



SARATOGA[®]
RACE COURSE 2009

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

NYRA Press Office

(718) 659-2244 [through 7/26]

(518) 584-6200, Ext. 4235 [racing season]

or visit www.nyra.com

Ed Lewi Associates

6 Chelsea Place ▪ Clifton Park, NY 12065

Phone: (518) 383-6183

Fax: (518) 383-6755



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THE FUN IS SET TO BEGIN JULY 29 AT SARATOGA RACE COURSE

SARATOGA SPRINGS, N.Y. – When the gates open for the 141st season at Saratoga Race Course on Wednesday, July 29, fans can count on the best in thoroughbred racing set against a backdrop of unmatched charm, ambience – and fun!

Wildly popular giveaways, free concerts, star-gazing at the celebrities, and enchanting backyard picnics are all part of the scene, but at its heart, Saratoga is about the horses.

Over the course of its 36-day meet, with live racing daily except Tuesdays, Saratoga Race Course will offer \$25 million in purses – tops in the nation – and 34 graded stakes, highlighted by the 140th running of the Grade 1, \$1 million Shadwell Travers on Aug. 29.

While last year's Travers featured a thrilling finish between Colonel John and Mambo in Seattle, this year's edition won't be strictly for the birds. Both Kentucky Derby winner Mine That Bird and Belmont Stakes winner Summer Bird have the "Mid-Summer Derby" penciled in on their schedules, but Preakness heroine Rachel Alexandra could be eyeing a rematch with the boys in the 1¼-mile race if she doesn't go in the Grade 1, \$600,000 Alabama the previous week.

And beginning July 18, fans can make their free entry to win a Shadwell Travers Stakes Package, valued at more than \$1,000 and including two tickets round-trip airfare and hotel accommodations, courtesy of the Hampton Inn and Suites in downtown Saratoga Springs. Contest entries can be made at www.nyra.com once registration begins.

The stakes action commences opening day with the Grade 3, \$100,000 Schuylerville for 2-year-old fillies, one of six graded events for freshman runners at the Spa that culminate with the Grade 1, \$300,000 Three Chimneys Hopeful Stakes on Closing Day. Veterans will have their moment in the spotlight as well, as 8-year-old Commentator, trained by Hall of Famer Nick Zito, seeks his third victory in the Grade 1, \$750,000 Whitney Handicap on Aug. 8.

The stakes calendar has been rearranged from last year so there is at least one Grade 1 race every Saturday, beginning with the Aug. 1, \$500,000 Diana for fillies and mares going nine furlongs on the turf.

Subsequent Saturdays will feature the \$300,000 Test for 3-year-old fillies going seven furlongs on Aug. 8, the \$500,000 Sword Dancer Invitational at a mile and a half on the turf Aug. 15, the \$300,000 NetJets King's Bishop for 3-year-olds and the \$300,000 Ballerina for fillies and mares, both at seven furlongs, on Travers Day, and the \$500,000 Woodward at a mile and an eighth and the \$300,000, seven-furlong Forego on Sept. 5.

New this year is the Curlin Stakes, an overnight stakes run on the undercard of the Grade 1 Diana and the Grade 2 Jim Dandy Stakes on Saturday, Aug. 1. Restricted to three-year-

olds, the Curlin Stakes will be run at a mile and an eighth on the dirt. Last year, Mambo in Seattle came out of a nine-furlong overnight stakes on the Jim Dandy undercard to finish a nose behind Colonel John in a Shadwell Travers thriller.

And with more than 2,500 applications for 1,800 stalls, full, competitive fields appear assured throughout the meet, with nine-race cards the norm on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, 10-race cards the norm on Thursdays and Sundays, and 11-race cards the norm on Saturdays.

At Saratoga, the competition among humans is keen as well. The meet attracts top trainers from across the country, and this year the out-of-town roster features Mark Casse, Michael Trombetta, Michael Matz, Kenneth McPeck, H. Graham Motion, Wesley Ward, Eddie Kenneally, Ian Wilkes, Jimmy Baker and David Carroll. More familiar out-of-town faces stabled full-time at the Spa include Eoin Harty, Rusty Arnold, Steve Klesaris, Ronnie Werner, and Bob Baffert.

Last year's training and riding titles went down to the last day, with trainer Kiaran McLaughlin winning his first championship over Todd Pletcher and Alan Garcia edging John Velazquez among the jockeys.

Speaking of jockeys, a sure thing this summer will be the 2009 Jockey Autograph Book, sponsored by Price Chopper. With full-color photos and information pages for the top 10 NYRA riders (by 2008 wins), the 2009 Jockey Autograph Books will be distributed to children by the Saratoga mascot weekdays at the track, and also will be available for purchase at the NYRA stores, with the proceeds going to the Permanently Disabled Jockeys Fund.

The new Fasig-Tipton Festival of Racing on Aug. 8 and 9 will feature Best-Turned-Out Horse contests, a celebrity race call by Bobby Flay, and many free events for fans, while "Party at the Park" Fridays return on July 31 and Sept. 4, with post time of 2:30 p.m. and live concerts on the new stage in the backyard. Sept. 4 is also College Scholarship Day, with students gaining free admission with a valid college ID and a chance to win one of nine \$1,000 scholarships drawn between races.

"The driving force behind Saratoga's success is the incredibly high level of racing on an everyday basis," said NYRA President and Chief Executive Officer Charles E. Hayward. "It's the premier meet in the United States, run in a beautiful setting in a beautiful area. Racing fans across the country have come to expect the Saratoga meet to be the best in the country."

**GATES SWING OPEN EARLY AT SARATOGA RACE COURSE FOR
THE 29TH ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE**

SARATOGA SPRINGS, N.Y. – The familiar gates of Saratoga Race Course will open three days early as the Spa prepares to host its annual pre-season preview party, the 29th annual Open House. A Saratoga tradition held prior to the start of racing season at North America’s most historic thoroughbred racetrack, Open House returns Sunday, July 26, to offer a full day of attractions, games and activities.

Presented by the New York Racing Association (NYRA), the annual Open House will be held from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and will feature carnival games, lively music, giant inflatables, circus shows, handicapping seminars and an array of food and beverages -- all to benefit local charities. Admission and parking are free.

The National Steeplechase Association will get a jump on the racing season, presenting five races - four jump races and a turf race – along with a special luncheon on the dining terrace and box area for race sponsors and patrons of the event. There is no pari-mutuel wagering on these races, which get underway at 1:30, 2:05, 2:40, 3:15 and 3:50 p.m.

Another highlight of Open House for horse lovers is the Islip Horsemen’s Association Long Island Drill Team. The team will demonstrate its moves and skills as more than a dozen horses execute intricate pinwheels, circles, and V formations. The team will perform on the main track at 11:15 a.m. and 12:45 p.m.

Open House will include the sixth annual mascot race, which pits area sports team’s mascots against one another in a one-of-a-kind race down the main track.

After making its debut appearance last year, the Children’s Museum of Science and Technology will again make a stop at Open House bringing its educational and explorative Leaping Lizards and Rocking Reptiles exhibit to the Spa. Featuring shows under the Carousel at 11:15 a.m., 12:30 p.m., 1:45 p.m. and 3 p.m., kids and families will have a chance to meet these cold-blooded creatures while learning all about their behaviors, habitats and lifestyles.

The backyard will play host to a variety of activities including pony rides, inflatables, face painting, caricatures and a petting zoo. Young racing fans can participate in the interactive Backyard Circus in the festival tent, or try their skills in the inflatable obstacle course, the Adrenaline Rush.

Captain Squeeze & The Zydeco Moshers, a strolling swing jazz band, will play jazz favorites in the backyard, while Mark Rabin performs cover songs underneath the bandstand from such renowned artists as Bob Dylan, Van Morrison, Elvis Presley and The Beatles.

Open House will offer patrons a glimpse into the inner workings of the track with free backstretch tours. The tours will run every half hour beginning at 11 a.m. at the Clubhouse entrance.

Handicappers Nick Kling and Tom Amello from the Troy Record's "Track Facts" will host handicapping seminars throughout the day in the Paddock Pavilion.

Committed to supporting local community organizations, Saratoga's Open House will benefit an array of local not-for-profit groups.

For example, visitors can have their photo taken and laminated on a 3"x 4" photo magnet, available for a minimal donation to The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society Upstate New York/Vermont Chapter.

Again this year, the Saratoga Economic Opportunity Council, a non-profit program that provides aid to low- and/or fixed-income families in crisis, will greet patrons at the gates in an effort to collect non-perishable canned goods. Each patron who donates two non-perishable canned items will receive a commemorative 2009 NYRA calendar, while supplies last.

