

# THE *work* HORSE

DECEMBER 2005 VOLUME II

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE KENTUCKY EQUINE  EDUCATION PROJECT

**Horses  
work  
for Kentucky.**

## KEEP GAINS SUPPORT FOR KEEP IT IN KENTUCKY

In mid-September the Kentucky Equine Education Project unveiled its position on gaming in the state. "When you look at the revenues that Kentucky cities and counties could get from casino revenues, it's impressive," said Executive Director, Jim Navolio. "Under the proposed plan, all counties would receive revenues from the casinos. The economic development fund would reserve funds exclusively for non-casino counties. Counties with casinos will gain revenues from occupational and property taxes paid by the casino operation."

"KEEP IT IN KENTUCKY" is the gaming and revenue plan under which, KEEP's proposal will go forward. Under the proposed plan a 35% tax rate generated from the \$1.25 billion casino revenue, would be equivalent to \$437 million state tax

dollars. Of this amount, \$12.5 million annually will go to the non-race breed to build and improve trails and show facilities, as well as to develop programs to stimulate economic opportunities.

The chart below lines out how much of the tax revenue would go specifically to, education, healthcare, local development funding, and preserving the environment as lined out in KEEP's proposal.

"Keep feels strongly that the four guidelines of the proposal must be followed in order to succeed," says Navolio. "Those are: Full Casinos, at racetracks only, with dedicated revenue, by constitutional amendment."

The "KEEP IT IN KENTUCKY Bill" is due to be filed in Frankfort in early January.

*"Full Casinos,  
at racetracks  
only, with  
dedicated  
revenue, by  
constitutional  
amendment"*

*- Jim Navolio,  
Executive Director*

## KEEP IT IN KENTUCKY

KENTUCKY GAMING & REVENUE PLAN

### Projected Revenue

Estimated Casino Gambling Revenue (Annually) <sup>1</sup>	\$1,250,000,000
State Tax Dollars (35% rate) <sup>2</sup>	\$437,500,000

<sup>1</sup> Kentucky Enquirer, June 12, 2005 "Ky. House leader plans casino effort" citing Legislative Research Commission, office of Speaker Pro Tem  
<sup>2</sup> KEEP's proposed tax rate

### Proposed Revenue Splits

Licenseses (for operating expenses and capital investments)	49.35%	\$616,875,000
Kentucky Horse Industry	15.65%	\$195,625,000
Thoroughbreds/Standardbreds (14.65%)	\$183,125,000	
Other Breeds (1%)	\$12,500,000	
State Tax Dollars	35%	\$437,500,000

### Proposed Distribution Rates of Tax Dollars

Education (Pre K through High School)	30%	\$131,250,000
Education (Postsecondary)	10%	\$43,750,000
Healthcare	20%	\$87,500,000
Local Government	12.5%	\$54,687,500
Economic Development (counties without casinos)	10%	\$43,750,000
Fish & Wildlife, Environmental, PACE	10%	\$43,750,000
Budget Reserve	3.5%	\$15,312,500
Addiction Treatment & Prevention	2%	\$8,750,000
Agricultural & Animal Research	2%	\$8,750,000



## OUR POSITION

*"In the interest of preserving Kentucky's equine heritage and strengthening the state's economy, the Kentucky Equine Education Project supports a voter referendum to amend the state constitution to allow for full casino gaming for those holding licenses to operate racetracks in Kentucky. KEEP supports earmarking significant and quantified gaming tax revenues for education, healthcare, local development funding, and preserving the environment."*

### Our 8-point Rationale

1. Kentucky must have a significant influx of revenue to meet growing challenges in funding basic services. Revenue derived from casino gaming, which could exceed \$400 million, is preferable to a widespread tax increase-the only other viable option.
2. By limiting gaming expansion to those who currently hold racetrack licenses, a proliferation of gaming-as was done with the lottery-is avoided. Confined to a few locations, it is also possible to package the sites as tourist destinations, which enhances our competitiveness with neighboring states.
3. Expanding the available gaming options for tracks also enhances our competitive position with other states to protect our signature-the equine industry, which annually pumps \$4 billion into Kentucky's economy and supports some 100,000 jobs.
4. By allowing for a constitutional amendment, the General Assembly is letting the people decide their own fate and future. Since the revenue would be shared on a statewide basis, it is only fitting that a statewide vote of the people serves to address the issue of expanded gaming.
5. We fully acknowledge that gambling has inherent risks for people prone to addictive behaviors. But those behaviors exist today and are, in some cases, manifested at neighboring river boats. Sufficient resources don't exist today to provide the necessary help these people need and deserve. But under this proposal, those resources would be available.
6. This is an approach that can and should receive bipartisan support in the legislature for a number of reasons. It represents a new revenue source without a broad-based tax increase. It shares revenue with communities that will not have casinos. And it prevents the threat of the proliferation of gaming throughout the state. For those reasons and more, it should not be a campaign issue in the 2006 election cycle.
7. One of the critical components of the plan advocates sharing resources with local government bodies, who also find themselves strapped for revenue to maintain basic services for constituents. Residents in all 120 Kentucky counties will derive some direct benefit from casino operations in the state.
8. Finally, it is a far-reaching initiative that impacts a number of constituencies. As such, KEEP will work with other organizations to forge a greater push for passage of the legislation.

