

October 2013

The Valley Equestrian News



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Tribute to 4-H•

"Cowboy Up" at Pimlico•

EFP: Equine Facilitated Psychotherapy•

SD State Shoot•

A 4-H CELEBRATES 111 YEARS

LOCAL YOUTH EXCEL THROUGH 4-H

The 4-H Youth Development Program is the youth outreach program from the Land Grant Universities, Cooperative Extension Services, and the United States Department of Agriculture.

The 4-H Name and Four-Leaf Clover Emblem is intended to represent the ideals of the program with its focus on Head, Heart, Hands, and Health. Today, it is one of the best known and most valued images emblematic of more than a century of 4-H achievement.

4-H Headquarters Mission: Advancing research-based youth development and 4-H through the science of

can be involved in include:
• Horse Judging*
• Horse Quiz Bowl*
• Hippology*
• Exhibiting in the Horseless Horse Project at the fair
*also open to Horse Project members Horse Judging, Horse Quiz Bowl, and Hippology (the study of the horse) are all competitive team events where the youth get together with a coach on a regular basis. They learn teamwork, sportsmanship, and a vast amount of horse knowledge.

These teams travel to local and regional competitions, and possibly go on to state and national competitions.

progress checklist, and must attend a safety/roping clinic taught by a certified Western Heritage instructor. 4-H'ers may compete at four regional qualifying events during August for the opportunity to participate in the State 4-H Horse Show. Events include Goat Tying, Breakaway Roping, Round Pen Roping, Team Roping, Team Penning, Individual Penning and Ranch Cutting.

ANNISE MONTPLAISIR:

DAN PATCH FINALIST
Local Clay County 4-H'er Annise Montplaisir continues to achieve in the Horse Project. The most recent accomplishment is receiving 1st runner-up for the 4-H Minnesota State Dan Patch Award. Named after an outstanding race horse, the Dan Patch Award recognizes 10th-graders through 1-year post-graduation youth who have participated in a Horse or Horseless Horse Project, in addition to activities such as horse-related leadership, public speaking and quiz bowl competitions. Annise was pleased to finish in the top 10 last year and set her sights on a first place finish this year. She plans to continue her pursuit of the top honor in 2014.

Annise has taken advantage of many opportunities serving on the County Board of Directors, State Horse PDC Directors, Knowledge Bowl, Ambassadors, Green Team, Summer Survivor, Project Day and more. She is a very willing volunteer who currently serves as the coach of the Jr. Project Bowl Team. Annise has also traveled to the National Project Bowl Competition as a Sr. Team member.

Most recently Annise has organized a Horse Tails Literacy group for 4th-5th graders. Her passion for horses began at a very early age and she has continued to set higher goals each year. Her 4-H experiences have contributed to success in other areas, currently attending NDSU and planning to transfer to the University of Kentucky to pursue a degree in preparation for a career in the horse industry.



Annise Montplaisir on her off-track Thoroughbred, Cyclone Larry, who was also one of the horses that played Secretariat in the 2009 movie of the same name. Annise has been a 4-H member for many years and recently was awarded 1st runner up for the Dan Patch Award.

engagement, learning and change to create a better future for the nation and the world.

4-H Vision: A world in which youth and adults learn, grow, and work together as catalysts for positive change. Learn more about the overall 4-H Youth Development Program at: www.4-H.org

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Horse Project is to help 4-H'ers:
1) Develop leadership, initiative, responsibility, and sportsmanship;
2) Experience the pride and companionship of involvement with a horse;
3) Learn a greater love for animals and develop a humane attitude toward them.

HORSELESS HORSE

While there is a very large and active horse project in Clay County, youth who do not own or have access to a horse can be very active in the Horseless Horse Project. The areas that these youth

Fund raising is a part of these teams' activities, to help defray costs of trips. If you want to learn all about horses, one of these areas may be for you. For additional information, contact the Clay County Extension Office at 218-299-5020, or 1-800-299-5020.

HORSE PROJECT

The Horse Project is open to all youth who own or lease a horse. Some of the opportunities for these youth include:
• Vaccination clinic
• Clinics on the various classes in showing your horse
• Trail rides
• Horse shows
• Horse Judging, Horse Quiz Bowl, and Hippology

WESTERN HERITAGE

This activity was developed to explore, encourage, and educate 4-H'ers to continue to preserve our Western Heritage. Participants must be enrolled in the Horse project, complete one phase of the Western Heritage Workbook with

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10th Anniversary
DAKOTA 50/50
SALE, FUTURITY & MATURITY
OCT. 31, NOV. 1 & 2



2012 Futurity Champion: Willy Be a Cruiser, Owned/Ridden by Nichole Mathiason; Breeder: Kelly and Ruby Stuart



2012 Maturity Champion: KNM Golden Boy, Owned/Ridden by Kim Kraft; Breeder: Keith and Nikki Medalen



2012 High Seller: Zips Aim Four Fame, Breeder: Kelly & Ruby Stuart; Buyer: Kinscy Larson

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Plus: Handmade Saddle by Cliff Langerud to Grand Champion, Highpoint Youth Buckle sponsored by Oak Creek Stables & Medalen Ranch.

Schedule of Events:

Oct. 31 Maturity Show (4 and 5 year old horses)...12 p.m.
Nov 1 Futurity Show (2 year olds).....12 p.m.
Mane Event Social.....8 p.m.
Doublewood Inn, Fargo (3333 13th Ave. S.)
Nov 2 Futurity Show.....8 a.m.
Sale.....one hour after show

For Catalog: Nikki Medalen
701-537-3486, nikki@medalenranch.com

www.dakota50-50.com
Location: NDSU Equine Center, 5180 19th Ave. N. Fargo, N.D.

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About the Cover

Tennessee native Dorothy Snowden discovered the beauty of the West while breaking horses and working on a cattle operation near the base of Wolf Creek Pass, Colorado. On a vacation to South Dakota, she learned of Black Hills State University, where she eventually graduated with a degree in Art and Photography. Her original oils and pastels depict horses and rural landscapes. These colorful images have appeared in publications, collections and commercial applications. When she is not in the studio, Dorothy works with "off-the-track" Thoroughbred horses, rehabilitating them for pleasure riding disciplines through the Gate to Great program at her ranch.

The cover painting, entitled "Joying", is available for purchase through the Jon Crane Gallery in Hill City, SD. Inquiries can be made by calling 605-574-4440 or through their website at www.joncraneartgallery.net/. More of Dorothy's work can be seen at her website at www.dsnowden.com

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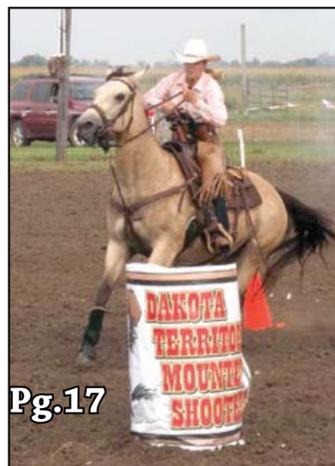
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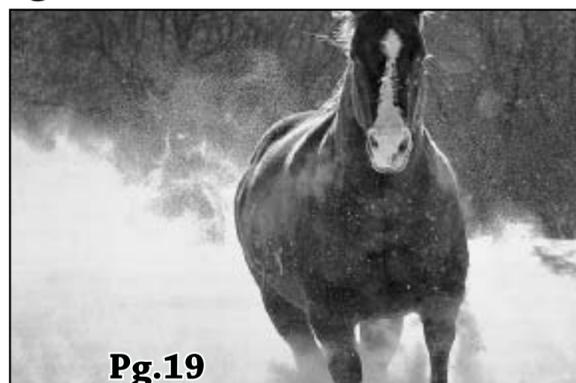


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Editorial Information

The Valley Equestrian Newspaper welcomes free-lance articles, cartoons, artwork, poems, photographs, etc. that we might use in the publication. We accept no responsibility for the material while in our hands. Materials will be returned if sent with a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Photographs or graphics electronically submitted should be in color and must be at least 200 DPI resolution and four inches wide.

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Errors: The Valley Equestrian Newspaper shall be responsible for errors or omissions in connection with an advertisement to the extent of the space covered by the error.

A VEN Fine Art Feature: "My Kingdom for a Horse" at Stillwater, Mn.

Above: The Photography of Deb Lee Carson, Rochester, MN. www.everseetheheight.com
 Self-taught award winning photographer specializing in black and white. Member, WPM Working Photographers of MN; Light Chasers Photography Club. Special Collections: "Of the Horse"; "Wild Horses of Medora" - Note: special showing of "Wild Horses of Medora" video montage playing opening weekend at gallery.

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Publisher's Clipboard

Proud to Be a 4-H'er

My siblings and I were members of the March River 4-H in Norman County Minnesota. Always a tomboy, at 11 years old I wasn't much interested in the clothing or food projects my sister wanted to do. My 9-year-old brother and I decided we were going to raise sheep. My godparents, Harold and Frances Hage, raised sheep in North Dakota so naturally we were able to get our lambs from them. Mom drove us to the Hage farm to pick them out.