Patrons can also choose from a variety of tasty treats. From hamburgers to fried dough, sausage and peppers to ice cream sandwiches, Open House has something to suit everyone's taste buds.

All proceeds from food and beverages benefit local charities and non-profit organizations such as Living Resources, the Saratoga-Wilton BPOE, the Jewish Community Center, the Children's Museum, the Racing City Chorus, the Brookside Museum, the Moreau Community Center, Saratoga EOC, the Saratoga Rowing Association and the Knights of Columbus.

Season passes for the upcoming 2009 Saratoga Race Course season will be available for purchase at the Grandstand Customer Service Center. The passes are \$75 for clubhouse and \$35 for grandstand. The passes are good for the entire 36-day Saratoga meet, including Travers Day, Saturday, August 29.

NEW AND OLD TRADITIONS MARK 2009 SPECIAL EVENTS

SARATOGA SPRINGS, N.Y. – Undeniably one of the most popular non-racing features of the six-week meet at Saratoga Race Course, Sunday giveaway days will again be a focal point in 2009.

Four giveaways are planned this year: An Alabama Stakes baseball cap on Aug. 2; a short-sleeve Saratoga t-shirt on Aug. 16; a long-sleeve Saratoga t-shirt on Aug. 23 and a Saratoga knit winter cap on Sept. 6.

Also planned for select weekday giveaways is the new Jockey Autograph Book, sponsored by Price Chopper, in which fans can collect the signatures of their favorite New York Racing Association jockeys and others.

As has become customary, Saratoga Race Course will host two “Party at the Park” Fridays on the first (July 31) and last (Sept. 4) Fridays of the meet. First post on these Fridays is at 2:30 p.m. and live music is featured in the backyard throughout the race day.

English and Southern California racing will again be presented by Hendrick’s Gin in a newly expanded backyard tent with a full bar and food service.

For the first time this summer, the daily handicapping show is now called “Talking Horses, presented by Daily Racing Form” and will be moved to the Carousel Restaurant on the track grounds and conducted in front of a live audience. Now extended to 45 minutes every race day from 11:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., the show will be broadcast live and uninterrupted via all on-track monitors.

Throughout the summer, downstate racing fans who can’t make it to Saratoga will be able to catch all the action via simulcast at beautiful Belmont Park. The Saratoga card is broadcast live Wednesday through Monday at Belmont with free parking and admission for simulcast patrons. Official track prices are given on all payoffs.

For MSG Plus subscribers, the network will telecast five “Saturdays at Saratoga” live for eight championship caliber stakes including the Jim Dandy, Whitney Handicap, Alabama and Woodward, so fans can catch racing action at home.

All this in addition to popular Saratoga staples like Hats Off To Saratoga (Friday, July 31 – Sunday, Aug. 2), NFL Day (Monday, Aug. 10), the Stewart’s Shops ice cream eating contest (Wednesday, Aug. 26), and new additions like the Fasig-Tipton Festival of Racing (Saturday, Aug. 8 – Sunday, Aug. 9) are sure to guarantee that Saratoga, as always, will remain the summer place to be in 2009.

For more information on all the special events planned for Saratoga this year, please see related materials in the press kit, including the Saratoga Race Course 2009 Brochure.

JOCKEY AUTOGRAPH BOOK HELPS FANS GET INTO THE GAME

SARATOGA SPRINGS, N.Y. – Summer racing at Saratoga Race Course is without equal. Of all the traditions that make Saratoga a special place, perhaps one of the most cherished is the unfettered access to jockeys that patrons at Saratoga enjoy.

After each race, the jockeys make their way down the Clubhouse jockey path and through the crowd in the courtyard on the way back to the jockey's room. For fans young and old, the ability to see and interact with their favorite riders is one of the biggest thrills of summer at Saratoga.

For the first time this year, The New York Racing Association, Inc. will offer a Jockey Autograph Book, sponsored by Price Chopper, in which fans can collect the signatures of their favorite riders. The book features the ten leading NYRA jockeys by number of wins in 2008, as well as Sam the Bugler and a blank page for additional autographs.

Autograph book giveaways are planned for select weekdays at Saratoga Race Course and are also expected to be available for purchase in the NYRA store, with the proceeds going to benefit the Permanently Disabled Jockey Fund.

NO BOZOS ALLOWED IN THE SERIOUS CIRCUS KNOWN AS ‘THE MOVE’

SARATOGA SPRINGS, N.Y – Call it a circus without clowns. Or just call it “The Move,” which happens every summer when The New York Racing Association’s various departments move from Belmont Park in Elmont, N.Y. to Saratoga Race Course in upstate Saratoga Springs, some 200 miles north.

And with years of experience, be assured that “The Move” will again go without a hitch and in plenty of time for the 141st opening of Saratoga Race Course’s 36-day thoroughbred racing meet on Wednesday, July 29.

“I’ve always likened the NYRA move to the circus -- picking itself up, loading all overnight, shipping the next day -- and BAM! Set to go two days later with everything and everyone in place,” said Pete Mistretta, grandstand manager of NYRA’s Facilities Department and a vital player in the elaborate production. “When you consider the volume of items moved, it still never ceases to amaze me that not only do we get it done in time, but if we lose 1% or misplace a box or an item, that’s a lot. I’m proud to be a part of all this, and proud of our people and organization and how they all come together for the relocation process.”

Under the direction of Kenneth Cook, NYRA’s vice president of security, who meets with each department head to discuss particulars, an extensive inventory of all items to be moved is submitted.

“The inventories are put into spread sheets to determine the item, type and quantity to be moved in order to determine the actual cubic feet of space required,” Cook said. “Then, we have to schedule the required move equipment over a period of a week prior to opening in Saratoga. Working with the moving company, we set up a schedule detailing what time of day and on what particular day the departments will be loaded.”

The moving company entrusted with this job is Bay Shore Moving, whose corporate offices are in Hauppauge, Long Island and which boasts 75 years of experience on Long Island and New York City.

Once the scheduling has been finalized, the first phase of the process usually begins with an early move on Wednesday; this year on July 22, before the Belmont Park Spring/Summer Meet ends on Sunday, July 26. Mistretta then gets to work on the Belmont end.

“I have a crew of 14 men to bring all items down for loading and shipping,” Mistretta said. “Bay Shore supplies an extra dozen men on the ground here and in Saratoga to load and receive all items. At Belmont, it is easier to load and ship since everything is brought to docks in the tunnel and put on trucks, with each one having one driver and one assistant.

“All computers and computer-related items are tagged and shipped separately, loaded by Bay Shore from in-house electricians. The infield and backyard Pro Star boards are broken down and shipped as well and the entire CCTV complex, which is packed in its own trailers sent as well. All office items – files, furniture, file cabinets, computers, etc. - that are marked are loaded and sent.”

According to Cook, NYRA will utilize nine 20-foot vans, seven tractors to haul NYRA equipment already on trailers (for instance, the infield Pro Star Boards), and six tractor trailers for all of the remaining equipment.

Now, the real fun begins.

“Because the departments are so spread out at Saratoga, it necessitates certain items being dropped off in three of four central locations,” Mistretta said. “Then, NYRA and Bay Shore labor pick up those items for delivery to the various departments.”

Further complicating matters is that Belmont Park closes on Sunday, July 26, the same day that Saratoga Race Course will host its 29th annual open house. That explains why the early move is so important. Once racing stops at Belmont Park, the Racing Office, Mutuel Department and CCTV are packed, loaded and sent to Saratoga for 8 o’clock delivery on Monday morning so business can begin.

“The third phase of The Move is Monday after closing day at Belmont and this is the bulk of the move, when all other departments are sent,” Mistretta said. “This would include Customer Service, Cleaning, Marketing, Admissions, Security, Cashier Admissions, Reserved Seats, Investigations, NYRA Photos, Press Office, Group Sales, Simulcasting, Stewards and a separate truck for all security barn items

“In addition, a separate in-house truck is used or rented to accommodate all executive office personnel, usually on the Saturday of Closing Weekend at Belmont Park. All NYRA store items are packed and shipped as well.”

According to Mistretta, roughly 45 tally loads are shipped over the three-day period, with one tally load constituting one straight truckload of items.

INAUGURAL FASIG-TIPTON FESTIVAL OF RACING SET FOR AUG. 8-9

SARATOGA SPRINGS, N.Y. -- The Fasig-Tipton Festival of Racing at Saratoga Race Course the weekend of August 8-9 will celebrate the rich partnership between racing and yearling sales with a variety of special events, a celebrity race call, best-turned-out horse (and people!) contests and an innovative, free speaker series for fans.

