



## January 2026



**BIG UPDATES ON MARYLAND RACING AND BREEDING:**

***GET IN THE GAME WITH NEW PARTNERSHIP FOR YOUNG BROODMARE***



6-Y-O Maiden Mare

## **NEXT EPISODE**

By Mosler --- Rue de Rivoli, by Smart Strike

STAKES-PLACED EARNER OF \$301,163

In Kentucky now

2026 Stallion to be decided by partners

**10 Shares at \$1,100 each**



If 2026 is the Year-of-the-Horse, Maryland is off to a great start.

First, the unpopular choice of Shamrock Farm as the future training center in the "Pimlico Plus Plan" gave way to the plan that was staring us in the face the whole time: Buy Laurel. Make it the Training Center. The Maryland Stadium Authority announced this plan last week. The uncertainty removed, Maryland horse folks cheered the decision. (Click link to [The Baltimore Banner](#) article.)

Second, the Maryland Racing Commission approved across-the-board increases to the Maryland-Bred program. (Click [here](#) for details.)

With the future in sharp focus, Country Life went shopping at last week's Fasig-Tipton January Digital Sale to add fresh inventory to the Maryland broodmare population. For the Starter-Kit price of \$11,000, we bought a 6-year-old mare named NEXT EPISODE, an earner of \$301,163 who placed in the \$125,000 Maryland Million Ladies Handicap in 2024.

We are offering her into a 10-share Breeding LLC, with units at \$1,100 each.

This handsome mare is certainly familiar to us. She was bred by Country Life and the Rue de Rivoli LLC, and she was foaled the pandemic spring of 2020. Her dam is the winning Smart Strike mare Rue de Rivoli, and her sire is our War Front son Mosler.

Trainer Niall Saville bought NEXT EPISODE from us, and she went on to earn more than \$300,000. She won back-to-back \$70,000 allowance purses at Colonial Downs, finished a good third in the \$125,000 Maryland Million Ladies, and ran a sterling Thoro-Manager figure of "8t" in the \$150,000 Meadow Stable Stakes as a 3-year-old. She retired sound at five last December, having won or placed in 22 races from 37 starts.

NEXT EPISODE is a picture-perfect broodmare prospect, a leggy, athletic, correct young mare. After we bought her, we decided to leave her in Kentucky, where she is "under lights" and being prepared for an early mating in the Bluegrass. Her stallion choice for 2026 will be a matter for discussion and voting by the 10 partners who hop in at \$1,100 a share. With Mosler in the forefront of Maryland stallions (see below, for Quint's Brew stakes win), we think we secured a very nice young mare to produce foals for the recharged Maryland-bred program, to race at the rebuilt Pimlico Race Course, all part of the \$500-million investment by the state of Maryland in the future of the Maryland horse industry.

Call or email us to hold a share. Thank you,

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Check out Price Bell's analysis of Next Episode's pedigree and race record

**Mosler's son QINTS BREW Repeats in  
\$100,000 Jennings Stakes;**

**Next Up: the \$200,000 General George  
Stakes on Feb. 14**



Quint's Brew started off 2026 the same way he began 2025 --- with a win in the Jennings Stakes at Laurel. The 5-year-old finished 2nd in the Howard and Sondra Bender Memorial Stakes in December, his first start after a seven-month layoff from a bone bruise. In his nine career starts (with earnings of \$421,240) he's finished first or second, including runner-up finishes in the Gr. 2 Carter and the Gr. 3 Westchester Stakes last year.

Bred in Maryland by Paul Berube, Karen Linnell and Heather Hunter, he races for Berube, Linnell and Spinnaker Hill Farm. His connections are pointing him for the General George Stakes at Laurel in February next.

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## Life on the Farms in Snowy January



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## Foaling Season is Here!



Our first foal of 2026 was born on January 29th at 8:46 pm. Tune in each night to catch a birth!

[Foaling Webcam](#)

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**Country Life Bred or Sired Winners**

## **DIVINING ROD**

**FIND FAITH:** 12/5 at LRL, Claiming (breeder Dr. & Mrs. Thomas Bowman; owner Robin Graham and Mary Jones; trainer Robin Graham)

**DIVINE ROMANCE:** 12/10 at TAM, Claiming (breeder Country Life Farm & Imagistic Broodmare II LLC; owner John Fanelli; trainer Michael Simone)

**DIVINE SEEKER:** 12/10 at PRX, Maiden (breeder Smart Angle, LLP; owner Smart Angle LLP and Michael Milam; trainer Robert E. Reid, Jr.)

**STRAIGHT TO WATER:** 12/13 at LRL, Starter (breeder George Louis Doetsch, Jr.; owner/trainer Linda Albert)

**FEAR NOTHING:** 12/13 at LRL, Starter (breeder Mr. & Mrs. Charles McGinnes; owner/trainer Hamilton Smith)

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## **MOSLER**

**HELLO HOT ROD:** 12/3 at RP, Claiming (breeder Hillwood Stables; owner/trainer Dick Cappellucci)

**MOSE SMOKIN:** 12/5 at LRL, Claiming (breeder Barak Farm; owner Justin Wayson; trainer Jose E. Vargas)

**ALEA LACTA EST:** 12/11 at CPR (PAN), Allowance (breeder/owner Criadero San Silvestre; trainer Juan Cespedes)

**ALEA LACTA EST:** 12/18 at CPR (PAN), Allowance (breeder/owner Criadero San Silvestre; trainer Juan Cespedes)

**PAY ZONE:** 12/19 at MVR, Claiming (breeder Country Life Farm & Keep Right LLC; owner Kaya Gokmen; trainer Anthony Farrior)

**SAFE TRUST:** 12/28 at LRL, Claiming (breeder/owner Barak Farm; trainer Jose Corrales)

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## **FRIESAN FIRE**

**FREEZE THE FIRE:** 12/20 at LRL, Starter (breeder Carl Lanier; owner Gracie Mae Stables; trainer John Salzman, Jr.)

**SKIP THRU DA FIRE:** 12/26 at LRL, Claiming (breeder Barak Farm & Dinos Thoroughbreds LLC; owner Corrales Racing LLC; trainer Jose Corrales)

**ANITA BEER:** 12/27 at LRL, Starter (breeder/owner Matt Spencer & Kelly Cox; trainer Kenneth Cox)

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

**HANDSINTHEAIR** (Gun Runner - Starr of Quality) - Won MSW by 11-3/4 lengths at Laurel on 12/5. Bred by Country Life Farm & Starr of Quality LLC; owned by LNJ Foxwoods and Church Street Stable; trained by Brittany Russell. Sold for \$775,000 at Saratoga as a yearling, she was making her first start in Maryland for Russell after having been at Woodbine with Josie Carroll earlier in the year.

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