**

# the **POWERHOUSE.**

## LITERALLY.



**AMIRA'S PRINCE**

Teofilo (IRE) / Twice The Ease (GB), By Green Desert

**ANTHONY'S CROSS**

Indian Charlie / Screening, By Unbridled

**BEAUCHOIX**

Elusive Quality / Belle Cherie, By Belong to Me

**Handsome Mike**

Scat Daddy / Classic Strike, By Smart Strike

**#1** 2018 Leading Florida  
Second-Crop Sires  
2017 Leading Florida  
First-Crop Sires

**Long Island Sound**

War Front / Treasure Trail, By Pulpit



**NEOLITHIC**

By Harlan's Holiday - Swingit, by Victory Gallop

**POSEIDON'S WARRIOR**

Speightstown / Poised to Pounce, By Smarten

**RIDE ON CURLIN**

Curlin / Magical Ride, By Storm Cat

**Treasure Beach**

Galileo (IRE) / Honorine (IRE), By Mark of Esteem (IRE)

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and will be heading back to the South Florida barn of trainer Ralph Nicks.

“On the racing side we’re continuing to support the Florida program and are running more horses regionally. Running our Florida-breds at Gulfstream works well for us with the year-round racing there now,” observed Quast, who added that GoldMark horses racing in the Midwest are sent to trainer Tom Amoss.

“Obviously, we’re ecstatic about Soutache because we think he has the potential to make it on the national scene, not just regionally.”

From the start the plan was to have a percentage of GoldMark horses on the farm, but also outside horses.

“Now it’s about 20% GoldMark-owned horses, and the rest belong to clients,” noted Quast. “In the beginning we were buying 15-20 yearlings a year at the sales and as those raced, they became broodmares, so our numbers increased. Three years ago we had 52 broodmares, so we have just been going with homebreds over the last few years and have become sellers of yearlings instead of buyers.”

The current broodmare band numbers about a dozen solid mares.

“We’re big supporters of our homebred program, and the breeding program is set up to do that,” Quast explained. “The majority of our mares that go to Kentucky support Cross Traffic, who stands at Spendthrift Farm.”

## 2017 FLORIDA SIRES BY STAKES WINNERS

Sire	BT SWnrs.	Wns
Wildcat Heir	9	13
Gone Astray	4	6
High Cotton	3	4
Two Step Salsa	3	3
First Dude	2	4
Adios Charlie	2	3
Backtalk	1	2
Poseidon's Warrior	1	2
Big Drama	1	1
J P's Gusto	1	1
Overdriven	1	1
Songandaprayer	1	1

Perhaps the biggest, most exciting change in the air at GoldMark is that the operation has added a stallion division.

“We’ve had Backtalk here the last two years and have bred him privately, along with Young Brian, a horse owned by one of our clients, John Liviakis,” said Quast. “And we’ve added Mylute to the roster, whom we own in partnership with Mandy Pope of Whisper Hill Farm.”

Backtalk, a son of Kentucky Derby and Preakness winner Smarty Jones, won or placed in eight stakes, including victories in the Sanford Stakes (G2) and the Bashford Manor Stakes (G3). Out of Apasionata Sonata, by Affirmed, Backtalk won four of 15 starts and retired sound, earning \$405,051. From 32 starters, Backtalk is the sire of 22 individual winners of 50

races, including three stakes victories from two stakes winners.

Mylute will stand his first season in 2018. The 8-year-old son of two-time Breeders’ Cup winner and champion male sprinter Midnight Lute is out of the Valid Expectations mare Stage Stop. Mylute was a multiple graded stakes-placed winner who ran third in the 2013 Preakness Stakes and fifth in the Kentucky Derby. He retired sound after six years of racing with earnings of \$966,607.

Young Brian is a winning son of multiple graded stakes-winning millionaire Hard Spun and out of Glacier Peak, by Pulpit. The colt broke his maiden by 10¼ lengths at Del Mar in 2015. Unfortunately, an injury prior to the Del Mar Futurity (G1) ended his racing career.

Quast said developing the stallion division is an important goal for the farm.

“We’re not looking to become a commercial stallion station, but we would love to see these horses really take off,” he said.

For someone who never owned a horse until establishing his own farm, Bulmahn has totally embraced the world of racing. In addition to creating an ideal environment where young horses can learn and older horses can refresh and take a break, he’s fallen in love with the sport itself.

He is very much a Triple Crown historian and has collected a remarkable array of memorabilia from all 12 Triple Crown-winning Thoroughbreds. Photos, programs, silks, gambling chips, halters, and more adorn the walls of the downstairs office, also known as Bulmahn’s Triple Crown Theater.

Whenever the farm hosts a charity event, the theater room provides the perfect backdrop and guests marvel over the great variety of racing memorabilia.

Particularly cherished are pieces from Steve Wolfson, son of Affirmed’s owner Louis Wolfson, who contributed the photo finish picture of Affirmed/Alydar from the 1978 Belmont, and an Affirmed T-shirt autographed by jockey Steve Caution, then 18 years old. Also noteworthy are horse trading cards for Sir Barton, Omaha, Whirlaway, and Assault. **BH**



A cold saltwater ECB Equine Spa is a recent addition

*Cynthia McFarland is a freelance writer based in Ocala, Fla.*