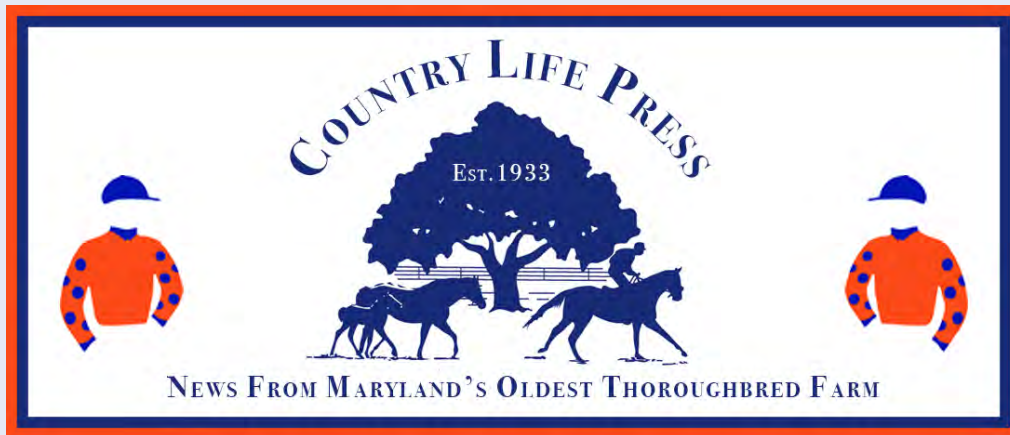


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**May 2026**

**Saratoga Anyone?  
New York-Bred Filly  
Our Latest Racing Partnership Offering  
\$8,000 per 10% Share**



**NEW YORK-BRED FILLY**

# BY PREAKNESS WINNER EARLY VOTING

OUT OF \$250,000-EARNING NY STAKES-PLACED MARE

Purchased for \$80,000 on May 18 at Fasig-Tipton Midlantic May 2-Y-O Sale  
*Hip #203*

***Now Offering 10 Shares at \$8,000 each***

**Is** a racing trip to Saratoga Race Course on your bucket list? Why not quit dreaming and try for it *this* summer, with *this* filly---just as maiden purses for New York-breds increase almost 30%, from \$90,000 to \$115,000? ([link to NY-Bred details here](#))

**Do** you know that in September, when the rebuilt Belmont Park opens, routine New York-bred maiden purses increase by 25%, from \$80,000 to \$100,000? And if *this* filly is lucky enough to run on Opening Day, Sept. 18, she'll compete for 50% higher purses in a celebration of racing's return to a new Belmont. ([link to 5/21 TDN release](#))

**Are** you aware that New York-bred purses across the board are now on par with New York's open company purses? Or that New York-breds and Canadian-breds in the Empire Trillium Series will compete for \$3.2 million in purse money spread out over 14 stakes races? ([link to NYRA release](#)) The residual broodmare value of a stakes-winning filly is enhanced by these restricted stakes opportunities.

**Well then, what** are you waiting for?

Interest in this racing partnership is strong even before this Newsletter announcement, simply from folks who read of our purchase in the Fasig sales results. Don't dally. Reach out to Country Life Farm for a 10% share in [Hip #203 \(link\)](#). She is a strikingly beautiful gray filly by Gun Runner's hot Freshman Sire **EARLY VOTING**, who already has sired two impressive debut winners from his first four starters.

Come see this filly under tack at our Merryland Training Center in Hydes, Maryland, eight miles from Country Life, 11 miles north of Baltimore.

## WORKING A SALE

*(click links to deep-dive)*

The two-day May 18-19 Fasig-Tipton Midlantic 2-year-old sale ([link](#)) set records for the trifecta of gross sales, average price, and median, when 382 horses sold for \$52,835,000, an average of \$138,313, and a median of \$70,000.

Country Life's team of Mike and Josh Pons and General Manager Christy Holden searched the Timonium sales grounds for a well-bred filly eligible to the various lucrative state-bred programs offered in the Mid-Atlantic region. We found one in Hip #203 ([link to walking video](#)), in the consignment of leading New York breeder McMahan of Saratoga Thoroughbreds LLC. She is a smooth-walking filly who handled the dirt racing surface at Timonium in stylish fashion, switching leads at the head of the stretch like a seasoned pro, and galloping out strong ([link to workout video](#)). \*No timed workouts were kept by Fasig officials in this inaugural format of showcasing athleticism more than speed.

For the two weeks prior to the sale, young 2-year-olds fresh from farm prep repeatedly walk on the unforgiving blacktop Timonium barn area on the way to being shown. When factored in with their track workouts, some horses become resentful, tire out, lose interest. But whenever we returned for a second, third, or fourth view of Joe McMahan's best filly, she walked out briskly, displaying a consistently willing attitude---an indication of a good mind in a young horse.

