April 2009

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There are valleys
There are horses,
And the

Your local resource for equestrian events, news and information.

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April 2009 The Valley Equestrian - Page 2 www.theveonline.com

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About the Cover

Pia Thurland, owner of Eagle Tree Horsemanship and Feed Store in Halstad, Minn. riding in the Aldo Leopold Wilderness in Gila National Forest near Las Cruces, New Mexico the summer of 2004 with outfitter Joe Saenz (www.Wolfhorseoutfitters.com) from Silver City, New Mexico. Thurland is a horse and people trainer, originally from Denmark, and owner of Eagle Tree Horsemanship and Feed Store in Halstad, Minn. www.eagletreehorsemanship.com

Thurland wrote: "I had a dream ... to ride in the Mountains in America! My first trip, I chose Southwest New Mexico, We rode up to 9000 feet, and had a beautiful view of The Black Range! We had no cell phones, they wouldn't work in there either, and at one point we were so far away from civilization, that we would have to ride a couple of days to reach just an empty gravel road ... it was awesome. We slept on the ground on our saddle pads, in our sleeping bags. My first trip with Joe was in the Gila Wilderness, a 3.3 million acre wilderness! You start out in desert looking landscape and as you climb up, the landscape changes into trees, grass and flowers."

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Left: Thank you River Bend Appaoosas for sending this photo of a colt playing with his mom.

f you have a fun snapshot to share, lease send to leybou@gmail.com or The Valley Equestrian, Box 64, Sabin,



Benefits in the Economic Stimulus Act for Horse Industry

President Barack Obama has signed the Economic Stimulus Act into law. The bill is intended to provide a jump-start to the U.S.

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"The new law contains two important tax incentives that would allow a much bigger write-off for horses and other depreciable property purchased and placed in service during 2009," said Jay Hickey, President of the American Horse Council. "These provisions expired at the end of 2008, but their reinstatement should provide an additional incentive for people to purchase horses for racing, showing and breeding as part of their business activities."

The first incentive continues the so-called \$250,000 Section 179 expensing allowance for horses purchased and placed in service in 2009. This allowance also applies to farm equipment and most other property with a depreciable life of less than 20 years. Once total purchases of horses and other eligible depreciable property reach \$800,000, the expense allowance goes down one dollar for each dollar spent on eligible property over \$800,000.

"The horse industry almost lost the Section 179 expense deduction in 1996. The House of Representatives passed legislation taking this deduction away from the horse industry," said Hickey. "But we were able to convince the Senate to remove this restriction before passing the final bill and the deduction was preserved. It was worth \$17,500 then. Over the years it has been increased and will be \$250,000 for 2009. That is a real benefit to horse owners."

To illustrate the expensing allowance, assume a horse business purchases \$750,000 of depreciable property in 2009, including \$650,000 for horses. That business can write off \$250,000 on its 2009 tax return and depreciate the balance. If instead, purchases were \$900,000, the expense allowance would go down by \$100,000.

In addition, bonus depreciation has also been reinstated for 2009 in the new Stimulus Bill. This second incentive allows a horse owner to take first-year bonus depreciation

egual to 50% of the cost of horses and most other depreciable property purchased and placed in service during 2009. It does not apply to property that has a depreciation life of over 20

www.theveonline.com

As was the case last year and in 2003 and 2004 when bonus depreciation was first instituted, the property must be new, meaning that the original use of the horse or other property must begin with the purchaser for the property to be eligible. "Original use" means the first use to which the property is put, whether or not that use corresponds to the use of the property by the purchaser. "There is no limit on the amount of bonus depreciation that can be taken as depreciation that can be taken, as there is with the expense deduction," noted Hickey.

To illustrate bonus depreciation, assume that in 2009 a business pays \$500,000 for a colt to be used for racing and \$50,000 for other depreciable property, bringing total purchases to \$550,000. The young colt had never been raced or used for any other purpose before the purchase. The business would be able to expense \$250,000, deduct another \$150,000 of bonus depreciation (50% of the assume that in 2009 a business pays \$300,000 remaining balance), and take regular depreciation on the \$150,000 balance.

"The Stimulus Bill includes several other changes that may benefit horse owners, including allowing taxpayers a deduction for state and local sales and excises taxes paid on the purchase of new cars, light trucks, and recreational vehicles in 2009; a change in the net operating loss carryback period to five years for small businesses; and a reductio for 2009 in the required estimated tax payments for some small businesses," said Hickey.



Our Biggest Saddle Sale 19th Annual Saddle Sale April 4th - 19th, 2009



April 2009

We have a parking lot

Saddle reps on hand April 4th & 5th

from Circle Y, Tucker, Big Horn, and new this year, Court's Saddlery and American Saddlery o help with saddle fittings and manufacturers' information plus bit fitting information.

UP TO 500 New and Used English & Western Saddles in Stock for this Special Once-A-Year Sale

Buy any NEW or USED Saddle on sale, plus pick out \$25 to \$1,000 in accessories of your choice free

Choose from Tex Tan, Simco/Longhorn, Circle Y, Billy Cook, Big Horn, Stubben, Dakota, Rocking R, Tucker, Courts and Dale Chavez plus others. Quarter horse, Arabian, Mule, Draft, Gaited & wide bar, 8" to 20 inch seats. We also carry Australian, English, & Cordura saddles. All of these great saddles will be on sale plus the free merchandise. NEW THIS YEAR, YOU CAN SHOP OUR SADDLE SALE ON OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.JANDBWESTERNSTORE.COM. You will need to call our toll-free number: 877-207-5588 during regular store hours before ordering to make sure the saddle is still available.

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Store Hours: Mon-Friday 9-6, Sat 9-5, Sun 11-4 email: jbwestern@yahoo.com

APPALOOSA HORSE CLUB NAMES 2008 YEAR-END YOUTH CHAMPIONS

MOSCOW, Idaho - The Appaloosa Horse Club (ApHC) is proud to announce the Yearend High-point Youth Champions of 2008! The following youth exhibited great tal-

ent and dedication in 2008 by competing in multiple shows throughout the nation to earn points toward these achievements.