Ushering in two evenings of sales on Aug. 10-11 at the newly-remodeled Humphrey S. Finney Sales Pavilion on East Avenue, the centerpiece of the Festival are two days of world-class racing, highlighted by the 82nd running of the Grade 1, \$750,000 Whitney Handicap and the 84th running of the Grade 1, \$300,000 Test on Saturday, Aug. 8, and the 24th running of the Grade 2, \$250,000 Alfred G. Vanderbilt Handicap and the 18th running of the Grade 2, \$150,000 Honorable Miss Handicap on Sunday, Aug. 9.

Additionally, Fasig-Tipton will have two new overnight stakes; on Saturday, the John Hettinger Stakes will be run on the main track while on Sunday, the Finney Stakes will be run on the turf. Fasig-Tipton is also sponsoring a "Best Turned-Out Horse" contest for both stakes, with the winning grooms to receive a cash prize of \$500.

Celebrity chef and horse owner Bobby Flay will do the race call for the Finney Stakes.

"Saratoga is the most exciting race meet in the country and it is great to work with Fasig-Tipton to launch our first Festival of Racing," said NYRA President and Chief Executive Officer Charles Hayward. "The combination of world-class racing and world-class yearlings has always drawn fans from around the world. Now, this will be supported by many activities, both on and off the track, providing a thrilling, unforgettable experience for all of our customers."

On Saturday morning, Aug. 8, Fasig-Tipton and co-sponsors NYRA, ThoroFan, and New York Thoroughbred Breeders will host the free education program "From the Farm to the Finish Line: A Seminar on the Thoroughbred Industry" in the sales pavilion on East Avenue. From 10-11 a.m., industry experts will discuss their roles in getting a young thoroughbred from the farm to the sales ring and onto the racetrack, following which, fans can watch a demonstration of a consignor showing a yearling to a prospective buyer. As of this writing, confirmed panelists include Hall of Fame trainer D. Wayne Lukas, Case Clay of Three Chimneys Farm, and consignor Meg Levy, with a prominent thoroughbred owner likely to participate as well. Free tickets for this event will be available through the NYTB by phoning 518-587-0777, or may be picked up at the NYRA Open House at Saratoga on Sunday, July 26th at the ThoroFan booth.

On Sunday, a "Best Turned Out Filly" fashion contest will be held at the racetrack, with the best-dressed woman to be awarded a gift certificate from a local retail shop before the running of the Honorable Miss.

Fasig-Tipton, which is paying tribute to the racetrack's long history by featuring Man o' War on the sale book cover, has extended invitations to members of the global racing community to travel to Saratoga Springs for the first time and introduce them to the area's first-class hospitality.

Last year, Synergy Investments Ltd., headed by Abdulla Al Habbai, a close associate of the ruler of Dubai, purchased the historic horse auction company. It is making extensive renovations to the pavilion and its 4-acre property.

"Fasig-Tipton is delighted to partner with NYRA to present a weekend of world-class racing preceding our premier yearling sale in Saratoga," said Fasig-Tipton President and Chief Executive Officer Boyd Browning. "We look forward to having the opportunity to showcase the 'Saratoga experience' for many of our international visitors."

THE TRAVERS FESTIVAL CELEBRATES 140 YEARS OF THE TRAVERS STAKES WITH NINE DAYS OF SPECIAL EVENTS

SARATOGA SPRINGS, N.Y. – For the 14th consecutive year, the Travers Festival is set for Saratoga and the Greater Capital Region in anticipation of one of the highlights of the summer: the \$1 million Shadwell Travers Stakes for the world's top three-year-old thoroughbreds. Visitors to Saratoga Race Course and the surrounding area can enjoy nine days of special events, culminating in the 140th running of the Shadwell Travers on Saturday, August 29.

The Travers Festival, sponsored by the New York Lottery, kicks off Saturday, August 22 and continues through Sunday, August 30. Within that time, in addition to providing entertainment for visitors, the Travers Festival will help generate hundreds of thousands of dollars for local charities. Some of the events include concerts, golf tournaments, art exhibits, an ice cream eating contest, a battle of the brews, and more. The following list highlights several of the premier events and activities of Travers Festival week.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 22

The Travers Festival gets under way at Saratoga Race Course with the Grade 1 **Alabama** for three-year-old fillies, which sets the scene for Travers week as the first of nine graded stakes races.

Later in the evening, take in a performance of the **Philadelphia Orchestra** as they celebrate the Fabulous Philadelphians at the Saratoga Performing Arts Center. Ravel's *Bolero* and Rossini's *Overture to William Tell* are the featured pieces. Admission is \$16 for lawn seats, \$10 for students, and free for kids 12 and under. Gates open at 6 p.m. and performance starts at 8 p.m. Contact: 518-584-9330 ext. 116 for ticket information.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 23

Perfect for cool summer evenings, all Saratoga Race Course patrons will receive a **Saratoga Long Sleeve T-Shirt** free with paid admission, while supplies last. Gates open at 10:30 a.m.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 25

Take a break on this “dark Tuesday” and visit the NYRA Recreation Center in Saratoga Springs for **La Fiesta**, a festival celebrating backstretch cultural traditions through music, food, the arts and much more. *La Fiesta* is free and open to the public (there is a cost for food and beverages). It begins at 5 p.m. For more information, call 518 584-0400 x120. The event is presented by the National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame.

Saratoga National hosts a charity golf tournament to benefit the **Grayson-Jockey Club Research Foundation**. The daylong affair includes lunch and a post-tournament buffet dinner. For more information, call 212-521-5327.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26

Racing fans can cool down at the track with the **Stewart's Shops Annual Ice Cream Eating Contest**. One of the best ways to beat the summer heat, those wishing to enter the "chilly" competition can sign up for the kid, teen or adult categories near the jockey silks room. The contest is currently slated to get under way at 2 p.m., with registration starting at noon.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 27

Start the day at Saratoga Race Course with a fashion show and luncheon to benefit Ronald McDonald House Charities of the Capital Region. The 11th annual **Ronald McDonald House Fashion Show** takes place inside the air-conditioned At the Rail Pavilion. For ticket information, call 518-438-2655.

Later in the day, Congress Park in Saratoga is the scene of the traditional **Travers Festival Children's Parade**. Sponsored by the Downtown Business Improvement District, the parade steps off at 5:30 p.m. featuring children dressed in cowboy and cowgirl themed outfits as they make their way from the park down Broadway to the Saratoga City Center.

As dusk settles over Saratoga Race Course, the **Ninth annual Travers Celebration** takes center stage in honor of 2008 Travers Stakes champion Colonel John and his connections: owners Bill Casner and Kenny Troutt, trainer Eoin Harty and jockey Garrett Gomez. Held inside the At the Rail Pavilion, the Travers Celebration is the only evening fundraiser at Saratoga Race Course and annually raises approximately \$100,000 for the Backstretch Employee Service Team (B.E.S.T.) and the Double H Ranch. The cocktail hour gets under way at 7:30 p.m. followed by a gourmet dinner and an extensive live and silent auction. To purchase tickets, call 518-383-6183 until July 28; afterward, call 518-584-6200 x4233.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 28

The backyard will play host to the area's best brews as thirsty adults enjoy the ultimate in beer tasting: the 12th **Annual Battle of the Brews**. The festival will feature some of the best microbrewery beers in the area with proceeds benefiting the American Red Cross Adirondack Saratoga Chapter. For ticket information, call 518-792-6545.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 29 – SHADWELL TRAVERS DAY

It's **Shadwell Travers Day** at Saratoga Race Course with a special first post time of 11:35 a.m.

The gates open at 7 a.m. for the traditional dash to the backyard as fans stake out their territory to watch the 140th running of the Shadwell Travers. Shadwell Travers Day will also feature the world's premier Grade 1 dirt sprint for three-year-olds, the **NetJets King's Bishop**, in addition to the Grade 1 **Ballerina** sprint for fillies and mares.

Two additional graded stakes, **The Ballston Spa** and **The Victory Ride**, will round out the summer's most spectacular sports spectacle at Saratoga.

For a complete listing of Travers Festival events, contact the Saratoga County Tourism Department at 1-800-526-8970 or visit www.saratoga.org. The 2009 Travers Festival is presented by the New York Lottery.

NEW CURLIN CAFÉ JOINS DINING ARRAY AT SARATOGA RACE COURSE

SARATOGA SPRINGS, N.Y. -- It's no coincidence that the newest dining venue at Saratoga Race Course is named for one of its biggest stars.

Curlin, winner of the 2008 Grade 1 Woodward Stakes at Saratoga – not to mention two-time Horse of the Year and all-time leading money-earner in North America with more than \$10 million in purses – is in a class by himself. Befitting the stallion's long list of accomplishments, so is the new **Curlin Café**.

