



COUNTRY LIFE PRESS MERRYLAND MAGAZINE

From Beginning To Winning



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Freedom Child

FIRST WINNER FOR FREEDOM CHILD!

Country Life Freshman sire Freedom Child got his first winner on June 17th at Laurel Park when Limited View won at first asking! The filly, trained by John Salzman, Jr., had been generating buzz in the mornings with her works. She lived up to the hype in her debut and was never threatened, crossing the wire in front by more than 3 lengths under a hand ride by Edgar Prado.

Limited View is also the first winner for her dam, the Not For Love mare Loves to Glance. Bred by Barbara Smith of Dragon's Lair Farm, who bought the mare from Country Life Farm at the January Mixed sale in foal to Freedom Child, the filly was in Bill Reightler's consignment at the Fasig-Tipton Midlantic Yearling sale where Salzman purchased her. She races under the ownership of Salzman, Fred Wasserloos and George Greenwalt.

Freedom Child is the Leading Freshman Sire in the Mid-Atlantic (with progeny earnings \$37,500 more than runner up El Padrino) and he's a Top 20 First Crop Sire in North America (ahead of G1 winners Paynter and Oxbow,

among other popular Kentucky stallions).

His first starters also include Eightyeightmp (trained by Anthony Pecoraro) who finished 1st in his debut but was disqualified to 2nd for a bump in the stretch; Hermans Gold (trained by John Robb) who finished 2nd in his debut; and Nico, Bree N Teej (trained by Claudio Gonzalez) who finished 3rd in his debut at Laurel.

The big, beautifully built son of Malibu Moon won the G2 Peter Pan Stakes by 13 lengths. His dam Bandstand (by Deputy Minister), hails from the family of Eclipse Champion Shanghai Bobby and his second dam is G1 winner City Band.



Limited View scores in her debut at Laurel!

SUPER VISIT!

Super Ninety Nine got a visit from his former owners Susan and Charles Chu recently. The couple, along with their son Jerry, stopped by Country Life Farm to see the first racehorse they ever owned and feed him a bag of carrots.

The Taiwanese couple's first venture into the Thoroughbred racing game proved a lucky one when they enlisted trainer Bob Baffert to pick out Super Ninety Nine from the June OBS 2-year-old sale and he went on to win the G3 Southwest Stakes and was 3rd in the G1 Santa Anita Derby. Learn more about the Chu's in the May Thoroughbred Daily News ([here](#)) and read how Super Ninety Nine got his name!

**Susan and Charles Chu,
with their son Jerry and
Super Ninety Nine.**



DEBUT WIN FOR INTO BLUEGRASS!

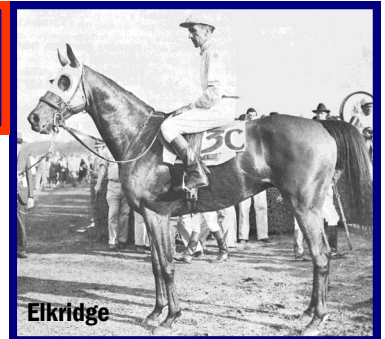
One of our first Carry Back LLC Partnership purchases last year was a filly by Into Mischief (stud fee \$75,000) who cost \$67,000 at the 2016 Fasig-Tipton May 2-year-olds In Training Sale. Sidelined shortly after the sale with a strained tendon, she had the rest of the year off before starting back in training in February of this year. Trainer Mike Trombetta was quietly optimistic about the filly all along, and encouraged us to let him take his time with her. Our patience was rewarded when she won her first start on June 24th at Delaware Park. Facing a very tough field of well-bred and well-regarded fillies, Into Bluegrass made a run on the outside to wear down the leader and cross the wire a half-length in front (paying \$25.60 to win)! The first foal for her dam, the winning Bluegrass Cat mare Bluegrassislegal, the filly is pointing for a first-level allowance at Laurel later this month for her next start.



CLF Partnership filly Into Bluegrass won at first asking on 6/24 at Delaware Park!

NEW PARTNERSHIP: THE ELKRIDGE CLUB

Our latest partnership idea combines the popular Carry Back racing LLC's with the Raise You breeding LLC's! Named after the Hall of Fame racehorse who was foaled at Country Life in 1938. We will be shopping in Kentucky on Monday night (7/10) at the Fasig-Tipton Horses of Racing Age sale for a filly that could race a few times this year and then be bred to Mosler in 2018 and 2019 before being sold. A 2-year duration, with the LLC being the breeder of the first foal. Potential for racing income and breeder awards, 10-shares, approximately \$5,000/share plus monthly expenses. Call us today to learn more or reserve a share! Click [here](#) for more info.



BEST CREW IN THE MID-ATLANTIC!



