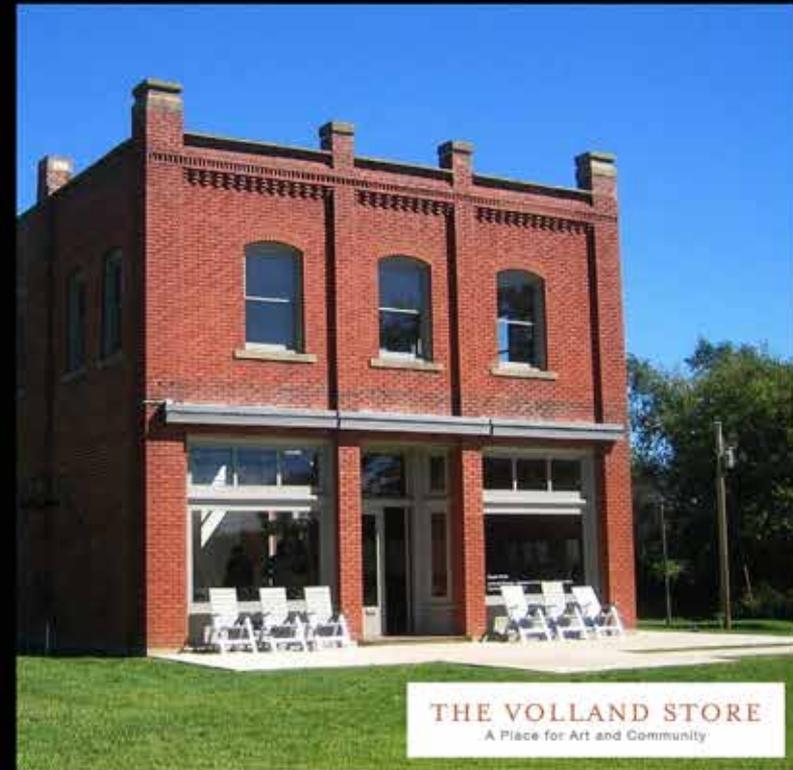


# **BETTER** HORSES™

For the  
*Love of the Horse*  
& the **Flint Hills**

By Patty Reece  
Page 4



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Hello Friends,

Can you believe we are already in the summer of 2019? We have been involved in quite a few events the first half of the year with the second half showing no signs of slowing down. Better Horses media is continuing to add new affiliates with our Radio Show. One of the newest being KWLS 107.9 out of Wichita, KS, airing every Sunday night at 9:00pm. Go to our website at [www.betterhorses.com](http://www.betterhorses.com) to keep up with everything going on.

I just returned from the AQHA Ranch Horse Versatility

World Championship Show at the Lazy E Arena in Guthrie, Oklahoma, which was great. I saw a lot of friends participating with their horses. I was very pleased on how my seven-year-old mare, Ima Lena Meradas, did in the Ranch Cutting and Open Ranch Reining with Brent Wright showing her. Congratulations to Matt Tulloch on his success in the Ranch Boxing. You are going to continue to see great growth with the Versatility Ranch Horse Shows in the coming days.

I hope to see you at the new Volland Arena at the Volland Store on July 27th. You will have the opportunity to experience the Horsemanship of Jerry Diaz and his family. His Horsemanship Act has won numerous awards over the years. See details on page 5 and plan on bringing the family out to The Volland Store and Arena on July 27th. You can also go to our website [www.betterhorses.com](http://www.betterhorses.com) to find out more about this event. This is just the first of many events we plan to hold at the Volland Store and Arena. Thanks to Jerry and Patty Reece for making this a reality.

We would love for you to join us on the 20th Annual Dream Ride in The Flint Hills on September 6th, 7th, & 8th at the beautiful Clover Cliff Ranch near Strong City. This will prove to be a great event with two days of great riding, great food, door prizes, entertainment, Equine Education, and great fellowship. To make reservations for the ride call Suzan Barnes at the Grand Central Hotel in Cottonwood Falls. Her number is 620-273-6763. Also, on Saturday evening we will be having a special presentation by Ron McDaniels of Merck Animal Health to benefit the American Association of Equine Practitioners (AAEP). We are excited to have back, Horseman and Stockman Curt Pate. Come ride with us!

A special thanks to the Independent Purina Dealers listed on page 19 that help make Better Horses possible. Make sure you support them to help us continue bringing you these great programs.

Looking to sell or buy your HORSE PROPERTY? I am a Keller Williams agent and I can help you get this done. Let's put Better Horses Property and their marketing tools to work for you. Email me at [ernie@betterhorsesradio.com](mailto:ernie@betterhorsesradio.com) or give me a call at 785-418-6047.

**BETTER HORSES CELEBRATION!** I would like to invite you and your family and friends to the FREE CONCERT with Rusty Rierson and his Forever Young Band on Friday night, July 26th, at the Kansas ExpoCentre in Topeka. Yours truly will be emceeing this fun evening and the cost of admission is FREE. This event is part of the Shawnee County Fair and the festivities begin at 6:30 pm.

It is always great to see you. Let me know if there is anything I can do for you. Remember to always keep our Lord Jesus Christ first in your life.

Happy Trails and God Bless!



Ernie

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## For advertising information contact:

**Ernie Rodina**

785-418-6047

[ernie@betterhorsesradio.com](mailto:ernie@betterhorsesradio.com)

**Ed Adams**

816-830-1998

[Eadams2@outlook.com](mailto:Eadams2@outlook.com)

**Connie Rodina**

785-418-2615

[csrodina5@gmail.com](mailto:csrodina5@gmail.com)

**Jennifer Mitchell, Graphic Designer**

913-485-6495

[jennifer.rodina@gmail.com](mailto:jennifer.rodina@gmail.com)

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# For the Love of the Horse & the Flint Hills

By Patty Reece

Patty and Jerry Reece acquired a lifetime fascination for the West from their early years, even though they grew up across the country from each other in far different environments.

Patty grew up in a small oil and farming town in Oklahoma, while Jerry's formative years were spent in a small logging and fishing town on the west coast of Washington. When Jerry's family drove from their home in Kansas to their new home in Washington, one of their overnight stops was Cheyenne, Wyoming. The sight of cowboys in jingling spurs walking down the boardwalk was enough to convince eight-year-old Jerry he wanted to be a cowboy. He never let go of that dream.

Meanwhile, Patty traveled with her family on vacations across the Southwest and to Wyoming (which became her favorite state), and became fascinated with wide open spaces, big sky, sparse landscape, horses, and Native American culture. The romance of the West stayed with her.

Years later, after they had found each other and married, they discovered the Flint Hills and immediately connected with the broad vistas and tall grass, open spaces where the West began. Eventually they were able to buy a small place near Alma, Kansas. They got some horses, added some more land, and embarked on their own Western adventure.

Fifteen years into that venture, an opportunity came along to preserve part of the Western history of their new community. The nearby town of Volland (population two) had been an important railroad shipping

point for cattle in the early days of Wabaunsee County. Kratzer Brothers Mercantile, the general store, had anchored the community until 1971 when the owner died. It sat vacant for many years, and the roof fell in, taking the whole interior into the basement. The building was now in danger of being torn down, but the brick walls remained strong and begged to be saved. The Reece's, having heard many stories from locals about their good times growing up around the Store and its charismatic shopkeeper Otto Kratzer, thought the building deserved to stand to preserve those memories. They bought the Store, and after significant renovations, re-opened it in June 2015 as an art gallery and community gathering place.

Through the years Patty and Jerry have developed a love of art, nature, music, poetry, and science, in addition to their interests in ranching, history, and the West— and those interests now find a home in

the Volland Store. Today the Store is a Place for Art and Community. It sits alongside a scenic byway, where historic ranches populate the landscape and the trains roll by. Some describe the Store as “the community living room.” It is a place for locals to come and share their stories with newcomers from urban places; and in the Flint Hills, where most property is private and unavailable to the public, The Volland Store offers a good place for all to visit and stay awhile. The Volland Store is an inviting destination in the middle of an extraordinary landscape.

In the years since its re-opening, a good many artists, writers, poets, scientists, and musicians have made presentations at the Volland Store. Not surprisingly, the presenters have often received as much information as they have offered. They have been introduced to the history and culture of the Flint Hills during their visits. Some have stayed a few



*Patty & Jerry Reece  
(Photo by KC Palmer)*

days or weeks, either in the Loft (a place for rent above the gallery of the Store) or at the Reece's bunkhouse on their nearby ranch. Not only have they been inspired by the beauty of the landscape, they have also connected with the people of the community. It has become apparent that there is mutual value in providing space and time for creative folks to think, interact with each other and with the community, and perhaps create new work in Volland, far from the distractions of their daily lives. Thus, an artist residency program has evolved naturally and is being enhanced by the ongoing and future renovation of other buildings along Volland Road. The Reece's are welcoming new partners to this venture. If you would like more information or would like to be involved, email [patty@thevollandstore.com](mailto:patty@thevollandstore.com).

In the meantime, Jerry is building an outdoor arena for horse events! The newest addition to the Volland “dream” is a place for horse shows and other equestrian events, such as clinics, lessons, equestrian education – a place for horse lovers, cowboys, and “wannabe's.” For details and information, email [patty@thevollandstore.com](mailto:patty@thevollandstore.com)

The inaugural event at the Volland Arena is on July 27, 2019:

Charro Jerry Diaz and Family, a Traditional Vaquero Equestrian



*Jerry on Majestad Roping*

Performance, featuring the romance and beauty of world-class horsemanship and the Art of the Horse.

Food, music and art show, "Law of the Saddle," begin at 5:30pm. Performance at 7:30 pm. Visit with the Diaz family and their beautiful Andalusians at 8:30pm. A good time is guaranteed!

The Reece's have a long friendship with Jerry Diaz, his wife Staci, and their son Nicolas. The four Reece horses, Paloma, Alma, Vaquero, and Katrine, were hand-picked by Jerry Diaz. (Katrine is a "retired" show horse who performed at Madison Square Garden.) Their grandchildren have traveled to the Diaz Ranch for lessons, and the Diaz family have been guests at the Reece Ranch. Because of the close friendship, Patty and Jerry are able to present Jerry Diaz and his family in an extraordinary performance at The Volland Arena in the Flint Hills for a Free Will Admission, made possible with the generous support of Ernie Rodina and Dawn Dawson of Better Horses as well as Area Purina Dealers, Mr. and Mrs. Lee Baty, Better Horses, Kansas Horse Council, Merck, ReeceNichols, ReeceNichols Latino, Stanley Forage and The Volland Store.



*Diaz Family*



*Nicholas Diaz*



*The Volland Store*

# Charro Jerry Diaz & Family

## Traditional Vaquero Equestrian Performance

Featuring Jerry, Staci, and Nicolas Diaz and their Andalusian horses... plus Glory, the Mini

**Saturday, July 27, 2019**

**The Volland Arena  
24098 Volland Road**

Half-way between Alma and Alta Vista, 1/2 S block south of Old K-10 Highway. Your GPS won't work.

Visit [thevollandstore.com](http://thevollandstore.com) for a map and directions. Print out the map because your cell phone won't work either. We're in the country!



Food and Music begin at 5:30 pm

"Law of the Saddle" art exhibit by Fort Worth artist Linda Blackburn in the Volland Store Gallery Performance 7:30-8:30 pm

Visit with the Diaz family and their beautiful Andalusian horses after the performance

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# NVRHA Announces Date & Location for 2019 NVRHA National Finals and the World's Greatest Versatility Ranch Horse Open Competition World's Greatest Versatility Ranch Horse Open Competition

The nation's leading Versatility Ranch Horse association locates their 2019 National Finals and "World's Greatest VRH" competition to Nebraska

Colorado Springs Colo. (March 11, 2019) – the National Versatility Ranch Horse Association, the pioneering national association in introducing ranch horse enthusiasts to clinics and competitive events across the United States, announces that their National Finals and World's Greatest Versatility Ranch Horse Open competition will be held this year at the Lancaster Events Center in Lincoln, NE on September 20 – 22.