All award winners will be honored at the 2008 Year-end Youth Banquet in Jackson, Mississippi, held in conjunction with the Mississippi, field through the foliation with the 62nd National Appaloosa Show/2009 World Championship Appaloosa Youth Show, June 22–July 4. Please join us at the 2008 Year-end Youth Banquet to celebrate these upstanding youth competitors. Tickets are \$45. For more information about the banquet or the 62nd National Appaloosa Show/2009World Championship Appaloosa Youth Show, visit www.appaloosa.com or call (208) 882-5578.

The ApHC would like to extend congratu-

latory praises and its wishes for good luck in future riding endeavors to these youth

Brenna Brawner of Edmond, Okla, Shelby Clark of Fruitvale, Tex., Joshua Clevenger of Mount Olive, Ill., Katherine Corbett of Oklahoma City, Okla., Kayla Corey of Krum, Tex., Colton Cruse of Santa Fe, Tex., Courtney Cruse of Pilot Point, Tex., Alexis Gratkowski of Harrisburg, Pa., Matthew Graves of Grand Island, Neb., Sarah Gruntmeir of Okarche, Okla., Brianna Jackson of Middleburg, Fla., Lauren Jaquay of Hamilton, N. Y., Tim Johnson of Chisago City, Minn., Kara Kaufmann of Stroudsburg, Pa., Cassie Knight of Carroll, Iowa, Kaleb Lilienthal of Dannebrog, Neb., Ashley Mauney of Magnolia, Tex., Melissa Mauney of Magnolia, Tex., Ashley May of Bangor, Pa., Carrie Miller of Scottsdale, Ariz., Courtney C. O'Connell of Hingham Mass., Hanna Ring of La Favette, N. Y.,

N. Y., Shea-Lauren Ryan of Baltic, Conn., Shave Schirripa of Chico, Tex., Sarah Shuknecth of Elba. N. Y., Eliza Simpkins of Sand Creek, Mich., Tryster Ann Taylor of Mansfield, Tex., Kailie Tsihlis of Bethlehem, Penn., Bethany White of Gainesville, Fla., Katie White of Gainesville

The Appaloosa Horse Club (ApHC) was established in 1938, with a mission of preserving, promoting and enhancing the Appaloosa breed.



Fim Johnson of Chisago City, Minn., awarded high-point winner for the Judged Tie-Down Roping 18 & Under by the ApHC.

Economic Impact of NAIS for Horse Owners

By Karen Nowak © February 2009

Every horse owner knows that the current economic situation in the USA is impacting the horse industry. Feed costs are higher than they ve ever been. In fact, any and all supplies/services used for our horses - from supplements to tack to farrier and vet costs are higher. At the same time, sales are way down. Horses are on the market for longer periods of time before they do sell and prices are rock bottom. Those of us who breed cut way back on the number of mares bred last year. Some, like me, chose not to risk it at all and bred NO mares last year. We are feeding and caring for broodmares and stallions with no return whatsoever on our significant investment. And now we have NAIS looming on the not too distant horizon! But wait you say, I thought NAIS was now voluntary! Remember the key phrase —voluntary at the Federal level. Three states so far have made all or part of NAIS mandatory. Tremendous pressure in terms of grant monies is being placed on State Depts of Agriculture by the USDA. In addition, if you read the USDA's most recent official document, the September 2008 — A Business Plan To Advance Animal Disease Traceability, you will discover that while they claim it is voluntary, the handwriting is on the wall. One way or another, they will push NAIS through. What will those costs be? Up to this point, all we have been told by the USDA is —there will be a cost to producers. They then try to divert our attention by exclaiming that the first component of NAIS - premises registration - is free'. Yes, it IS free - for now at least. But technically it really isn't free because the entire premises registration system has been funded by the taxpayers of this country without any of us having a vote in how that \$130 million of our hard earned dollars has been spent. The questions we should be asking are will it remain free or will we

have to pay to renew it every year once the funding dries up. Ask and watch how quickly they divert the question! NAIS is a massive system! According to the 2007 Census of Agriculture, there are 2.2 million farms plus an unknown number of properties which house small numbers of livestock for personal use, show grounds, auction/ sales barns, vet clinics, stallion stations, public and privately owned trail systems, virtually anywhere where animals from different properties may comingle', will need to register their premises if the NAIS system is to be fully compliant and functioning as designed.

The second component of NAIS is animal identification with radio-frequency ID tags or implantable microchips containing a unique 15-digit ID number. According to the USDA, farms in the USA have an inventory of 2.3 billion livestock encompassing 33 species at any

point in time. What will the cost of this be? The USDA has thus far refused to answer honestly. In the 2006 NAIS User Guide, the USDA claimed microchips for horses would cost \$8. They continued to skirt around the true cost by stating. Currently, such cost for implanting the transponder in horses is approximately \$15 to \$20 per horse and is also dependent on variation in travel cost of the veterinarian to the premises NONE of this is accurate! What they have stated is those farms that move animals as a production unit will NOT need individual ID. They may use a group/lot number as the animals all move together and do not comingle with other animals. Horses and the average farm animal do not move in groups from birth to death, never coming in contact with a new animal. Those who will benefit by this group/lot number are the massive corporate owned agribusinesses. It is no accident that these same agribusinesses, whose expenses with this system will be less, are those who helped design the NAIS program in the first place!

The third component is animal tracking. Every time a horse leaves your property and commingles with horses from other premises, a movement report will have to be filed in this massive NAIS database. The purpose is to be able to trace animals within 48 hours in the event of a disease outbreak. It is important to remember that this is an after the fact response. NAIS in NO way prevents disease! What will the charges be for entering these reports? The USDA has refused to say anything other than —there will be costs. The other cost for the tracking component is the need to purchase a scanner to read these microchips. The USDA skirts around this issue as well by saving they do not require owners to purchase one. For those with a single horse, you may be able to get away with not buying a