A private trackside dining room located just steps from the Winner's Circle with a clear view of the Finish Line, the climate-controlled café features butler service, a private bar with ultra-premium wine and spirit selections, and fine dining from two extensive menus.

Designed for groups of 20-24, the Curlin Café offers upscale accommodations and premium guest benefits right in the midst of all the action. The \$200-\$250 per person cost includes trackside parking credentials for up to twelve vehicles and clubhouse admission and Post Parade programs for all guests. For more information about the Curlin Café, contact The New York Racing Association Inc.'s Group Sales Department at 1.888.285.5961 or visit <http://nyragroupsales.com/>

A fan favorite, **Restaurant Row**, returns for a second year with local flavors in the courtyard near the Executive Offices.

Four restaurants are featured at Restaurant Row in 2009:

- **Hattie's:** The landmark Saratoga restaurant, whose legendary fried chicken is the cornerstone of a menu showcasing fine Southern cooking.
- **Brindisi's:** Specialty dishes named for friends and family adorn a traditional, but exhaustive Italian menu.
- **Grey Gelding:** Regional ingredients are featured in bistro-style Cajun, Tuscan and California cuisine.
- **1 Caroline Street Bistro:** American favorites and French Quarter cuisine from New Orleans.

And that's only the beginning.

Overall, there are five kitchens and seven dining areas in the Saratoga grandstand. More than 100 concession points of sale offer everything from Saratoga Chips to Manhattan Clam Chowder, and 20-plus bar stations serve a plethora of alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages.

The **Saratoga Sunrise Buffet Breakfast** is one of the track's most popular dining experiences. While top-class thoroughbreds put in their morning workouts, diners enjoy the full breakfast buffet. The breakfast is served every race day, including Travers and

Alabama Days, from 7-9:30 a.m. on the Lower Porch. The price is \$14.95 for adults and \$7.95 for children under 12.

Full-Service Restaurants

- **The Turf Terrace** is located on the third and fourth floors of the Saratoga clubhouse. Featuring an a la carte menu including appetizers, entrees and desserts, the tiered Turf Terrace boasts wonderful sightlines of the course and closed-circuit television monitors throughout the dining area.
- **The Lower Porch** Restaurant is located below the Turf Terrace at track level. It offers a wide-ranging menu and an up-close view of the horses.
- **The At the Rail Pavilion** is an upscale buffet located in a huge air-conditioned party tent opposite the Lower Porch Restaurant.
- **The Carousel Restaurant and Lounge** is a casual spot that specializes in lighter fare like salads and sandwiches.
- **The Club Terrace** also offers casual dining with daily entrée specials.
- **The Paddock Pavilion** offers a daily buffet and views of the saddling area from inside an air-conditioned tent – a popular destination for groups.
- **Luxury Suites** on the clubhouse turn offer unparalleled views of the live racing, with a wide variety of cuisine; from gourmet sandwiches to fancy finger foods to traditional and custom buffets featuring upscale culinary selections and full bar service.

Most on-track restaurants require reservations and some have seating charges. For restaurant reservations call 516-488-1740 through July 19. Beginning July 20, please call 518-587-5070.

Special rates on dining packages, including admission tickets and track programs, are available for groups of 20 or more. Contact NYRA Group Sales at: 1.888.285.5961 or visit <http://nyragroupsales.com/>

Concessions

- Planned for the 2009 season is the opening of **Saratoga Sliders**. Located in the Lower Carousel it will feature baby burgers, little chicken sandwiches, petite crab cake sandwiches and a variety of deli minis. Freshly made Saratoga Chips will accompany the sliders.
- A fan favorite, **Restaurant Row** (see above), returns with local flavors served by Hattie's, Brindisi's, One Caroline Street and the Grey Gelding.
- UK and SoCal racing, presented by Hendrick's Gin, the preferred gin of Saratoga Race Course, is located in the backyard, and will offer food and beverage throughout the day and after live racing.
- Burgers and Buckets of Fries
- Philly Cheese Steaks and Saratoga Chips

- Chowder Bar: freshly made Manhattan clam chowder and soup du jour
- Lobster rolls
- Sausage and peppers with waffle fries
- Furlong Franks with choice of toppings
- Carolina Bar-B-Q southern-style fare including barbecue beef, chicken and pork sandwiches
- Funnel Cakes
- Saratoga Chicken Company grilled chicken and chicken salad sandwiches
- Ice cream from Carvel, Ben and Jerry's and Haagen-Dazs
- Fresh-squeezed lemonade
- World-famous Nathan's hot dogs and fries
- Sbarro's Pizza
- Popcorn, peanuts and cotton candy
- Numerous concession stands offer hot dogs, pretzels, soda, bottled water, beer, coffee and cake. Coca-Cola® is the official soft drink of Saratoga Race Course and is available for purchase at restaurants and concessions throughout the property

Alcoholic Beverages

The **Saratoga Sunrise** is the signature drink of Saratoga Race Course. It is made with orange juice, vodka and grenadine and served in a take-home souvenir glass at all restaurants on track. Grey Goose® is the preferred vodka of the Saratoga Sunrise. The cocktail is also available in many concession bars, though premium spirits and the souvenir glass are not included.

Other drink options include:

- Public bars serving full line of spirits, wine and beer
- Beer gazebos serving Coors®, the preferred, domestic malt beverage of Saratoga Race Course and Heineken® is the preferred, imported malt beverage of Saratoga Race Course, among other selections
- Hard Lemonade and alcoholic lemonade and iced tea.
- Frozen drinks such as mud slides, margaritas, strawberry daiquiris and others.

BREAKFAST AT SARATOGA IS A LONG-STANDING TRADITION

SARATOGA SPRINGS, N.Y. – For most of the year, racehorses go about their morning routines in relative solitude. But mornings at Saratoga Race Course during racing season are a different story as horses routinely train before a large and enthusiastic crowd as part of the “Breakfast at Saratoga” experience.

Breakfast at the track has been a tradition at Saratoga since the post-Civil War era. Served every racing day from 7:00 to 9:30 a.m. on The Porch of the Clubhouse beginning Opening Day, Wednesday, July 29, the Saratoga Sunrise Breakfast Buffet is \$14.95 per person, plus tax and gratuity. For children, the buffet is \$7.95.

In addition to fine fare, fans gain insight into the sport through the commentary of longtime racing analyst Mary Ryan. She points out top horses, star jockeys and interesting facts that enlighten both the neophyte and serious fan.

And, afterwards, fans line up for the popular free tram tour of the barn area, where they get a narrated, up-close-and-personal look at the stables and a behind-the-scenes walking tour of the grounds, including a starting gate demonstration. Approximately 45 minutes long, the first tram departs for the stable area from the main Clubhouse entrance at 7:30 a.m., with five additional trams leaving about every 15 minutes until 9:00 a.m. (No tram tours are available on Travers Day, Saturday, August 29th or Closing Day, Labor Day, Monday, September 7th.)

Admission to the track for breakfast is free (except on Travers Day when the gates open at 7 a.m.), and vehicles leaving the grounds before 10:00 a.m. receive a full parking refund of \$10.

For more information, call Customer Service at (888) 285-5961.

“TALKING HORSES” GETS NEW FORMAT FOR SARATOGA

SARATOGA SPRINGS, N.Y. -- An expanded “Talking Horses, Presented by Daily Racing Form” will be conducted in a live audience format for the upcoming 141st season of racing at Saratoga Race Course.

The popular longstanding daily television show will be broadcast live from the Carousel Restaurant facing the grandstand backyard, from 11:45 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. beginning Opening Day, Wednesday, Aug. 29. Scratches and changes have been moved to 11:40 a.m. to allow the live program to be broadcast uninterrupted via all on-track monitors.

The new three-person format will include Eric Donovan (NYRA Live) or Jason Blewitt (NYRA Live), Andy Serling (NYRA Live), and a daily guest handicapper from Daily Racing Form, among them Steve Crist, Dave Grening, Dan Illman, Dave Litfin, and Mike Watchmaker.

“The Daily Racing Form’s handicapping seminars at Siro’s have been one of the great traditions of the Saratoga race meet,” NYRA President and CEO Charles Hayward said. “It won’t be the same without the legendary Harvey Pack, but we are thrilled with the opportunity to bring the DRF seminars on track and to combine our respective resources of talent and broadcast capabilities.”

The 82-year-old Pack, who had hosted the DRF seminars since 1999, is considering a cameo appearance as a “Talking Horses” host early in August.