Founded in 2007, NVRHA has set the standard for offering educational clinics and competitions which focus on the skills a typical horse on the ranch would be expected to perform while providing an educational, fun and safe opportunity for riders to improve their horsemanship at all levels. NVRHA is a place for anyone interested - at any level and with any breed of horse – to compete in multiple ranch horse classes and hone their skills at clinics. Divisions are available for Youth, Novice, Limited, Amateur (non-pro) and Open riders. The classes that riders learn about and can compete in include Ranch Cutting, Ranch Riding, Ranch Trail, Working Ranch Horse (a combination class of reining and cow fence work) and Ranch Horse Conformation.

"VRH events are one of the fastest growing segments of the Western horse culture. Thus, it is no surprise that in our 11th year of hosting a National Finals and 'World's Greatest VRH' competition that we will see National Finals riders from over 10 states qualify at regional or state affiliate competitions held across the country" says Jay Henson, executive president of the NVRHA. Qualification for the NVRHA National Finals is quite simple – become an

NVRHA member and compete in any two NVRHA sanctioned affiliate events between October 1, 2018 and September 19, 2019 and the invitation to compete will be sent to that rider/horse. It's easy to find where qualifying affiliate events are being held throughout the year. Also, NVRHA and the state affiliates have all events posted on social media locations including Facebook

## NVRHA affiliate events 2019

The prestigious World's Greatest Versatility Ranch Horse open competition, always held at NVRHA's National Finals, is open to any rider and there are no pre-qualification requirements. "This competition is always a crowd favorite and we see the best professional riders as well as the best amateur VRH riders compete head-to-head in five events" says Channing Hawks, 2019 NVRHA National Finals event co-chair, "The prizes are prestigious and include an original WGVRH Champion buckle." Past winners have included noted riders Lavert Avent (twice), Sara Gugelmeyer, Katie Kirsch, and Donna Stewart. Each of these riders have gone on to claim top honors at AQHA, NRCHA, NCHA and other noted ranch horse and cowhorse events.

NVRHA, 5925 Omaha Blvd. Colorado Springs, CO 80915 Phone 719-550-0189 ~ Fax 719-550-0194 ~ www.NVRHA.Org 501(C)3 Corporation News Release

For immediate release  
Media contact: 970-396-9131  
Kay Cornelius, NVRHA Finals Communications Committee Lead  
kay@coyoteridgeherefords.com

Founded in 2007, National Versatility Ranch Horse Association, a 501c3 organization, is the leading nation-wide VRH association and is a founding affiliate of NRSHA. Its primary purpose is to provide support for

state affiliate VRH organizations who host events throughout the year, to provide year-end and lifetime achievement recognition and rewards for horse & rider including the LEGEND award for horses that have competed at the highest levels of NVRHA competition, and to give back to the community by hosting the annual Ranch Horse Roundup to benefit injured military veterans through equine therapy programs.

<https://www.nvrha.org/>

Lancaster Event Center in Lincoln NE is a centrally located premier equine event facility. Their vision is to be a leading event center not only regionally, but also nationally. The Center's mission is threefold:  
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<https://www.lancastereventcenter.org/>

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## 2019 NATIONAL VERSATILITY RANCH HORSE NATIONAL FINALS, WORLD'S GREATEST VRH OPEN COMPETITION, AND YEAR-END AWARDS CELEBRATION



**Qualifying is easy. Compete in two NVRHA affiliate shows in the 2019 competition season**

September 20 - 22  
Lancaster Event Center, Lincoln NE  
Event details: [www.nvrha.org](http://www.nvrha.org)



# She Gave It All Up For Horses

By Chad Dressen

Calli Dressen, born July 2005, was born to parents that just happened to own a gymnastics facility. She not only grew up in the gym, but she had a gift. At three she was able to do a backhandspring, something very rare for that age. Calli excelled at tumbling and was on a competitive cheer team at age three until age six, winning lots of team awards, as well as top cheerleader for her age group many times. At six, Calli switched to gymnastics. Her first year in USAG gymnastics, she was a state champion. She moved up a level the next year and did it again. Staying with tumbling she then did trampoline and power tumbling. Not only taking state titles in three

events, but was undefeated in trampoline for two consecutive years straight. While she was winning state titles, Calli not only tried other activities, but excelled in those too. She was the libero in volleyball and excelled in archery. She soon tried horse riding lessons. The summer before she was 10, she attended a camp that not only allowed her to ride horses, but mainly focused on her helping around the stable. Learning to care and feed the horses and take care of the grounds. It was a lot of hard work and she couldn't get enough of it. Continuing lessons for another year, she wanted to spend more time at the barn. Almost 11, higher level sports take more time, she had to

choose. Her parents were sad, but understood, she gave up all other sports for horses. Calli showed her parents she could handle taking care of a horse and got her first horse. Calli is now 13, almost 14. She is home schooled so she can be at the barn more and now owns two horses, a four-year-old half Arabian, Zoey, that she is learning to train, and a rescue horse, Minnie, that she can ride and does American Horsemanship Challenge Association with. In her spare time, while most kids are playing video games, Calli is watching Clinton Anderson and Mustang Maddy videos so she can become a better horse trainer.

Calli wants to own her own stable someday. She wants to rehabilitate rescue horses and help problem horses.



## **JUNE 27, 2019 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE NEWS RELEASE #19-0627 CONTACT SHERIFF TIM MORSE 785-364-2251**

On July 1, 2019 Sheriff Tim Morse and the Jackson County Sheriff's Office will offer 42 horses for placement into forever homes.

Working in conjunction with K-HEART, the Kansas Horse Education, Advocacy and Resource team, these horses will be placed into pre-approved homes only during a private placement event.

What follows is the current inventory of horses (all ages determined by Veterinary assessment unless registration paperwork is available):

Recently castrated stallions under 2 years of age. Recently castrated stallions 2-4 years of age. Recently castrated stallions 5-10 years of age. Recently castrated stallions 10-15 years of age. Recently castrated stallions over 15 years of age

Fillys under 2 years of age  
Fillys 2 to 4 years of age

Mares 5-10 years of age  
Mares 10-15 years of age  
Mares over 15 years of age

Geldings under 2 years of age  
Geldings 2-4 years of age  
Gelding 5-10 years of age  
Geldings 10-15 years of age  
Geldings over 15 years of age

Mares with a newborn foal at the side - mare and foal must be placed together.

All horses have negative Coggins tests and will be currently vaccinated for EWT-WN and Rabies.

All horses will need immediate dental evaluations and floats as well as hoof care.

There is no reliable knowledge of the training or history on any of these horses.

Copies of registration papers, if available, will be provided to approved adopters.

No kill buyers, brokers or flippers need apply.

Kansas residents only, unless the applicant is a verified 501 c 3 equine rescue in good standing.

Please review the placement guidelines and placement application at [www.????](http://www.????)

If interested in being a part of this placement process and considered as a forever home, please review the following guidelines:

1-Log onto [www.jasoks.org](http://www.jasoks.org)

2-Print the placement application and complete in detail

3-Fax the completed application to the fax number listed on the application. Emails will not be accepted.

4- You will be contacted by a representative of the Jackson County Sheriff's Office who will complete a facility inspection of the location where the horse will be housed. The sooner those inspections can be scheduled the higher on the list the applicant will be placed.

5-If approved, the applicants will be notified by email of the placement location, date and time from [Kheartcares@gmail.com](mailto:Kheartcares@gmail.com). Please add that address to your address book. Applicants must attend the placement event. If unable to do so, their application will be discarded.

6- Applicants will be given the opportunity to select their horse on a first-come-first-served basis. That will be determined by the receipt of the completed placement application as well as the facility inspection completion.

7-Applicants must be at least 18 years of age. A maximum of two horses will be placed with the same applicant and/or the same facility.

8-Applicants must arrive at the placement event with an open stock-type trailer as well as a selection of halters and lead ropes in excellent condition. All trailers will be examined for safety and cleanliness for transporting these horses by a representative of the Jackson County Sheriff's Office. If the trailer is found to be inappropriate, the applicant will be turned away.

9-A transfer of ownership, a copy of the current Coggins, and a statement of vaccination will be provided to all successful applicants which select a horse or horses.

10-Horses will not be placed with anyone who intends to harbor these animals for the defendant or the owner/co-owner in this case.

*For additional information contact:*

*Karen Everhart MEd*

*316-648-5082*

*Rainbowmeadowsranch@gmail.com*

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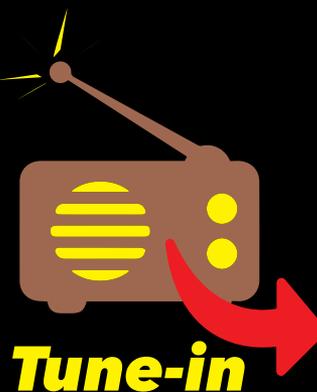
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# Stomach Ache Serious, Yet Common Horse Ailment From Many Causes Requiring Awareness

By Frank J. Buchman

Colic in horses in simple terms means a bellyache.

It is a much more complicated and serious issue, according to Dr. James Moore, University of Georgia veterinarian, Athens, Georgia.

“Colic in horses is defined as abdominal pain, or most simply a stomach ache. But it is a clinical sign rather than a diagnosis,” Moore said.

The term colic encompasses all forms of gastrointestinal conditions which cause pain as well as other causes of abdominal aches.

“Most common forms of colic are gastrointestinal in nature and are most often related to colonic disturbance,” Moore clarified.

There are a variety of different causes of colic, some of which can prove fatal without surgical intervention.

“Colic surgery is usually an expensive procedure as it is major abdominal surgery, often with intensive aftercare,” the veterinarian said.

Among domesticated horses, colic is the leading cause of premature death. “Incidence of colic in the general horse population is between 4 and 10 percent in their lifetime,” Moore said.

Numerous clinical signs are associated with colic. The most common include: pawing repeatedly, kicking, looking at the flank, lying down, rolling, and curling the upper lip.

Other indications of colic are repeatedly raising a rear leg, kicking, sweating, arching the neck, and stretching out.

Additional apparent colic signs include straining to defecate, distention of the abdomen, loss of appetite, depression, and decreased bowel movements.

“It is uncommon for a horse with colic to exhibit all of these signs,” Moore said. “Although they are

reliable indicators of pain, particular signs do not indicate which portion of the gastrointestinal tract is involved.”

A diagnosis can be made and appropriate treatment begun only after thoroughly examining the horse.

“The list of possible conditions that cause colic is long,” Moore said. “It is reasonable first to determine the most likely type of disease, begin appropriate treatments and then more specific diagnosis.”

Horses with colic may need either medical or surgical treatments.

“Almost all require medical treatment, but only those with certain mechanical obstructions of the intestine need surgery.” Dr. Moore said.

The type of medical treatment is determined by the cause of colic and the severity of the disease.

“In some instances, the horse may be treated medically first and the response evaluated,” the veterinarian said. “This is particularly appropriate if the horse is mildly painful and the cardiovascular system is functioning normally.”

Ultrasonography can be used to evaluate the effectiveness of nonsurgical treatment. “If necessary, surgery can be used for diagnosis as well as treatment,” Moore added.

Each case of colic is unique. “Horses are prone to colic and many types of colic aren’t preventable,” Moore said. “But you can take some simple steps to ensure your horse is at the lowest possible risk for colic.

