



Maryland
HORSE INDUSTRY BOARD

Moving Forward From The Forum

By J. Robert Burk, Executive Director

Maryland Horse Industry Board • 410-841-5861 • www.marylandhorseindustry.org

The 2004 Maryland Horse Forum is shaping up to be one of the most successful endeavors of the Maryland equine industry in the last several years. The final report was released before the New Year and was made available online at www.mdhorseforum.com. So you might ask, “who is looking at this document?” The better question might be, “who isn’t?”

To date, Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr.’s staff has reviewed this document as have almost every cabinet agency including the departments of Agriculture (MDA), Business and Economic Development (DBED), Natural Resources (DNR), and Labor Licensing and Regulation (DLLR). Moreover, other government entities including the Department of Legislative Services (DLS), Maryland Stadium Authority (MSA), Office of the Comptroller and the Maryland Insurance Administration (MIA) have had a chance to work on recommendations from this report. The next year looks to be a landmark year for the entire horse industry in Maryland. Highlights of some of the recommendations that are currently moving forward include:

- Maryland Cooperative Extension regularly posts relevant information in *The Equiery*;
- At the Governor’s request the MSA, MHI, MDA, and DBED are moving forward with a statewide feasibility study for a Maryland State Horse Park;
- DNR is looking into ways to address all of the concerns and recommendations of the equine industry;
- Maryland Insurance Administration is looking into making sure insurance is available to equine operations in Maryland;
- MDA is working with the Baltimore Washington International Airport and the United States Department of Agriculture to explore the potential of opening the airport to international import and export of horses;
- DBED and the MHI are compiling information for a media guide which would give insight into all equestrian activities and provide contact information to the general public;
- DBED’s Office of Tourism Development and the MHI are working together to develop a strategic plan on how to market the Maryland horse industry into the future

The Maryland Horse Forum Report has created palpable excitement in Annapolis and across the State. Its straightforward approach to solving issues that have slowed the development of the Maryland horse industry makes it possible for the recommendations to move forward. As Governor Ehrlich suggested at the Forum all the industry needs to do is work together and form consensus recommendations to achieve their goals. So hold on tight and enjoy the ride as many of the hopes and dreams of Maryland horsemen start to become reality.



We Want To Have Your Baby!

Enter your foal’s photo in *The Equiery’s* 2005 FOAL PHOTO CONTEST

■ Winners will be displayed in the August 2005 “Bringing Up Baby” Issue. Photographs will be judged on their clarity, composition and “cute-ness” factor. ■ Eligibility: Foals born between Oct. 2004 & Jun. 2005; foal, sire, or photographer must be MD resident. Professional photographers are ineligible. ■ Photographs: Entries may be color or B&W; 3x5, 4x6, 5x7 or 8x10/12. (NO negatives, slides, or color copier repros.) ■ Original digital images will be accepted as long as 1) the output image is on photo quality paper; 2) the original digital image is submitted on a CD; 3) the digital image is at least 300 dpi. Images less than 300 dpi will not be accepted in the contest (i.e. do not use your camera on the “basic” setting; choose the highest quality image possible, even though it makes bigger files).

INFORMATION—ALL ENTRIES MUST INCLUDE ✓ Foal’s name (if available), breed, sex, birth date, sire, dam, dam’s sire (if available), & owner/breeder, location; ✓ Photographer’s name, age, address, phone #.

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Entries are now being accepted for the 2005 Foal Photo Contest. Don’t delay— Visit www.equiery.com for electronic submission information
DEADLINE IS JULY 5, 2005

- Each photograph must be clearly marked. Any missing information will disqualify entry. Do not cut or crop photos and do not write on back of photos with ball point pen (use felt tip). Cut photos will be disqualified.
- The Equiery reserves the right to publish any photos submitted. All photos become the property of The Equiery.
- The Equiery will not be responsible for any photographs lost by the USPS or other carriers (for your protection we urge you to use a trackable delivery system). Please do not send negatives.