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November 2024

NEW BROODMARE PARTNERSHIP FROM KEENELAND NOVEMBER SALE



BREEDING PARTNERSHIP OFFERING

Keeneland Hip# 1256: TROUVILLE

Stakes-placed earner of \$300,000

Pregnant to 2022 two-year-old champion FORTE: covering sire average \$178,000

Purchased Nov. 8 at Keeneland for \$115,000 by Country Life Farm, agent

To Foal in Virginia

Last bred: Feb. 28, 2024; due late Jan. 2025

NO MARKUP: 10 shares at \$11,500 each

The Mid-Atlantic racing and breeding landscape is in transition. When Colonial Downs recently announced plans to race 47 days in 2025 (up from 27 days in 2024), it signaled increased opportunity for Virginia-breds to earn rich purses in restricted company. Responding to market demand, Country Life

Farm's latest "breeding partnership" offering TROUVILLE will deliver her first foal in Virginia come January of 2025. Both mare and foal will return to Country Life next spring after the mare is bred back in Kentucky.

The ideal plan is for TROUVILLE's 2025 foal to be among the first-crop yearlings sired by FORTE at the 2026 Saratoga yearling sale.

Through Nov. 8 breeding stock sales, 21 mares in foal to FORTE have averaged \$178,285, establishing him as a leading sire prospect this early in his career. He stood his first season at stud at Spendthrift Farm for a fee of \$50,000, where he covered 196 mares. (Click here on [FORTE](#) to see his *BloodHorse* Stallion Register page.)

Representing Country Life at Keeneland are Mike Pons, General Manager Christy Holden, and bloodstock advisors John and Sandy Stuart of Bluegrass Thoroughbred Services. They report high demand for quality stock: the median price is up by almost 25% over 2023 numbers. In selecting TROUVILLE ([Hip 1256](#)), the team's criteria were met: find a young racemare, from a top family, in foal to a high-end young sire.

TROUVILLE fit the profile. She competed on the tough Southern California circuit. She had twice placed in the Dark Mirage Stakes (a \$125,000 event). Coming off a \$100,000 Allowance win at Del Mar in August of 2023, she was sent out in the Grade 3 Bayakoa Stakes. She did not show her best form and after the Bayakoa, she was retired from racing with earnings of \$298,237, with four wins and 22 placings in 44 starts. A sound racemare, full of quality, in foal to a sizzle-hot young sire. Naturally, that is what everyone at Keeneland is looking for.

As TROUVILLE entered the ring on Friday afternoon, she quickly hit the six-figure mark of \$115,000. Among the initial underbidders was Country Life. When prominent bloodstock agent Jacob West signed the ticket, he told Mike he was buying out a partner, and that he would sell her to us for what he bid. We accepted West's offer and purchased 7-year-old TROUVILLE to add to our increasingly select broodmare band.

A word on her pedigree: Her sire WILL TAKE CHARGE was Champion 3-Year-Old of 2013. He is a son of UNBRIDLED'S SONG. The nick of UNBRIDLED'S SONG on TROUVILLE's family is impressive: TROUVILLE'S dam NIGHT DRIVE is a 1/2-sister to OCTAVE (by UNBRIDLED'S SONG), a \$1.3-million-earner who won the Grade 1 Coaching Club American Oaks. Be sure to click on the link above to TROUVILLE's catalog page. We call it "counting the G's." The "G's" are graded stakes. TROUVILLE's page is full of G's.

If you want to play the breeding game in the Mid-Atlantic --- as Maryland prepares to invest \$400 million into Pimlico and a new training center, as Churchill Downs pumps millions into Colonial Downs --- you'll need good stock. Give us a call today to hold a share in a fine young mare: TROUVILLE.

Thank you very much.