*KEEP KENTUCKY TRAILS STRONG*

Come to the  
**KENTUCKY TRAIL &  
PLEASURE ECONOMICS SUMMIT**

Sponsored by  
University of Louisville Equine Industry Program  
Kentucky Equine Education Project (KEEP),  
& Kentucky Horse Council

**Saturday, December 17th**  
**Pritchard Community Center**  
**404 South Mulberry Street**  
**Elizabethtown, Kentucky**  
10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Because horses owned and used for trail or pleasure riding compose an important part of this state's equine economy, the goals of the Summit are to evaluate the impact and scope of these activities. Keynote speaker will be Ward Stutz, Director of Membership and Public Policy for the American Quarter Horse Association, Amarillo, Texas and other speakers include representatives of organizations, equipment manufacturers, retailers, public land officials, organizers of trail rides, etc. The meeting is open to the general public, with lunch available for the first 100 who register.

For more information contact KEEP at 1-866-771-5337, [www.horseswork.com](http://www.horseswork.com) or a new trail riding website at [www.kqhatrails.com](http://www.kqhatrails.com).

# THE 4-H CORNER SPOTLIGHT

## Boone County's Young Guns 4-H Equestrian Drill-Team

by Rachel Fowler, KEEP Field Representative

On October 29, 2005 KEEP along with our Grassroots efforts helped sponsor the Gymkhana Show for the Young Guns 4-H Drill Team which was held at the Boone County fairgrounds. When I arrived at the show I was amazed at the overwhelming turnout of horses and people. The Gymkhana is a fun show that the Boone County 4-H group puts on as one of their ways to get together and share their team spirit with others. The event consisted of classes like chin apple, egg-n-spoon, poles, and they even had mom and pop classes. Joyce Voet, the Young Guns coach said, "Members as well as the community were invited to join us. It was a day to run and play with our horses. After "chin apple" all the horses got a prize! Everyone is a winner at our show. KEEP helped to make our event a success. The reviews from the parents as well as the kids were great."

The Boone County Young Guns 4-H Equestrian Drill Team was established in 1999 with fourteen members. The team currently has twenty-four members from Boone and Kenton counties, twenty-four is the maximum number allowed for performing at the 4-H State Horse Show and they currently have a waiting list. The Young Guns members range from ages nine to eighteen and join the team with various skill levels. There are no try-outs and the team welcomes any 4-H'ers that have the desire and the dedication needed for drill team. The team rides western in drill, yet any skill level and any discipline is welcome to their team. At one time the team had over fourteen different

breeds of horses on the team, from gaited horses to stock horses, and from a pony to a mule. "It is our desire to show the community that all breeds of horses can work together," stated Joyce.

The Young Guns were the Champion team at the Breyerfest Competition held at the Kentucky Horse Park in 2005 and 2003, Reserve Champion in 2004. At the Kentucky State 4-H Horse Show they have taken Championship honors twice as well as Reserve honors. The Young Guns have been named best Mounted Unit for three consecutive years at the Pegasus Parade in Louisville, Kentucky for the Kentucky Derby Festival. They do exhibitions at the Boone County and Kenton County Fairs and always participate in the Hometown Christmas Parade in Burlington, Kentucky. The Boone County Young Guns Equestrian Drill Team is a real treat to watch. KEEP is proud to have almost all their members as members of KEEP. Keep up the fantastic work, Young Guns!



### BENEFITS OF A KEEP MEMBERSHIP

- Receive all KEEP newsletters, press releases and updates
- Free admission to Kentucky Pari-mutuel Race Tracks (excluding the Kentucky Derby, Kentucky Oaks and the Breeders' Cup) through December 2006
- Free admission to the Kentucky Horse Park/ American Saddlebred Museum through December 2006 and 15% discount at the Horse Park Gift Shop

### THE KEEP MISSION

The Kentucky Equine Education Project (KEEP) was formed to build broad-based education and grassroots initiatives to increase awareness of the benefits of Kentucky's horse economy, including all breeds, and to promote and preserve jobs and economic opportunities within the equine industry for Kentuckians throughout the Commonwealth.