Harold had selected some babies from the herd from which we could each select one each. I immediately went for the black-headed one, feeling a sort of commiseration with this little soft ball of wool. Not that I was the black sheep of the family, but I remember the story and I didn't want my sheep to feel second class. I named him Bimbo.

Mom and Dad had taken the back seat out of the car so we could sit on the floor and try to keep the babies calm while driving home. This was before the days of seat belts and child-proof windows. The Hages lived in North Dakota and we had to drive through Halstad to get the sheep home. As we went through town my brother, Phil Forseth,

rolled down the window waving his arms shouting, "Look at our baby sheep!" apparently as excited as I was and wanting to show off our babies. Mom was mortified bringing them home in the car and shrunk down behind the steering wheel so people wouldn't know who we were!

We grew very close to those sheep during the months that we fed, mucked stalls and loved those growing fur balls. I talked to Bimbo and shared all my private thoughts. Other than the cats and dogs shared with



the family, we had never OWNED our own critters.

We took our sheep to the Norman County Fair and showed them. Phil earned a blue ribbon and I got a red ribbon and we had to sell our sheep. We did not realize we would have to sell the sheep, although we had no idea what we would do long

term with the sheep. This young girl didn't think that far into the future. Phil sold his sheep to a doctor; I asked the man that purchased Bimbo to not let Bimbo be butchered. We both cried all the way home.

I am certain my 4-H experience is not that uncommon. It was wonderful to learn how to care for Bimbo, exciting preparing to show Bimbo, terrifying walking into the show ring and presenting Bimbo and myself to the judge and audience. I survived it stronger and better for the adventure. Phil attributes

his 4-H experience to helping him find the passion for public speaking, leadership, and salesmanship which has benefitted him throughout his career.

This month we pay tribute to 4-H in gratitude of the program which is now in it's 111th year. Our story on page 2 features some of the local 4-H'ers and groups, many of which are recruiting new members as the school year begins.

Thank you for reading this issue of the Valley Equestrian Newspaper; please patronize our advertisers who made this issue possible.

Ley Bouchard
 Publisher/Editor

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Reader's Letters

My aunt, Dorothy (Anderson) Kiefert flew up from St Petersburg, FL, August 1st to visit relatives and old classmates from Brahm High School in east-central MN.

After Brahm Pie Day, on Aug 2nd, while driving home with my Dad, Don Anderson, and Mom, Shirley (Nelson) Anderson, I stopped in to show them Cousin Dan Krone's new mini-colt.

Dorothy is 80, and the colt was then nine days old. Cousin Dan and his wife, Julie, of rural Mora, had bought a mini-mare about a year ago, and five more minis came along for free when she got delivered! This colt's dam is a black pinto, and the surprise package included one chestnut pinto stallion, assumed to be the colt's father.

One of the surprise mares is also a black pinto.

This colt was born at just the right time to become a popular attraction for out-of-state relatives visiting in MN during late July and early Aug. Aunt Dorothy is rather tiny, so this baby was just the right size for her! Too cute to keep to myself!

Shared by Ronda Anderson



Looking for a career?



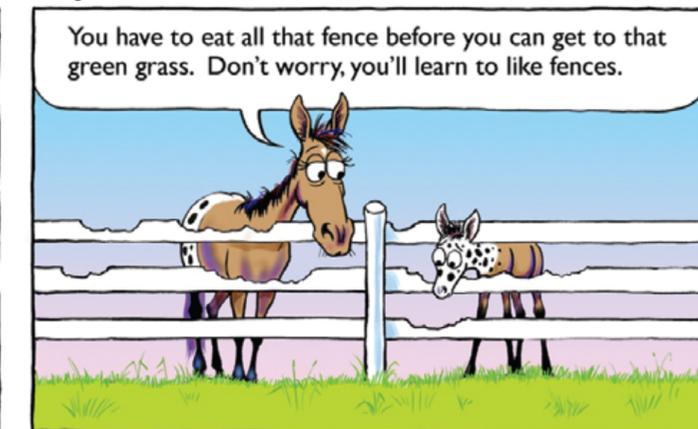
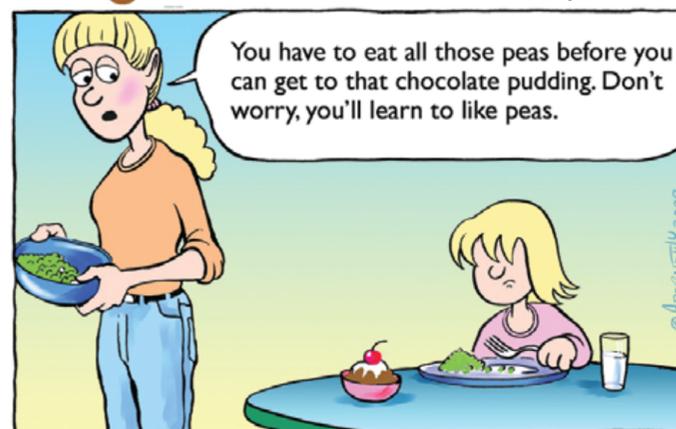
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Fergus BY JEAN ABERNETHY

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Maggie

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Below left: "Liberty Bell and Golva are settled in and doing great!! They grazed, rolled in the dirt, and enjoyed the sunshine with us today!" said Judie Luthle on her Facebook page after buying wild horses from the Theodore Roosevelt National Park sale Sept. 28 at the Wishek, N.D..



Right: "Shield (smaller gelding, right) made it to his new home this afternoon," comments Danna Hannum on her Facebook page. "He is super calm and settled in with our big gelding. They were fast friends and shared a snack at bed time."



TRNP Wild Horses Find Homes

Many people arrived ready to purchase wild horses being sold by the Theodore Roosevelt National Park, Saturday, Sept. 28 in Wishek, N.D.

News, more than 200 horses were put up for sale as the park managers deemed the wild horse population too large and unsustainable. See more on our Facebook page!

As we reported in the September issue of the Valley Equestrian

Charles Wilhelm: Ultimate Foundation Training from Start to Finish

Praising Your Horse

I care a great deal for my horses and I do scratch on them and give them a rub here and there but I'm not a real warm and fuzzy guy. There is certainly nothing wrong with rewarding a horse with a rub or a scratch but sometimes instead of that I will say "Good boy/girl" in a soothing voice when the horse has done something right. If the horse is doing something wrong, I may say, "Aw, aw, aw" in a rough tone. Pretty soon I have established a verbal language that supports my body language and strengthens communicating praise or correction. Discipline is not always a spur or a stick. Once we start being consistent with our verbal as well as our physical cues, a horse will start understanding. When I say, "Good Boy," my horse softens his neck, drops his head and relaxes.

And, if at the same time I say, "Good boy," I am reinforcing the communication and the horse will come to understand the verbal cue as well as the physical.

There is another facet of praise that is not commonly discussed and I would like to mention it here. I call it "think time." Let me tell a story to illustrate what I mean. About 20 years ago I was working with a horse that I had purchased for my son. The horse had real issues with side passing at a gate. For whatever reason, this horse did not want to go up to the gate. I spent about an hour trying to get the horse close to the gate but even at ten feet away, he would get very upset. We could ride by the gate with no problem but once the horse knew he was side passing toward the gate, he would get upset. Probably, at some time the horse had been punished for doing something wrong around a gate. It might not have had anything to do with the side passing but the horse did something a previous owner didn't like and the punishment was severe. It really stuck with that horse that a gate means "trouble." I had spent about an hour trying to get the horse to side pass toward the gate. This was before I really understood patience and I did not have control of my emotions. I finally just quit out of frustration as I knew that if I kept going, I was

going to lose my temper. That would not have done either of us any good.

We all learn things as we go along and I've always been told to leave the emotions on the bench. Sometimes that is easier said than done. I've learned some hard lessons and I have always found that when I got angry, it cost me more time. So, here is something that I really learned that day. When I put the horse away, I put him away in fairly good spirits. In other words, I didn't let my emotions take over and I didn't take my frustration out on the horse. The next day, I got the horse out, schooled him and went back to working on the gate. The horse moved off my leg in the direction of the gate like he had been doing it forever. It was not a perfect side pass but it was enough of a side pass that my jaw dropped in amazement.

After a couple of similar situations, I have found that, thrown in with the concept of pressure and release, "think time" really seems to work well. The time away was the only thing that happened with

that horse. I didn't get angry, the horse didn't get frustrated, no anxiety was involved, no one got hurt, but my patience was running thin. We are only human and we do get frustrated but when we do, we



are no longer effective. The only thing that happened in this situation was that I put the horse away. I came to realize the horse had some "think time." In other words, the horse had time to absorb and process what had happened, however horses process. They don't have a rational thinking process like we do but they do process.