RFID (Radio Frequency ID/microchips) Components Horses

	Initial cost	Useful Life	Salvage Value, \$	*Annual Cost	Percent to RFID	**Yearly RFID Cost
Interest 7.5%						
eID Transponder - Vet Fees						
microchip PER HORSE	\$30	30	0		100%	
implantation PER HORSE	\$25	3	0		100%	
sedation PER HORSE	\$20	3	0		100%	
farm call	\$55	3	0			
Electronic Reader						
Scanner with computer interface	\$1025	3	0	\$367	100%	\$367
spare battery	\$45	3	0	\$16	100%	\$16
Data Accumulator						
Laptop Computer	\$1000	3	\$200	\$287	60%	\$172
spare battery	\$150	3	0	\$54	100%	\$54
external backup device	\$100	3	0	\$35	100%	\$35
Software/web based analysis & storage						
Computer Software	\$700	5	0	\$173	100%	\$173
anti-viral software	\$45	1	0	\$29	60%	\$29
Other						
Internet Access	\$480	1	0	\$498	25%	\$125
Subscriptions/Upgrade Fees	\$100	1	0	\$104	100%	\$104
Labor	\$100		0	\$519	100%	\$519
Total Annual Cost	\$4275					\$1594

^{*} includes annual interest + divided over number of useful years ** based on % to RFID

scanner but if you own several horses, the risk of a transcription error with those 15-digit ID numbers is too great and you have to ask yourself if it is worth the risk of the penalty fee. There are cheap \$300 scanners out there but they do NOT have a computer interface so you are back to the considerable risk of transcription errors. In July of 2007, after much public outcry, the USDA funded a cost-benefit analysis through Kansas State University. That study was completed in July of 2008. The USDA has yet to release the findings of this study. Several Freedom of Information Act formal requests have been made to obtain the results of this study. Thus far all requests have been denied. So much for transparency in government! In an effort to determine what the costs would be for horse owners, I used the cost estimate analysis form for cattle, designed by Kansas State University's Agricultural Economist Kevin C. Dhuyvetter, Ph.D. and Beef Specialist Dale Blasi, Ph.D., and changed the tags and scanner to those microchips and the scanner designed for horses.

Contact your veterinarian for the cost of microchipping as the above is an average. It has been included for people to use as a guideline only. Simply multiply those costs by the number of horses you own/lease and add it to the Yearly RFID Cost column to estimate your first year expenses under NAIS. If you board your horse, expect your board to rise to help cover the considerable cost not only in equipment but in labor with all the scanning that will need to be done every time you take your horse to a show, etc.

Spare batteries and anti-viral software were not included in the cost estimate analysis by Dhuyvetter and Blasi. They are included here because they ARE necessities! There is no movement cost listed above, just as there was not on the

original by Dhuyvetter and Blasi. An assumption has been made that the computer software is NAIS compli-

> ant software and the subscription/upgrade fees allow the owner to upload the data themselves. That would be far more cost-effective for everyone (including the USDA) in the long run. What will the costs be for show organizations? They will need at least one scanner and spare battery, a laptop computer with spare battery and external back-up device (prevent risk of lost data!), internet access and all the software, subscriptions listed above plus the labor to perform all these tasks. Scanning horses at shows will be a logistical nightmare because of the many variables from one venue to the next, the type and size of classes, etc. It would be impossible to scan all horses in the trailer as they enter the show grounds unless you want a major traffic iam! There is also the not unlikely possibility that the person scanning could be injured if the horse spooked in the confined space of a horse trailer. Last is the risk of missing some scans due to late arrivals that will not

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HORSE BREEDS AT MN EXPO

American Quarter Horse

Appaloosa Arabian Clydesdale Colonial Spanish Donkey

Egyptian Arabian Fell Pony

Foundation Quarter Horse

Friesian Heritage Horse

Gypsy Vanner

Haflinger

Half Welsh

Icelandic

Miniature Horse

Morgan

Mule

Nokota Horse

Pintaloosa

Spanish Mustang

Tennessee Walking Horse

Welara

Welsh Cob

Welsh Pony

Shop over 600 Booths • See Horses from over 50 Breeds/Registries

Minnesota //ocse

American Bashkir Curly

Foundation Appaloosa

Friesian

Friesian Blood Horse

Gypsy Horse

Half Arabian

Morab

Norwegian Fjord

Paint

Paso Fino

Pattern Sport Horse

Percheron

Peruvian Paso

Pinto Miniature Horse

Pony of the Americas **Ouarter Horse**

Rocky Mountain Horse

Saddlebred

2:00 Liz Graves - Gait Continuum DNR Building 2:00 Senior Horse Care 3:00 PRCA Dodge Rodeo

3:00 Saddle Fit-How Saddles Work DNR Building 3:00 Foaling

Ramberg Bldg 4:00 Horses at Expo Parade Judson Avenue

FRIDAY APRIL 24 8:30AM-9:30PM

8:30 Susan Harris paints Horse Horse Barn Ring

Coliseum

Coliseum

Coliseum

Coliseum

Coliseum

DNR Building

Tent Clough St.

Judging Arena

Judging Arena

DNR Building

DNR Building

Ramberg Bldg.

Judging Arena

Coliseum

Coliseum

Coliseum

Coliseum

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Coliseum

Coliseum

Ramberg Bldg

Judging Arena

Ramberg Bldg.

Judging Arena

DNR Building.

Ramberg Bldg.

Judging Arena

Ramberg Bldg

Coliseum

Coliseum

DNR Building

9:00-11:00 Stallion Presentations Judging Arena

9:00 Saddle Fit - Equine Anatomy DNR Building

12:00 Role of Veterinary Specialists Ramberg Bldg.

2:00 Saddle Fit-How Saddles Work DNR Building

2:00 Scrapbooking for Horse Lovers Ramberg Bldg.

9:15 MN Mounted Shooters

10:00 1:00 4:00 Farrier Demos

11:00 Equine Psychotherapy

11:00 Saddle Fit - Seat Shape

11:55 Horseperson of the Year

12:00 Bits and Bitting - Dale Myler

12:00 Parade of Breeds

12:00 Susan Harris

1:00 Stacy Westfall

2:00 Craig Cameron

3:00 Susan Harris

1:00 Poisonous Plants

1:00 Recession Horse Care

2:00 Dressage Figures Demystified

3:00-6:00 Breed Demonstrations

4:00 Bits and Bitting - Dale Myler

3:00 Horse and Barn Safety

4:00 Carriage Driving 101

4:00 Equine Business Law

5:00 Horse Handling Basics

5:00 Craig Cameron Talk

7:00 PRCA Dodge Rodeo

5:00 Unwanted Horses

8:45 Cowboy Church

10:00 Craig Cameron

11:00 Stacy Westfall

11:00 Equine Business Law

12:00 Parade of Breeds

1:00 Stacy Westfall

2:00 Craig Cameron

11:55 Horseperson of the Year

12:00 Liz Graves - Trail Gaiting

12:00 Recession Horse Care

1:00 Carriage Driving 101

1:00 Saddle Fit - Seat Shape

1:00 Jumping Introduction

12:00 Poisonous Plants DNR Building

9:30 Scrapbooking for Horse Lovers

10:00-11:30 Stallion Presentations Judging Arena

10:00 Bits and Bitting - Dale Myler DNR Building

10:00 & 1:00 Farrier Demonstration Tent Clough S

11:00 Saddle Fit - Equine Anatomy DNR Building

1:30 Therapeutic Riding

10:00 Stacy Westfall

11:00 Craig Cameron

10:00 Foaling

Sponsored by the Minnesota Horse Council

Ramberg Bldg.