We couldn't help but be attracted to her pedigree. Her sire Early Voting ([link to BloodHorse stallion page](#)) is on fire. At the 2-year-old sales this spring, his sales average is a cool \$222,000, a median of \$140,000. At the Fasig Midlantic sale, five juveniles by Early Voting brought the following: \$190,000, \$150,000, \$80,000 (that's us), \$65,000, and \$60,000. That tells you that they all vetted to buyers' satisfaction.

The weekend before the sale, Early Voting's first-time starter **HE IS NO LIE** ([link to TDN article and video](#)), coming out of the Ocala March 2-year-old sale for \$150,000, breezed to an eight-length win in a \$65,000 Santa Anita feature. (Look for him next in California stakes.) One month ago, debuting in a \$92,000 Churchill Downs maiden special, Early Voting's daughter **VALKYRIE** ([TDN link](#)) scored handily over a strong field of Kentucky-breds. (Look for her in upcoming Kentucky stakes.)

Early Voting won the 2022 Preakness Stakes in only his fourth start ([link to video](#)). On Thoro-Manager Speed Figures, he ran a "4" in the Wood Memorial (G2), a "3" in the Preakness (G1), a "4" in the Jim Dandy (G2). His dam is the Tiznow mare Amour d'Ete, a 1/2-sister to champion sprinter Speightstown. A terrific race record on top of an excellent pedigree.

This daughter of Early Voting was produced from a durable young New York racemare named Forever Changed. She went to the post 21 times, earned \$247,655, and was at her best when she ran a pair of "7's" on Thoro-Manager (when placing in the Union Avenue Stakes at Saratoga and winning an Aqueduct allowance). Forever Changed is the dam of a 3-year-old 1/2-sister to Hip #203 by 4-time Leading New York sire Central Banker, as well as a Central Banker yearling colt and a Central Banker filly of 2026.

This is a very "live" family. Sired by Tapit's G2-winning son Flashback, Forever Changed is herself a 1/2-sister to \$470,748 stakes winner Classic Lady, the dam of a \$175,000 Maxfield yearling colt in 2025. Classic Lady has a 2025 colt by champion Cody's Wish, and she was bred to Into Mischief's well-regarded son Life is Good for 2026.

Forever Changed's trainer Rudy Rodriguez immediately recalled her when we saw him at the Fasig sale. "An honest racemare," he summed her up with a compliment. Those types produce honest racehorses, in our experience.

As for running up the road to New York, it sure seemed worth it a few seasons back to watch Country Life Racing Partnership filly Monte Crista carry our stable's orange and blue silks to a win in the \$100,000 Riskaverse Stakes. Monte Crista was a \$30,000 purchase out of this same Timonium 2-year-old sale.

And two summers ago, our partners in Maryland-bred Divine Works found themselves in the Saratoga paddock, many for their first visit. In her racing debut, Divine Works went postward as the 2-1 favorite and finished a game second in an \$80,000 maiden race.

As Maryland's oldest Thoroughbred farm, Country Life Farm over the past nine decades has adapted to the changing world of racing and breeding. Though most of our racing offerings center around the Maryland/Virginia circuit, the occasional New York-bred compliments and diversifies our stable. Something for everyone.

Give us a call if you want to experience the excitement of Thoroughbred racing, sharing the risk and reward with our stable of fine partners.

Josh Pons **443-807-0644** or [josh@countrylifefarm.com](mailto:josh@countrylifefarm.com)  
Mike Pons **410-459-8517** or [mike@countrylifefarm.com](mailto:mike@countrylifefarm.com)  
Christy Holden **410-808-1325** or [christy@countrylifefarm.com](mailto:christy@countrylifefarm.com)

## MOTHER'S DAY MARYLAND HORSE FARM TOUR

A VERY POPULAR EVENT



Preakness Week festivities started off on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 10, with a statewide Horse Farm Tour Day. As Maryland's oldest Thoroughbred farm, Country Life welcomed the world, or so it seemed, from 11am-to-3pm, as we hosted a great turnout of some 400 visitors.

Country Life staff in farm-blue polo shirts were stationed at every barn. The most popular stop for our visitors was the Foaling Barn, where Maryland's All-Time Leading Earner and two-time national Horse-of-the-Year CIGAR was foaled in 1990. Folks posed beside his brass memorial plaque for photo-shoots. The enthusiastic turnout reinforced our belief that horse farms in Maryland are a vital asset to their communities.

**MARYLAND HORSE BREEDERS ASSOCIATION**

***Annual Yearling Show***

**Sunday, June 28th, 9:00 am**



Join us at the Maryland State Fairgrounds in Timonium for the annual Maryland Horse Breeders Association Yearling Show on Sunday, June 28th.