“We briefly considered alternative hosts but quickly concluded that no one could ever adequately replace Harvey,” said Crist, DRF’s publisher. “While it’s the end of an era for those of us involved with the DRF seminars, we’re excited about our new partnership with NYRA and hope to preserve the spirit of the seminars.”

“Talking Horses, Presented by Daily Racing Form” will be open to the public and available live on www.nyra.com and www.drf.com/saratoga.

ESPN & MSG PLUS HAVE SATURDAYS AT SARATOGA COVERED

SARATOGA SPRINGS, N.Y. – ESPN will once again provide live television coverage of Shadwell Travers Day on Saturday, August 29 at Saratoga Race Course, and MSG Plus is introducing a “Saturdays at Saratoga” one-hour, live television show that will air on the remaining five Saturdays.

On Saturday, August 29, ESPN’s live coverage of Shadwell Travers Day will run from 4:30 – 6:00 p.m. (EDT). Their coverage will include the \$300,000 Ballerina (GI), the \$300,000 NetJets King’s Bishop (GI), and the \$1 million Shadwell Travers (GI).

MSG Plus’ “Saturdays at Saratoga” live show will air on the remaining five Saturdays of the Saratoga meet from 5:00 – 6:00 p.m. NYRA handicappers Jason Blewitt, Eric Donovan, and Andy Serling will provide commentary for the telecasts, which consist of the following stakes:

August 1 - \$500,000 Diana (GI) and \$500,000 Jim Dandy (GII)

August 8 - \$750,000 Whitney Handicap (GI) and \$300,000 Test (GI)

August 15 - \$500,000 Sword Dancer Invitational (GI)

August 22 - \$600,000 Alabama (GI)

September 5 - \$500,000 Woodward (GI) and \$300,000 Forego (GI)

The strong lineup of live Saratoga racing on MSG Plus continues the partnership with NYRA that also included live coverage of the 2009 Wood Memorial at Aqueduct Racetrack and the 2009 Mother Goose at Belmont Park. MSG Plus serves New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, and parts of Pennsylvania, and is also available on various satellite television providers.

HIGH TEA AND HANG 10 AT SARATOGA RACE COURSE

SARATOGA SPRINGS, N.Y. – Saratoga fans can watch and wager on the best of British racing in the mornings and enjoy West Coast twilight simulcasting from the comfortable confines of the expanded backyard English/SoCal Racing Tent, presented by Hendrick's Gin, this summer at Saratoga Race Course.

Featuring Hendrick's Gin, small-batch libations and a full bar, the spacious tent pub also offers southern California-style fare for purchase. Additionally, Twilight Racing concerts will take place on July 31 and Sept. 4 on the newly-erected backyard stage adjacent to the Racing Tent.

There is no cover charge or admission for seating in the Racing Tent.

On Saratoga Opening Day, July 29, first race post time for "Racing Across the Pond" is approximately 9:15 a.m., with Goodwood as the featured track of the week. Offered Wednesday through Saturday mornings until Sept. 5, UK Racing offers simulcasting from such legendary tracks as Newmarket, Sandown, Newbury and Thirsk, with an afternoon-only card on Friday, Aug. 7.

In addition, Tuesday, Aug. 18 will mark the start of four days of simulcasting from York, featuring a trio of Grade 1 races in the Juddmonte International Stakes, the Darley Yorkshire Oaks and the Nunthorpe Stakes and a first-race post time of 8:45 a.m.

Free past performance information will be available in the Tent, and tip sheets and informational guides are also available free of charge. For a complete schedule, please visit www.nyra.com.

DURKIN'S THIRD RACE CALL FOR CHARITY IS THE "B.E.S.T."

SARATOGA SPRINGS, N.Y. – When New York Racing Association track announcer Tom Durkin returns to his traditional post atop Saratoga Race Course beginning on Wednesday, July 29, his daily call of the third race will be a fan's B.E.S.T bet.

That's because spectators will have an opportunity to watch the legendary announcer deliver his live call of the third race virtually every day of the six-week Saratoga meet (Travers Day excluded) to benefit the Backstretch Employee Service Team (B.E.S.T.).

For \$100 each, up to six fans each day can witness the best in the game in support of B.E.S.T. The group will watch Durkin call the race from inside the booth and will then be escorted to the roof above the historic grandstand for a rare photo opportunity overlooking the venerable track and expansive grounds.

In recent years, Durkin's Saratoga visitors have contributed nearly \$15,000 annually to the health programs administered by the charitable racetrack organization.

Durkin has always been at his best entertaining audiences.

He grew up calling races for fun for his family and friends, but his big break came when a friend, on his way to school, was hitchhiking from Chicago, Ill. to Green Bay, Wisc. A man named Marty Helmbrecht, who coordinated the county fairs in Wisconsin, picked him up and during their journey and ensuing conversation, Durkin's friend told Helmbrecht that he knew a guy who was the assistant announcer at Arlington and who was tired of playing second fiddle. There was no such thing as an assistant announcer at Arlington, but Helmbrecht was impressed anyway.

Durkin was hired to call the races at Fond du Lac County Fair in Wisconsin, and he called those races from the back of a pickup truck.

Durkin got a job at Florida Downs (now Tampa Bay Downs) and worked there for five years. Then, he went on to Hialeah and The Meadowlands. He also began working as a broadcaster for ESPN and NBC, which enabled him to call races throughout the world. In 1984, he called his first Breeders' Cup.

NYRA hired Durkin in 1990 as its announcer at Aqueduct, Belmont Park and Saratoga, and during the '90s, he also called the races at Gulfstream Park in Hallandale, Fla. In 2000, Durkin became the Triple Crown announcer for NBC. Because NBC no longer carries the Belmont Stakes, Durkin still calls the Kentucky Derby and Preakness for the network and also is the track announcer for the third and final leg of the Triple Crown, the Belmont Stakes.

In addition to many awards and honors, including the New York Turf Writers Association's Red Smith Good Guy Award, Durkin also sits on the board of directors of B.E.S.T.

B.E.S.T. provides multiple, on-site health and human services to support workers in the barn areas of Saratoga Race Course, Belmont Park and Aqueduct Racetrack. B.E.S.T. draws upon strong connections to additional resources in the extended community to help backstretch workers lead healthy and full lives.

B.E.S.T.'s motto is "Taking care of the people who take care of the horses."

For ticket reservations for Tom Durkin's third race call at Saratoga, please call 516-488-3434 through July 26 or 518-587-3720 beginning July 29.

SPA LOOKING FORWARD TO A STRONG SEASON IN 2009

SARATOGA SPRINGS, N.Y. – While discussions of the economy tend to be bleak these days, optimism reigns supreme in the city of Saratoga Springs.

“Inquiries in response to our traditional forms of advertising are up about 18 percent from 2008,” said Joe Dalton, president of the Saratoga County Chamber of Commerce. “While responses to internet advertising are down about 10 percent from last year, which is odd, we’ve already gotten tourism inquiries from all fifty states.”

Dalton attributes the continued interest in Saratoga tourism to a healthy local economy, which he believes is somewhat insulated from the hardships other localities are facing.

“The Saratoga unemployment rate is in the six percent range, compared to about eight percent in New York State overall,” Dalton said. “We’re pretty well-insulated with a stable labor force and we’ve had no major layoffs in the region. From a retail standpoint, downtown is almost at 100 percent first-floor occupancy.”

The local thoroughbred industry and Saratoga Race Course are significant contributors when it comes to the health of the local economy. According to a study commissioned by Saratoga County in 2006, the direct and indirect economic impact is well over \$150 million.

“Saratoga is about horses, health and history,” said David Zunker, president of the Saratoga Convention and Tourism Bureau. “Not necessarily in that order, but from an economic perspective and an image perspective as well, it should certainly be exactly in that order.

“We’ve been working hard to expand the Saratoga brand and with support from a vibrant and vital downtown [and] the addition of many other attractions, we’ve managed to broaden visitors’ perspective and awareness that there are plenty of things to do and see and lots of excitement in Saratoga all year round.”

Visitors seem to agree. Dalton said the major difference between this year and previous years is that individuals are more likely to hunt for bargains.

“Hotels, motels and bed and breakfasts have all reported that they’re looking toward a good season, but are finding that people are shopping around and looking at rates more closely than they did in the past,” Dalton said. “The same goes for restaurants – the people who bought a \$50 bottle of wine last year are buying a \$30 bottle of wine this year.”

From Saratoga Race Course to lively downtown Saratoga Springs, the city has plenty to offer the budget-conscious and is within a three hour drive of New York City, Boston and Montreal, and within four hours of Philadelphia.