Judging Arena

DNR Building

Ramberg Bldg

DNR Building

Ramberg Bldg.

Judging Arena

Ramberg Bldg.

Judging Arena

DNR Building

DNR Bldg.

Coliseum

Coliseum

SATURDAY APRIL 25 8:30AM-9:30PM 8:30 Susan Harris paints Horse Horse Barn Ring 9:00-11:00 Stallion Presentations Judging Arena 9:00 Saddle Fit - Equine Anatomy DNR Building 9:15 Mn Mounted Shooters Coliseum 9:30-11Scrapbooking for Horse Lovers Ramberg Bldg 10:00 Stacy Westfall Coliseum 10:00 Bits and Bitting - Dale Myler DNR Building 10:00 1:00 4:00 Farrier Demos Tent Clough St 11:00 Craig Cameron Coliseum 11:00 Susan Harris Judging Arena

11:00 Saddle Fit - Seat Shape DNR Building 11:00 Optimizing Hay Feeding/Storage Ramberg Bldg.

11:55 Horseperson of the Year Coliseum 12:00 Parade of Breeds Coliseum 12:00 Liz Graves - Gaited Dressage Judging Arena 12:00 Dr. Tom Lenz Unwanted Horses DNR Building

Ramberg Bldg. 12:00 To Breed or Not to Breed 1:00 Stacy Westfall Coliseum Judging Arena Judging Arena

1:00 Carriage Driving 101 1:00 Is My Horse Lame??? 2:00 Craig Cameron

2:00 Dressage Figures Demystified 2:00 Susan Harris 2:00 Buying/Selling a Horse

Judging Arena 3:00-6:00 Breed Demonstrations 3:00 Liz Graves - Gaited Horses Judging Arena DNR Building 3:00 Saddle Fit - How Saddles Work DNR Building Judging Arena

DNR Building 3:00 Bits and Bitting - Dale Myler Ramberg Bldg. Rambera Blda. 4:00 Susan Harris-Centered Riding Judging Arena

4:00 Poisonous Plants Judaina Arena 4:00 Equine Business Law DNR Building

Ramberg Bldg 5:00 Equine Psychotherapy 5:00 Craig Cameron Talk

5:00 Equine Emergency 101 6:00 Therapeutic Riding **SUNDAY APRIL 26 8:30AM-5:00PM**

6:00 New Horse Owner Basics 7:00 PRCA Dodge Rodeo Ramberg Bldg.

3 PRCA RODEOS AT EXPO ALL SEATS ARE RESERVED!



Friday 7:00 PM Saturday 7:00 PM Sunday 3:00 PM

\$10 Box Seats \$8 Sections 1-3,13-15 \$6 Sections 16-28 \$4 Sections 4-12 Plus Expo Daily Admission

Advance ticket form: mnhorseexpo.org Rodeo Tickets sold at Coliseum during Expo

Daily Expo Admission \$8 Ages 13-61 \$5 Seniors \$5 Ages 6-12 FREE Ages 5 and under FREE FAIR PARKING

Friday 8:30 am-9:30 pm Sat: 8:30 am-9:30 pm Sun: 8:30 am—5:00 pm Cattle, Poultry, Sheep Barn Dairy and CHS Building

Volunteer with a group or as an individual For details call Missie at 952-451-9581

Minnesota State Fairgrounds 1265 Snelling Avenue North, St. Paul MN

Stay for the shopping,

Enjoy a horse, pony or carriage ride on us

Don't miss the rodeos,

Learn from the speakers.

Stacy Westfall

Stacy's goal in training her reining horses was to make the reins unnecessary-literally. And she succeeded, stunning the reining world by going undefeated for two straight years in major freestyle reining competitions. Stacy's highlight was winning twice while riding bridle-less AND bareback. See Stacy all three days of Expo. All speakers are included in daily Expo admission.



Craig Cameron

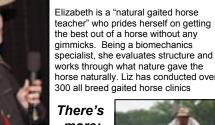
Craig is on the road more than 44 weeks a year covering 80,000 miles demonstrating the style of horsemanship he has perfected in the last 23 years. His cowboy humor, often compared to Will Rogers, and his common sense approach (Craig calls it horsesense) are opening the eyes of horses & horse enthusiasts world-wide. Catch Craig's demos all three days at Expo.

Susan Harris

Susan is an international clinician, equestrian author and artist. Her unique demo "Anatomy in Motion™/ The Visible Horse" in which she paints the bones and muscles on a live horse has been a popular attraction around the world. She helps riders discover how to use their bodies better for improved balance & harmon between horse and rider.

The Visible Horse

Elizabeth Graves



300 all breed gaited horse clinics

more: Sell or buy at the 4-H Used Tack and Clothing Consignment Sale

(Info at 320-252-3542) Tour Leatherdale Equine Center at U of M on Friday & Saturday

Minnesota Mounted Shooters

Free Horseshoe pitching lessons Free horse, pony, carriage rides

This schedule is partial and subject to change! Visit www.mnhorseexpo.org for more detail/updates.



