\*\*Please see the attached photo of Metro Meteor, the Painting Racehorse. Visit his website at www.paintedbymetro.com\*\*





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## Metro the Painting Racehorse and Equine Aftercare Programs Highlight Penn Mile Day

**Grantville, PA (Thursday, April 25, 2013)** – Metro Meteor, known as the Painting Racehorse, will partner with Hollywood Casino at Penn National Race Course on Saturday, June 1, to help raise awareness for equine aftercare efforts through a variety of means, including donations and on-track informational booths.

His visit will be one of the many events planned for the biggest night in the track's 40-year history, with the live racing card headlined by the inaugural running of the \$500,000 Penn Mile, the richest race ever run in Central Pennsylvania. The one-mile turf stakes for three-year olds is expected to attract some of the best sophomore grass runners in the nation.

As part of the day's activities, Penn National will be donating a total of \$10,000 to three equine aftercare organizations: <u>CANTER of Pennsylvania</u>, <u>New Vocations Racehorse Adoption Program</u>, and <u>ReRun, Inc</u>. All three organizations will be on-track at Penn National on June 1 to share information on their programs and collect donations.

During the races on June 1, Metro Meteor will take residence in a portable stall on the Penn National apron area, and 50 of his "Metro Mini" paintings will be available for purchase, with all the proceeds going to benefit New Vocations. Fans will be able to see him, and it is also possible that he will put paintbrush to canvas and display his artistic flair at some point during the evening.

Metro Meteor is an amazing 10-year-old gelding who has become a sensation by virtue of his artistic prowess. After earning nearly \$300,000 on the track and finishing his racing career in 2009 at Penn National for Renpher Stables, Metro was adopted by Ron and Wendy Krajewski.

After two years as a riding horse, knee problems surfaced for Metro that ended his career as a riding horse. However, Ron was amazingly able to teach Metro to paint by holding a brush in his mouth, and the rest was history.

To date, Metro's paintings have sold for more than \$32,000, with half of the proceeds going to benefit New Vocations. Metro has developed a huge fan following and was recently the focus of a TV story that appeared on the TODAY Show. More information on Metro is available at his official website.

"It seemed natural to tie in the biggest night of racing in our track's history with the important initiative of raising awareness for equine aftercare efforts," said Dan Silver, director of racing operations at Hollywood Casino at Penn National Race Course. "I'd like to thank Ron and Wendy Krajewski for bringing their incredible artist on track, in addition to CANTER of Pennsylvania, New Vocations, and ReRun for being part of what will be an incredible evening."

The racing action on June 1 features the inaugural running of the \$500,000 Penn Mile for 3-year-olds on the turf anchoring a card that will also include the \$250,000 Mountainview Handicap for 3-year-olds & up going 1 1/8 miles on the main track, the \$150,000 Pennsylvania Governor's Cup for 3-year-olds & up going five furlongs on the turf, the \$50,000 Penn Dash for 3-year-olds and up going five furlongs, and a pair of \$60,000 six furlong dirt sprints for Pennsylvania-bred or Pennsylvania-sired horses. It will be the richest day of racing in the 40-year history of Penn National.

HRTV, The Network for Horse Sports, will be providing race day coverage of the Penn Mile, including in-studio commentary and analysis by network talent TV and online features and promotion during the week leading up to the events.

Post time will be 6 p.m. Eastern with an All Stakes Early Pick 4 and the Penn Mile scheduled as the fourth race on the card with an approximate 7:22 p.m. post.

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Hollywood Casino at Penn National Race Course is a Penn National Gaming property that offers guests the most exciting and unique entertainment experience in Central Pennsylvania. The venue features more than 2,463 slot machines, 53 banked gaming tables, and a 16-table Poker room. Live thoroughbred and simulcast horse racing is offered year-round. An array of dining options are available including the award-winning Final Cut Steakhouse, winner of three consecutive Wine Spectator Awards of Excellence; Mountainview Dining, a 500-seat restaurant overlooking the one-mile racetrack; SkyBox Sports Bar, and the popular 350-seat Epic Buffet.

Penn National Race Course, located minutes from Hershey and Harrisburg, PA., opened on August 30, 1972, and has presented top-class live thoroughbred racing for more than 40 years. The original track was taken down in 2006 and the new Hollywood Casino at Penn National Race Course, a fully-integrated gaming and racing facility, opened on February 12, 2008.

For more information, visit <a href="www.hcpn.com">www.hcpn.com</a>, follow on Twitter <a href="www.twitter.com/hollywoodpenn">www.twitter.com/hollywoodpenn</a> and interact on Facebook at <a href="www.facebook.com/Hollywoodpenn">www.facebook.com/Hollywoodpenn</a>. The racing specific Facebook page is located at <a href="http://www.facebook.com/pages/Penn-National-Race-Course/327914797321189?ref=hl">http://www.facebook.com/pages/Penn-National-Race-Course/327914797321189?ref=hl</a> while the racing YouTube page is located at <a href="http://www.youtube.com/user/HCPNVideo">http://www.youtube.com/user/HCPNVideo</a>.