# Kentuckian Chuck Givens is 2005 AQHA World Show Champion

Charles "Chuck" Givens of Richmond, knows a good thing when he sees one. That explains why he Crowned three of the top 15 horses in the junior pole bending finals of the American Quarter Horse Association World Horse Show. His 4-year-old mare, Sugar Rullah (he calls Super), ran the pattern in 20.373 seconds to win the world championship.

Super, who is by Sugar Rancher and out of Rippa Rullah by Rip Rullah, is one of three full siblings owned by Givens.

Chuck Givens and Sugar Rullah won the junior pole bending finals. Rippa Rullah, the full sister to Super, was one of the three horses that Givens qualified for the junior pole bending finals.

But up until junior pole bending, Super hadn't been having much luck at her first World Show.

He qualified the mare in four classes for the show, and that's the most he had ever qualified any horse. He qualified her in junior barrels, junior poles, amateur barrels and amateur poles. She didn't get back in any of the finals except Jr. Pole Bending.

Besides Chuck, Kentucky was well represented in other areas of the World Show. The following Kentuckians place at the 2005 AQHA World Show.

Amateur Pleasure Driving, 6th, Cheryllee Sargent, Georgetown, Kentucky

Amateur Barrel Racing, 2nd . Sharon Willen, Burkesville, KY

Amateur Barrel Racing, 7th, Amanda Evridge, Goshen, KY

Amateur Barrel Racing, 9th, John & Carol Bayes, Artemus, KY

Amateur Barrel Racing, 10th, Bill McCardle, Crittenden, KY

Amateur Barrel Racing, 11th , Don Carman, Harden, KY

Amateur Pole Bending, 2nd, Margaret Bridges, Park City, KY

Amateur Pole Bending 4th, Don Carman, Harden, KY

Amateur Pole Bending 6th, Eric Schulkers, Butler, KY

Amateur Pole Bending 13th, Sharon Willen, Burkesville, KY

Jr. Trail, 11th, Ida Stinson, Louisville, KY

Sr. Trail, 4th, Colin Luba, Louisville, KY

2 year old Western Pleasure, 12th, Wayne & Khris Fields, Walton, KY

Sr Working Hunter, 2nd & Reserve World Champion, Cheryllee Sargent, Georgetown, KY

Sr. Hunter Hack, 6th, Cheryllee Sargent, Georgetown, KY

Jr. Pleasure Driving, 8th, Elizabeth McSwain, Fort Thomas, KY

Sr. Pleasure Driving, 8th, Cheryllee Sargent, Georgetown, KY

Jr. Western Riding, 10th. Dawn Haas Myers, Louisville, KY

Jr. Barrels, 5th, Sharon Willen, Burkesville, KY

Jr. Barrels, 12th, Jennifer Butcher, Pineville, KY

Jr. Poles, 2nd & Reserve World Champion, Gregory Fentress, Hardinsburg, KY

Jr. Poles, 4th, David Johnting, Butler, KY

Jr. Poles, 6th, Terrie Fentress, Hardinsburg, KY

Jr. Poles, 7th, Eric Schulkers, Butler, KY

Jr. Poles, 11th, Chuck Givens, Richmond, KY

Jr. Poles, 13th, Chuck Givens, Richmond, KY



Chuck Givens and Sugar Rullah win the junior pole bending finals.

## KEEP CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### DECEMBER 2005

December 2nd	Cassidy Elementary School, Arts and Science Fair
December 2nd - 4th	Kentucky Quarter Horse Association Annual Convention and Banquet. The Executive Inn, Louisville, KY.
December 3rd	KEEP's Day at the Races. Turfway Park
December 6th	Grayson County 4-H Meeting, 6:00 pm
December 6th	Lion's Club Meeting, Henderson, KY
December 6th	Graves County 4-H Meeting, 6:00 pm
December 8th	Owen County Chamber of Commerce Breakfast, 7:30 am
December 12th	Hart County 4-H Meeting, 6:00 pm central time
December 12th	Letcher County Public Meeting, 6:00 pm eastern
December 17th	KEEP Trail Riding Summit, Prichard Community Center, Elizabethtown, 10:00 am - 3:00 pm
December 25th	Happy Holidays

### JANUARY 2006

January 2nd	First Day of Legislative Session
January 9th	Hardin County Trailblazers 4-H, 7:00 pm
January 10th	Powell County Public Meeting, 6:30 pm

*Happy Holidays  
from the KEEP Staff*

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### HAVE A STORY IDEA?

If you have an idea for a story in The Work Horse, contact Cara Stewart at [cstewart@horseswork.com](mailto:cstewart@horseswork.com).

### HOW TO BECOME A MEMBER

- Join online by visiting [www.horseswork.com](http://www.horseswork.com)
- Call our office toll free at 866-771-KEEP