I find this technique useful in everyday riding. For example, if I have been working on getting a horse to stop and not run through the bit and I have had to tip the horse into the rail to get him to break his speed, once I get a pretty good stop, I just take the pressure off and let him relax and process. Just for a few minutes, I stop and

cross my arms, chat with another trainer or meditate on something that needs to be done around the ranch. Sometimes when you are working on a problem area and you get just a little bit of success, it is worth it to give the horse a little "think time." I've also heard it called "self time" but it is the same principle. So, when you find yourself in a situation where you need to get something done and you are sort of hitting a stone wall, once you get a little something, just leave the horse alone, let the horse chill, and then ask again. The majority of the time, I find that a break is a very useful tool. A short break is definitely a form of praise, not a treat or a scratch but it is a release of pressure. Use your verbal cue too, "Good boy," when the horse has done something good. They don't understand English but they do understand your tone and if you stay consistent with your words, your "Good boy" or "Good job," will come to mean something to your horse. Praise for your horse is good but if you scratch or rub on the horse every time it does anything, it becomes less meaningful. I see riders in class scratching or patting their horses for just about everything they do, but they are not getting any work done and I don't see those horses

learning any faster. It may make the owner feel good but in the long run we actually have to speak the horse's language. I find that if you release the pressure when the horse does something good and use the verbal cue to emphasize it, it is more effective. Also, take time to let your horse absorb the lesson you are trying to teach. It doesn't make any difference what discipline you ride in, try this in your training program.

Internationally known and respected horse trainer Charles Wilhelm is the creator of Ultimate Foundation Training which combines the best of traditional, classical and natural horsemanship. This method is applicable to every riding discipline. Charles is one of the few clinicians who is known for his superb skills in communicating with and motivating people as well as horses. His training methods reflect his motto, "It's Never, Ever the Horse's Fault".

Charles' warm and relaxed demeanor has made him a favorite at regional and national clinics and demonstrations. His training center in Castro Valley, California is among the top equine educational facilities in Northern California. offers extensive hands-on learning programs for every level of horsemanship.

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COWBOY POETRY WITH ORV

The Un-Rode Rage

BAD EXPERIENCE IS THE BEST TEACHER

The unbroken horse we had purchased, had not been ascribed a name. Bronc, Outlaw, and RAGE were suggested, denoting he was not tame. Back when I thought that wasn't a horse that couldn't be rode, I was fully aware, no PAINFULLY aware, I could be throw'd! I pondered that quote, in my mind, when my plan for that day, and hour, Was to train that bronc to ride and to harness that awesome power. I was much too confident in my riding ability for my age; That fateful, painful, summer day, I tried to ride the UN-Rode Rage!

1/10th HIS SIZE and 1/100th HIS HORSEPOWER

I was a hundred and fifty pounds. He was fourteen hundred pounds. I slowly approached that bronc and led him with soft, coaxing sounds. He was ten times my weight and RAGE first refused to budge or move. So we brought two trained horses to help me with what I had to prove. My brother rode onto his left side. I rode onto his right. The odds were ten to one. I tensed, and my breathing was getting tight. Should I listen to that edict? According to the renowned Sage He said every horse could be rode, including the UN-RODE RAGE.

COULD BREAK EVERY BONE EXCEPT WISHBONE AND FUNNYBONE!

That time-worn Will Rogers quote and many thoughts raced through my head; Plus fatherly advice and some cautionary words Dad had said: "Don't ride like a chicken, and don't look for a soft place to land. Insecurity is a sensation a horse will understand." Rage was the meanest and toughest bronc I had attempted yet. There was an impending doubt or worry; I'd be losing my bet. We were in open yard, not coming out of a rodeo cage, That fateful day I mistakenly challenged the UN-RODE RAGE.

AWARE I COULD BE HURT IN A DIRT BATH

Meeting one went well. I used a halter to lead him around the yard. He followed unwillingly when the rope was tight and I pulled hard. Was RAGE an outlaw? Stubborn? Incurable? Was he a beast? RAGE was muscular, raw horsepower on display to say the least. If confidence, talent and credentials could give me the upper hand We were about to train a good cattle horse, that could wear our brand. As I slowly climbed onto his back, his bad attitude did engage. It was a fleeting ride, on whom we described, as the UN-RODE RAGE!

LIFE IS SHORT. RIDE GOOD HORSES/VERTICAL EXIT

It appeared that my bucking bronc was galloping UP in mid-air Or whatever us county folk call that atmosphere way UP there. There was an enormous amount of daylight between him and me. It was a frightening and amusing scene for bystanders to see. It was hitting hard packed dirt that hurt when it met my butt! That bronc was more horsepower than I could handle, I'll tell you what, Life is too short to ride bad horses. So I just turned the page. It's fortunate I gave up trying to ride the UN-RODE RAGE.

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IRS Manual Reveals Attitude Toward Industry

By John Alan Cohan, Esq.

The IRS Manual has a section in the Audit Technique Guide entitled "IRC Section 183: Farm Hobby Losses With Cattle Operations and Horse Activities." The guide is intended for to alert IRS auditors to situations pertaining to the horse and cattle industries. The guide says that "Current trends indicate that these two activities, due to their nature, contain certain opportunities for taxpayer abuse." Auditors are advised: "Many of the taxpayers who potentially fall under the provisions of IRC section 183 with respect to horse and cattle activities have been involved in such activities during their youth. These taxpayers have grown up on farms or had close relatives who operated farms. Other taxpayers had unfulfilled childhood aspirations to be involved with such activities, but circumstances prevented participation. As adults, these taxpayers have achieved the financial wherewithal which permits participation."

Other selected provisions in the guide are quoted below:

"The taxpayers who have had prior experience in

these activities find peace and solace in returning to this lifestyle. These taxpayers have affection for the horses as well as the cattle. The taxpayers find pleasure and satisfaction from watching their herds and baby animals grazing in the pastures. Examiners will frequently find retirement homes nestled on the land set aside for the activity."

"Some taxpayers have found that agricultural status will reduce the property taxes on their land. Small numbers of cattle have been maintained on large parcels of land in order to qualify for this agricultural status. In such situations, the cattle activity was not engaged in for profit, but rather for the purpose of reducing property taxes."

"The examiner should be alert that some taxpayers may not maintain the contemporaneous records necessary to satisfy the requirements of the breed association. Some of the data may be 'plugged.' Contemporaneous records would include some type of field book that is carried out to the pasture. The data would be transferred from the field book to a permanent record."

"The taxpayer's use of incomplete records could indicate a lack of profit motive."

"The taxpayer should have a formal written plan. The plan should demonstrate the taxpayer's financial and economic forecast for the activity. The plan should not be a 'fantasy Schedule F or C.' In other words, some taxpayers may wish to submit a business plan that is nothing more than a Schedule F or C, which unrealistically overstates the expenses for the activity. This is not an acceptable business plan."

"The examiner should not request the business plan in the first Information Document Request (IDR). Otherwise, the examiner will possibly receive a 'canned' document. The examiner should inquire as to the business plan during the Initial Interview and follow-up with a subsequent IDR."

"Some taxpayers will attempt to downplay any pleasurable aspects of the activity. Some will attempt to portray the activity as laborious with emphasis placed on the drudgery. These taxpayers know

where the examination is leading. They will emphasize the labor to clean or muck the stalls. The examiner needs to understand that if these taxpayers care about their animals that any such task is a labor of love or concern for the well being of the animal."

"The examiner should establish if the taxpayer has used any advisors or experts in the operation of the activity. Obtain names, position titles, and addresses of these advisors. Document how the advisors were chosen by the taxpayer. Establish the credentials of the advisors. Document if a personal relationship exists between the taxpayer and his advisors."

"Many taxpayers will express a passion for their activity. A skilled examiner will be able to draw this passion from the taxpayer through conversation."

"The tax return may have minimal or zero gross receipts. The activity's history of gross receipts should be addressed. The examiner needs to determine why there have been minimal or no gross receipts. The examiner

needs to determine specifically when the taxpayer expects for gross receipts to increase and specifically how the taxpayer expects to accomplish this."

"Determine that the income source truly relates to the activity contained in the Schedule. Examiners should also determine that the income source truly exists as some taxpayers have manufactured income in order to make it appear as though the activity earned some income. Manufactured income raises a potential fraud issue."

"Horse activities provide a competitive outlet for some taxpayers. For example, some taxpayers have been quoted as saying that cutting horse competitions provide stress relief from the chaos in the corporate world."

"The thrill of competition draws participants into various shows and competitive events. A sense of accomplishment attracts participants to compete in events where there may not be any monetary compensation for their efforts. Great pride accompanies the receipt of large trophies and fancy rosette ribbons and award banners."

"The taxpayer knows about the nine relevant factors. A taxpayer with a savvy representative has been advised to downplay the pleasurable aspects and emphasize the drudgery and dirty work of the activity."

"A significant amount of showing and showing-related expenses could be indicative of an activity not engaged in for profit if the prizes are minimal in financial remuneration. The examiner needs to determine the specific purpose for which the taxpayer participates in show competitions. The examiner needs to determine if the show winnings justify the showing expenses."

John Alan Cohan is a lawyer who has served the horse, stock and farming industries since 1981. He serves can be reached by telephone at (310) 278-0203 or via e-mail at JohnAlanCohan@aol.com. His website is www.johnalancohan.com.