“Above all, be a proactive owner,” the veterinarian continued. “If your horse is at unnecessary risk for colic, try to change the situation. Certain measures should reduce colic risk, but don’t guarantee to eliminate it.”

Horses should always have fresh, clean water. Research shows horses without water for one to two hours had increased risk of colic.

“This risk increased 10 times in

horses over six years old,” Moore said. “Horses prefer to drink out of buckets compared to automatic waterers, because they can drink large amounts more quickly.”

In the winter, it’s essential to assure free flowing water. Horses will drink more in colder weather if the water is warm.

“When traveling on longer trips, stop to let the horses drink,” Moore advised.

Horses with access to pastures had lower colic risk than horses without pasture access.

Research shows feeding from round bales increases the risk of colic. “This increase may relate to a decrease in hay quality due to weather exposure and storage outside,” Moore speculated.

Feeding horses on the ground in sandy areas increases risk of colic. “To reduce the amount of sand eaten, use feed tubs or hay racks,” Moore suggested. “Catch mats or pans can be placed underneath racks, so horses will eat scraps without sand.”

For every one-pound increase in grain fed, colic risk increases 70 percent, compared to horses fed 100 percent hay. “Pelleted feeds led to 6 to 9.5 times increased colic risk, research indicates. Sweet feeds led to 4 to 7.5 times increased colic risk.

Colic risk increases within two weeks following changes in exercise, stabling, or diet. Farms making more than four feed changes in a year have three times the incidence of colic.

“Even changing the batch of hay can increase the risk of colic,” Moore said. “Make only gradual changes in diet, housing and exercise whenever possible.

“To make feed changes, mix one-fourth new with three-fourths old for seven days, then increase the new feed,” he recommended.



*Lying down and rolling are common signs of a stomach ache known as horse colic.*



*An indication of colic is when a horse frequently looks at and even nips at the flank.*

Routine floating of a horse’s teeth ensures that the horse chews its feedstuff properly and thoroughly, the veterinarian pointed out.

“Horses on a daily or regular worming program are less likely to colic,” Moore emphasized.

Horses are two to three times less likely to colic when receiving care from their owner compared to a stable manager or trainer. An owner will pick up on subtle signs or changes in habit more quickly because of familiarity with horse’s “normal.”

“Colic is a complex but very common problem in horses,” Dr. Moore summarized. “Watch horses that have had colic before. These horses have a higher risk of colic, and early treatment is important.”



# 10 May Tornado Devastates Horse Community

By Carolyn Kaberline

Diana and Dennis McNish were following the May 28 storm on their television. While they had only received a few sprinkles at their rural Lawrence home so far, that would soon change.

“We were watching TV and could see it coming,” Diana said. The sky was black to the west, and I couldn’t see the road through the heavy rain.”

The two took shelter in their basement as the storm passed over their home north of the Wakarusa River. When the storm had passed and they emerged from their walkout basement, the damage was unbelievable.

“Lots of trees were gone,” Diana said, adding that half the roof to the stud barn was missing, and a 35 x 70 foot Quonset hut had been flattened.

“Everything was damaged,” she noted. “It took shingles from the roof, and we need a new deck, but luckily none of the horses were really hurt. There were a few cuts on the stallion’s face, but that was it.”

The horses had all been out in the storm, and when it was time to bring them in for the evening many of the colts seemed reluctant.

“They seemed to be traumatized; the mare barn was a little damaged, but we had to leave them in for a few days because the trees had fallen on the fence,” Diana explained. The McNishes definitely plan to rebuild, and consider themselves lucky.

“Every day there are new things to do and repair,” Diana said.

On the south side of the Wakarusa River a few miles away, Bruce and Sharon LeClair and Sharon’s brother Bob Springer were sitting in their car in front of their garage.

“We had driven into the leading edge in getting there,” Sharon said. “We were going to try to get to the

basement, but the wind was so strong we couldn’t open the doors. We thought we’d bought the farm.”

After what looked like a “wall of water” had passed, they were able to get out and inspect the damage.

“What we saw was amazing,” she said. “The storm had followed the river for a while and took out lots of trees and part of the bank.”

Springer agreed. “With the storm we couldn’t see anything as we were driving into it.”

The trio consider themselves lucky—their barn only lost a skylight. However the neighbor’s sheds had been lifted and deposited in their round pen and outdoor arena.

“It also took off the top part of the 100 year old Hoover barn down the road, and destroyed another nearby barn,” Sharon added.

Topekan Marty Bloomquist, a member of the Kansas Horse Council, noted that the Lawrence and Linwood horse communities immediately took steps to help each other.

“They opened the Linwood Sale Barn for stray livestock,” Bloomquist said. “The entire Douglas County Fairgrounds was a shelter that night. It was a huge funnel, and on one hand it was a good thing it missed a lot of populated targets, but the rural communities suffered.”

Only a few horses required veterinary treatment for their injuries. Strain Equine Services in Basehor did receive eight of the injured that night, with all but one going home within a few days.

“Most of these had trauma injuries from flying debris,” said Dr. Brooke Johnson of Strain Equine. “A few of these injuries were to joints. One horse was stuck in the mud overnight. He was shocky and required IV fluids. One horse had a skull fracture and ruptured eye along with some leg injuries. This horse



*A barn near the LeClairs sustained major damage.*



*The tornado removed the top of the historic Hoover barn near Lawrence.*

was later euthanized because of the leg injuries.”

A post on the clinic’s Facebook page on June 4 gave a complete picture: “We wanted to let everyone know that all the injured horses from the Linwood tornado that we have been treating over the past several days are on the mend. The stallion that was seen in the rescue images that made their way around facebook went home yesterday. He was here for several days on IV fluids, but never looked back in terms of his recovery. All others have gone home as well, except one that is still battling multiple lacerations and lameness subsequent to her injuries.

Thank you for everyone’s assistance and support in helping

these animals and their owners. What a great horse community we live in.”

The clinic also set up a GoFundME account to help the victims. A link can be found on the Strain Equine Services, LLC Facebook page.

While there is still much cleanup and rebuilding to be done following the late May tornado, which was rated F4, all members of the horse community are amazed that the damage and injuries weren’t worse.



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# Dressage with Grace

By Bobbi Wojtowicz

They say there are horses that come along that are “once in a lifetime horses”. Sometimes when you aren’t looking for them, the planets align in a way that brings them to you, whether you are looking or not. Bobbie Wojtowicz, of Pleasant Hill, MO, has this real life experience to share.

That was the case in the spring of 2011. I am a lifelong horse owner, and in my later adult life took up the sport of carriage driving. I had been fortunate to find a wonderful driving horse, pretty, sweet, gentle and very laid back, exactly what you want in a driving horse. She was big and black and beautiful... and starting to have some lameness issues so I was considering retiring her. That’s when I got a phone call from a friend. “There’s this horse” (isn’t that the beginning of a loaded statement) “the owners have offered her to me, but I’m just not in the market right now. She’s pretty and a nice mover, but she has been turned out to pasture for two years and I have no idea how she looks.” Even though I wasn’t looking, I decided to go see this horse.

So off I went to check out this horse and I took an experienced driving friend to go with me. She was a big dark bay Friesian Thoroughbred Cross. She had soft brown eyes. They say a horse’s eyes are the mirror to their soul. I don’t know if that’s true, but they were expressive and kind. But I also saw the glint of a diamond in the rough, so I negotiated a deal with the owner and took Grace home.

The bond was easy, the manners...well let’s just say we had a difference of opinion! She is

a strong willed horse and likes to test the boundaries. But we made progress right away and soon we were fitting harness, dragging a tire, long lining, all the prerequisite work for getting her ready to hitch.

I was searching for trainer assistance and my veterinarian suggested I contact Jonni Allen, a dressage trainer. She happened to work with Georgian Grandes, which are a Friesian/Saddlebred cross, so she was accustomed to the Friesian mind and demeanor. I contacted Jonni and made an appointment to bring Grace over. Jonni was willing to take Grace under her wing, and so a bond was started. That October, a local schooling show was coming up and we decided to see what we had. They entered an Intro Test (walk and trot only) and Training Level (walk, trot and canter) and scored freakishly high, in the high 70s for Intro and an 80 for Training.

Well, I guess we’re going to do dressage.

The following Spring we decided to try a recognized show, and started out at Training Level. She was scoring in the mid 70s and she was just easy to take places. She traveled well, didn’t get nervous, and just kind of took things as they came. Now that is not to say that there weren’t plenty of bumps along the way, but we kept moving forward. She soon qualified for Regional Championships and we went that year and she won the Training Level Championship. From then we never looked back. We went on to First Level, Second Level and Third Level, and then in May of 2013 our world turned

upside down.

Since then, it has been a whirlwind. She kept getting better and never looked back. That was five years ago. She has won numerous Regional and National titles, both through USDF and Friesian Sporthorse Association. She is being driven regularly and LOVES it! She is silly and funny and has loads of personality, and is a blessing to have. Currently her plans for 2019 include competing at the Regional 4 Dressage Championships at Intermediate 1. She has also been to several driving shows where she has done very well. Grace never lets Jonni down.

I have feed Purina products for years. I feel the nutrition from Purina products has played a valuable part in Grace’s ability to develop and perform. Primarily

she is fed Enrich Plus and when in heavy training or traveling, Ultium Gastric Care is added. Like any “STAR” she has a village that takes care of her. Her “entourage” includes her farrier, Robert McClaran, and her veterinarian, Dr. Ron Baker. My carriage horse has become a dressage queen. A riding discipline I never dreamed would be in my future, but has been quite a blessing for me and Grace.

*Owner Bobbi Wojtowicz  
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# Strangles and Asymptomatic Carriers

By Laurie Beard, DVM, MS, DACVIM - Clinical Professor - Kansas State University

Strangles is an upper respiratory disease caused by a bacteria called *Streptococcus equi* subspecies *equi* (or shortened to Strep equi). This bacteria results in lymph node abscess formation of the upper respiratory tract. The first clinical sign of strangles is an acute fever that progresses to lymph node swelling, abscess formation, and ultimately rupture. The submandibular lymph nodes (under the jaw or mandible) will rupture externally to the skin and drain. The retropharyngeal lymph nodes (in the throat latch) will often rupture in the guttural pouch. Strangles is a very contagious infectious disease, and for this reason can be difficult to control in large outbreaks such as at a boarding facility.