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Dressage Defined

Quarter Horse Association (AQHA) was

created in 1940 and is today the largest breed

registry in the world. This organization also

provides an Appendix registry for Quarter

Horses crossed with Thoroughbred. The

Appendix Quarter Horse typically possess

atures of both breeds, however, it is not to

be forgotten that the Thoroughbred was part

of the Quarter Horses original roots. Many

Appendix Quarter Horses are seen compet-

However, let's not forget the Foundation,

ing in dressage, jumping, and eventing.

or "original" type of Quarter Horse! For

this article I have included some photos of

interest. In the 1992 photo of Mari Monda-

Zdunic, long time partner of Chuck Grant (trainer of last months featured, famous Gran Prix Appaloosa Billy Joe Freckles) and

is shown performing on Gran Prix AQHA

Palomino "Shine-A-Bit III." "Shine-A-Bit"

haute ecole and as a team they performed

Another photo is of Minnesota native

Shelley Johnson on her 6-year-old AQHA

gelding, "Unbranded." Together this team

has competed in just about every possible

Shelly Johnson rides Unbranded

event including Ranch Horse Versatility,

Western Equitation and Trail, Barrel Racing/

Pole Bending, English Equitation, Showman-

ship, Reining, and Dressage! She has shown

at the AOHA World Show three times with

impressive results. Here they are shown in

rider and the conformation of the foundation

an extended trot. Note the position of the

was trained through the movements of the

around the country and at the Quarter Horse

recent speaker at the Minnesota EquiFest, she

The American Quarter Horse is probably the most versatile breed in the world. Known for his incredible "cow-sense," this breed actually derives its name from its propensity to win the quarter mile sprint race. We often associate the Quarter Horse breed with the Old West, cowboys and cattle ranching. Certainly, because of his work ethic and natural ability with cattle, this has become the modern life of many a Quarter Horse. However the Quarter Horse breed goes back to colonial roots.

The Spanish brought horses to North America during the 15th century. In the 1600's, the Colonists began crossing some of their "native" horses of Spanish descent with

horses

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England.

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it was

Mari Monda-Zdunic riding Shine-A-Bit III.

activity. The conformation of these animals gave them strong and powerful hindquarters which was ideal for farm work, add a little fast twitch muscle and you've got the recipe for a sprinter. These horses became very fast at the quarter mile race, hence the breed name "Quarter Horse."

As the colonists moved westward, this was the horse that went with them. It was happenstance that lead to the discovery of the innate "cow-sense" possessed by these animals. This made them the ideal breed for the ranches that were to expand throughout the West. And along came the Western saddle...

In a previous article, I mentioned the classical seat used in the art of dressage. This position balances the rider in the saddle where an imaginary straight line can be drawn through his ear, shoulder, hip and heel. The classic Western saddle was designed for comfort on the long cattle drives and traveling for miles through desolate plains and rough country. This original Western saddle also puts the rider into the classical seat with the riders weight spread evenly over the back, a long, unrestricted leg position with the upper body straight and upright. These saddles, pretty much as far as you get from the modern dressage saddle, had a similar style to the classical equitation saddles of the 1700's.

The modern Quarter Horse has proven himself in just about every equestrian discipline. Probably the most popular breed for cattle and ranch work, the Quarter Horse

mare, "Wildfire," during her first dressage By Margo Brady schooling lesson with Swedish trainer Lisbeth Bengtsson. Note the natural carriage of the has also enjoyed the hunter/jumper and dressage spotlight as well. The American horse with strong hindquarters and good neck position.

There is a reason why the American Quarter Horse enjoys such popularity. With their willing temperament and versatility. they have been the number one choice for



Swedish trainer Lisbeth Bengtsson puts Wildfire together in this AQHA mare's first time dressage school-

family horses, ranch horses, trail horses, and all-round riding horses. I believe that anyone who loves horses can tell a special story about their experience with an American Quarter

Margo Brady began study ing dressage in 1986 with Anne Mouen-Stahl, Grand Prix rider and Jan Macafee from Australia.

Brady has ridden with Bo Jena, Head Riding Master and Director of the dressage program at Flyinge, Sweden. She currently studies

with Lisbeth Bengtsson of Sweden, now in Wisconsin. and clinics with International Gran Prix competitor and 'R' dressage judge, Ulf Wadeborn. formerly from the Stromsholm Riding Academy of Sweden. Brady is owner of Brady Equestrian Center where she breeds Swedish import stallion Bayron 885. She has upper level dressage schoolmasters for lessons and lease: contact her at:

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Golden Eagle Hunt Seat Equestrian Team Does Well at Regionals

(Crookston, Minn.)- The University of Minnesota, Crookston Hunt Seat Equestrian team had a solid showing at the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association (IHSA) Regionals on Sunday, March 1 in River Falls, Wis. The Golden Eagles ended the regular season as the number two team in the region and took home the Reserve High Point team

The Regional Championship began with Nicole Veres (Jr, Random Lake, Wis.) and Kelsey Sherman (Fr, Lansing, Mich.) competing in Novice Jumping, where Veres took fourth place. Heather Fogelson (Fr, Grant, Minn.), competing in Intermediate on the Flat, came in sixth place. In Novice Flat, Veres took third place, Lauren Snively (Fr, Herndon, Vir.) took fifth and Tandra Klein (So, Hazen, N.D.) came in ninth. "I was very pleased to have all three of the

Novice Flat riders make the first cuts and end the season so well," says U of M, Crookston Hunt Seat Coach Brooke Leininger.

it would cause in each class as well as the considerable risk of duplicate entries since most show in more than one class. The most logical solution is to set up scanning stations on the show grounds. Horses could be scanned and their entry numbers stamped with a symbol that can be easily seen by the staff at the ingate to each show ring. How much time will this take? A very conservative estimate is 3 minutes per horse. We cannot line them up nose to tail like they do cattle - a fact that I do not think the USDA has considered. There will have to be enough space between horses to prevent humans and horses from being kicked. That means additional time spent waiting for the next horse to move up in line. While the microchip should be placed in the same general location, time will occasionally be lost searching for a microchip that is not quite in that perfect location. Last will be the horses that spook at the scanner. We all know some will and that will cost more time! Just how much time will scanning take at an average horse show? Estimate that one person can scan 20 horses per hour IF all goes well. It is not unusual for there to be 200 horses at a popular local or regional show and that is where we must focus to determine the true cost to us as horse owners. If only one person scanned, it would take 10 hours just to scan all these horses into the NAIS database! Five scanning stations would be far more workable as that would take a total of 2 hours to scan in every horse. But wait - that means 5 scanners and 5 spare batteries! The cost to the show organizer just jumped from \$1070 to \$5350! Divide that over the 3 year life of the scanner and it comes to \$1783 per year just for scanners. In addition, they will need four additional people just to scan and we all know how difficult it is to recruit enough help at shows! Just as with boarding, these costs will have to passed on to those of us who show. The cost per horse to cover this expense (broken down over the 3 year lifespan of the equipment) would be an additional \$14 in entry fees. If they try to recoup their costs that first year, the additional fee would be \$42. That's not too bad you are probably saying to yourself. Very true if you are the person showing but what about the show organizer who is already struggling to meet expenses in this economic climate? They have to pay out an additional \$8,090 for that first year for all this equipment plus labor for the additional staff. Will they be able to survive? My belief is we will see more shows cancelled, just as the recent Red Hills Horse Trials in FL was