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Jockeys to "Cowboy Up" at Pimlico

Imagine: A Thoroughbred trainer has five horses competing in an important event at Pimlico on the same Saturday. He needs to find four more excellent jockeys to ensure the horses get the best ride possible in the competition. Fairly normal situation, right? Except these Thoroughbreds chase cows for a living, not the finish wire.

retiredracehorsetraining.org. Fans are invited to nominate any rider, active or retired, to "cowboy up" and join in the fun. Nominations will close Monday, September 9. The final group of selected jockeys will be announced on the RRTP website and Facebook page on Thursday, September 12.

team sorting competition, Kentucky Derby-winning owner, Bill Casner, will join trainer Dale Simanton in a team roping demonstration and a barrel racing event with the Thoroughbred Makeover's own Nikki Eyged and her horse, Symphonic Cat as well as the winner and top four horses from this summer's

this truly unique event, "says Steuart Pittman. "Not only will this event be fan-friendly and fun to watch, it truly shows that retired racehorses are capable of just about anything you can ask."

The "Western Invasion" will take place on Saturday afternoon and evening during the Thoroughbred Makeover and National Symposium at Pimlico Racecourse. More information and tickets are available online at www.retiredracehorsetraining.org.



Dale Simanton and his all Thoroughbred ranch rodeo team—Photographer Dorothy Snowden From Left to Right: Thoroughbred geldings Marcade, Race with a Plum, Drake's Dancer, Swingn Slew and Finn McCool with Dale Simanton up.

Sometimes it really is a matter of the more, the merrier. And when the Retired Racehorse Training Project (RRTP) asked ranch horse trainer Dale Simanton to bring his full crew of ranch and cattle-trained off-track Thoroughbreds to Baltimore for the RRTP Thoroughbred Makeover and National Symposium on October 5 and 6, nobody really thought about who was going to ride them.

"That was when we conceived this idea of inviting a group of jockeys to take the mounts on these horses," said RRTP President, Steuart Pittman. "We can't imagine anything more fun than having some of America's most well-known riders taking the reins on this group of 'cow horses' for this event."

The event, named "Who Let the Cows Out?", will pair celebrity jockeys with retired Thoroughbred racehorses from the Gate to Great training program of Newell, South Dakota to compete on the Pimlico track in a "team sorting" event. Each team of two horses and riders will have a maximum of two minutes to sort a small herd of numbered cattle into a corral in numeric order. The team with the fastest time and correct sorting order wins the competition. The event requires cow sense, teamwork and fast thinking on the part of both the horses and riders.

And to help select the final group of jockeys to appear at the event on Saturday, October 5, the Retired Racehorse Training Project is inviting the public to weigh in on who they would like to see answer the call to the post and mount up for this cow-chasing challenge. An online nomination form can be found on the RRTP's website at www.retiredracehorsetraining.org.

Symposium will be held October 5 and 6 at Pimlico Racecourse in Baltimore, Maryland. The event will feature two full days of educational seminars, meetings, demonstrations, and the culmination of the Thoroughbred Makeover.

Twenty-six trainers from 15 states in ten equestrian disciplines will demonstrate what their horses have learned in just three months of second career training. Polo, dressage, eventing, barrel racing, cattle work, police work, hunters, jumpers, natural horsemanship, and tricks will be featured both by the Makeover horses and in special demonstrations from top horses in many of these disciplines. The weekend includes a trade fair and an evening celebration with Thoroughbred Storytelling by very special guests.

The Retired Racehorse Training Project (RRTP) is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization working to increase demand for retired Thoroughbred race horses as pleasure and sport horses through public events, clinics, training publications, videos and internet tools. Our mission is to facilitate the placement of retired Thoroughbred racehorses in second careers by

educating the public about the history, distinctive characteristics, versatility of use, and appropriate care and training of the iconic American Thoroughbred. More information may be found at www.retiredracehorsetraining.org.

The Gate to Great training program is a division of Horse Creek Thoroughbreds in Newell, South Dakota. Located on a large ranch in western South Dakota, the program entails a rehabilitation process that gives ex-racehorses a chance to recover from the rigors of a racing career and time to develop new skills outside the backside environment. Horses in the program learn to handle themselves in new ways both mentally and physically as they are ridden across the sweeping expanses of South Dakota ranges moving cattle, negotiating creek crossings and riding over varying terrain, all the while developing reining and maneuverability under saddle. The resultant graduates of the program are ready to move on into new careers in both traditional Western disciplines such as roping and barrel racing as well as eventing, dressage and jumping. More information may be found at www.gatetogreat.com

Restricting Forage is Incredibly Stressful: Choose a different method to help your horse lose weight

by Juliet M. Getty, Ph.D.

Stress = Obesity. That's right. Stress is keeping your horse fat. And the main source of stress for most horses? Restricting forage. The very thing most people do to try to help their horse lose weight actually causes the same stress reaction that brings about body fat retention, and all its attendant problems.

I cannot emphasize this enough. Here are the physiological facts—they are indisputable: The horse is a trickle feeder. He's a grazing animal designed to chew all day long. His chewing produces saliva, which neutralizes the acid that's continually flowing in his stomach. Your stomach produces acid only when you eat; your horse's stomach produces acid constantly, even when the stomach is empty (you see where I am going with this—his stomach should never be empty!). He also needs forage flowing through his digestive tract to exercise those muscles; otherwise the muscles get flabby, which can bring on colic from a weak intestinal tract that torques and intussuscepts. Furthermore, the cecum (hindgut) contains the bacteria responsible for digesting fiber from forage. But its exit and entrance are both at the top! In order for digested material to be pushed to the top, the cecum must be full. Otherwise colic can result from material left at the bottom.

A horse that doesn't have anything to eat will chew on whatever he can—fences, trees, even his own manure. It's pitiful to see. Chewing on non-feedstuffs makes a horse mentally acutely uncomfortable because it goes against his instincts, but physically he is in pain and attempting to resolve it. Discomfort? Pain? Stress! And he's stoic about it. You might look at him and say, "Well, he's calm." Sure, he may look that way but it's an ingrained survival mechanism for horses that are in pain to hide it. In the wild, a horse that shows that he's uncomfortable often gets left behind by the herd to fend for himself against predators. So ana-

tomically and psychologically, the horse has evolved to deal with pain by simply bearing it. Even the pain of an empty stomach.

What happens when you bring this horse some hay? Against the fear of future deprivation and to relieve his stomach discomfort, he inhales it. Then he waits again for his next meal, even while the acid resumes bathing his empty stomach. And it's not only the stomach that is affected. The acid can also damage the entire gastrointestinal tract, even making it all the way down to the hindgut. It can lead to colic and it can lead to laminitis.

I have seen hundreds of cases of horses suffering a laminitis relapse through being placed on a restrictive diet. Here's the scenario: The horse is overweight (maybe even develops laminitis). The well-intentioned veterinarian tells the horse owner, "Put your horse in a dry lot and feed him only a little bit of hay, maybe about 1.5% of his body weight. Give several small hay meals a day, only." And the rest of the time the horse stands there with an empty stomach. The well-intentioned veterinarian has just given the well-intentioned horse owner the worst possible advice because the stress of that leads to cortisol increase, which causes insulin to rise, and when insulin rises you have laminitis—new, recurrent or chronic. This happens over and over again; it is the unfortunate "conventional wisdom" of the horse industry.

I adamantly protest—this practice is not based on sound science. It is not wisdom at all.

When a horse does lose weight through severe restriction, his metabolic rate slows down so dramatically that he can't process a larger amount of food without gaining back all the lost weight and more when he returns to eating

normally. The most likely next outcome is a laminitis attack.

Now, consider the free choice scenario: First, make sure what the horse is eating is low in NSC and low in calories. Then you know that it's safe, once you give your horse all he wants to eat 24/7, and never, ever let him run out—not even for 10 minutes. Very soon, your horse will eat only what he needs. Yes, at first he may overeat because he's so excited, but once he realizes he can walk away and come back and figure out it's no big deal—saying to himself the equivalent of "Yeah, yeah, it's still there"—he will relax. Perceived starvation

to do that, but you need to do it by giving a low calorie, low sugar/starch hay.

And you need to increase exercise. Exercise decreases insulin resistance. It also builds or helps protect muscle mass (which is metabolically more active) and certainly it directly burns calories which helps your horse lose weight.

The ice cream or vegetables analogy: If I told you that you could lose weight by eating all the chocolate cake and ice cream you wanted and lolling around in a lounge chair all day, you would say that's impossible—even ridiculous—and you'd be right. But if I said that you could lose weight if you

chose to eat a lot of low calorie food—if you ate your fill of a variety of vegetables, for example—and got a reasonable amount of exercise, you would think that made sense. That's what I'm telling you to do with your horse. Let him eat low calorie foods, all he wants, because that's what he needs. Help him move around. You get the picture—I hope it makes sense now.

This article is an excerpt from the book, *Equine Cushing's Disease - Nutritional Management* and can be found at <http://gettyequinenutrition.biz/library/restrictingforageis-incrediblystressful.htm> For permission to reprint this article, please contact Dr. Getty at gettyequinenutrition@gmail.com.