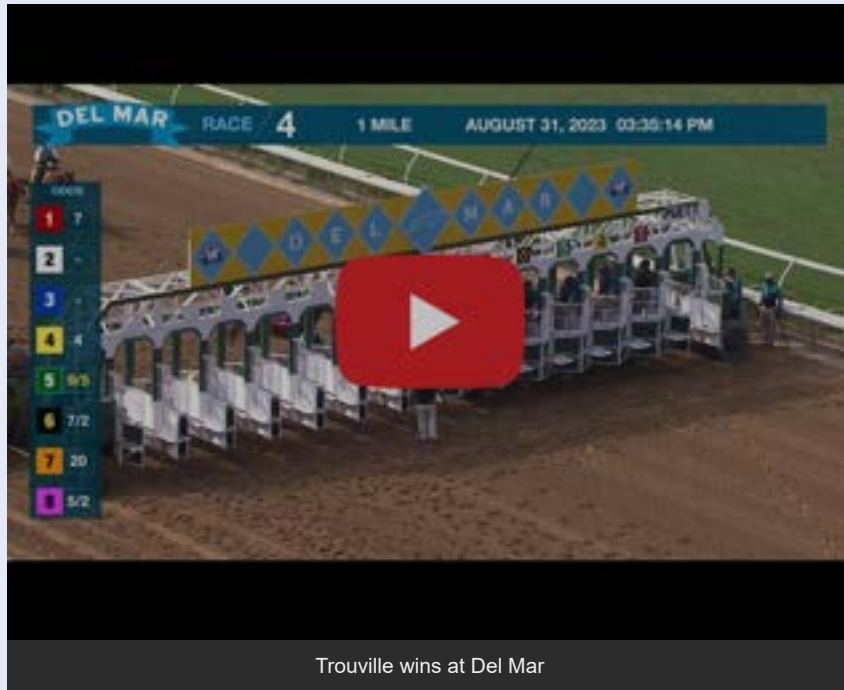
Mike Pons: [410-459-8517](tel:410-459-8517)

Christy Holder: [410-808-1325](tel:410-808-1325)

Josh Pons: [443-807-0644](tel:443-807-0644)



Forte: Champion 2-year-old of 2022. Winner of the Grade 1 Hopeful Stakes, the Grade 1 Breeders Futurity, and the Grade 1 Breeders' Cup Juvenile.



MEET MOLLY REYNOLDS
New Merryland Farm Manager



Succeeding the very capable Kim Crowell as manager of Merryland Farm is Molly Reynolds, who assumed her new duties as of November 1. Molly comes to us from Shamrock Farm, where she spent the past four years as Foaling Attendant and assisting with broodmares and sales prep.

Molly grew up in Wisconsin and moved East after high school. She worked with horse rescue facilities and with breeding farms in Tennessee and New York before coming to Maryland.

A horse lover from an early age, Molly loves working with foals and young horses and is excited for the opportunity for a wide range of duties at Merryland.

ARIEL MOON: A MAIDEN NO MORE



How exciting for yet another filly from Country Life's foundation Malibu Moon mare FIFTEEN MOONS to reach the Winner's Circle. On Friday, November 8, with the Country Life team split between the sales in Kentucky and the races in Maryland, homebred 3-year-old filly ARIEL MOON went wire-to-wire in a \$30,000 Laurel turf sprint to break her maiden after four second-place efforts in a row.

Congratulations to her partners for their patience: Laurie Asseo, Country Life, Bobby Gookin, Chuck Henderson, Ronda Henning, Lucy Howard, Greg Larson, Ann Laskodi, Andy Lewis, Evan Molyneaux, Jim & Ellen Pierce, and Ed Smith. Way to go, gang....

MARYLAND MILLION WEEKEND

In a throwback to the days when breeders raced the horses they bred instead of selling them, the 2024 edition of the Maryland Million ---- the second-most-important day next to the Preakness on the local racing calendar --- saw all eight stakes races won by horses owned by the stalwart Maryland breeders who stayed the course from breeding to racing. Click for full results of this year's [Maryland Million](#) events.



Divining Rod's daughter NEXT GIRL wins Starter Handicap on MD Million Day



Friesan Fire's SHKHARA FIRE takes the \$100,000 MD Million Lassie Day

WHAT A TEAM



Teamwork makes the dream work, and our 2024 crew was a big part of our success this year.

Pictured, bottom row, left-to-right:

Ellen Pons, Maurilio Gutierrez-Mendez, Brett Owings, Jose Silva-Dominguez, Alejandro Bricena-Nava, Sonja Aleksic

Top row:

Jesus Gutierrez-Sepulveda, Cheyenne Piccolo, Jesus Gutierrez-Mendez, Ignacio Zavala-Bautista, Rica Gutierrez-Sepulveda, Mike Pons, Armando Gutierrez-Mendez, Sallyellen Hurst, Josh Pons, Sergio Gutierrez-Nunez, Jerry Zavala, Fabian Herrera-Cazares and Christy Holden.

Missing-in-action on Team Photo Day: Greg Hare, TJ Stone and Kim Crowell

Country Life Bred or Sired Winners

DIVINING ROD

BREAKING RULES: 10/3 at CT, Claiming (breeder Country Life Farm/Stone LLC; owner Oswald H. Redman; trainer Michael Jones, Jr.)