“At a time when national studies indicate that travelers are tending toward the conservative, maybe cutting back and staying closer to home, that trend could work in our favor,” Zunker said. “The track's appeal, and that of Saratoga in general, is that it is family-oriented – and especially in these economic times – affordable. Cost to get in the track is minimal, even getting grandstand seats is not very expensive. There's built-in entertainment for those who love the grandeur of an historic racetrack setting, plenty to see and plenty to eat.”

Zunker added that the convention bureau was optimistic that 2009 would be a good season, with steady group business through the summer building into the fall. Though he said hotels had weathered a slight down period in the winter and early spring, he believes they are poised for a strong recovery and looking forward to a strong summer season.

SEASONAL EMPLOYEES MAKE SARATOGA GO 'ROUND

SARATOGA SPRINGS, N.Y. -- It takes a considerable work force to keep Saratoga Race Course running smoothly during the six-week meet each year.

The New York Racing Association, Inc. traditionally offers the opportunity for teachers, students, and others looking for six weeks of summer work to make money and to be part of Thoroughbred racing's boutique meeting.

According to Julie Levine of New York Racing Association's Human Resources Department, NYRA will hire approximately 1,400 for the upcoming 36-day Saratoga Race Course meeting that will run from Wednesday, July 29 through Monday, Labor Day, September 7. They will work as mutuel clerks, ushers, admission cashiers, cleaners, parking attendants, Customer Service and NYRA Store representatives, Group Sales assistants, and Security Officers.

Additionally, NYRA will fortify its facilities crew with grandstand and clubhouse maintenance crews to work the main track, Oklahoma Training Track, and Sanford Court.

Those interested in working at Saratoga Race Course should attend the final job fair to be held on the track grounds Saturday and Sunday July 11 - 12, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. at the Racing Office. Applicants must have two forms of I-9 identification, and 16- and 17-year-olds must have working papers. All cashier and mutuel clerk applicants must be over 18 and have cash-handling experience.

For more information, contact Julie Levine from July 14-20 at (518) 584-6200, ext. 4379, or contact her by e-mail at jlevine@nyrainc.com. There is also a Saratoga Employment Line downstate at (718) 659-3550.

**SARATOGA RACE COURSE
2009 FACT SHEET**

WHAT: Saratoga Race Course's 141st season.

WHEN: 36 days. Wednesday, July 29 through Monday, September 7, Labor Day. No racing on Tuesdays.

WHERE: Saratoga Race Course, Union Avenue, Saratoga Springs, N.Y.

FIRST RACE POST TIME: 1 p.m. Eastern. On Shadwell Travers Day, Saturday, August 29, first race post is 11:35 a.m. Party at the Park Racing on Friday, July 31 and Friday, September 4, first race post is 2:30 p.m.

ADMISSION: General admission is \$3; Clubhouse admission is \$5. Children 12 and under are admitted free when accompanied by an adult. Admission gates open at 11 a.m. on weekdays and 10:30 a.m. on weekends. On Shadwell Travers Day, Saturday, August 29, gates open at 7 a.m. Shadwell Travers Day admission is \$5 general admission; \$10 for Clubhouse. Reserved seating is sold separately.

PARKING: Trackside parking is \$10 and general parking is free. Handicapped parking is available at the Clubhouse and Grandstand entrances. Parking gates open at 7 a.m. on Shadwell Travers Day, Saturday, August 29. ***NO BREAKFAST PARKING REFUNDS ON SHADWELL TRAVERS DAY***, Saturday, August 29. There is also Oklahoma Preferred Parking for \$5 on the corner of East Avenue and Union Avenue (not trackside).

COOLERS: Coolers are permitted at Saratoga Race Course on the trackside apron, Top of the Stretch and the backyard area ***ONLY***. No coolers will be allowed anywhere inside the building. ***ALL GLASS CONTAINERS ARE PROHIBITED***. All coolers and any carry-in items are subject to inspection by NYRA Security.

RESERVED SEATS: A limited number of Grandstand seats are on sale each morning of a race day at the Reserved Seat Office at Union Avenue Gate at 8 a.m. (7 a.m. on Shadwell Travers Day, Saturday, August 29). These are limited to four per person on a cash-only basis. Clubhouse seats Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, are \$10 per seat; on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, they are \$15 per seat. Grandstand seats are \$6 per seat on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday; \$8 per seat on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. On Shadwell Travers Day, Saturday, August 29, clubhouse seats are \$25 and grandstand seats are \$18. For more information on reserved seats, call 1-800-814-7846. No telephone orders are accepted.

The 2009 summer meet at Saratoga begins on Wednesday, July 29 and concludes on Labor Day, Monday, September 7. Post time is 1 p.m. Wednesdays through Mondays (Tuesdays are dark) except when the Spa hosts its Party at the Park (Friday, July 31 and Friday, September 4) when first post time is 2:30 p.m. The racing meet's showcase event, the \$1 million Shadwell Travers Stakes, is run for the 140th time on Saturday, August 29 with a special first post time of 11:35 am.

SPECIAL EVENTS:

29th ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE: Sunday, July 26, FREE! 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Visitors get a free sneak-peek into the popular summer meet prior to the start of racing season, with a full day of games, activities, live music, food, pony rides, behind-the-scenes tours, mascot races, handicapping seminars, and non-wagering horse racing. Proceeds from the day's events benefit dozens of local non-profit organizations.

OPENING DAY AT SARATOGA: Wednesday, July 29. It's now Post Time as the 141st season of racing at Saratoga commences! Gates open at 11 a.m. and first Post Time is 1 p.m.

PARTY AT THE PARK: Friday, July 31. The first of two "Party at the Park" events takes place on the first Friday of the meet with special post time of 2:30 p.m., including live music on stage in the backyard.

HATS OFF TO SARATOGA: Friday July 31 – Sunday, August 2. This three-day festival includes world-class racing, live music downtown and at the track, and a wide array of headpieces to celebrate the start of the racing season.

18th ANNUAL HAT CONTEST AND FREE SARATOGA BASEBALL CAP GIVEAWAY: Sunday, August 2. Each contestant will go head-to-head for prizes worth hundreds of dollars. For contest information call (518) 383-6183 and after July 29, call (518) 584-6200. Patrons take home a FREE Alabama Stakes baseball cap, with paid admission, while supplies last. Giveaway coupons may be redeemed at designated locations until the post time of the 9th race.

MID-SUMMER ST. PATRICK'S DAY: Wednesday, August 5. Come celebrate the luck o' the Irish as Saratoga celebrates St. Patrick's Day in August. Local Irish bands will perform supplemented by an array of Irish entertainment, including traditional Irish step dancers.

FASIG-TIPTON FESTIVAL OF RACING: Saturday, August 8 – Sunday, August 9. The Fasig-Tipton Festival of Racing celebrates the rich history of Fasig-Tipton in Saratoga and the upcoming Select Yearling Sales. The festival will include a Jockey/Trainer Challenge, Best Turned Out horse contests, Best Turned Out "Filly"/Lady Contest, a speaker series featuring Legends of Racing, and a book signing and race call by celebrity chef Bobby Flay.

NFL DAY: Monday, August 10. Former football favorites greet fans during a morning autograph signing session and lunch to raise proceeds for charity.

RACING HALL OF FAME DAY: Friday, August 14. Induction ceremony is at 10:30 a.m. at the Humphrey S. Finney Pavilion on East Avenue. The public is invited and admission is free as the Hall of Fame welcomes trainers Bob Baffert and Janet Elliot, jockey Eddie Maple and the horses Ben Nevis II, Silverbulletday and Tiznow.

Later, fans meet the newest and returning inductees to the National Thoroughbred Racing Hall of Fame during an afternoon autograph session at the Spa.

SARATOGA T-SHIRT GIVEAWAY: Sunday, August 16. Visitors can pick up a FREE Saratoga T-shirt, one of the season's hottest souvenirs, with paid admission, while supplies last. Giveaway coupons may be redeemed at designated locations until the post time of the 9th race.

WOMEN'S DAY: Wednesday, August 19. Ladies spending the day at the track will have the opportunity to learn more about women's issues, fashion and health at booths set up in the backyard, as the Saratoga Race Course caters to women during this expo, now in its fourth year.

14TH ANNUAL TRAVERS FESTIVAL: Saturday, August 22 - Sunday, August 30. The Travers Festival celebrates the 140th running of the \$1 million Shadwell Travers Stakes! Visitors can enjoy nine days of special events, kicking off with the Alabama Stakes for the nation's top three year-old fillies. For more information on the Travers Festival, pick up a brochure at Saratoga Race Course, call 1-800-526-8970, or log onto www.saratoga.org.