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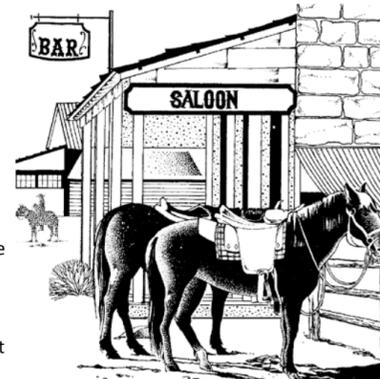
For more on this topic, please refer to *Feed Your Horse Like a Horse* (Juliet M. Getty, Ph.D. 2010): Chapter 1 - Ground Rules for Feeding a Horse Chapter 11 - Laminitis Chapter 12 - Weight Management Chapter 13 - Metabolic and Endocrine Disorders

And please read the following relevant titles in the *Spotlight on Equine Nutrition Series*: *Equine Cushing's Disease - Nutritional Management* *The Easy Keeper - Making it Easy to Keep Him Healthy* *Laminitis - A Scientific and Realistic Approach*

Juliet M. Getty, Ph.D. is an internationally respected, independent equine nutritionist who believes that the knowledge of how and what to feed is the foundation to optimizing horse health. She is the Contributing Nutrition Editor for the *Horse Journal*, and is available for private consultations and

speaking engagements.

At www.gettyequinenutrition.com, sign up for her informative—and free—monthly newsletter, *Forage for Thought*; read articles from her growing library of reference articles, and search her nutrition forum; purchase recordings of her informative teleseminars, and pick up copies of her books, including *Dr. Getty's comprehensive reference, Feed Your Horse Like A Horse* as well as the various volumes in her *Spotlight on Equine Nutrition Series*. Contact Dr. Getty directly at gettyequinenutrition@gmail.com.



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ROOTS OF THE LIGHT HORSE BREEDS Arabian and Thoroughbred Horses

By Janice M. Ladendorf

More than one breed of horse has come out of the Orient, but all too often the term, Arab, has been used to describe each one of them. Barbs from North Africa and Turkmenian horses have both been misidentified as Arabians. Some of the confusion may have come from the idea that anyone who spoke Arabic had to have Arabian horses. Contrary to popular belief, the Arabian breed did not originate in the inhospitable desert country of what is now called Saudi Arabia. Wild horses could not survive on this arid peninsula and in classical times the Bedouin rode camels.

Considerable controversy still exists over where and when the Arabian became a true breed. Possible progenitors are the ponies with dish faces that show up in cave paintings. More refined ponies with dish faces are shown pulling chariots in paintings from ancient Egypt. The recent discovery of Caspian ponies suggests that they may have been one of the founders of the Arabian breed. One isolated group of pure Arabians supposedly has existed in Iran since 2000 BC.

By the seventh century AD, the Arabian breed had been created in Iran, Iraq, Syria and Turkey. At that time, five historic strains of this breed existed. They have been mixed together often, but they have been kept pure in some places in Iran. Arabian horses had reached Egypt by 1300 AD. These beautiful horses were valued throughout the Ottoman Empire. In the heyday of the Ottoman Empire, the export of Arabians was illegal. When the restrictions eased, Arabians were gradually taken to all those countries where registries now exist.

Arabian stock has also often been used to upgrade other breeds.

Arabs did contribute to the creation of the Thoroughbred horse, but recent historical research has revealed that their role may have been a relatively minor one.

Other breeds made crucial contributions to the development of the Thoroughbred. The first of them was the Irish Hobby. Documentation exists that racing had begun in Ireland by 1015 BC. Sprint races were held at many events, including the great horse fairs. Hob-

bies were bred and raced by rural nobles and clan chieftains for distances up to a quarter of a mile. One famous racer was valued at the price of four hundred cows.

The Hobby was a light, swift, slender, small horse with a good head, a tender mouth, great stamina, and high courage. Hobbies also had a pleasant and willing disposition. Although they raced at a gallop, most were gaited. This fact suggests that their ancestors probably came from Asturia in Spain. Some Hobbies were sent to Italy to compete in the Palio Races that are still held in the city of Siena. Hobbies may also have been one of the ancestors of the Narragansett Pacer, the first gaited breed in the American colonies.

Once the English secured their rule in Ireland, the flow of Hobbies out Ireland increased, and by 1600 there were none left.

The English bred the Hobbies to each other and to native stock to produce the English Running horse. This breed of sprinters ran in races up to one quarter of a mile from 1512 to 1642. Cities often held these races at their fairs to attract potential customers. Prizes were silver bells or plate.

During the seventeenth century, Spanish and Turkmenian horses began making their contribution to the breeding of better race horses. The Spanish horse was still a popular breed and many had been imported to England. Barbs and Turkmenian horses were harder to obtain, but some had reached England before its Civil War. For example, the Emperor of Morocco presented four Barb stallions to Charles I in 1637 and Sultan Mohamed IV presented a Turkmenian stallion to Cromwell in 1657. He became known as Place's White Turk.

After England's Civil War, King Charles II wanted better horses bred for his cavalry. He established the Newmarket Course for races that would test for both speed and endurance. These races began in 1665 and typically consisted of two to four heats, each one of which covered two to four miles. The horses had to carry 168 pounds and their height averaged 14.2 hands. During the reign of Charles II, Spanker became the leading British-bred sire. His pedigree included Hobbies, Barbs, and Turks.

In the late seventeenth and early eighteenth century, three stallions became the foundation sires of the modern Thoroughbred. Byerley's Turk was a Turkmenian horse who came out of the Ottoman Empire. He was foaled in the Balkans in 1679 and sent as tribute to the sultan's stables. He was used in the heavy cavalry and survived the Battle of Buda (1686, Budapest) between the Holy League of Europe and the Ottoman Empire. He was probably claimed as loot by the victorious Holy League, and eventually sold to Captain Byerley of England. Before standing him at stud, Captain Byerley campaigned with him in Ireland.

In the eighteenth century, the Ottomans refused to sell or give purebred Arabians to foreigners. However, a few did reach England. The Darley Arabian was one of the first ones. He was smuggled out of Turkey and into Syria. In 1704, he was shipped from Aleppo to England. He was certified to be from the best Maneghi blood, a strain that had always been used for racing and contained many crosses with the Turkmenian horse.

Recent historical research has established that the Godolphin Arabian was another Turkmenian horse who came from the Ottoman Empire. He was not an Arabian or a Barb. He was not one of the Barb stallions

He did have one Arabian cross in his pedigree. The Duke of Lorraine acquired him through diplomatic channels and sold him to Edward Coke in 1730. He was later sold to the Earl of Godolphin who put him to stud and called him an Arabian. This was probably a mistake, but some have suggested that he did it deliberately so that he could charge higher stud fees.

Considerable controversy exists as to what each breed may have given to the modern Thoroughbred. Some experts believe that their speed came from crossing the Hobbies and

Turkmenian horses while the Arabian contributed endurance and beauty. As breeders began to place more emphasis on speed and races grew shorter, the Arabian fell out of favor. By 1776, single heat races for three year olds had begun.

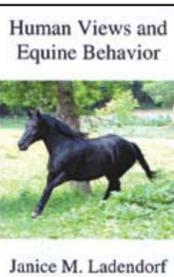
The history of these two breeds illustrates the human impact on the evolution of our light horse breeds. Horses have been transported over oceans and thousands of miles of difficult terrain. For hundreds of years, selective breeding has been used to cultivate desirable qualities and to create new breeds of horses. Unfortunately, definitive information on the true origin of the Arabian horse has been lost in the mists of time. Since the Thoroughbred is a less ancient breed, records do exist that show all of the bloodlines that were woven together in its creation.

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Equine Facilitated Psychotherapy

By Kristi Schaefer

I began to doubt myself as a therapist. This was the fourth session with Jim, trying something new, and we still didn't seem to be making any headway. I set down the curry comb and went to the tack room to grab a different brush, contemplating what we were going to try next.

I heard Jim talking to the horse from the tack room. "Hey Percy, how ya' doing today?" Quietly, I made my way back to the two. "Were they picking on you? Yeah, I know, that sucks. But don't worry, I won't hurt you, you're safe now." I could not believe my ears, these kind words were coming from a kid that had punched two different staff in the face just earlier this week. Anxious not to interrupt what was happening, I came back into the area, preoccupied with the brush.

"Why do they pick on him anyway?" Jim was asking me a question, and for once, I was the one that didn't know what to say. That's when the Equine Specialist picked up the proverbial ball that I had just dropped.

"The horses have what you might call a pecking order, and Percy is kind of on the bottom. The way they communicate that is through nips, kicks, and squeals." It wasn't the most technical explanation, but seemed to make sense to Jim, even if he didn't like it.

"Why do they have to do it, can't they just leave him alone? He's just trying to eat like the rest of them." You could clearly hear the hurt in Jim's voice.

"Yeah," I chimed in "it just kind of sucks, doesn't it? It's nice though that Percy has you to check up on him, I can see that he really responds to you, Jim." I push a little, hoping not to have ruined the fragile balance we have right now. "Yeah, well, somebody's got to." And he is quiet again.