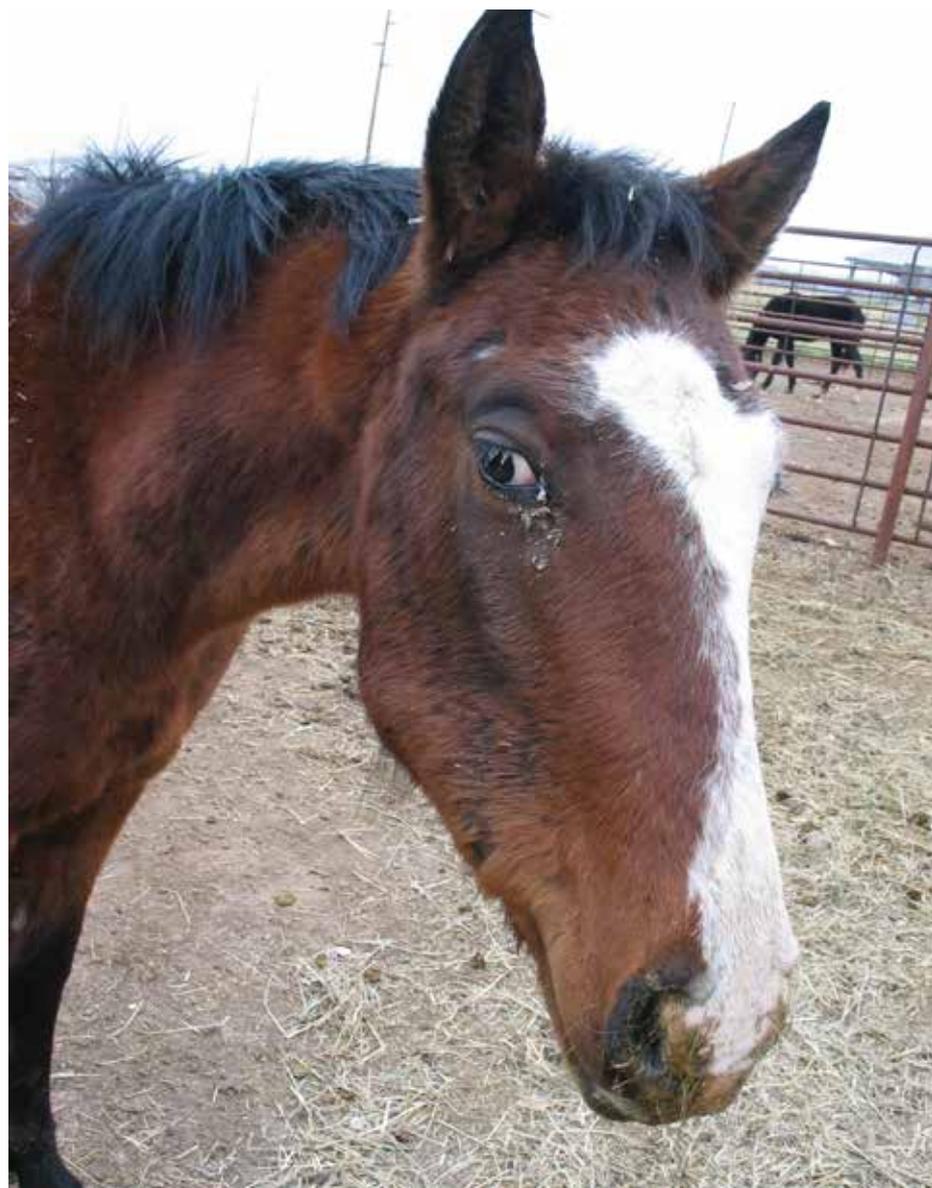
Respiratory viruses (influenza and equine herpes viruses) are shed by clinically sick horses (and infect other horses) for approximately 1-2 weeks. Strep equi can also be spread by sick horses from the draining lymph nodes and nasal discharge. However, Strangles is much different than viral diseases, as horses can become carriers of Strep equi (and appear clinically normal) following an outbreak. These outwardly healthy horses can harbor the organism in the guttural pouch, potentially for extended periods of time. These asymptomatic carriers will shed bacteria and are often the inciting cause of an outbreak when introduced into a new population of horses.

Following an outbreak of

strangles, it is ideal to ensure that recovered horses are not carriers of Strep equi. Screening of horses following an outbreak should occur no earlier than 2-3 weeks after resolution of disease in all horses. Screening is done by obtaining a sample of fluid from the upper respiratory tract and submitting the sample for polymerase chain reaction (PCR) and culture testing. The most sensitive (ideal) method to identify carriers is done by endoscopic examination and lavage of the guttural pouches. In some cases a large amount of exudate is present in the guttural pouches that will require medical treatment. Some horses do not have visible exudate in the pouch, but can still harbor Strep equi in a biofilm within the guttural pouch. Alternatively, a nasopharyngeal lavage (with fluid collected from the horse's nostril) is a much simpler technique. However, since horses shed the bacteria intermittently, the recommendation for this method of testing is to perform 3 nasopharyngeal lavages before being able to determine if the horse has truly cleared the organism. If a horse is positive on testing on a nasopharyngeal lavage, the recommendation is to perform endoscopy to visualize the guttural pouch (which may require additional treatment to get rid of the organism).

Preventing the introduction of Strep equi is ideal to try to reduce

*Continued on the next page*



disease outbreak. Horses more likely to be carriers of strangles include horses coming from an outbreak (and not screened), or horses being sold at public auction. Unilateral nasal discharge can be a sign of guttural pouch infection and may be an indication to perform additional diagnostic testing, particularly for a new arrival to an equine facility such as a boarding stable or breeding farm. An ideal way to prevent strangles would be to isolate all new arrival horses from resident horses for a minimum of 3 weeks. Additionally, new arrival horses could be screened for strangles by nasopharyngeal lavage or endoscopy of the guttural pouch. There are vaccines labeled for prevention of strangles, and certainly vaccination can be helpful in reducing severity of clinical signs. However, strangles vaccines do have a potential for adverse reactions. An ideal preventative management strategy

should be carefully discussed with your veterinarian before starting a strangles vaccination program.

Strangles is a potential upper respiratory infection that may be spread through groups of immunologically naïve horses from sick or apparently healthy horses. It is important to use effective biosecurity among new arrival horses and consider the implementation of screening protocols where appropriate. Being vigilant about the potential for exposure, particularly among large groups of horses, will help to reduce bacterial spread if present. In some instances, vaccine protocols are appropriate, but these should be carefully considered and implemented under the direct recommendation of a veterinarian that is familiar with at risk horses.



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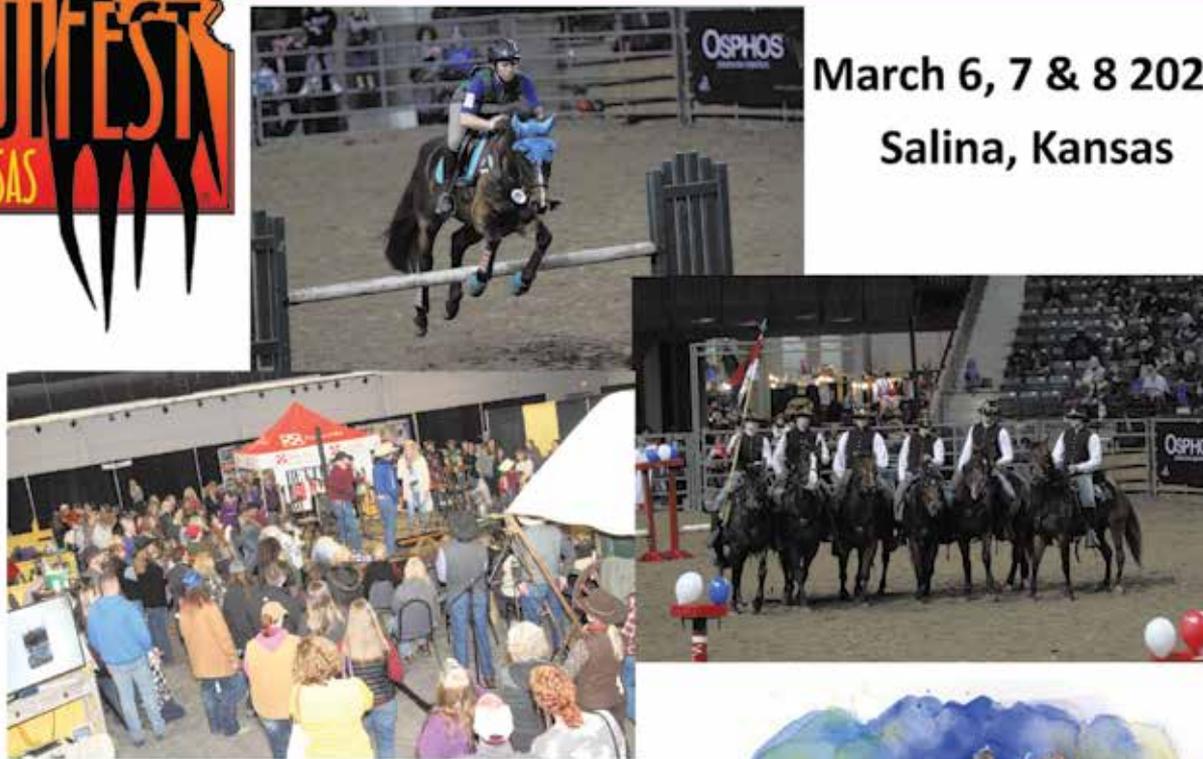
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# From Preemie To Performer

By Vinecia Walker

Laying in bed at 5:00 a.m., only 27 weeks along in my pregnancy, my water broke. I spent two weeks laying in the hospital before she was born on February 12, 2007. At 11 weeks early Samantha Jo Walker 'Sami Jo' weighed only 2 pounds 14 oz, her tiny body was the size of my hand. At first we were told we could not hold or even touch her. This was almost two years after a horse accident took Brianna from us and the fear of losing another child was overwhelming.

The hospital stay was an emotional roller coaster ride but after only six weeks in the NICU we were blessed to be able to take her home. During her first couple of years, she battled several rounds of pneumonia and some infection-induced asthma. By age three, her interest in the horses was growing rapidly. This was something that I didn't think I could handle. It came to the point where Bradley finally told me we would either have to sell all of the horses and start a totally new lifestyle or teach her how to ride and to take care of them. I watched Brianna die right in front of my eyes and every time Sam would get close to a horse I would see it happen all over again. The devil was having field days in my head! I thought long and hard about just selling everything but Brianna was who she was because of the horses and she touched a lot of lives because of that. I want my kids to grow up experiencing the hard work and responsibility that goes into farming and rodeo, so I had to start controlling my fear and let her learn. Her passion for it grew and at age four we took the lead rope off and turned her loose on Dolly, a mare we raised, and she started walking the barrel pattern

on her own at the rodeos. As her confidence increased so did their speed. Even though I walked her to the gate every time, the devil continued to dance in my head and I spent a lot of time having heart to hearts with God. In 2010 we had a son, Todd, and he'd rather play in the dirt than ride, until recently. I believe it was in 2012 when Sam saw a friend of ours carry the American flag standing in a hippodrome and watched a movie about trick riders. From that point on every time I turned around I was having to tell her to sit down and get back in the saddle. She and Dolly continued to rodeo, winning several buckles and a couple of all around saddles, but I'm still having to tell her to "sit" down. Just before she turned 11, I asked Bradley what he thought about letting her take trick riding lessons, and he said, "I don't think so". I said, "She's already doing it and I'm constantly having to get on to her. We might as well make her learn how to do it correctly and safely." He finally agreed. So I set up lessons with our friend Becky Spurlock. I really figured it would just be a phase and after a few lessons she would dwindle out. BUT IT WASN'T, SHE LOVES IT!! Sam wanted to keep it a secret and surprise everyone at Brianna's Memorial rodeo. They focused mainly on one trick, the Hippodrome, so she could do a flag presentation we titled 'I will stand' in honor of our military and standing for our nation's flag. There was not a dry eye around the arena. How on earth this super clumsy, 11 year old with low confidence pulled this off is a God thing. She and Becky worked really hard practicing, learning tricks, building strength and confidence. After only four months she and



Addie Hillenburg  
photography

Dolly performed with Becky's team, the Ozark Renegades, trick riders and drill team at an IPRA rodeo in Harrison, AR. Do you remember me saying how the devil danced in my head? Multiply that by 100! I honestly did not think that physically I would make it through those three performances. At one point I had even decided when this rodeo was over I was going to make her quit because I couldn't handle my fear of her getting hurt. Then I started watching her and I mean really watching her! Her facial expressions, her response to the little kids in the bleachers, and the smile on her face after every trick she did. We finally found 'her thing!' And then after the rodeo was over she was changing and someone knocked on the trailer door. It was the dad of one of the other trick riders and he had a lady and a little girl with him.