Photo: Ellen Pons

Back row (L to R): Sallyellen Hurst (Pedigree Analyst/Administrator), Cheryl Clark (Office Manager), Cheyenne Piccolo (CLF Broodmare Manager), Todd Kerr (Maintenance), TJ Stone (Head of Maintenance), Sergio Gutierrez (Farm Crew), Jeff Clute (Project Manager), Jerry Zavala (Stallion Manager), Maurilio Gutierrez (Merryland Farm Manager), Alejandro Gutierrez (Farm Crew), Jesus Gutierrez (Farm Crew), Jesus Gutierrez-Sepulveda (Farm Crew), Ignacio Zavala (Farm Crew), Kim Crowell (Merryland Broodmare Manager). Front Row (L to R): Josh Pons (Owner), Leon Raney (Training Barn Foreman), Armando Gutierrez (Farm Crew), Fabian Herrera (Farm Crew), Gerardo Gutierrez (Farm Crew), Mike Pons (Owner), Christy Holden (General Manager). Sitting in front: Greg Hare (Comptroller). Not pictured: Jackie Savoye (Merryland Trainer) and Armando Gutierrez, Jr. (Farm Crew).

Call us biased, but we think the crew at Country Life and Merryland Farms are the best in the business! Most of our staff have been with us for over 20 years, which tells our clients that their horses are being cared for by experienced and dedicated people who love what they do. It shows in the condition and behavior of every horse on both farms, and we're proud of the quality of our horsemanship. We got the entire crew together (missing only 2 people, quite an accomplishment!) for a pizza lunch recently to celebrate the end of a busy breeding and foaling season and a successful MHBA Yearling Show.

83RD ANNUAL MHBA YEARLING SHOW

Country Life exhibited 11 yearlings in the annual Maryland Horse Breeders Yearling Show at the Timonium Fair Grounds on June 25th. This year's judge was Eclipse Award-winning trainer Dale Romans, who evaluated a total of 93 yearlings throughout the day. Several of our yearlings made the final cut in their classes, with two earning ribbons and one selected for the groom's award. All the yearlings behaved perfectly in the crowded show ring and looked fantastic.

In Class 1 (for colts/geldings sired by Maryland stallions, 26 in the class) we had 6 entries from the farm. Three made the final cut to the top 8 with 4th place going to the Super Ninety Nine colt out of Dancing Anna and 5th place to the Super Ninety Nine colt out of As Long As Ittakes. The Super Ninety Nine colt out of An T M named Super Houdini (a half-brother to multiple stakes-placed Flash McCaul) got the Groom's Award for the class. In Class 2 (for colts sired by out of state stallions, 20 in the class), Bo Smith's homebred El Padrino colt out of Scarlett Rah made it to the final cut. We exhibited 4 fillies in Class 3 (for fillies sired by Maryland stallions, 23 in the class) and again we had two Super Ninety Nine's that made the final cut—the Platinum Mine filly and the Lucky Nita filly named Lucky Ninety Nine.

All yearlings who entered the show ring are now eligible for the \$40,000 premium award, which will be split and distributed twice, with \$20,000 going to the exhibitors of the four show contestants who earn the most money as 2-year-olds during 2018, and another \$20,000 divided among the exhibitors of the four highest-earning 3-year-old runners the next year. Thanks to everyone on our great staff who prepped and showed these yearlings and to the rest of the crew that stayed on the farms to keep things running smoothly at home. The successful day would not have been possible without them—it was a total team effort!



The 11 yearlings we exhibited at the MHBA Yearling Show were (clockwise from top left):



Super Ninety Nine—Dancing Anna colt (bred/owned by Spendthrift Farm, shown by Armando Gutierrez, Jr); Super Ninety Nine—As Long As Ittakes colt (bred and owned by CLF/As Long As Ittakes LLC, shown by Cheyenne Piccolo); Freedom Child—GG's Dolly colt (bred/owned by Spendthrift Farm, shown by Armando Gutierrez); Freedom Child—Taconic Victory colt (bred/owned by Spendthrift Farm, shown by Leon Raney); Super Ninety Nine—An T M colt (co-bred by CLF/Cliff & Mary Cornwell, owned by Cliff & Mary Cornwell, shown by Jesus Gutierrez Sepulveda); El Padrino-Scarlette Rah colt (bred/owned by Bo & Stella Smith, shown by Leon Raney); Cal Nation—Sagamoon filly (bred by CLF/Sagamoon LLC and owned by Lucy Howard, shown by Leon Raney); Super Ninety Nine—Helen Louise filly (bred/owned by Ken Lowe, Jr, shown by Armando Gutierrez); Super Ninety Nine—Platinum Mine filly (bred/owned by Spendthrift Farm, shown by Kim Crowell); Super Ninety Nine—Lucky Nita filly (bred by CLF and owned by CLF/Double Ninety Nine LLC, shown by Cheyenne Piccolo) and Super Ninety Nine—Vee Vee Star colt (bred by CLF and owned by CLF/Double Ninety Nine LLC, shown by Fabian Herrera).