Equine Facilitated Psychotherapy (EFP) is an experiential form of psychotherapy that involves the horse as part of the healing process for people struggling with mental health issues. The foundation rests on the extreme sensitivity that horses display to changes in people's emotional state and exhibited behaviors (Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship International, 2013). This requires a mental health professional as well as a certified PATH Intl. Instructor working together to provide an alternate therapy for clients who don't respond to traditional "office-based" psychotherapy.

EFP is not a silver bullet, and there are no tricks to it. The principles that are necessary for effective psychotherapy are present in EFP as it rapidly becomes more widely known. The mistake that can be made is to assume that EFP is a good fit for anyone. Much like some clients prefer a Cognitive Based Therapy while others prefer Psychoanalysis, it is important for the therapist to consider the "goodness of fit" between the client and the form of psychotherapy. If the work is being done with a 16-year-old girl who absolutely hates the smell of manure, the outdoors and everything that goes with it, it does not follow that they will learn

to love it. This may work on occasion, but that is the exception, not the rule. In the case of Jim, this was considered as he was not responding to traditional therapy. He did show an affinity for horses and had mentioned that he worked with them as young child with his uncle. Given that he rarely spoke more than two sentences in a conversation, we decided to try something new. Successful psychotherapy begins with the client finding a starting point where they are willing to work. The first step in any treatment is the therapeutic rapport between the client and therapist. This did not exist between Jim and the therapist.

It's important to note the roles of the therapist and the instructor. A general rule of thumb is for the therapist to attend to the client, while the instructor attends to the horse. However, difference between inserting a horse into a therapy session, and having a truly experiential equine facilitated psychotherapy is that both are also aware of the intricacies of the client and the horse. The instructor needs to know about Jim's goals and difficulties, while the therapist needs to understand enough about horse communication to be able to draw attention to the responsiveness of the horse. In this case, Jim allowed the instructor and therapist into his world for a bit, clearly drawing an analogy between his own experiences and that of the horse.

As noted, there is no magic wand in EFP. To be certain, there are breakthroughs that encourage us in the difficult work of assisting others on their own journey, but it is often the subtle, bright spots, that

tell us we are on the right track. With Jim, we can't change the fact that kids are going to pick on him; we won't always be there when someone chooses to build themselves up by tearing him down. But, if Jim can take the concept of allowing others to help, like Percy allowing him to help, back into his everyday life, then we have made a step toward healing. That is progress and we will take it.

Kristi Schaefer has her M.S. in Early Childhood Special Education from Minot State University. She is a PATH Intl. Registered Instructor with additional training in equine facilitated mental health through the Equine Assisted Growth and Learning Association and OK Corral Series. Kristi is co-founder and executive director of Serenity Therapeutic Equine Program (STEP) in Minot, ND. More information at www.Serenitytep.com.

To many, the words love, hope and dreams are synonymous with horses.

Author Unknown

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From the Horse's Mouth: Industry News

Press Organizations Join Wild Horse Journalist Against BLM

(San Francisco, CA) An ongoing battle in US Federal Court to have meaningful access to document wild horses removed from public land has been joined by The Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press, the National Press Photographers Association and thirteen other news media organizations. Laura Leigh, journalist for Horseback Magazine and founder of Wild Horse Education, began the legal action almost four years ago when her access to document the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) wild horse and burro program became unreasonably restrictive following her publication of material unfavorable to government actions.

"I have spent the last four years trying to tell the story of the wild horse on the range, during capture and in holding," stated Leigh "I have been met with restrictions at every turn, even as the BLM touts its program as 'transparent.' This struggle to document wild horses has taken years and hundreds of thousands of miles; real transparency is long overdue."

From the onset of this case that has gone up and down the court system and now heads back to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, Leigh has been represented by attorney Gordon Cowan of Reno.

"Without the First Amendment democracy fails," stated Cowan. "It is truly an honor to have so many outstanding members of the US press stand with us to defend this essential American principal."

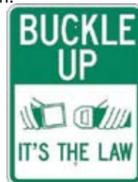
The case is now awaiting assignment of a trial date. Excerpt of Amici Curiae brief:

"The public has a right to see what happens during wild horse roundups on Bureau of Land Management (BLM) lands. Because of their remote location, the only effective way for the public to monitor BLM's activities is through visual recordings by media representatives such as plaintiff-appellant Laura Leigh. Although the court below correctly recognized that there is a public and press right of access to such activities, it gave excessive weight to the Government's justifications for limiting

access to the horse gatherings. In particular, it afforded too much discretion to the Government to decide whether observing the gatherings was safe, without recognizing that journalists routinely – and critically – face far more dangerous situations on a regular basis without official interference or protection. In its holding, the court below denied meaningful public and press access to the horse roundups, while sustaining unconstitutional restrictions on such access. The lower court's decision should be reversed."

To view a full listing of organizations in the Amici Curiae brief go to Wild Horse Education.

WildHorseEducation.org is a Nevada non-profit devoted to gaining protection for wild horses and burros from abuse, slaughter and extinction.



Texas Coastal State Parks Will Have Equestrian Use

SABINE PASS, TX, – At a time when equestrian trails are vanishing almost as quickly as a bag of feed, Texas Parks and Wildlife gave good news to horse owners nationwide Tuesday with the announcement it will add two new trails to its roster of destinations.

The trails have been included in the master plan for re-development and building of facilities destroyed by Hurricane Ike at Galveston Island State Park and Sea Rim State Park, according to TPWD Region 4 director Justin Rhodes.

The announcement was made at a public hearing announcing plans for the rebuilding of the Sea Rim park near Sabine Pass. The park will enable horseback riding along a five mile stretch of beach, as will the popular Galveston Island park. A special horse trailer parking area is included in the plan according to TPWD planner Joelynn Barklay. For the first time at any coastal park in the state, horsemen will be able to ride on the beach to the sound of seagulls and surf, and will even be able to ride their horses into the warm waters of the Gulf of Mexico.

The state plans to allow equestrian use out of season for swimming, fishing, surfing, and other summer activities. The beachfront will open to horsemen from November – February, 2011.

Securing trails at park facilities, which were completely destroyed by the hurricane, has been a major project of the Greater Houston Horse Council. The addition of equestrian use at the parks will add a much needed and welcome marketing item for both the Galveston and Sabine Pass tourism industry.

There are 1 million horses in Texas according to an equine census conducted by Texas A&M University. The state boasts 300,000 horse owners, of whom 88 percent plan to travel with their horses this year, and 52 percent plan to travel more than 100 miles.

Horse owners are affluent and will provide a much needed demographic to a tourism industry hard hit by the recession and the aftermath of Hurricane Ike. Contact: Steven Long, Editor, Vice President, Greater Houston Horse Council (713) 202-7644

Minnesota EquiFest 2013 Canceled

It is with great sadness that we have decided to cancel the Minnesota EquiFest 2013, including the driving competition.

We would like to thank past and present Board of Directors, clinicians, vendors, attendees, barn manager, promotional personnel and anyone else who helped move the EquiFest



to be that of promoting and encouraging our great Minnesota equine industry.

The Minnesota EquiFest has had a great lineup of clinicians and speakers, along with a colt challenge, ADS driving competition, horse and rider clinics, tack sale, demonstrations, lectures, vendors, great horses, Cowboy Church and more.

There has been encouragement to continue the EquiFest in a smaller format and at a different time of the year. Please let us know your thoughts and suggestions. Please contact us at info@minnesotaequifest.com

Again, thank you for your support of Minnesota EquiFest.

Nancy Duggan, Executive Director Minnesota EquiFest

forward since its inception 6 years ago. Everyone has done a tremendous job at promoting EquiFest and helping it grow. Your help and dedication is very much appreciated. We couldn't have come this far without your help. Our goal has been and still continues

ATTENTION IHC MEMBERS AND HORSE LOVERS EVERYWHERE!

Help Us Create a Wall of Horse Stories

We invite IHC members and any horse enthusiast who is interested to send in the story of a horse that is or has been special in your life in some way. This can be a horse you have owned or a horse that in some way has impacted your life. The focus is on the horse so tell us as much about the horse as you can. All stories must be no more than 1 typewritten page (in Arial or Calibri 14 point font), include a photo and contact information of the person submitting the story. By submitting your story, you are giving the Iowa Horse Council and Iowa Horse Fair permission to edit the story if necessary and to use the story at the IHF, in IHC publications and as part of IHC promotions.

Following is an example of a great horse story. We are looking forward to yours.

The prize for the winners of the People's Choice Award will be \$30 to spend in the 2014 Iowa Horse Fair Trade Show in celebration of the 30th Annual Iowa Horse Fair!

The Lone Ranger had Silver, Roy Rogers had Trigger, Wilbur had Mr. Ed, Katy had Flicka, and Zorro had Torñado. Every equestrian has had that one horse that changed their life. That one horse they will always remember and compare all others to.

Mine just happens to be a 16-year-old Percheron gelding, I call Ted. I decided to get him to use at work as a wagon horse when

the park I work at was in need of additional horses for their wagon rides. Ted came from a farmer in Nebraska and was known as Motor City Madman.

