

Midwest Thoroughbred™

The New Voice of Horsemen in Racing's Heartland

Karen Paulsen Award to Molaro and Stumpf

Bob Molaro and Jim Stumpf were honored as co-recipients of the first Karen Paulsen Award at Arlington Park on June 25 during the Prairie State Festival.

The award is named for Karen Paulsen, a pioneer in the implementation and management of post-racing equine welfare in Chicago. A sister of trainer Donna Dupuy, Ms. Paulsen passed away last year. Her vision for the life-long well-being of race horses cannot be overstated as Ms. Paulsen was far ahead of her time in the way she transitioned horses from racing into safe, appropriate retirements.

The Paulsen Award is presented by Galloping Out, the equine welfare branch of the Illinois Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association, and honors individuals who have shown "extraordinary diligence and effort" in improving the lot of retired Chicago-based Thoroughbreds.

Both Molaro, a longtime Illinois State legislator, and Stumpf, Arlington's vice president of legislative affairs and OTB development, were responsible for securing the passage of a 2007 state law that banned horse slaughter in Illinois. Stumpf and Molaro also insisted on provisions for equine welfare and retirement in pending casino legislation.

Molaro, who is now affiliated with assorted advocacy entities in Springfield and Chicago, served in the Illinois State Senate from 1993-2003, and the State House from 2003-2009. Stumpf has been a member of Arlington's management team since 1992 when he joined the staff of Chairman Richard L. Duchossois as vice president of off-track operations.

A reception was held in the paddock following the conclusion of racing which included cocktails, appetizers, and the opportunity for fans and supporters to mingle with owners, trainers, jockeys, and others who make the Chicago version of the Sport of Kings so compelling.