

# EQUIERY LIFE

## BRIDAL PATHS

Congratulations to jockeys **Trevor McCarthy** and **Katie Davis** who recently were married.

## STORK REPORT

**Nicholas Grant Pons** was born to Lindsay and Phillip Pons on January 3. He is the fifth generation of the Country Life Farm Pons family.

## COMINGS & GOINGS

Fond farewell to Maryland jockeys **Trevor McCarthy** and **Katie Davis** who have moved their tack to New York.

Welcome to jockey and veterinarian **Ferrin Peterson** who has recently joined the Laurel Park jockey's colony.

The National Steeplechase Association, with offices in Fair Hill, has recently hired **Emery Jones Taylor** (West Grove, PA) as its new General Manager and **Harper McVey** (Hockessin, DE) in the role of Executive Secretary. They replace Pete McGivney and Nancy Dougherty who both recently retired.

## MARYLAND WILL MISS...

**Charles C. "Cuppy" Fenwick** died on December 16, 2020. He was 96. Fenwick was born and raised in the Glyndon area and spent his entire life on the family's farm. He was the director of the Maryland Hunt Cup for 30 years, and three of his five children are active in the steeplechase community as well: Charles C. Fenwick, Jr., and H. Bruce Fenwick are both National Steeplechase Association horsemen, and Peter R. Fenwick is a member of NSA's Board of Directors. Fenwick himself never was a steeplechase jockey, but in addition to supporting the Maryland Hunt Cup, he was a member of the Green Spring Valley Hounds.

Fenwick attended Princeton University after graduating from the Gilman School in 1942. He was at Princeton only for a year before enlisting in the U.S. Army infantry to serve during World War II. He was part of the Normandy landing in September 1944. He earned a Bronze Star for his role in the Battle of the Bulge, laying strategic mines during the Christmas Eve fighting as part of the Anti-Tank Company, 407th Infantry.

After returning from the war, Fenwick married Rosalie Bruce and the couple had four sons. After their divorce, he married Elizabeth White and they have one son together.

Fenwick was a clerk with the U.S. Steamship Line for the port of Baltimore before later co-founding Fenwick, Michaels and Downes, which is the predecessor of Riggs, Counselman, Michaels and Downes, an insurance advisory firm. He also sold Volkswagen cars out of his first dealership, Towson Valley Motors, starting in 1962. The dealership grew quickly to include several imports and continues today as Valley Motors in Hunt Valley.

**Mary Wanamaker "Minnie" Watriss** of Butler died on December 18 at the age of 89. She was born in Philadelphia, PA, but was raised in

California and New York. She graduated from the Foxcroft School and then Bennett Junior College before moving to Glyndon in 1952, the year she married C.A. Porter Hopkins, a Republican state senator representing Baltimore County. The two were later divorced. She later married H. Robertson Fenwick, who died in 1976 and James B. Watriss, who died in 1998.

Watriss was a foxhunter and a patron of steeplechase racing as well as Ladew Topiary Gardens. She was a partner in Arcadia Stables, co-owned with Andre Brewster and Peyton "Skip" Cochran, Jr. Some of their winning horses, trained by Jack Fisher, included Bubble Economy and Footlights. Watriss was known for her fabulous pre-race tailgates and generous hospitality.

Southern Maryland Quarter Horse Association member **Kathleen Easter-Knott** died on December 28, 2020 at the age of 58. She had been a resident of Mechanicsville for the past 17 years and was the owner of It's-A-Celebration event planning. Previously, she had been employed by NAVFAC as the fleet manager for transportation at the Navy Yard. Easter-Knott was also a youth advisor and board member for SMQHA.

**Naomi Scharf Manders** died on January 4 at her home in Potomac. She was 82. Born in Los Angeles, CA, Manders moved East to attend Manhattanville College in New York where she earned a BA degree. Manders was a Potomac Hunt Club member, long known as a force to be reckoned with in Montgomery County for her leadership in building and maintaining the county's natural multi-use trail systems. From 1986 to 1992, she served as President of the Potomac Bridle and Hiking Trails Association and the Montgomery County Coordinator for Trail Riders of Today (TROT).

Manders successfully negotiated many public bridle path easements to form the Travilah Loop, a four-mile trail around Potomac com-

posed of thirteen participating subdivisions linking stables and parklands to preserve an equestrian presence in suburbia. This led to a job with Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning as a Trail Planner for the Department of Park Planning and Development. There she became instrumental in setting up the Natural Surface Trails Program and helped to develop the trails in Rachael Carson Park, Muddy Branch Park, Schaefer Farm Park, and Northwest Branch.

After retiring from MNCPPC, Manders helped to develop Dry Seneca Creek Trail and Breezy Loop Trail, and was a critical advocate for the recently approved development of the Seneca Greenway. She was awarded the Maryland Horse Council's Pumphrey Memorial Award for her efforts in preserving Montgomery County's trail systems.

**Frank Patterson Wright** of Lutherville died on January 10 at the age of 95. He was born in Mardela Springs, and as an adult worked his way up the ranks of Avis Truck Rental, becoming Vice President in charge of the Mid Atlantic and Southern East Coast regions. In 1976, he bought two franchises from Avis and formed York Truck Rental which operated in Pennsylvania. After selling the business in 1985, Wright retired.

In 1968, he and his wife Virginia Howard Wright bought a farm that they named Huntingfields. It took them five years to renovate the farm before they could move in. There he and Ginny started breeding Thoroughbreds in 1979 and then started racing their homebreds starting in 1982. At the peak of their operation, they had over 50 horses. Big winners included Valay Maid, Lady Sabelia, Blue Sky Princess, Gold Rolls and Inner Harbour.

Wright served on the boards of the Maryland Horse Breeders Association and Maryland Million, Ltd.