Country Life may have as many as 12 yearlings in the show ring (next to the Cow Palace) that were foaled on the farm last year. Here is a rundown of our entries:

<b>Class 1 (MD-sired colts)</b>	<b>Class 2 (Out of state-sired colts)</b>	<b>Class 3 (MD-sired fillies)</b>	<b>Class 4 (Out of state-sired fillies)</b>
Mosler – Rotate	Independence Hall – Last Love	Friesan Fire – Grecian Maiden	Vekoma – Combat Queen
Blofeld – Stormy Mistress	Bolt d’Oro – Maybe I Will		Knicks Go – Determined Honor
	Drain the Clock – Glittering Judy		Known Agenda – Fifteen Moons
	Mandaloun - Jennemily		Mandaloun – Miss Nondescript
	Cyberknife - Truancy		

Open to yearlings born in Maryland and registered with the MHBA, the show awards prize money for the top finishers in each class. Champion and Reserve Champion will be crowned. Simply exhibiting in the ring makes each yearling eligible for Yearling Show Purse Awards totaling \$40,000 when they race. Based on purse earnings, prize money of \$20,000 is allocated to the top four 2-year-olds, and \$20,000 is similarly awarded to the top four 3-year-olds.

**April Foals**  
(click on picture for link to gallery)

Combat Queen-  
Olympiad colt  
April 1st 2026 at 9:10 pm



Foaled at Country Life Farm

**Bred by CLF & Combat Queen  
Broodmare LLC**

Calliope -  
Blofeld filly  
April 6th 2026 at 1:53 am



Foaled at Country Life Farm

**Bred by Vivian Rall**

Gansett-  
Cyberknife filly  
April 10th 2026 at 8:05 am



Foaled at Country Life Farm

**Bred by Paul Berube, Karen Linell  
& Heather Hunter**

Kenda-  
Cyberknife filly  
April 10th 2026 at 9:29 pm



Foaled at Country Life Farm

**Bred by CLF & Kenda Broodmare  
LLC**

Hot Spice -  
Cupid filly  
April 11th 2026 at 9:54 pm



Foaled at Country Life Farm

**Bred by Randy Ridgely**

Rotate -  
Mosler colt  
April 13th 2026 at 7:37 pm



Foaled at Country Life Farm

**Bred by Adele Dilschneider**

Annie Trust -  
Blazing Sevens filly  
April 29th 2026 at 10:10 pm



Foaled at Country Life Farm

**Bred by Barak Farm (Charles Parker)**

Danica -  
Mandaloun filly  
April 30th 2026 at 7:11 pm



Foaled at Country Life Farm

**Bred by Jann Anderson**

**May Foals - our final foals of 2026**  
(click on picture for link to gallery)

Epic Idea -  
Cupid colt  
May 1st 2026 at 8:51pm



Foaled at Country Life Farm

Bred by Vivian Rall

Miss Avalon-  
Beau Liam colt  
May 3rd 2026 at 7:58pm



Foaled at Country Life Farm

Bred by Barak Farm (Charles  
Parker)

## Country Life Bred or Sired Winners

### **DIVINING ROD**

***TWISTED HALO***: 4/1 at PRX, Maiden (breeder/owner Silver Trail Stables LLC; trainer Guadalupe Preciado)

***HOT ROD KITTY***: 4/10 at PEN, Starter (breeder Dr. Stephen Jackson, Debbie Jackson & Flint Stites; owner Short Straw Stable, Stephen & Debbie Jackson; trainer Flint Stites)

***COLOMA***: 4/10 at PEN, Claiming (breeder Caroline and Gregory Bentley Breeders; owner Runnymore Racing, LLC; trainer Cathal Lynch)

***WICKEDDIVINE***: 4/12 at LRL, Allowance (breeder Randy Ridgely; owner Bonuccelli Racing; trainer Kenneth Cox)

***WATERING***: 4/15 at EVD, Claiming (breeder Mr. & Mrs. M. Roy Jackson; owner Paw Paw Pretty Girls Racing LLC; trainer George Leonard III)

***DATTSAFANCYFOX***: 4/26 at MNR, Claiming (breeder Fox Hill Manor; owner Geovani Peralta; trainer Johanna Urieta)

### **MOSLER**

***LAST GIFT***: 4/4 at LRL, Claiming (breeder/owner Barak Farm; trainer Jose Corrales)

**VAMONOS CHICAS:** 4/11 at CT, Maiden (breeder Country Life Farm & D. Scott Peck; owner Meagon Shanley; trainer Timothy Shanley)

**BAY STREET:** 4/24 at LRL, Claiming (breeder Greycross Stable LLC; owner Dilodovico Racing Stable; trainer Damon Dilodovico)

**LAST GIFT:** 4/25 at LRL, Claiming (breeder Barak Farm; owner James C. Wolf; trainer Anthony Farrior)

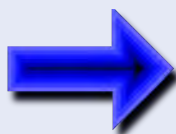
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## **FRIESAN FIRE**

**FOREVER FIRE:** 4/18 at CAY (JAM), Maiden (breeder Mr. & Mrs. Charles McGinnes; owner Cassiopeia Racing Inc., Ltd; trainer Jason Dacosta)

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YouTube Channel for  
stallion videos,  
training videos and more!**



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