JUDGEMENT DAY: 10/4 at CT, Allowance (breeder Timothy & Judith Grams; owner Grams Racing Stable; trainer Timothy Grams)

ICANDOTHAT: 10/6 at FX, Handicap Hurdle (breeder/owner Vivian Rall; trainer Sean McDermott)

DIVINE ROMANCE: 10/9 at PRX, Claiming (breeder Country Life Farm & Imagistic Broodmare II LLC; owner David B. Anderson; trainer Bruce Kravets)

CURL N ROD: 10/11 at LRL, Maiden (breeder/owner Barak Farm & Sharon Dodgen; trainer Jose Corrales)

NEXT GIRL: 10/12 at LRL, Starter Handicap (breeder Country Life Farm & Fleet and Fancy LLC; owner WWCD, LLC; trainer W. Robert Bailes)

QUANTICO CREEK: 10/25 at CT, Claiming (breeder Gainesway Thoroughbreds Ltd; owner Timothy Freitag; trainer Ryan Gillespie)

HANKSDIVININGROD: 10/26 at LRL, Allowance (breeder Country Life Farm & Watrugonnadorosie LLC; owner AJ Will Win Stables LLC; trainer Henry Walters)

BREAKING RULES: 10/26 at CT, Claiming (breeder Country Life Farm/Stone LLC; owner Oswald H. Redman; trainer Michael Jones, Jr.)

MOSLER

SAXTON: 10/4 at LRL, Allowance (breeder Lazy Lane Farms, LLC; owner Lynch Racing LLC and Nick Sanna Stables LLC; trainer Cathal A. Lynch)

MOON CACHE: 10/11 at LRL, Maiden (breeder/owner Hope H. Jones; trainer Cathal Lynch)

THUNDERING: 10/13 at WO, Maiden win in \$125,000 Display Stakes (breeder Jal Dastur; owner Dastur Racing; trainer Patrick Dixon)

SHARMIN: 10/19 at LRL, Maiden (breeder South Branch Equine LLC; owner Larry E. Rabold; trainer Hugh McMahon)

WATERWORKS: 10/22 at MNR, Allowance (breeder Wes Carter; owner Emerald Spring Stable LLC; trainer Eddie Clouston)

MOSE PERFECT: 10/24 at LRL, Starter (breeder Charles Parker; owner Robert A. Derr; trainer Kieron Magee)

UP FOR THE CHANCE: 10/30 at MNR, Claiming (breeder Gainesway Thoroughbreds Ltd; owner Clair Walker; trainer Joseph Musarro)

PUT A ROCK ON IT: 10/31 at LRL, Claiming (breeder Country Life Farm & Rock Sapphire LLC; owner Joseph V. Procopio; trainer Kelly Deiter)

FRIESAN FIRE

SKIP THRU DA FIRE: 10/3 at LRL, Claiming (breeder/owner Barak Farm & Dino's Thoroughbreds LLC; trainer Jose Corrales)

DOUBLE NICKEL: 10/9 at DEL, Maiden (breeder /owner Brian C. Schartz; trainer Bruce Kravets)

SHKHARA FIRE: 10/12 at LRL, MD Million Lassie Stakes (breeder/owner Barak Farm & Dino's Thoroughbreds LLC; trainer Jose Corrales)

BON FIRE DIVA: 10/21 at FL, Claiming (breeder Louis Carrico; owner/trainer Omani Williams)

SKIP THRU DA FIRE: 10/24 at LRL, Claiming (breeder/owner Barak Farm & Dino's Thoroughbreds LLC; trainer Jose Corrales)

HE'S ON FIRE: 10/25 at CT, Claiming (breeder Susan Wantz; owner Michael Scheffres; trainer Carlos Mancilla)

DUBAI FIRE: 10/25 at PEN, Claiming (breeder Randy Ridgely; owner Port Lairge Stables and Meribelle stables LLC; trainer Mark Beecher)

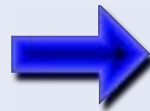
OTHER COUNTRY LIFE/PARTNERSHIP-bred or OWNED winners or Stakes Results:

TRUE ACCOUNT (Dialed In - Basedonatruestory) - 1st in Maiden race at Presque Isle Downs on 10/14. Bred by Country Life Farm & Basedonatruestory LLC; owned by R and K Racing LLC and trained by Keri Brion.

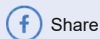
SIR MICK (World of Trouble - Hiding) - 1st in Claiming race at Laurel Park on 10/24. Bred by Country Life Farm & Huron Racing Ventures LLC; owned by Marla Salzman and trained by John Salzman, Jr. This was his 2nd lifetime win.

BILL OF RIGHTS (Constitution - Real Good Time) - 1st in Starter/Optional Claimer at Penn National on 10/24. Bred by Country Life Farm & Real Good Time LLC; owned by Jame C. Wolf and trained by Anthony Farrior. This was his 2nd lifetime win.

**Check out our farm
YouTube Channel for
stallion videos,
training videos and more!**



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