The Valley Equestrian Page 7

be showing until the end of the day. It would

also be impossible to scan each horse as it

enters the show ring because of the delay

Economic Impact of NAIS - (continued from page 4)

the bigger shows with the exception that they

will only require one scanner and one spare

battery. Their initial cost outlay to comply

with NAIS will be \$3,645. Will their budget

allow it? Probably not but IF it did, the cost

over the 3 year lifespan of the equipment)

would be an additional \$59 in entry fees. It

they try to recoup their costs that first year,

conceivable way these smaller shows could

continue to operate! Who loses in the end?

The entire horse industry does because these

are tomorrow's stars as well as potential cli-

ents for the many services the horse industry

offers. They are our future breeders and/

or trainers! What penalties might we incur

but both the USDA and Congress state that

US Codes Title 7 Agriculture, Chapter 109,

(the Animal Health Protection Act) autho-

rizes NAIS. Below is the exact wording for

penalties under this chapter: § 8313. Penal-

without authority from the Secretary, uses,

alters, defaces, or destroys any certificate,

permit, or other document provided for

in this chapter shall be fined under title 18,

imprisoned not more than 1 year, or both. (B)

Distribution or sale A person that knowingly

imports, enters, exports, or moves any animal

or article, for distribution or sale, in violation

of this chapter, shall be fined under title 18,

Multiple violations: On the second and any

subsequent conviction of a person of a viola-

tion of this chapter under paragraph (1), the

oned not more than 10 years, or both. (b) Civil

person shall be fined under title 18, impris

penalties (1) In general Except as provided

this chapter, or that forges, counterfeits, or,

without authority from the Secretary, uses,

n section 8309 (d) (Veterinary Accreditation

Program) of this title, any person that violates

alters, defaces, or destroys any certificate, per-

mit, or other document provided under this

a hearing on the record, be assessed a civil

chapter may, after notice and opportunity for

penalty by the Secretary that does not exceed

the greater of - (A) (i) \$50,000 in the case of

any individual, except that the civil penalty

violation of this chapter by an individual

moving regulated articles not for monetary

son for each violation; and (iii) \$500,000 for

gain; (ii) \$250,000 in the case of any other per-

all violations adjudicated in a single proceed-

ing; or (B) twice the gross gain or gross loss

for any violation or forgery, counterfeiting,

or unauthorized use, alteration, defacing or

destruction of a certificate, permit, or other

document provided under this chapter that

results in the person's deriving pecuniary

person. We, as horse owners, must stand up

and say NO to NAIS! For more information

on how to get involved, please go to http://

lent short video on the Liberty Ark website.

farmandranchfreedom.org. There is an excel-

gain or causing pecuniary loss to another

may not exceed \$1,000 in the case of an initial

imprisoned not more than 5 years, or both. (2)

ties (a) Criminal penalties (1) Offenses (A) In

general A person that knowingly violates this

chapter, or knowingly forges, counterfeits, or,

under NAIS? The USDA avoids this question

the additional fee would be \$177! There is no

per horse to cover this expense (broken down

What impact will NAIS have on the much smaller shows? One way to attract new people and children into showing, and generate income in training and/or sale of horses, is to offer small shows at low prices to allow them to get their feet wet. These shows typically have 20 or so horses with entry fees of \$4 to \$7 per class. Twenty horses is just enough that you dare not have a cheap scanner (no computer interface) because of that ever present risk of transcription errors when copying down numbers manually. These show organizers will be faced with the same costs as

forced to cancel due to not enough entries

to meet expenses. Imagine if they have this

expense on top of it!

www.theveonline.com

The Outhouse: Life on the Farm with Emily

Going, Going, Gone

Monday morning at 10 a.m. the Equine Shipping Company is going to drive into our

yard with a gigantic aluminum trailer to pick up a colt and deliver him half way across the country to his new home.

My oh my, we've come a long way from driving to the local horse sale a few miles away, purchasing our steeds, and then hauling them home in the back of our pick-ups in a rusted old stock rack.

The new age of computers has let us shop, buy and have a horse delivered to our door in less time that it used to take to drive to the county fair!

My very first experience of listing and selling a horse on the most wonderful World Wide Web was quite interesting. The instructions were quite simple and listed three easy steps: Write a description, load the photo and pay by credit card. Poof, your horse would instantly be viewed by millions of savvy horse shoppers and in no time at all you would be swamped by inquiries and purchase orders. Okeedookee, let's get started.

First of all, to navigate the horse selling sight was way beyond science fiction for me. Writing the description at step number one was easy, until the error message said it was too long and my horse would be deleted. Too long my rump, this was a nice horse and I wanted to brag all about him. Nope, this time it was a Fatal Error and the site was going to report me for suspicious behavior. Ohhh, so sorry, I sure didn't want to be arrested for talking too much about my horse now, did I?

Step two: Load the photo. Excuse me? Loading a horse I could do, but photo loading was not one of my better skills. The little help button popped up along with a lengthy conversation with a nice gal in Timbuktu land and three hours later I had a darling picture of my horse right in the little box where it was supposed to be.

Step three: Pay by credit card. This was scary as all my elders and TV commercials said don't ever place your personal information on the Internet. How silly, just look at all these people that have entrusted this wonderful horse-selling site to their credit card information. The little help button as-

sured me the site was secure, so I went ahead and typed in the numbers looking over my shoulder the whole time for the imaginary hacker to grab the card out of my hand and charge a boob job. Done. My horse was ready to be pur-

April 2009

chased by thousands of onlookers fightin tooth and nail for him. I clicked on and off the site admiring my animal while comparing him to the others listed and waited for inquiries. Holy cow, the counter said five people had already viewed my advertisement! Silly you, Emily, that would be the five times you viewed the ad.