He said that they had gone trailer to trailer looking for Sam. When Sam stepped out, the little girl, handing her the rodeo program book, asked for her autograph and said "you're the same age as me and I never dreamed it'd be possible for me to do that." My heart sunk and I thought I'm not very happy with God's sense of humor, giving me a kid that wants to trick ride. But at that moment I knew I couldn't take this away from her no matter how scared I was. On the way home I explained to her my anxiety, fear and even physical pain and that I had considered making her quit. She immediately started to cry. "Now wait let me finish!" Then I explained how I'd watched her and realized how much this meant to her so I made her a deal. "As long as you keep working as hard as you have been and maintain the attitude that is worthy of that little girl to look



up to, I will spend the money and the time to haul you up and down the road to make this dream come true for you. BUT the second your attitude isn't worthy of little kids to look up to, you're done." This winter she sold her calves to help pay for a younger, bigger, stronger horse from Dusti Crain-Dickerson and has taken a few lessons from her to help

Sam and Pyro work together. That first rodeo was eight months and a few performances ago and every performance she takes the time to interact with the kids. We have even let a few kids sit on her saddle and she showed them how to do a few tricks. The team has several big rodeos booked for this summer and Sam has definitely been holding up her end of our deal. Even through my fears, I am so EXTREMELY proud of Sam and the performer she is becoming.

For booking info please contact Becky Spurlock at 417-380-2504



Sami Jo ended the weekend as the youth Champion at the Super Ride Trick riding competition in Athens, TX!!!



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# Efficient Turning Develops From Horse's Proficient Circling

By Frank J. Buchman

A horse that turns efficiently will get more work done whatever the discipline.

"Circles are one of the basics of horse training, and precursor for turning," according to trainer Al Dunning, Scottsdale, Arizona.

"The horse must first ride forward readily at the rate of speed requested and stop smoothly," Dunning said. "He should back with no resistance and understand leg cues."

Walking and trotting circles until a horse "hunts the circles" while keeping his body round are beginning of the turnaround.

Horses are started to turn by using a one-two-three method.

"One is pulling the inside rein to give the horse direction," Dunning explained. "Two is adding the outside rein, which should move the outside shoulder inward. Three is adding your outside leg for required impulsion."

Most of the time the left small circle is easier than the right. "You must understand that since your horse was born, he has been handled mostly on the left side," Dunning clarified. "Horses are predisposed to 'left-it-is.'

"To equal the sides, more work must be done from the right, three times right to one left," he said.

The key to a horse turning is what they are doing with their shoulders and their front feet. "To get the front feet moving, I direct rein so they follow without moving their hind end," Dunning said. "Stiff horses should be schooled by the right direct rein pulled towards your hip. Use your

right leg to create an arc on the inside of the horse."

It is incorrect to pull harder on a stiff horse. "Rather, use your leg on the corresponding side as you rein pull," Dunning said. "After a horse becomes supple following his head, this is when the one-two-three method comes into play."

Shoulders should rotate with the inside leg stepping back to allow the outside front leg to cross over. "A horse that maintains his hip posture properly will turn around on the inside hind pivot foot," Dunning said.

Most horses will move the pivot foot slightly to feel comfortable carrying the consistent weight on the rear inside corner.

"As a rider, you should sit square in the saddle, watch the inside eye of the horse," Dunning said. "Stay in concert with your hands and the horse's step."

It is important to "push" a horse forward that wants to go too far back. Get a horse more collected if they want to move too far forward. "Every horse is different and the rider must adapt," Dunning emphasized.

In a good turn, the horse should have a slight arc on the inside of his body towards the turn. "When asked, the horse's head should come first, followed by neck, shoulders, and outside rib," the trainer said.

"The hip should not fall to the outside of the turn," he continued. "The horse's step with his front feet should be rhythmic."

Suppling exercises like bending, backing circles and side passing can help a horse think about rotating

smoothly and easily.

"It is important to envision a good turn in your head. You can't force the freeness of the front end turning around the hind end," Dunning pointed out.

"The goal is to be able to ride anywhere with one hand," the trainer emphasized. "Be able to stop, lay the rein on the horse softly and the horse respond by bending the direction desired."

He should rotate the shoulders while holding his hip still with the outside front foot crossing over the inside foot.

"Your horse should turn as slow or as fast as requested by your outside leg and verbal encouragement," Dunning said. "It is paramount not to force the horse to turn with your outside rein or too much aggression.

"When done properly, a horse's turn can be a big part of a great ride," Dunning summarized.

Additional information can be found at [www.AIDunning.com](http://www.AIDunning.com).



*Circles are the beginning maneuver in efficient turning for proficient horsemanship, according to renowned horse trainer Al Dunning, Scottsdale, Arizona. (TS Photography)*



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# WESTERN ART CORNER

## Jim Clements Biography

Jim Clements is an oil painter who considers himself blessed to be a working artist. "To me, painting represents ultimate freedom - so it's just natural

that the wide open spaces, rich history and independent people of the American West translate so well to canvas. My desire is to honor the spirit of the West in each painting I do."

Working in newspaper illustration and advertising over two decades kept his drawing skills honed, as well as in his free time continuously painting. "Observations of life, as well as painting from life, are critical to artistic advancement", he explains. He also gratefully acknowledges the advice, instruction and encouragement of many of today's best known oil painters throughout the years, who have been such an integral part of his own professional growth.

In addition to his website and galleries, Jim's award-winning work can be seen at various Art shows and Western festivals throughout the year, as well as the West Lives on Gallery in Jackson Hole, WY. His work is collected internationally and has won numerous awards over the years. His paintings have been featured in various magazines and are in the permanent collection of The Couatts Memorial Art Museum in El Dorado, KS. He was also the solo artist at a show in the Woolaroc Museum in Bartlesville, OK. After New York television producer Robert Rose saw several of his American Indian paintings, they were featured on an episode of Raw Travel, which aires world-wide. He's done both the award image and poster for the National Day of the Cowboy organization.

Jim's home and studio are located on the prairie in the Flint Hills region of south central Kansas.



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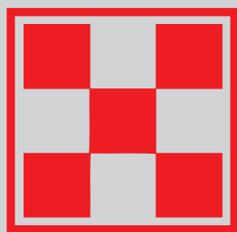
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## Equine Emergency Kits

By Sydney Brennecke, Wilhite and Frees Equine Hospital

Many of us are scrambling to get to horse shows or out to ride in between the showers this very rainy

spring. While you are packing the trailer though there is one piece of equipment that you want to be sure to not leave without- an emergency kit. First aid kits are often not thought about until they are needed and it is too late. By being prepared you can save your horse in a crisis situation.

If you have been to our education events, you may have seen the emergency kits that are put together by our hospital. These kits are in a tool box purchased from Home Depot. We always select a highly visible color so they are easy to locate if you are in a rush, orange works well. Make sure to have a business card from your regular veterinarian taped to the top or their contact information written on the lid. This will save you the time of tracking it down so that you can get a phone call into their office if needed. Below is a list of items that we stocked the kit with and they are a good start. However, you know your horse and their lifestyle the best so you can personalize the items in your kit to fit to what you might need. Many of the items on this list can be purchased from your drug store (like Walgreens or CVS). The equine specific materials like bandaging or medications can be purchased from your veterinarian.

- A list of normal vital sign parameters (heart rate, respiratory rate, etc)
- Thermometer
- Weight tape
- Flashlight
- Bandage scissors
- Hoof pick
- Stethoscope
- Ink pen

- Note pad
- Triple antibiotic ointment (Neosporin)
- Box of antiseptic alcohol swabs
- Antiseptic scrub (Chlorhexidine/Betadine)
- Sleeve of gauze sponges
- Latex exam gloves
- Sterile Saline (1 L)
- Vet wrap rolls (2 roll)
- Elastikon wrap (1 roll)
- Diapers (size 4 fit for most foot bandages)
- Animalintex poultice pads
- Roll cotton (for limb bandage)
- Duct tape
- Assorted Telfa (nonstick) pads
- Artificial Tears

Additional medications can be decided between you and your veterinarian. If you do elect to have medications such as Phenylbutazone (Bute) or Flunixin Meglumine (Banamine) in your kit be sure to check the dates on them every year so they don't expire. It is also a good idea to let your vet's office know you are purchasing that product for a first aid kit and potentially request the longest dated tube that they have in stock.

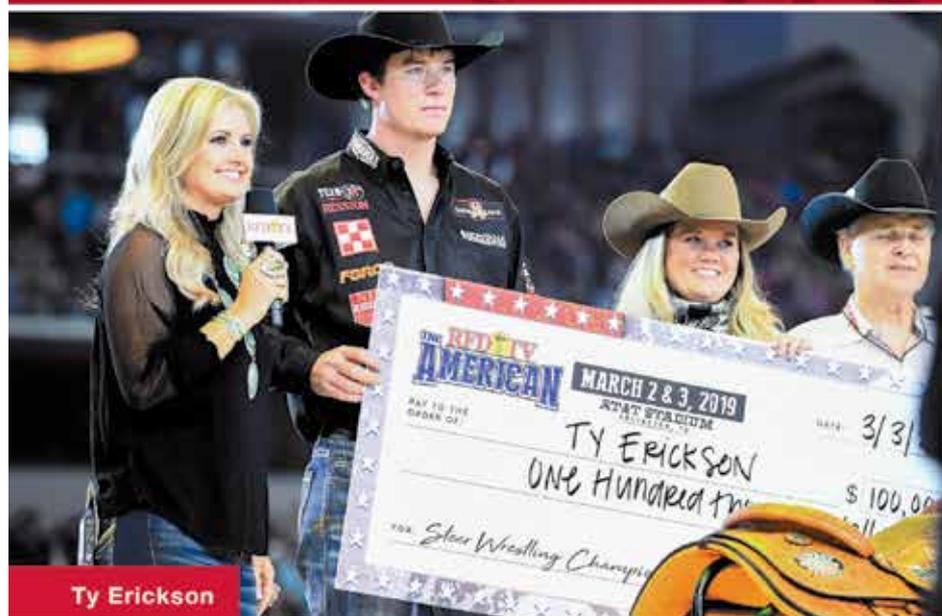
You can learn more about recognizing and dealing with an equine emergency on AAEP.org by searching "Equine Emergency" on their site. As always, feel free to contact our office with any questions at (816) 779-0100 or email us at [www.wilhiteandfreesequine.com](http://www.wilhiteandfreesequine.com). A successful show season begins with being prepared. We hope everyone has a great time with their horse this summer!

Sydney Brennecke  
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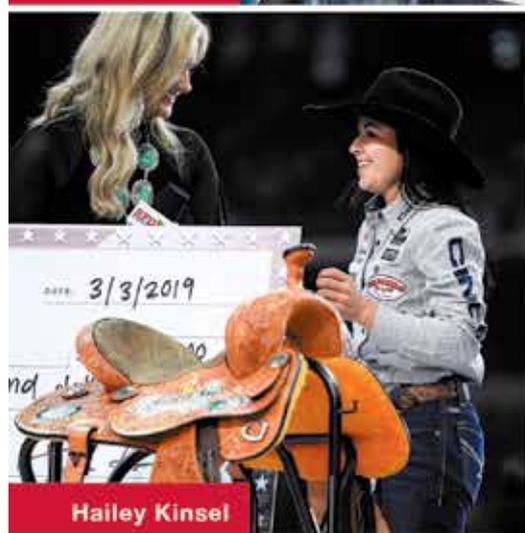
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# Kansas City Cowboys for Cops pulls together to save their KC Mounted Patrol.