The farmer who sold Ted to me used his horses for work and as part of that work he roached his horse's manes and tails. I was going to let Ted's mane grow in but he looks so good in his Mohawk that I keep it well trimmed.

When I got him he was a down right pain in the rump and now he's in my pocket. I don't think I could have found a better horse.

Ted is always full of energy and heads up. He's trotted for miles with a wagon behind him and even when we ride the trails he sets a fast pace. I've broken him to ride myself and it has been a learning experience for the both of us. He is my horse through and through.

He's my first horse and I brought him home a year into my fight with thyroid cancer. He gave me something outside my own head to focus on and was like my silent therapist.

Being around him brought me peace and just spending time with him helped immensely. Some days I would go down the trail walking him like a giant dog just to enjoy the quiet. I know that no other horse I will ever meet can compare to my Motor City Madman and I know I'm not the only one who feels that way about their beloved horse.



Preparations are well under way as the Iowa Horse Council prepares to celebrate their 30th Annual Iowa Horse Fair.

The theme of the 2014 Iowa Horse Fair is 'The Year of the Horse.'

We have some new events for 2014:

A Special Iowa Horse Fair Cowgirl Queen Contest will be added. For information on this contact Sherry Turner 641-891-8377 or turner@iowatelecom.net

We will have A Wall of Horse Stories submitted by IHC members and horse enthusiasts around the region for everyone to read. Attendees will be able to vote on their favorite and a People's Choice Award will be presented to the youth winner and the adult winner. The prize will be \$30.00 to spend at the Iowa Horse Fair Trade Show in celebration of the 30th Annual Iowa Horse Fair! Send stories to Rebecca Cordray cordray@midiowa.net

South Dakota State Cowboy Mounted Shoot

Lennox, SD - The weekend of September 7-8, 2013 found 18 cowboys and cowgirls from across the state of SD and the surrounding area vying for points to make it to the Cowboy Mounted Shooting Nationals.

Taking home the Men's State Championship was Craig Shryock of Wessington Springs, SD, and Reserve Champion was Brett Borkowski, also of Wessington Springs. The Ladies Champion was won by Marlene Harizal of Omaha, Nebraska, with Jessie Warner of Halsey, Nebraska taking Reserve.

Level winners were as follows:

Mens Level 1 – Joel Yandell; Westfield, Iowa
Mens Level 2 – Mick Nesheim, Tea, SD
Mens Level 5 – Brett Borkowski, Wessington, SD
Senior Mens Level 1 – Rock Boyd, Volin, SD
Senior Mens Level 2 – Gregory Wendell, Pierre, SD
Senior Mens Level 3 – Paul Borgmann, White Lake, SD
Senior Mens Level 4 – Craig Shryock, Wessington, SD
Senior Mens Level 5 – Butch Stackpole, Omaha, NE
Ladies Level 2 – Katelynd Whitehead, Lennox, SD
Ladies Level 3 – Jessie Warner, Halsey, NE
Senior Ladies Level 3 – Marlene Harizal, Omaha, NE
Rifle - 1st Brett Borkowski

2nd Rock Boyd
3rd Butch Stackpole
Shotgun – 1st Brett Borkowski, Wessington, SD
2nd Butch Stackpole Range Masters – Brett Borkowski and Butch Stackpole
Hard luck award – Rock Boyd; Volin, SD

The shoot was hosted by the Whitehead Arena in Lennox, SD by the Dakota Territory Mounted Shooters. This cowboy mounted shooting club meets monthly to plan events and is always looking for new members. If you are interested in horse events, whether you ride or not, feel free to contact the Whitehead family at 605-647-5105; 605-261-9766 or Mardy at 605-553-4389.

Cowboy Mounted Shooting is an exciting event that is very family oriented. Basically like "barrel racing on steroids" - cowboys run a pattern while shooting balloons with 45 caliber guns loaded with competition blanks. It is a challenging event for horsemen, and thrilling to watch for spectators. You can find the club on facebook if you search Dakota Territory Mounted Shooters.



Above: Greg Wendell of Pierre, SD on white horse, ACE. Photo by Debbie Schmidt, Lennox, SD Paper. Bottom left to right: Brett Borkowski of Wessington Springs Shooting Rifle on RIO; Ladies Winners; Men Winners. Top right: Todd Braun of Wessington Springs, SD on a palimino horse, BO



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RTP Began With a Very Sick Horse!

I purchased Fritz in 2004 as a weanling. About two months later, he started with bouts of diarrhea. Over the next year and a half, I spent many hours and thousands of dollars consulting with veterinarians, and on trying different medications and remedies (yogurt, probiotic, dry pro-biotic, different herbs for digestion, aloe-vera gel, monthly wormer, several commercial products, Dionne Kaolin, seven or eight different kinds of feed). Fritz's belly was always bloated, he passed tremendous amounts of gas, and when he did, the liquid would just dribble out of him, down his legs and onto his sheath. His manure never got firmer than a loose cow pie, or occasionally a loose form of horse apples. I washed his butt so regularly, that he would turn it to me when I went into his stall.

Just before Thanksgiving 2005, he started another severe bout of diarrhea. He finally shed his stomach lining, which looked like a snake skin, when I found it in his stall. The vets said he would probably die. For weeks, I didn't know if I would find him alive or dead in his stall. Then in December, I heard about roasted feed, and ordered a pallet.

The results were overwhelming, life-changing for Fritz. Within four days, his manure started looking normal. By the end of two weeks, his bloated belly was gone, and he looked like a tucked-up race horse. He had normal manure. He started to play with other horses, something he had never done before. After ten days of eating roasted feed, my husband wondered what I had done to Fritz: I told him, "Just that feed."

I became a dealer, but after three years the manufacturer was sold, the feed changed, then discontinued. My husband and customers encouraged me to make my own feed. I thank God for providing me with everything I needed to develop Roasted to Perfection. Today, Fritz is healthy and well. He has not had a bout of diarrhea in all this time. We are very careful about mold or dusty hay, and he still likes his butt rubbed!

Cindy Besser, Founder and Owner, Roasted to Perfection
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Works for all ages and disciplines. Go to www.RoastedToPerfection.com for dealer info.

Upcoming Events & Classified Ads

Oct 3: Dominique Barber, new book lecture and QA session on The Alchemy of Lightness: What Happens Between a Horse and Rider and How It Helps Achieve the Ultimate Connection, 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm, Spirit Horse Center, Brainerd, MN, \$50 must register, more info at www.SpiritHorseCenterInc.com.

Oct. 4: 4-H Fun Horse Show at the Anoka, Minn. County Fair Grounds; all proceeds donated to the Karpe family.

Oct. 5: Carlton County 4H Horse Project at 9 a.m. at Barnum, Mn. Call 218.393.7787 for more info.

Oct 5-6: National Little Britches Rodeo at 10 a.m. at LeeMar Ranch in Granite Falls, Mn. Call 612.528.5645

Oct. 5: Fall Round-Up Horse Show at 8 a.m. at

RIMOE Ranch in New Richmond, Wis. 715.417.0477

Oct. 5: Multi Club Open Show at 8 a.m. at the Sandston Arena in Sandstone, Mn. Call 651.436.5638

Oct. 5: 2013 MN Harvest Grand Prix at 6 a.m. at the State Fairgrounds in St. Paul, Mn. www.mnharvest-horseshow.com

Oct 6: Lake Trail Blazers Fun Show at 9 a.m. at the Double S Arena in Detroit Lakes, Mn. Contact: debra_klein1@yahoo.com

Oct. 4-6: Dominique Barber Riding Clinic, internationally renowned author and riding expert, Spirit Horse Center, Brainerd, MN, registration and more info at www.SpiritHorseCenterInc.com.

Oct. 19: Minnesota 50/50 Sale and Show at 8 a.m. at the R&J Arena in Verndale, Mn.

the Minnesota Equestrian Center in Winona, Minn.

Oct. 13: Oct. 4-6: Fun Show at Houck Horse Company in North Branch, Minn.

Oct. 17-20: MCRHA Reining Horse Show at the Minnesota Equestrian Center in Winona, Minn.

Oct. 19: Minnesota 50/50 Sale and Show at 8 a.m. at the R&J Arena in Verndale, Mn.

Oct. 19: National Little Britches Rodeo at 10 a.m. at LeeMar Ranch in Granite Falls, Mn. Call for info: 612.518.5645

Oct. 19: October Horse Sale at 10 a.m. at the R&J Arena in Verndale, Minn.

Oct. 26: 5th Annual Halloween Costume Show at Houck Horse Company in North Branch, Minn.

Oct. 26-27: POA, Pony for the America's Show Show at the Minnesota Equestrian Center in Winona, Minn.