The next few days did bring interested inquiries to my e-mail box along with some really strange questions. "How high is this horse?" That would be listed in the description unless you would like to hear about the neighbor kid. "Does your horse jump?" Yep, he jumps right over the fence when he wants some greener grass. "Does your horse have all his shots?" Yaaa, I suppose you could shoot a rabbit off him but stay away from the coyote's, he'll dump you in the dirt faster than you can count the stars.

One Lady finally called on the phone from way down south and asked if it would be a problem to take some more pictures the next day and e-mail to her. Hmmm, it was twenty five below with a thirty MPH north wind. Yep, big problem!

The next serious caller was a gentleman living on the east coast. He sarcastically commented on my accent, and I told him my horse would probably not like living anywhere east of the Mississippi and asked if I could send him some complimentary Lutefisk from the Dakota territories.

Each evening I would hurry into the house to check for phone messages and e-mails inquiring about my magnificent horse offering This was just the coolest way to sell a horse anyone had ever thought of!

When visiting with our neighbor about my internet sales experience, she asked about the horse, we got to chatting, and guess who

The horse lived happily ever after, 5 miles

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> Contact: Ley Bouchard, Publisher The Valley Equestrian eybou@gmail.co or 701.361.8648

D&M Program Notice Regarding Use of Liniments By Dr. Stephen Schumacher

Recently, there have been some questions related to the use of liniments. The specific liniments in question are:

Equi-Block® Liniments by Miracle Corp.

Menthol (3%), Purified Water, Isopropyl Alcohol, Chamomile Extract, Polysorbate 80, Olibanum Extract, Rosemary Oil, Capsicum Öleoresin, Carbomer, Trolamine, Methylparaben.

Thermaflex Liniment Gel by VitaFlex®

Menthol 4.0%, Methylsulfonylmethane (MSM), Plant Extracts of Calendula and Rosemary, Oil of Cajuput (Melaleuca Leucadendron), Other Ingredients include: Alcohol, Water, Thickeners, Benzyl Nicotinate, FD&C Yellow #5 and FD&C

Vetrolin® Liniment by Farnam Ingredients: Alcohol, Water, Green Soap, Camphor, Oil of Sassafras, Oil of Spike, Methyl Salicylate, Oil of Cedarwood, Oil of Rosemary and Oil of Thyme.

(Forbidden substances are noted in italics.)

The classification of these substances as Forbidden is neither a new policy nor a recent development. Some of the ingredients in the above listed liniments have been Forbidden substances for more than 20 years. These substances, and products containing them, are classified as Forbidden because of their potential actions on various body systems when administered intravenously, intramuscularly, subcutaneously or orally. However, when used topically and as recommended by their manufacturers, these products have not been associated with a positive by the Federation.

As a practical matter, provided the products containing these substances are administered only topically and as recommended by the manufacturer, there is no need for restricting their use during competitions under USEF rules. However, if these substances are used inappropriately (e.g., in a manner





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other than topically), this could result in a positive finding in the blood or urine of the horse, which would be a potential violation of the rules.

One exception is the substance capsaicin and closely related analogues (e.g., Capsicum Oleoresin as found in Equi-Block®.) There were four drug violations associated with the detection of capsaicin in the blood following topical administration at the 2008 Olympic Games. Neither of these substances or other capsaicin derivatives should be used topically in any poultice or liniment within the 7 days preceding competition.

It is important to note that many preparations produced for the equine market routinely have their formulations changed without any published notice. It is for this reason that the USEF Equine Drugs and Medications Program typically does not comment on products by name, but requests lists of ingredients. It would be irresponsible for the USEF to list name brand products as Forbidden or Permitted as there is no control or notification of changes in their ingredients.

Please contact the Equine Drugs and Medications Program office by phone (800) 633-2472 or by e-mail at medequestrian@aol.com if there are any questions regarding additional liniments than those addressed above.





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Equine Dental Care

Horses have two sets of teeth - deciduous teeth (also called caps or baby teeth) and permanent teeth. The type of tooth equine possess are called hypsodont teeth. Hypsodont teeth are characterized by a long reserve crown that lies within the horse's jaw, permitting the continual eruption of permanent teeth throughout their lifetime at a rate of about 1/8" each year. The occlusal (grinding) surface of the teeth is gradually worn down by the chewing of feed between opposing teeth.

By the time a horse is five years old, they are considered to have a 'full mouth' with

different teeth erupting at various life stages. A 'full mouth includes 12 incisors (6 on top, 6 on bottom), and 24 cheek teeth (6 premolars on top and bottom and 6 molars on top and bottom). In addition to these teeth

male horses (and occasionally female) have canine teeth, 2 on top and 2 on the bottom. Finally, wolf teeth may erupt on both or only one side of the top and sometimes on the bottom jaw just in front of the permanent premolars by the time the horse is 2 years old. This adds up to a total of 36 to 44 teeth in the adult horse. The wolf teeth are typically extracted before horses are started under saddle because they often interfere with the bit (which lies on the bars of the mouth), causing pain in the mouth and subsequent resistance to the bridle.

Dental care should begin with all horses at birth and continue with a minimum of an annual inspection by a veterinarian or equine dentist (laws vary by state regarding the practice of equine dentistry without a veterinary license) for a horse with no dental abnormalities. Checking the neonate's mouth for any conformational irregularities is important to help ensure adequate nutrient intake and awareness of potential problems in the future. Most foals are born toothless with the deciduous incisors and premolars to follow in the days and weeks after birth. The deciduous teeth are lost and replaced by permanent teeth at varying times throughout the first 3 to 5 years of a horse's life. Occasionally these deciduous teeth are retained and need to be extracted in order for the permanent teeth to erupt correctly. Periodic inspection of the young horses' mouth is good practice to watch for retained teeth as well as eruption of

As mentioned earlier, horses' teeth erupt continually throughout their lifetime. The amount of wear on their teeth is dictated in part by the chewing pattern and type of feed the horse ingests, as well as the presence of opposing teeth. Horses chew more laterally (side to side) than vertically, encouraging grinding down of the occlusal surface.