KC Downtown Trail Ride set for Friday, July, 26th 2019

The City of Kansas City cannot be more pleased after Chief of Police Richard Smith and the Board of Police Commissioners evaluated the importance of the KC Mounted Patrol task force. After many meetings open to the public, horse enthusiasts came out in large numbers to support commissioned police officers on horseback. The decision was made and KCPD is proud to announce they will continue its commitment to the Mounted Patrol. The Jackson County Sheriff's Mounted Posse (www.jcsmp.org) lead by Captain Ed Adams was instrumental in highlighting their importance and vital role they have in the community. "The KCCFC trail ride proves the significance this department has for the community". With over 335 horses last year, the 4th annual Kansas City Cowboy's for Cops downtown trail ride has become one of the biggest trial rides of the summer.

With law enforcement support and appreciation on their minds, the Jackson County Sheriff's Mounted Posse and Kansas City Mounted Police are again joining forces for the KC Cowboys for Cops 2019 Downtown Trail Ride event, 9:00 a.m. Friday, July 26.

We encourage everyone who rides to come and join us. This downtown trail ride gives your horse the unique experience of the urban environment. This is the only time you can ride safely and enjoy the beautiful downtown on horseback.

Even if you have never been in a parade, this experience provides your horse with a herd for calmness and trained outriders to assist anyone needing it.

Kansas City Cowboys for Cops will be joining together a large group of equine enthusiasts to show support for local law enforcement officers (LEO) consisting of horseback riders, wagons and carriages.

"Every day, every hour, is an appropriate time to remind citizens of the importance to back our law enforcement and, as we saw last year, this ride was an encouraging example of that support," Alice Lee Hollister – Director of Friends of the Mounted Patrol. (www.kcmountedpatrol.org)

The Kansas City Cowboys for Cops downtown trail ride is the police department's proudest moment said Sergeant Joey Roberts of KC Mounted Patrol. The trail ride staging area begins at 1447 Liberty Street, KCMO beginning at 9:00 a.m. This will be a rolling police escort through historic Kansas City. JCSMP will be leading as the primary horseback group from Kemper Arena to the National World War I Museum and Memorial.

"With high-profile police shootings around the KC Metro on many minds, this ride is to promote solidarity that starts with horses and law enforcement supporters saddling up that morning for a round-trip ride from near Kemper



Arena to the National World War I Museum and Memorial," Deputy Coordinator Kelly Sitter of the JCSMP said.

Money raised during the event will go toward the Posse 100, (www.posse100.org) an organization that offers financial assistance to first responders in the Kansas City area who have been injured or to the dependent family of those who have died in the line of duty.

All donations go directly into the Posse 100 Fund to help first responders. To donate to the Sheriff's Mounted Posse 100, contact the posse100@gmail.com or send your support check to: Posse 100, Jackson County Sheriff's Mounted Posse, 4001 N.E. Lakewood Court, Lee's Summit, MO 64064.

*Continued on page 24*

For more information on ThePosse 100, visit [www.posse100.org](http://www.posse100.org); for more information on the Mounted Posse, visit [www.jscmp.org](http://www.jscmp.org).

For horseback riders who wish to participate, call Ed Adams at 816-830-1998 or Kelly Sitter McComb at 816-547-9508.



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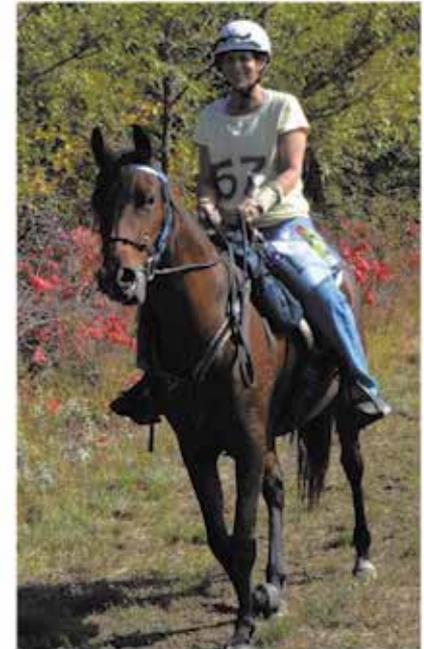


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## Hearty Grub with Mark Burkdoll



### Loco Moco

#### For the hamburgers:

- 1 lb ground beef
- 1 tbs diced onion
- 1 tbs diced green bell pepper
- 1 tbs diced jalapeño pepper
- 1/4 cup bread crumbs
- 1 egg
- salt and pepper

Mix all the ingredients together with your hands. (don't over mix or they will be tough) Should make four burgers. Fry in REAL HOT skillet with a little oil. When they are done remove from the skillet and keep warm.

#### For the Gravy:

- 1/2 cup diced onion
- 1/4 cup diced red bell pepper
- 1 cup chopped cremini mushrooms
- 2 to 3 tbs cooking oil
- 4 or 5 tbs flour
- 2 cups milk
- salt n pepper

In the same skillet you fried the burgers in, add the oil and all the veggies. When the veggies are tender add the flour. Cook the flour over medium heat until the flour is light brown. Now add the milk

slowly while whisking. You might have to add more milk if it is too thick. If it is not thick enough cook longer.

#### 4 cups steamed rice:

Cook the rice according to directions. When the rice is done spread out on a cookie sheet and put it in the fridge or the freezer to cool it off quick!

Before service put the rice in a cast iron skillet to crisp it up. This will take a while so don't get in a hurry. You need to turn it over several times until it gets kinda crispy.

#### Fried egg for each hamburger:

Fry the egg in a little butter with salt and pepper to kinda medium rare so the yolk will be the sauce for the rice when you break it.

#### For plating:

Put the crispy rice down then top with the hamburger now put the fried egg on the burger and top over the whole thing with the gravy.



# Wake up to Ernie the Horse Guy!

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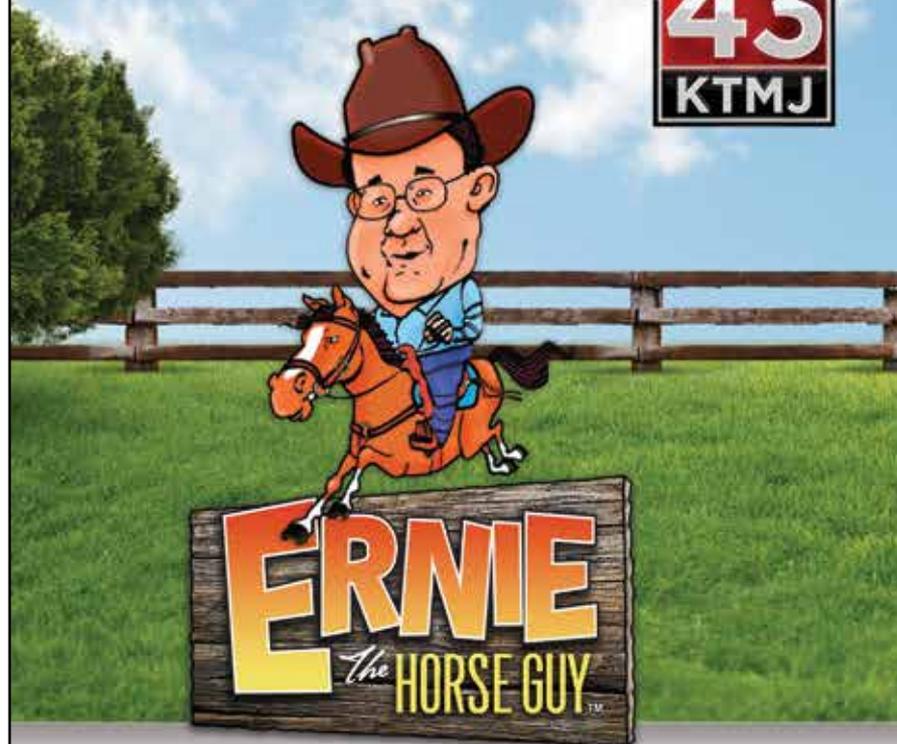
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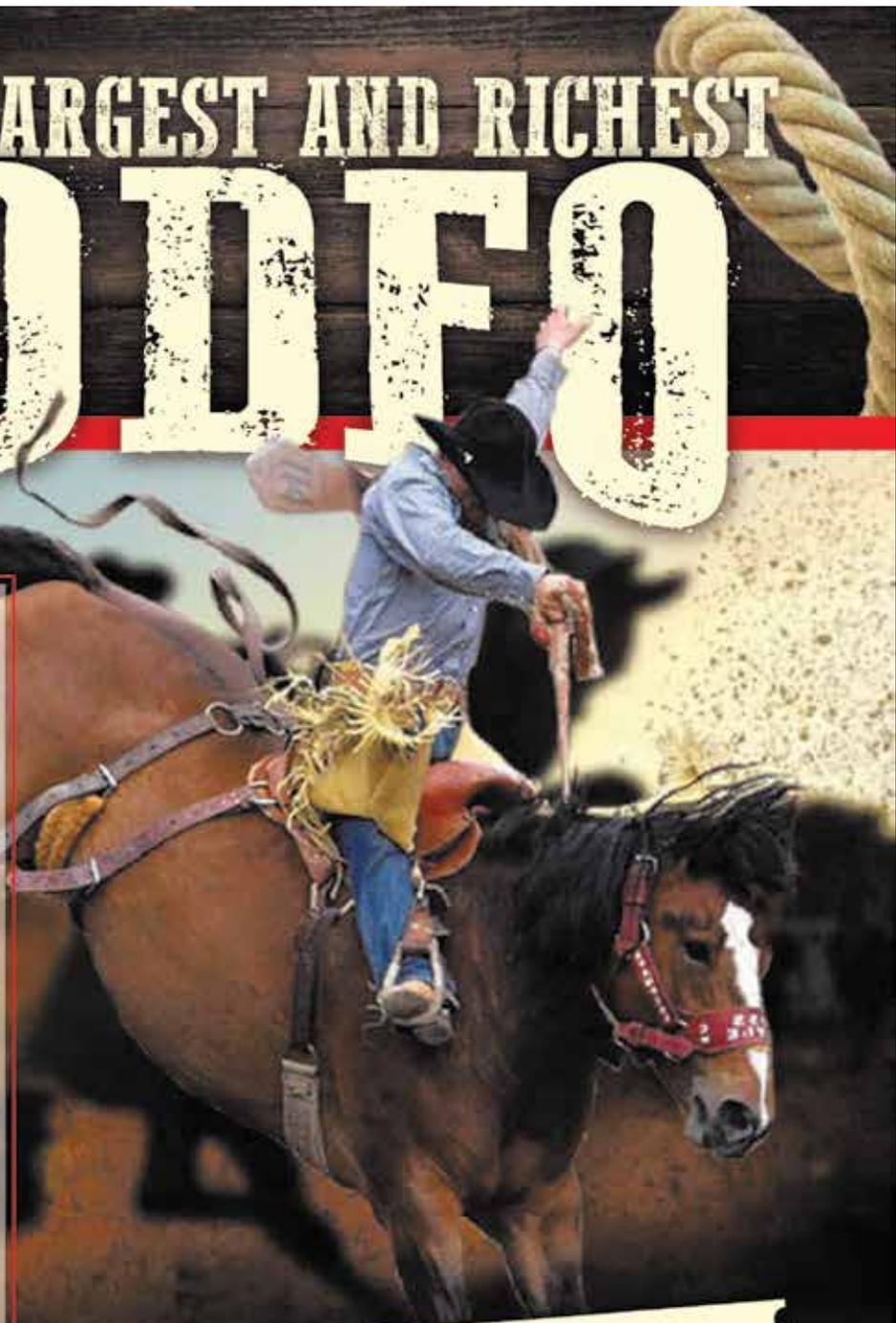
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# Equifest 2020 Will Move to Salina

By Carolyn Kaberline

## Equifest is moving to Salina for 2020.

“Our move of the Equifest of Kansas event was not an easy decision to make,” Justine Staten, Kansas Horse Council Executive Director, said. “We have enjoyed four years in Topeka and become well acquainted with many leaders in Shawnee County, and we appreciate the support we have received. Unfortunately, with rising costs, declining cash sponsorships, and unknown factors and logistical

concerns during the construction phase of the Expo Centre renovations, it was decidedly time for a change.”