See our events listed here, email us at: thevenews@gmail.com

Oct 4-6: Apple Festival Fall Drive - Dan and Marti Peterson Washburn. Camping, trails, shuttle to Apple Fest. dansre@centurytel.net

Oct. 11-13: Pendants and Ponies closed workshop with Vickie Juricka author of "The Pendant Project: My Journey to Awareness through Art" by Thurston Gray at Spirit Horse Center in Brainerd, Minn. www.spirithorsecenterinc.com

Oct 11-13: Discovery Horse presents Pendants & Ponies--A Weekend Retreat for Survivors of Sexual Assault. Equine Gestalt Coaching Method workshop presented by guest

clinician Vicki Jurica, author of The Pendant Project: My Journey to Awareness Through Art by Thurston Gray. Through art and the healing power of horses, you will be assisted in rediscovering trust, setting boundaries, developing connections and healing. No horse experience necessary, all activities are on the ground. Scholarships available. Accepting scholarship donations. Only 10 spaces available. Held at Spirit Horse Center, Brainerd, MN. \$495. Register online: www.discoveryhorse.com.

Oct. 19: Game Show at Hi Circle Vee Ranch at 10 a.m. in Isanti, Mn. 763.689.4053

Oct. 20: 5th Annual Halloween Costume Fun Show at 11 a.m. at Houck Horse Company in North Branch, Minn. www.houck-horsecompany.com

Oct. 26: UBRA Barrels and Game Show-Buckle Series at 10 a.m. at the R&J Arena in Verndale, Mn.

Nov. 2-3: National Little Britches Rodeo at 10 a.m. at the Los Gachos Ranch in Backus, Mn. 612.518.5645

Nov. 8-10: Susan Norman 'Riding in Lightness' Clinic at the Timberlein Ranch in Stacy, Mn. Contact: stacyb@bwig.net Trudy Midas 612 210-4489 trudy@espanaproducts.com

Nov. 15-17: Chasing Cans Barrel Events hosted by SC Productions Show at the Minnesota Equestrian Center in Winona, Minn.

Nov. 23-24: Anna Twinney Animal Communication Clinic at Spirit Horse Center in Brainerd, Minn. <http://www.spirithorsecenterinc.com/>

See your events listed here, email us at: thevenews@gmail.com

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A VEN Fine Art Feature: "My Kingdom for a Horse" at the Stillwater Art Gallery

The Stillwater Art Guild Gallery announces "My Kingdom for a Horse" art show featuring the work of some of the Twin Cities and surrounding areas' finest equine artists.

Eighteen exceptional guest equine artists will have their work on display

in the River Room during the month of October. All horse disciplines will be represented: English/Western/Sporting/Hobby/Native

American/Working Horse. Mediums will include classic oils, watercolor, acrylic, pencil, pastel, photography, bronze, metal, clay and hand built furniture.

Artists include: Judith Blain, Watercolor; William Ersland, Western and Sporting Art; Brady Willette, War Pony Project; Lynn Maderich, Classic Attelier Oils; Robert Williams, Minnesota Heartland Oils; Forrest Kvistad, Pencil; Deb Lee Carson, B&W Photography; Beverly Van Dell, Cowboy Sepias; Craig Michael Palm, Metal Sculpture; Wally Shoop, Bronzes; Tracie Thompson, Oil; Sharon Peterson, Mixed Media; Deborah Voyda Rogers, Pastel; Karen Sebesta, Southwest Pottery; Horse-Tribe, Jewelry; Deb Chial, Photojournalist; Charlie Joy, Woodstock Furniture; Bob Gilbertson, 3-D. Show Dates: October 1-27.

Gala Artist Reception: Sat., Oct. 5, 4-9 p.m. Special Interest: "Wild Horses of Medora" video by Deb Lee Carson, Opening Weekend. Fundraiser: Benefit for "Minnesota

Hooved Animal Rescue" Sponsored by: Arcola Farm CONTACT: JANE DIERBERGER, CHAIRPERSON email: gileap@aol.com



Lynn Maderich - Classic Oils - St. Paul, MN. www.lynnmaderich.com. Award winning associate member of The American Academy of Equine Art, Kentucky. Featured on the cover of "Horses in Art" magazine. Noted for luminous light, rich color, and illusory sense of depth. Graduate of the classical 19th century European style Atelier Studio of Fine Art, Mpls, MN

"My Kingdom for a Horse"

Oct. 1-27 Stillwater, Mn.



Robert Williams - Oil Painter, Vernon Center, MN. (Blue Earth Co.) www.mnartists.org/RobertWilliams. Regional artist specializing in scenes from Minnesota's heartland. Award winning illustrator and commercial artist; Professor, South Central College, N. Mankato, MN

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3 Horse w/9'6" LQ, Dinette, 6 cu Refg, Flush 2 Burner Stove, Microw, Ducted Furnace, AC, Soft Touch Walls, Lg Shower w/ Glass Door, Sep. Stool, Awning, Dual Electric Jacks, Walk-Thru Door, Escape Door w/ Drop Dwn Feed Doors w/ Low Mount Handle & Fold Dwn Bars, 2 Mangers, Dble Rear Doors w/ Windows, Padded Dividers, Collaps, Rear Tack
Sale Price: \$34,900.00



1998 Sundowner 3 Horse GN w/6' LQ 7'x21'x7'
All Aluminum, 3 cu Refg, Microw, 2 Burner Stove, Dble S/S Sink, AC, Ducted Furnace, Radio, Lg Wardrobe Closet w/Hat Shelf, Shower, Sep. Stool, Walk-Thru Dr, Drop Dwn Feed Drs 2/Fold Dwn Bars, Rump Wall Windows, Padded Slam Latch Dividers, Collaps, Rr Tack w/3 Swing Out Saddle Racks, Bridle Hooks, Blanket Bars, Brush Tray
Sale Price: \$19,800.00



2000 Sundowner GN 3H w/9' Trail Blazer II
Full LQ, 7'x23'x7', 6 cu Refg., 2 Burner Stove, Dble Stainless Steel Sink, Full Width Bench Seat w/Flip-up Table, Shower-Stool Combo, Electric Jack, Awning, Escape Door w/Drop Dwn Windows, Rump Wall Windows, Padded Dividers, Dble Rear Doors w/ Windows, Collaps, Rear Tack w/3 Tier Swing out Saddle Rack, 2 Load Lights, Stud Divider, Serviced Out in Our Shop, Ready to Go. Clean & Affordable.
Sale Price: \$18,500.00



2010 Cherokee 3H GN 6'8"x18'8"x7' Dix Tomahawk
4'8" to 9'2" Dress Rm, Camper Dr w/Scrn, Camper Step, Carpet GN-Drop & Flr, Crank Out GN Wndws, Saddle Rk Set, Escape Dr w/ Drop Dwn Feed Dr & Low Mount Latches & Fold Dwn Bars, Alum. Padded Dividers, Rubber Lined Walls, Horse Area, Rf Vents, Lg Rump Wall Wndws, Padded Breast & Butt Bar, 2 Ld Lights, Collaps. Rr Tack, 3 Post Saddle Rack-Moveable To Dress Rm, Alum. Bridle Hks & Brush Tray, 235R16 10 Ply Rd Tires. Blk Skin.
Sale Price: \$15,900.00



1998 Tital GN Renegade II 4H w/8' Full LQ, 7'x26'x7'
3 cu Refg, 2 Burner Stove, Microw, AC, Ducted Furnace, Dinette, Lg Vanity, Sept. Stool, Shower w/Glass Door, Lg Hanging Closet, Awning, Walk-Thru Door, Escape Door w/Drop Dwn Feed Doors, Rump Wall Windows, Read Rack w/4 Swing Out Saddle Racks, 1st Divider Full Bottom & Grilled Top, Slam latch dividers, Wood Lined Walls, New 235/85R16 10-Ply Radials
Sale Price: \$15,500.00



2002 Trails West 4 Horse GN 7'6"x24'x7'
w/6' Finished Dress Rm, 7'6"x24'x7', AC, Boot Box, Side Tack w/4 Swing Out Saddle Rack, 8 Blanket Bar, Bridle Hooks, Brush Trays, 4 Manger w/4 Manger Doors, Drop Dwn Feed Doors w/Fold Dwn Bars, Dble Rear Doors w/Windows, Slam Latch Dividers. Trailer Used 2 Seasons. Like New. Excellent Condition.
Sale Price: \$15,500.00



1997 Exiss GN 7'x18'x7' Event Maximum 3X Horse w/4' to 8' Weekender, Finished Dress Rm, AC, Sink-Water Tank & Pump, Microw, 110V Pkg, Battery Pkg, Boot Bench, Closets, Counter, Escape Door, Drop Dwn Feed Doors, Rump Wall Windows, Slam Latch Dividers, Roof Vents, 40/60 Dble Rear Doors w/Windows, Collaps. Rear Tack, 3-Post Saddle Rack Bridle Hooks. Tires Excellent. New Battery.
Sale Price: \$11,900.00



2001 Circle J GN 7'x16'x7' 2 Horse w/6'Dress Rm, Carpet GN-Drop & Floor, Camper Vent, GN Windows, Tack Organizer, Side Tack w/2 Brush Trays, 3 Swing Out Saddle Rack, Bridle Hooks, Drop Dwn Feed Doors w/Fold Dwn Bars, Dble Rear Doors w/Windows, Load Lights, All Rubber Lined, New Rubber Floor Mats, Padded Divider, New 235R16 10-Ply Radials. Handy, Hard-to-Find, 2-Horse - Clean
Sale Price: \$7,500.00

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