SARATOGA LONG SLEEVE T-SHIRT GIVEAWAY: Sunday, August 23. Visitors can pick up a FREE Saratoga long sleeve shirt, perfect for a cool evening, with paid admission, while supplies last. Giveaway coupons may be redeemed at designated locations until the post time of the 9th race.

STEWART'S SHOPS ICE CREAM EATING CONTEST: Wednesday, August 26. Participants see how much ice cream they can devour without succumbing to brain freeze! Contestants are divided into three age groups – kids, teens and adults. The winners receive gift certificates for free Stewart's Shops ice cream.

AMERICAN RED CROSS BATTLE OF THE BREWS: Friday, August 28. Visitors 21 and older get the chance to taste a variety of brews and vote on their favorites. Proceeds (\$25 to participate) benefit the Adirondack-Saratoga chapter of the Red Cross.

THE SHADWELL TRAVERS STAKES: Saturday, August 29. It is Saratoga's biggest race, the 140th running of the \$1 million Shadwell Travers, the "Mid-Summer Derby" for three-year-olds at a mile and a quarter. First post-time is 11:35 a.m. and gates open at 7 a.m. The Shadwell Travers day undercard will include the Grade 1 NetJets King's Bishop, the Grade 1 Ballerina, the Grade 2 Ballston Spa and the Grade 3 Victory Ride.

PROUD TO BE AN AMERICAN DAY: Wednesday, September 2. Celebrate America's heritage and show off your patriotic spirit as Saratoga Race Course honors veterans and active military with FREE grandstand admission, with proper identification.

COLLEGE DAY/PARTY AT THE PARK: Friday, September 4. College students vie for their shot to win a \$1,000 scholarship after each race. First post time is 2:30 p.m. as college students and racing fans bid farewell to summer with the final Friday Party at the Park, including live music.

FINAL STRETCH FESTIVAL: Saturday, September 5 – Monday, September 7. The three-day festival marks the culmination of the Saratoga racing season with live music downtown and at the track, a family fun fest, and Labor Day BBQ to mark the final day of the 36-day meet.

WINTER CAP GIVEAWAY: Sunday, September 6. Visitors can pick up a FREE winter cap, with paid admission, while supplies last. Giveaway coupons may be redeemed at designated locations until the post time of the 9th race.

FAMILY FUN FEST/LABOR DAY BBQ: Sunday, September 6 - Monday, September 7. Families can enjoy an afternoon of kid-friendly activities in the backyard, which benefits the Ronald McDonald House Charities of the Capital Region. Visitors also bid goodbye to another season with a traditional Labor Day BBQ. The specially priced family BBQ includes Clubhouse admission, official track program, BBQ lunch and tax. To order, call Group Sales at 1-888-285-5961.

GROUP ACCOMMODATIONS: Special rates on dining packages for groups of 20 or more. Dining packages consist of admission, official track program, and buffet lunch (tax and gratuity included). For information on groups and availability on Saratoga's air-conditioned Luxury Suites, call 1-888-285-5961.

ULTIMATE SARATOGA RACING PACKAGE: Two-nights stay at one of the area's finest hotels, breakfast at the track, lunch "At the Rail" and dinner downtown, plus a backstretch tour and admission to the National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame, all starting at one low price. Call 1-800-653-0231 or visit www.saratoga.org for more information.

NEW NYRA REWARDS SCHEDULE: NYRA Rewards recently announced a new and upgraded rewards schedule with new awards levels and increased rebates! Reward member monthly point totals are now associated with corresponding member levels, ranging from Bronze and Silver all the way up to the highest tier, Diamond. Each tier is associated with a different cash back percentage, almost all of which have been increased from the previous reward schedule. Members receive one point for every dollar wagered on NYRA races, and a half-point for every dollar wagered on a simulcast event. Points totaled at the end of each month are deposited into a member's account based on monthly wagering volume. With the old schedule, a member earning 5,000 points during a one month period would earn \$75 cash back. With the new schedule that member will earn \$87.50 cash back! Bets may be placed through on-track self-service machines with a swipe of a membership card, or, for added convenience, through NYRA's newly improved player-friendly telephone wagering system. Fans may enroll by calling 1 (800) THE-NYRA, or by logging onto www.nyrarewards.com

UK AND SOCAL RACING: Racing fans can watch and wager on the best of British racing in the mornings and enjoy twilight simulcasting from the West coast from the comfortable confines of expanded backyard English/SoCal Racing Tent, presented by Hendrick's Gin, this summer at Saratoga Race Course. Featuring Hendrick's Gin, small-batch libations and a full bar, the spacious tent pub also offers southern California-style fare for purchase. Additionally, Twilight Racing concerts will take place on July 31 and September 4 on the newly-erected backyard stage adjacent to the Racing Tent. There is no cover charge or admission for seating in the Racing Tent. On Saratoga Opening Day, July 29, first race post time for "Racing Across the Pond" is approximately 9:15 a.m., with Goodwood as the featured track of the week. Offered Wednesday through Saturday mornings until Sept. 5, UK Racing offers simulcasting from such legendary tracks as Newmarket, Sandown, Newbury and Thirsk, with an afternoon-only card on Friday, Aug. 7. In addition, Tuesday, Aug. 18 will mark the start of four days of simulcasting from York, featuring a trio of Grade 1 races in the Juddmonte International Stakes, the Darley Yorkshire Oaks and the Nunthorpe Stakes and a first-race post time of 8:45 a.m.

TALKING HORSES, PRESENTED BY DAILY RACING FORM: New this summer, the popular longstanding daily show will be conducted in a live audience format from the Carousel Restaurant at Saratoga Race Course. The show will be extended to 45 minutes, 11:45 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. every racing day and broadcast live. Scratches and changes have been moved to 11:40 a.m. to allow the live program to be broadcast uninterrupted on all on-track monitors.

TOM DURKIN'S THIRD RACE CALL FOR CHARITY: Fans will get a chance to sit with track announcer Tom Durkin as he calls the day's third race, and at the same time, get a spectacular view of Saratoga Race Course. Tickets are \$100 with all proceeds going to the health programs administered by the Backstretch Employee Service Team (B.E.S.T). Limited to six fans daily July 29 to September 7; Shadwell Travers Day not available. For reservations, call 516 488-3434 or 518-587-3720 beginning July 29.

ATTIRE: Box Seats: Gentlemen – suits or sports jackets required. Ties not required. Ladies – dresses, skirts or slacks outfits. No jeans, shorts, or abbreviated wear permitted. **DINING AREAS, TURF TERRACE:** Neat casual attire. No jeans, shorts, or abbreviated wear permitted. Gentlemen – collared shirts required. Management reserves the right to use its discretion to determine neat casual attire. **Paddock Tent, At the Rail Pavilion, The Porch, Club Terrace & Carousel Restaurant:** Proper attire at management's discretion. Gentlemen – no tank tops. No short shorts, cutoffs, or abbreviated wear permitted. **Paddock Saddling Area & Winner's Circle:** No shorts or abbreviated wear permitted. Gentlemen – collared shirts required. **Clubhouse:** No short shorts, cutoffs, or abbreviated wear permitted. No tank tops. Proper attire at management's discretion. **Grandstand:** Shoes and shirts are required at all times. *People 12 years old and over must abide by the dress code.*

BREAKFAST AT SARATOGA: A longstanding tradition is to watch the morning workouts at Saratoga. A buffet breakfast is served every racing day from 7 a.m. until 9:30

a.m. Admission to the breakfast is free, except on Shadwell Travers Day, Saturday, August 29, and vehicles leaving the grounds before 10 a.m. get a parking refund. Morning visitors may also take a free walking tour of the Backstretch Area and watch the Paddock Show and Starting Gate Demonstration. There are no tours on Shadwell Travers Day, Saturday, August 29 or Closing Day, Labor Day, Monday, September 7. The buffet is priced at \$14.95 per person, \$7.95 for children between the ages of 3 and 12. Race fans who wish to attend the afternoon's races are charged admission upon re-entering the track. For more information, call Customer Service at (718) 641-4700; from July 29 – September 7, call (518) 584-6200.

GIVEAWAYS: All giveaways are free with each paid admission, while supplies last.

Giveaway

Alabama Stakes Baseball Cap
Saratoga Short-sleeve T-shirt
Saratoga Long-sleeve T-shirt
Saratoga Knit Winter Cap

Giveaway Date

Sunday, August 2
Sunday, August 16
Sunday, August 23
Sunday, September 6

NOTE: Saratoga will again offer “spinner-free” service – a dedicated turnstile at the East Avenue admission gate specifically designed for patrons who wish to avoid the potentially lengthy lines on giveaway days. No coupons will be issued in this express lane which will be reserved for fans seeking expedient admission to the grandstand.