Although the changes to Domer Livestock Arena will not be as extensive as originally planned, Staten said that the addition of an enclosed warm-up area, improved lighting, and the installation of bleachers are still in the works. While these are desired, concerns exist with general construction that could interfere with Equifest set up.

Because of the change in venue, Equifest will be held March 6-8, 2020, at Tony’s Pizza Event Center and Saline County Livestock Expo Center.

Staten said the venues in Salina offer wider green space, are centrally located at the junction of two major highways and are served by an airport that United Airlines flies in and out of daily, she said. “There are also 2,500 hotel rooms at a broad range of prices to meet everyone’s budget preferences and

plenty of RV hook-ups for our equine exhibitors in their living quarter trailers. The location will be a good fit.”

Salina will be home to Equifest through 2022, Staten noted, adding, “I think we will find that periodically moving Equifest of Kansas is one way to reach more of the state industry participants.”



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APRIL 27	KCRFTHA SPRING SHOW-LOUISBURG, KS Larry Kilroy, 913-449-8555, <a href="mailto:LaryKilroy@icloud.com">LaryKilroy@icloud.com</a>
MAY 11	GAITWAY SPRING CHICKEN Lucy Rangel, 816-674-7475, <a href="mailto:fgslr@usa.net">fgslr@usa.net</a>
MAY 18	UPWHA-UNITED PLEASURE WALKING HORSE ASSN. Anita Dunham, 816-254-3197, <a href="mailto:anita.dunham@mo.usda.gov">anita.dunham@mo.usda.gov</a>
JUNE 1	LONGVIEW HORSE PARK BEV CATHCARD MEMORIAL BENEFIT HORSE SHOW - Longview Horse Park Amy Hull 816-853-7208, <a href="mailto:southernbellefarm@juno.com">southernbellefarm@juno.com</a>
JUNE 8	JACKSON COUNTY SHERIFF'S MOUNTED POSSE SHOW Longview Horse Park, Lee's Summit, MO Lou Meek, 816-230-5562, <a href="mailto:LLSFarm@embarqmail.com">LLSFarm@embarqmail.com</a>
JUNE 21 & 22	LONGVIEW CHARITY-SADDLE UP - LONGVIEW HORSE PARK Carol Carlson, 816-769-5771, <a href="mailto:ccarlson823@aol.com">ccarlson823@aol.com</a> Marge Bain, 913-681-2397, <a href="mailto:margiebain@sbcglobal.net">margiebain@sbcglobal.net</a>
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AUGUST 17	KANSAS CITY REGIONAL FOX TROTTING HORSE ASSOCIATION LONGVIEW HORSE PARK Brian Baldry, 316-250-7101, <a href="mailto:baltree1@yahoo.com">baltree1@yahoo.com</a>
AUGUST 24	EASTERN KANSAS ARABIAN HORSE ASSN. HORSE SHOW Longview Horse Park, Lee's Summit, MO Robin Copas, 913-908-6220, <a href="mailto:rcopas53@gmail.com">rcopas53@gmail.com</a>
AUGUST 30 & 31	MID-AMERICA CHARITY HORSE SHOW - LONGVIEW HORSE PARK Jan Harvey 816-898-9642, <a href="mailto:jharvey@MidAmericaSaddlebred.org">jharvey@MidAmericaSaddlebred.org</a>
SEPTEMBER 14	HARVEST YOUTH & GAITED SHOW Lucy Rangel, 816-674-7475, <a href="mailto:fgslr@usa.net">fgslr@usa.net</a>
SEPTEMBER 28	REGION 4 FALL SHOW-SEDALIA, MO Amber Wilson, 816-806-9374, <a href="mailto:akwilson129@gmail.com">akwilson129@gmail.com</a>
OCTOBER 11-13	SALINA CHARITY HORSE SHOW Yvonne McCarthy, <a href="mailto:ybmccarthy@gmail.com">ybmccarthy@gmail.com</a> , 316-789-0694 900 Greeley, Salina, KS 67401
OCTOBER 26-27	CENTRAL STATES FALL HORSE SHOW Lynn McCallister, 913-579-7709, <a href="mailto:LMCalister@aol.com">LMCalister@aol.com</a>
NOVEMBER 11-16	UPHA AMERICAN ROYAL NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP Danielle Baker, 816-569-4046, <a href="mailto:danielleb@americanroyal.com">danielleb@americanroyal.com</a>
DECEMBER 7 & 8	AMERICAN ROYAL ARABIAN HORSE SHOW Danielle Baker, 816-569-4046, <a href="mailto:danielleb@americanroyal.com">danielleb@americanroyal.com</a>

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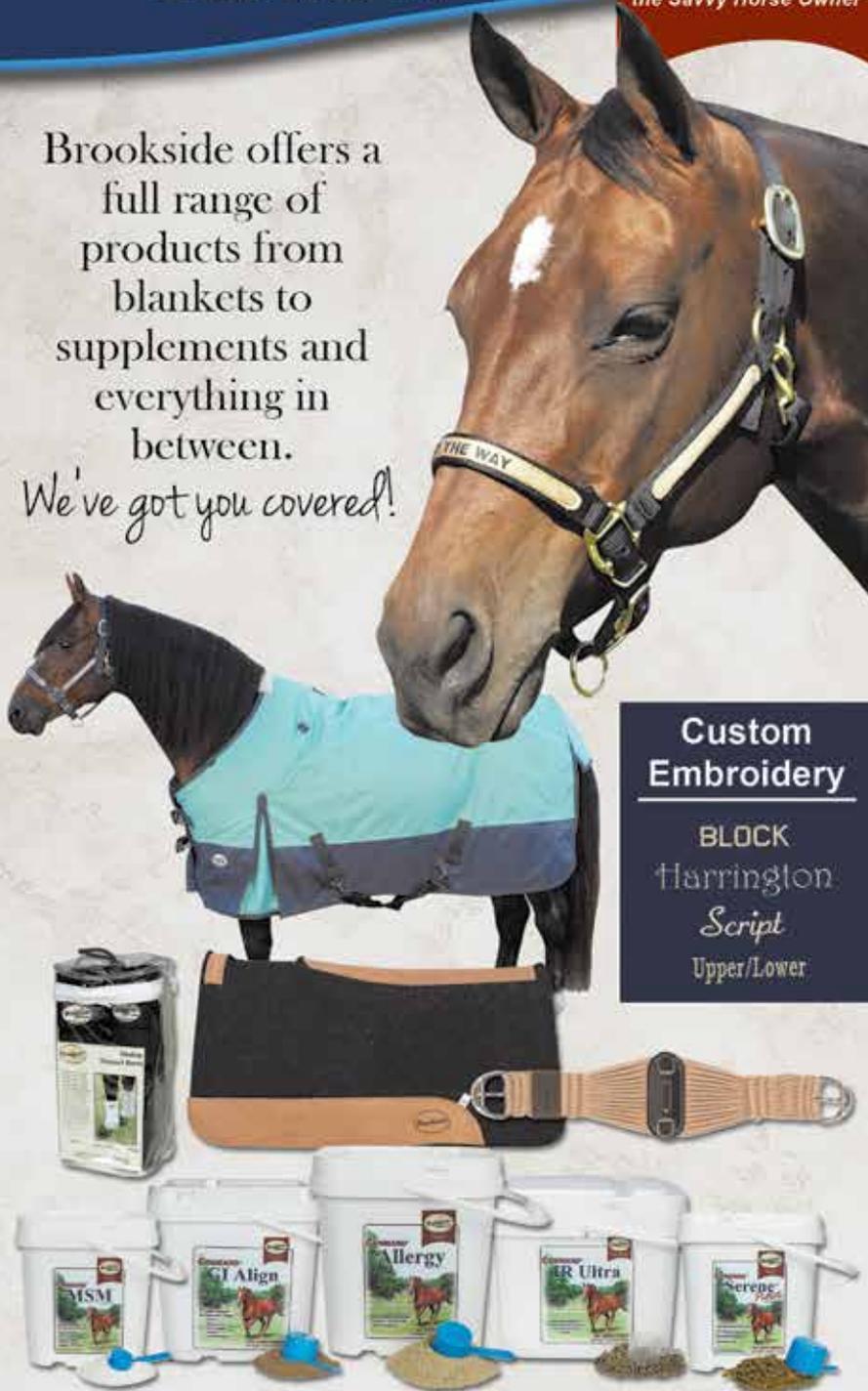
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## What is the Piaffe of horses?

During horse parades and events it is inevitable to stop and watch the dancing horses. The trust animals have for their trainers, the respect that both of them often show. It is a true spectacle that everyone should see at least once in their lives. But how do you train a horse to dance? What does it take to get her or him to dance?

To teach a horse to dance, the first thing to do is to find out what the Piaffe is? It is a movement similar to the trot of a horse that takes place on a point. On the basis of training, the horse reaches down his hips, changes the weight on his hindquarters and raises his right

part following the music, in a natural way. Thus, they can participate in the best Piaffe competitions in the world.

But that does not mean that only some horses can dance. In fact, any horse with a good trainer with knowledge and the necessary experience can learn the footsteps of Piaffe through a process of practice and reward. Likewise, respect and patience are key for the horse to feel eager for learning, and not fear of possible reprisals. We must never forget that they are animals, they feel and deserve our respect.

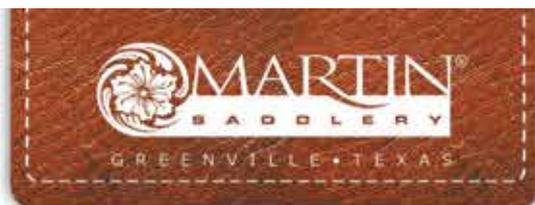
## ¿Qué es el Piaffe de los caballos?

Durante los desfiles y eventos de caballos, es inevitable detenerse y observar a los caballos danzantes. Los animales de confianza tienen para sus entrenadores, el respeto que ambos muestran a menudo. Es un verdadero espectáculo que todos deberían ver al menos una vez en sus vidas. ¿Pero cómo entrenas un caballo para bailar? ¿Qué se necesita para que ella baile?

