

HARNESS TRACKS OF AMERICA

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Promotions at HTA Tracks



WEEK OF MAY 26, 2008

GOOD WILL FOR SPINA BIFIDA AT THE MEADOWS



Whenever the trotter Good Will races at The Meadows, he has a large national following: about 70,000 victims of spina bifida and their families. That's because the trotter's owners, Renee and Bill Bercury of Slippery Rock, PA, are donating 10 percent of the gelding's earnings to the Spina Bifida Association of America.

"We are so grateful for, and honored by, the generosity of the Bercurys," said Cindy Brownstein, CEO of the Spina Bifida Association. "We have seen first hand how their unique idea has inspired our families. We are all cheering for Good Will's success."

The Good Will story has its roots in a 2004 trip the Bercurys made to Alaska. While staying in Denali National Park, the Bercurys met Scott Price and his son Patrick, who were traveling to every state to research a book about the good things that happen to people. What particularly impressed the Bercurys was the determination of Patrick Price, a spina bifida sufferer who wasn't letting his need for a wheelchair hinder his professional pursuits.

The Bercurys made a donation to the Spina Bifida Association, the Prices later published their book, [Looking for Goodwill](#), and there the story might have ended. But destiny kept bringing the Bercurys and the Prices together. "We saw them at dinner in Anchorage," Renee recalls. "When we took a boat ride in Prince William Sound, there they were at the gas station. We kept running into them over and over, something that's not easy to do in Alaska. It seemed like fate."



Thus, when Renee and Bill purchased a yearling Donerail-Celestial Way trotter named C Small Hanover at the 2006 Adios sale, they renamed their \$6,500 acquisition Good Will and made the Prices the "honorary" owners.

John Marshall, vice president for racing at The Meadows, congratulated and thanked the Bercurys for their generosity and kindness. "I hope their efforts will serve as an inspiration for others," he said. "That's just the sort of community involvement our sport needs."

OHHA AND WEG TEAM UP FOR KIDS CAMP

Kids and horses have a magnetic attraction. So the OHHA and WEG have put them together with a free youth camp designed to teach kids the ins and outs of harness racing and caring for a racehorse.



The Ontario Harness Horse Association and the Woodbine Entertainment Group are pleased to team up again this summer to offer a special four-day interactive day camp for kids aged 10-13, at Mohawk Racetrack in Campbellville, Ontario, July 11-14 (9 a.m. to 5 p.m.). The camp is open to children from a non-harness-racing background, who would like to learn how to groom, bathe, harness, and drive a Standardbred racehorse. It's an amazing summer learning experience that's full of fun and excitement.

Additionally, it's absolutely free to a select group of participants, who will be chosen based on their 200-word essays on "Why I Want to Drive a Racehorse".

Essays must be submitted by June 16, 2008 to Dana Keyes at Woodbine Entertainment. Applications can be found at the OHHA Web site, www.ohha.ca.

OPENING WEEKEND AT THE ROCK

Rockingham Park's live harness racing meet opened on Saturday, May 24. The meet, which will run through Labor Day, is the 102nd in the history of the Salem landmark.

On opening weekend, with racing on Saturday, Sunday, and Memorial Day on Monday, every paid admission 18 and older received a free season pass and the promotion will be in effect until June 1st. On Monday, May 26th, everyone attending the races will be given a free flag pin to commemorate Memorial Day.

In addition to great racing, the Pepsi Family Fun Day scheduled for Sunday, July 13th is the center of the summer promotional schedule. The Pepsi Family Fun Day features free pony rides and all sorts of complimentary children's entertainment including clowns, face painters, magicians, caricature artists, amusements, and much more. Everyone attending has the chance to win free tickets to Red Sox, Lowell Spinners, New Hampshire Fisher Cats, and Manchester Wolves games plus hundreds more fabulous free prizes.



There will also be opportunities for adults to win prizes at the track throughout the summer and those include \$100 gas cards from Klemm's Mobile on the Run in Windham, restaurant gift certificates, and merchandise from Budweiser and Coors Light.

Coors Light will once again sponsor two popular handicapping contests, one for harness racing fans beginning on July 12th and another for Thoroughbred racing aficionados starting on August 9th. There is no cost to enter either contest and each offers \$1,000 in prize money.