

NEWS RELEASE

CONTACT: AMY SEILER, 502-403-6443

info@secondstride.org

Dale Romans Racing Stable Selects Second Stride, Inc.

Thoroughbred race horse trainer, Dale Romans, has selected Second Stride, Inc. to place 15 race horses currently in his care so they may be transitioned to a second career as a pleasure or sport horse.

MARCH 22, 2011 - PROSPECT, KY - Leading thoroughbred race trainer Dale Romans has chosen Second Stride, Inc. to help transition and place 15 thoroughbred race horses currently in his care that are no longer competitive at the race track. Second Stride, Inc. was selected because of their specific knowledge with thoroughbreds off the track, rigorous adoption applicant screening and positive references from the racing industry.

“We had a few people come looking for horses during the years we have had them, but were not sure about the quality of the placement and unsure how to go about further screening and investigation of the leads,” said Laura Hernan, Account Manager, Romans Racing Stable, Inc. “I tried to make calls and do drive by investigations of the potential homes and then would get disappointed the further the interviews went with the candidates.”

Hernan came across Second Stride’s web site and immediately contacted them. Within a matter of days a plan was established with Second Stride, Inc. to get these horses prepared for adoption. The process consists of several elements including getting the horses groomed and polished, the colts will be castrated and then each horse will be photographed and evaluated for placement in the Second Stride program. Second Stride also does a thorough pedigree check to determine what job the horses may be best suited for based on their bloodlines, as well as their physical attributes. Each horse is also handled to determine temperament. All these steps help ensure the best possible adoption match.

The 15 horses will stay under the care of the Romans Racing Stable at their training facility in Goshen, Ky. Romans is the sole owner of the horses, after acquiring most of them from various owners. Romans has paid to keep the riding/training and every day care going on the horses until he could find a situation where he knew they would have the best chance of transitioning to a new job.

Second Stride, Inc. will manage all adoption applications and screenings, advertisement of the horses and the adoption process from start to finish. Second Stride, Inc. has a thorough application process with character, veterinarian and facility checks and verification. In 2010, Second Stride, Inc. was able to place 65 thoroughbreds in quality homes.

“These horse may no longer be competitive at the race track but many of our graduates are winning in eventing, show jumping, dressage or excelling as pleasure horses,” said Kim Smith, president and founder, Second Stride, Inc. “We support the racing industry and we established Second Stride, Inc. to ensure that there was a place for these horses to go and be productive in their post-racing years.”

Second Stride has placed many horses for trainers in the Skylight/Goshen area such as Trainer Tom Drury and Donnie Grego located at the Skylight Training center in Skylight, Ky. Tom Drury of Drury Racing Stables said, “Second Stride has helped me place 100 percent of our off track thoroughbred into quality homes and has been nothing short of a Godsend for my stable. I would highly recommend them to anyone looking to do the same.”

Second Stride, Inc. also helps rescue thoroughbreds in need as funding permits and hosts educational booths at community festivals and area horse events. Kim Smith, president and founder, Second Stride, Inc. commented, “We try to educate the community about the usefulness of the thoroughbred horse for many kinds of different riding disciplines. There are many myths about thoroughbred race horses and the racing community. We try to show the general equine community the extreme work ethics and trainability of these horses and the dedication and love the race trainers and owners have for them.”

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Second Stride is a 501 (c)(3) tax-exempt, non-profit organization providing professional rehabilitation, retraining, and placement for retired thoroughbred racehorses in qualified homes so that they may reach their full potential in a productive second career. Second Stride is made up of volunteers who are active in other areas of the racing industry: owners, partnership managers, handicappers, trainers. We are working to improve racing from within, and know from first-hand experience how many people may have the desire to retire a horse safely, but at times find that difficult to do. If you would like to get involved by volunteering or donating to help expand the number of thoroughbreds Second Stride can care for, please go to www.secondstride.org or friend on Facebook at “Second Stride Thoroughbreds”.