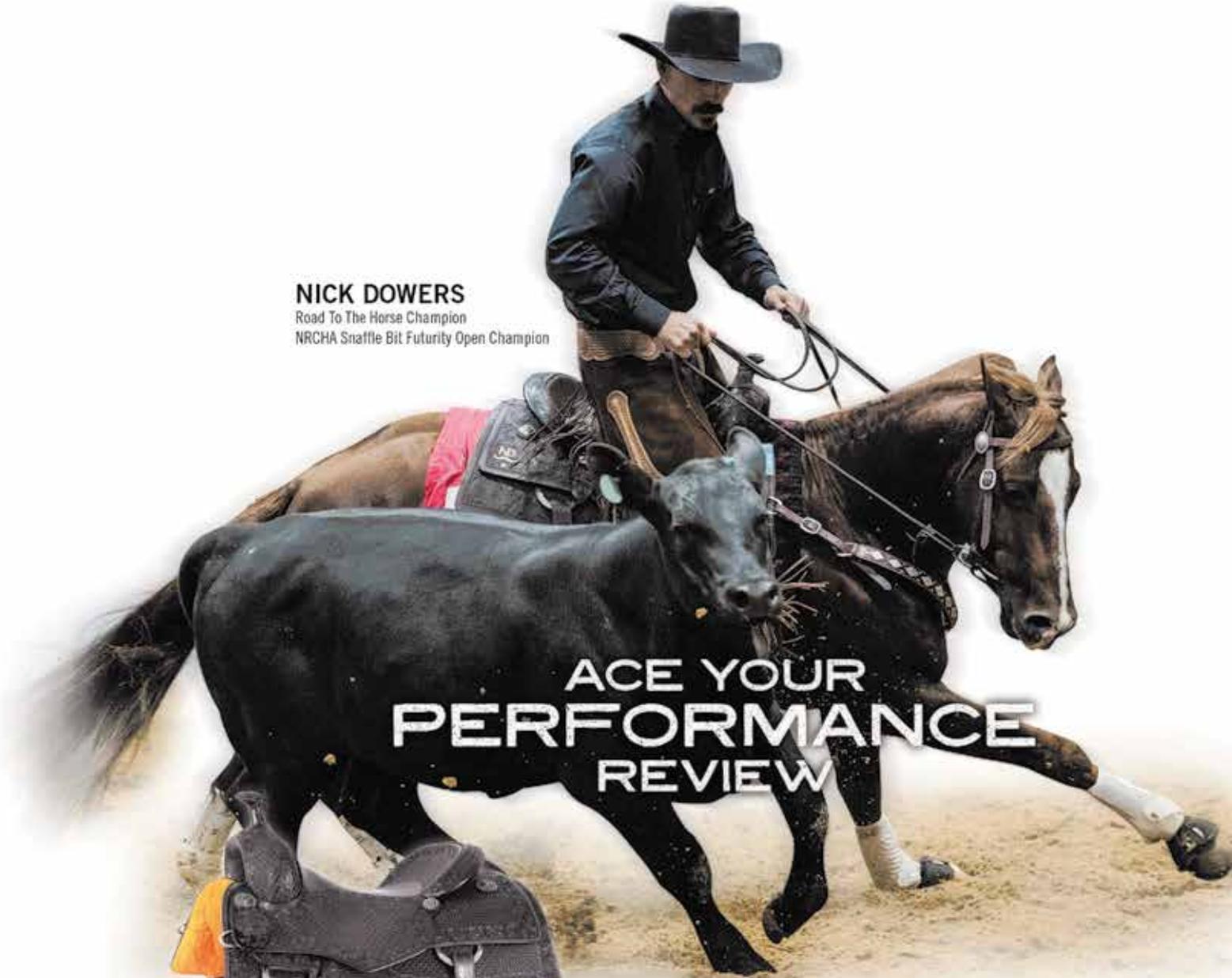
Para enseñar a un caballo a bailar, lo primero que debe hacer es averiguar qué es el Piaffe. Es un movimiento similar al trote de un caballo que tiene lugar en un punto. Sobre la base del entrenamiento, el caballo baja sus caderas, cambia el peso de sus cuartos traseros y levanta su parte derecha siguiendo la música, de una manera natural. De esta forma, podrán participar en las mejores competiciones de Piaffe del mundo.

Pero eso no significa que solo algunos caballos puedan bailar. De hecho, cualquier caballo con un buen entrenador con conocimientos y la experiencia necesaria puede aprender los pasos de Piaffe a través de un proceso de práctica y recompensa. Del mismo modo, el respeto y la paciencia son claves para que el caballo se sienta ansioso por aprender, y no por temor a posibles represalias. Nunca debemos olvidar que son animales, que sienten y merecen nuestro respeto.

*Yvan Duin-Obregon*  
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# Cowboy Church with Steve Stafford



## WEATHERING THE STORMS OF LIFE....

Hey folks, good to be with you once again. You know it's always good when old friends can come together over a cup of coffee, and just visit. Catching up on what's going on in each other's lives. Well here at the ranch, it's been WET. Now most of us in the country at some point during the year are praying for rain, but this year we

have been praying that it stops. Crops are ruined, hay fields are becoming weed fields. Lakes, rivers, creeks, towns and ranches are under water. Storms of nature come and go, just as storms of life. Health issues, kid issues, marriage issues, job issues, so many- too many issues in life that can become storms of life. Just as too much rain can destroy life and property, so can the storms of life. But God promises that He will be our life line, our protector, our Savior. Listen to how the prophet Isaiah recorded it; Isaiah 43:1-2 ...the Lord who created you says: "Do not be afraid, for I have ransomed you. I have called you by name, and you are mine. When you go through deep waters

and great trouble, I will be with you. When you go through rivers of difficulty, you will not drown. When you walk through the fire of oppression, you will not be burned up, the flames will not consume you"

WOW, Father God has got it under control, no matter how bad it seems, He's got it. We can find comfort in knowing that God is in our yesterdays, our todays, and He is already in our tomorrows. I hope my friends, with that assurance of God's protection that we can relax, enjoy the day, laugh with our family, work hard and play hard, and sleep well. Proverbs 3:24 says this, ...when you lie down you will not be afraid, when you lie down your sleep will be sweet.

So my friends, quit worrying about things that might happen, quit worrying about things that haven't happened, QUIT WORRYING about "things". Instead, surround yourself with family and friend, laugh a lot, eat a lot, Praise and Worship the Most High God, and when the time comes each day, sleep peacefully and dream wonderful things.

Hey this is Steve Stafford, I am the pastor at Risen Ranch Cowboy Church, and a very proud member of the Better Horses Network.

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## Lemon Bread

### Mix together:

1 cup sugar  
1/2 cup milk  
6 Tablespoon butter  
2 eggs

### Add:

1 1/2 cup flour  
1 teaspoon baking powder  
1/8 teaspoon salt  
1 Tablespoon grated  
lemon peel

Bake 60 minutes at 350 degrees in a greased and floured 9x5 bread pan. Let cool slightly, turn out pan on top on foil. Pour hot lemon glaze slowly over bread. Don't slice until cold.

### Lemon Glaze

1/2 cup sugar  
1/4 cup fresh lemon juice

Combine in small saucepan, place over low heat and stir until sugar dissolves and glaze is hot.



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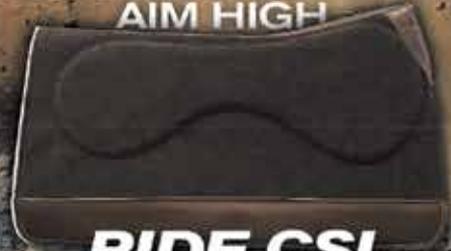
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## Friday, September 6, 2019 (No dogs allowed near any lodging or pavilion!)

1:00pm-7:30pm Check-in, pen assignment, free STRATEGY, set up camp. Pen Assignment for those that have rented pens. They will be numbered. **NO CHECK-IN AFTER 10:00PM. ENTRANCE GATE MONITORED!** Dinner and Entertainment at Grand Central Grill Courtyard! Friday Night Music Across From Hotel – Reservations Highly Suggested  
**Call Suzan Barnes, Grand Central Hotel and Grill for information. Dinner Reservations Suggested. Call (620) 273-6763 or [suzan.barnes@sbcglobal.net](mailto:suzan.barnes@sbcglobal.net)**

## Saturday, September 7, 2019

7:30am-9:00am Check-in continues. Breakfast Burritos and fresh fruit  
7:30am-8:30am Horse care. Free STRATEGY  
8:30am-9:00am Welcome and orientation. DOOR PRIZES!  
9:00am-9:30am Horse Clinic – Safety on the Trail with Rex Buchman and Dr. Gardner, DVM  
9:30am-Noon Ride - Saddle up for a ride in the Flint Hills (Approx. 2 hrs)  
12:30pm-1:30pm Hot BBQ Brisket Lunch at Clover Cliff Pavilion  
1:30pm-3:00pm Ride - Saddle up for a ride in the Flint Hills (Approx. 2 hrs)  
3:30pm-4:00pm Horse Clinic – To Be Determined  
4:00pm-4:30pm Horse Clinic – To Be Determined  
5:30pm-6:30pm Feed and water horses. Free STRATEGY  
6:00-7:30pm Entertainment with Savanna Chestnut  
6:30pm Steak Dinner with all the trimmings with "Chef" Mark Burkdoll  
7:30pm-8:00pm Announcements with Ernie Rodina — Better Horses Hall of Fame Inductees  
8:00pm-9:00pm Benefit Program to be determined.  
9:00pm-10:00pm Geff and Dawn Dawson Entertain us!

## Sunday, September 8, 2019

7:30am-8:00am Coffee's on. Horse care. Free STRATEGY.  
8:00am-8:30am Cowboy Church  
8:30am-9:30am Hot Breakfast Served! Prepared by Mark Burkdoll and team  
9:30am-Noon Ride - Saddle up for a ride in the Flint Hills (Approx. 2 hrs)  
Noon-1:00pm Break camp. Happy Trails!

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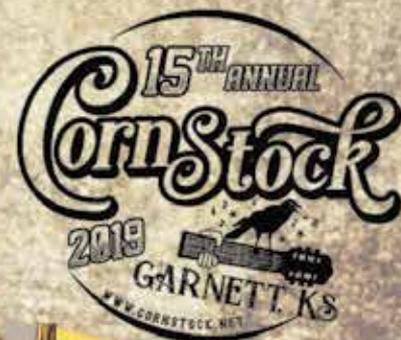
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# Margaux's Musts

## Taking Time To Get Outside

When is it time to get you and your horse outside the arena?

No matter if you are doing western pleasure, over fences, or roping, take your horse beyond the confines of the arena. It is important! It may not be only for your horse, but for you as well. As riders, trainers or non-pros, we can all learn something about our horses and ourselves when we take away the four walls and fences.

As in the case of a western pleasure horse, he can only go so slow and so low for so long. At some point this job becomes very monotonous. If your notice he starts to chomp on the bit or ring his tail, mix it up for him, maybe change your bit and go for a stroll around the back of your property before or after a usual work out.

A rope horse that may have had too many runs from the box and missed a couple calves may need an adventure as well. A change of scenery could do him well. Give him a new understanding that every time you saddle up he is not only going to back in the box.

Take the hunter horse for a hack on the turf as well. Hunter horses, and all horses, can benefit from new terrain. It can help strengthen tendons and ligaments that do not get used the same as in a perfectly groomed arena. This can be just like cross training in the human

sense. Horses need some degree of cross training too. A different bit, equates to different shoes. And a different terrain equates to a different piece of equipment or a road runner going for a trail run. It does the mind and body good. Of course, please take the proper precautions, as each horse is different.

Confidence is not only found inside the arena, but in the exercises we can do outside too. Have fun and enjoy your equine partner this summer!





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Stay tuned for more information on our Purina Equine Education Events which will be launching in June 2019!

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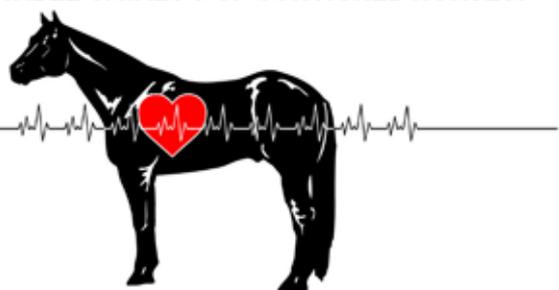
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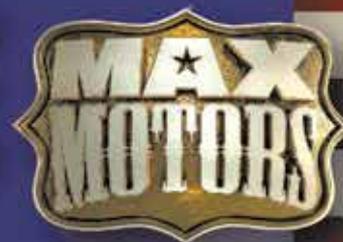
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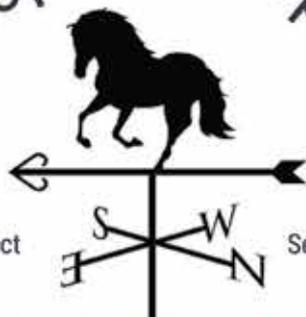
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