TRACK FACTS:

MAIN TRACK: 1 1/8-mile oval with seven-furlong chute; 4 percent banking on the turns; distance from final turn to the finish line is 1,144 feet.

TURF COURSES: *The Mellon (Outer) Turf Course* is a one-mile (plus 98 feet) oval; 4 percent banking on the turns; distance from final turn to the finish line is 1,144 feet; *The Inner Turf Course* is a seven-furlong (plus 304 feet) oval; 4 percent banking on the turns; distance from final turn to finish is 1,164 feet.

OKLAHOMA TRAINING TRACK: One-mile oval with a quarter-mile chute; 2 percent banking on the turns; distance from final turn to the finish line is 990 feet.

OKLAHOMA TURF COURSE: Seven-furlong oval; 2 percent banking on the turns; distance from final turn to the finish line is 1,024 feet.

OKLAHOMA STEEPLECHASE COURSE: Six-furlong oval, five fences.

CLARE COURT TRAINING TRACK: Half-mile oval; 1.5 percent banking on the turns.

STEEPLECHASE: Thursdays will be Steeplechase Thursdays. The Grade 2, \$100,000 A.P. Smithwick will be run on Thursday, August 6. On Thursday, August 27, the feature

will be the Grade 1, \$100,000 New York Turf Writers Steeplechase at two and three-eighths miles, which will be run as the eighth race on the card.

DIRECTIONS TO SARATOGA RACE COURSE:

From New York Metropolitan Area: New York Thruway (I-90) to Exit 24 at Albany; then the Adirondack Northway (I-87) to Exit 14.

From Western New York: New York Thruway (I-90) to Exit 28 at Fultonville; to Johnstown and Route 29E to Saratoga Springs; or Exit 27 to Amsterdam, Route 30 N to Route 67 E to Ballston Spa and Route 50 to Saratoga Springs.

From Upstate and Canada: Northway (I-87) to Exit 14.

From Massachusetts and Connecticut: Massachusetts Turnpike to New York Thruway (I-90) then Adirondack Northway (I-87) to Exit 14.

From Vermont and New Hampshire: Route 40 to Schuylerville and Route 29 to Saratoga Springs.

By Train: Amtrak offers an all-inclusive package to Saratoga every Saturday and Sunday throughout the meet. The package includes round-trip rail on Amtrak, transfers, Clubhouse Admission to Saratoga Race Course and official track program. For a list of departure cities, prices and reservations, call 1-800-USA-RAIL and refer to the Saratoga Race Course Special. Daily service is also available. Overnight packages are available in Saratoga Springs by calling Empress Travel at 1-800-653-0231.

SWITCHBOARD: Until July 26 (718) 641-4700; From July 27 – September 7, (518) 584-6200. **ON-LINE:** www.nyra.com, www.nyragroupsales.com

2009 SARATOGA POST TIMES / WAGERING FORMAT

JULY 29 - SEPTEMBER 7 (Tuesdays Dark)

Trifecta Wagering on all races that qualify

Minimum six betting interests carded in claiming & maiden races, five in all other races.

Superfecta Wagering in all races that qualify

Minimum seven betting interests carded, six to start (six if late scratch occurs from paddock to post). No entries or fields.

Bold: Feature Race Post Time: 11:35 AM on Travers Day

MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS & FRIDAYS

(except July 29 & 31; August 28; September 4 & 7)

<u>RACE</u>	<u>POST</u>	<u>WAGERING FORMAT</u>							
1	1:00	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD			
2	1:33	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD	P4	QUI	
3	2:06	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD			
4	2:40	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD	P6	QUI	
5	3:14	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD	GS		
6	3:48	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD	P4		
7	4:22	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD			
8	4:56	WPS	EX	TRI		DD			
9	5:30	WPS	EX	TRI					

WEDNESDAY, JULY 29, FRIDAY, AUGUST 28 & MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

<u>RACE</u>	<u>POST</u>	<u>WAGERING FORMAT</u>							
1	1:00	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD			
2	1:33	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD	P4	QUI	
3	2:06	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD			
4	2:39	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD		QUI	
5	3:13	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD	P6		
6	3:47	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD	GS		
7	4:21	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD	P4		
8	4:55	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD			
9	5:30	WPS	EX	TRI		DD			
10	6:04	WPS	EX	TRI					

SPECIAL 2:30 P.M. FIRST POST

FRIDAY, JULY 31 & FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

<u>RACE</u>	<u>POST</u>	<u>WAGERING FORMAT</u>							
1	2:30	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD			
2	3:03	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD	P4	QUI	
3	3:36	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD			
4	4:09	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD	P6	QUI	
5	4:42	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD	GS		
6	5:15	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD	P4		
7	5:48	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD			
8	6:22	WPS	EX	TRI		DD			
9	6:56	WPS	EX	TRI					

2009 SARATOGA POST TIMES / WAGERING FORMAT

JULY 29 - SEPTEMBER 7 (Tuesdays Dark)

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Superfecta Wagering in all races that qualify

Minimum seven betting interests carded, six to start (six if late scratch occurs from paddock to post).
No entries or fields.

Bold: Feature Race

Post Time: 11:35 AM on Travers Day

THURSDAYS (except August 27)

<u>RACE</u>	<u>POST</u>	<u>WAGERING FORMAT</u>						
1*	1:00	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD- Steeplechase		
2	1:35	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD	P4	QUI
3	2:08	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD		
4	2:41	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD		QUI
5	3:15	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD	P6	
6	3:49	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD	GS	
7	4:23	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD	P4	
8	4:57	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD		
9	5:31	WPS	EX	TRI		DD		
10	6:04	WPS	EX	TRI				

Note: 1st Race is Steeplechase*

THURSDAY, AUGUST 27

<u>RACE</u>	<u>POST</u>	<u>WAGERING FORMAT</u>						
1	1:00	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD		
2	1:33	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD	P4	QUI
3	2:06	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD		
4	2:39	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD	P6	QUI
5	3:13	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD	GS	
6	3:47	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD	P4	
7	4:21	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD		
8	4:55	WPS	EX	TRI		DD		
9	5:30	WPS	EX	TRI				

Race 8: NY Turf Writers Steeplechase

2009 SARATOGA POST TIMES / WAGERING FORMAT

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Superfecta Wagering in all races that qualify

Minimum seven betting interests carded, six to start (six if late scratch occurs from paddock to post).
No entries or fields.

Bold: Feature Race

Post Time: 11:35 AM on Travers Day

ALL SUNDAYS

<u>RACE</u>	<u>POST</u>	<u>WAGERING FORMAT</u>							
1	1:00	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD			
2	1:33	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD	P4	QUI	
3	2:06	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD			
4	2:39	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD		QUI	
5	3:13	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD	P6		
6	3:47	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD	GS		
7	4:21	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD	P4		
8	4:55	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD			
9	5:30	WPS	EX	TRI		DD			
10	6:04	WPS	EX	TRI					

ALL SATURDAYS (except August 29)

<u>RACE</u>	<u>POST</u>	<u>WAGERING FORMAT</u>							
1	1:00	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD			
2	1:31	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD	P4	QUI	
3	2:02	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD			
4	2:33	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD		QUI	
5	3:05	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD			
6	3:37	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD	P6		
7	4:09	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD	GS		
8	4:42	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD	P4		
9	5:14	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD			
10	5:47	WPS	EX	TRI		DD			
11	6:20	WPS	EX	TRI					

MSG+ 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM

2009 SARATOGA POST TIMES / WAGERING FORMAT
JULY 29 - SEPTEMBER 7 (Tuesdays Dark)

TRAVERS STAKES DAY POST TIME – 11:35 AM

SATURDAY, AUGUST 29

<u>RACE</u>	<u>POST</u>	<u>WAGERING FORMAT</u>							
1	11:35	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD			
2	12:05	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD	P4	QUI	
3	12:37	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD			
4	1:10	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD		QUI	
5	1:45	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD	P4		
6	2:20	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD			
7	2:55	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD	GS		
8	3:30	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD	P6		
9	4:05	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD	P4*		
10	4:38	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD			
11	5:10	WPS	EX	TRI	P3	DD			
12	5:46	WPS	EX	TRI		DD			
13	6:20	WPS	EX	TRI					

ESPN: 4:30- 6:00 PM

- Race 9: BALLSTON SPA**
- Race 10: BALLERINA**
- Race 11: NETJETS KING'S BISHOP**
- Race 12: SHADWELL TRAVERS**

***\$1 MILLION GUARANTEED PICK 4 STARTS IN RACE 9**