Research has shown that the chewing pattern of horses differs depending on whether they are consuming forage or pelleted feed, with more lateral movement seen during forage consumption. This may explain why stabled horses with less access to grazing are more prone to develop points or hooks on their eeth than horses with free access to forage. Points typically form on the outside (buccal or cheek side) of the upper teeth and the inside (lingual or tongue side) of the lower teeth because the teeth do not line up flush. Similarly, hooks often form on the first upper cheek

> lower cheek teeth because the upper teeth sit slightly forward in relation to the lower teeth. It is these points and hooks that vour vet or equine dentist will file down (float) to prevent injury to the mouth and ensure proper mastication (chewing) of feed. Mastication is the first step in

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All

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15%

Off!

the digestive process and consequently an important component of subsequent nutrient

utilization; therefore making certain that your horse's teeth are in top shape is essential to their overall digestive Signs of oral discom-

fort at any time warrant the prompt attention by your vet or equine dentist. These signs may be manifested by an unwillingness to be bridled or haltered, tossing of the head or rearing with a bridle (bitted or not), refusal to enter the arena or exercise area, reluctance to having the mouth touched, or a change in attitude. The majority of horses that display resistant, or even dangerous behaviors, are often doing so in response to some sort of physical pain so a thorough physical examination is necessary to rule out physical causes of misbehavior.

Erika Berg is an assistant professor of Equine Studies at NDSU and has her Ph.D. in Animal Science with an emphasis on equine physiology



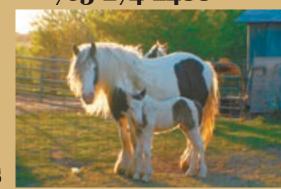
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Eventing has come to the North Dakota Horse Park

Eventing is the triathlon of equestrian competition. The three phases are dressage, cross country jumping and stadium jumping. There is a wide range in levels of competition from peginner to advanced.

In dressage, the horse and rider complete a predetermined pattern of movements called a "dressage test" at various gaits (walk, trot and canter) in a marked arena in front of a judge. The dressage tests for eventing are directed by the United States Equestrian Federation and are available at http://useventing.com/competitions.php?id=15. The horse and rider are scored based on the rhythm and regularity of the horse's gaits, acceptance of the bridle and rider's cues, accuracy of performing the movements, and the rider's position and seat. A small dressage arena (20x40m) is used in the lower levels of eventing competition. A large dressage arena (20x60m) is used for Intermediate and Advanced levels.

For cross country, the horse and rider must complete an outdoor course of solid obstacles such as logs, banks, ditches and often a water obstacle, over varied terrain. Prior to competition, the rider is allowed to walk the course on foot, but the horse is not allowed to see the jumps until faced with them on course. The levels of competition at a United States Eventing Association recognized show are: Beginner Novice, Novice, Training, Preliminary, Intermediate, and Advanced. The following table describes the maximum jump height allowed at each level, the distance requirement, and speed allowed.

A cross country course will have an optimum time to complete the course, based on the distance and speed recompace on course to finish as close as possible to the optimum time. The competitor is penalized for finishing too far under the optimum time and for being over the optimum time. The optimum time is used as a safeguard to prevent riders from going at a pace unsafe for their level of experience. Safety equipment for the rider is also very important in eventing. A rider must wear an ASTM approved helmet, boots with a heel, and protective vest when riding cross

Stadium jumping is typically the last phase of eventing. The horse and rider complete a course of more colorful, decorative fences in an arena. After jumping solid obstacles on cross country, now the horse must be very careful to avoid hitting any of the easily knocked down stadium rails.



David Bjork and Rocket clear a cross country obstacle at the NDHP

improve your

to avoid adding penalties to your score as you progress through the phases. After dressage your score is given as a percentage, for example 65%. This is subtracted from 100 to give a penalty score of 35. In cross country you are penalized for refusals (the horse stopping in front of the fence,) runouts, (the horse skirting around the outside of a fence to avoid jumping it,) and for being under or over the optimum time. In stadium jumping you are penalized for knocking down rails, refusals, runouts, and for being over the optimum time. The horse/rider combination with the lowest score at the end of the three phases wins.

score, but want

Riders, a non-profit organization to promote English riding in Fargo-Moorhead and surrounding areas, have built cross country courses at the North Dakota Horse Park with the help of generous donations from area businesses and private individuals. The courses offered are very beginner friendly to introduce horses and riders to the sport of eventing. Two divisions are geared toward those new to eventing: Intro level, with umps up to 18" high; and Starter level with jumps up to The NDHP also has a beginner novice, and novice cross country course

, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,							
	Beginner Novice	Novice	Training	Preliminary	Intermediate	Advanced	
Max. Jump Height	2' 7"	2' 11"	3'3"	3' 7"	3'11"	4'1"	
XC Distance Miles	0.87-1.24	0.99-1.25	1.25-1.49	1.36-1.99	1.62-2.24	1.86-2.49	
XC approx speed	12 mph	14 mph	16.75 mph	19.4 mph	20.5 mph	21.3 mph	

Enter

2008 was the inaugural year for eventing at the North Dakota Horse Park. AEER hosted two successful schooling shows attracting competitors from across North Dakota and Minnesota. Local riders also provided cross country demonstrations prior to live horse racing during the NDHP race meet.

In cooperation with the NDHP, AEER will be participating a new program for off track horses

called "Off the Track and in the Ribbons" Retired Racehorse Incentive Program. Top placing retired racehorses entered in the AEER shows will receive cash awards based on their performance against horses of all

AEER will be hosting two Eventing competitions at the North Dakota Horse Park in 2009: June 21st, and October 3rd, along with various practice dates to allow riders to school cross country obstacles in a non-competitive atmosphere. Watch the AEER website http://www.aeerfargo. org/ for more information regarding shows and practice dates

If you would like more information about eventing • In the Fargo/Moorhead area: Alpha Equus English Riders



Aileen Horne and Dancing Deano stadium jumping at the NDHP

at http://www.aeerfargo.org/
• at the regional level: Central States Dressage and Eventing at http://www.csdea.org/
• at the national level: United States Eventing Associa-

tion at http://www.useventing.com/index.php

Terra Van Horn began eventing in 2001 and has competed through training level. Her passion for eventing has led to an interest in cross country course design and building. She designed and directed the building of the cross country courses at the NDHP in Fargo, ND.

North Dakota Winter Show Horse Pull





Above left: Clayton Skoien, Roseau, Minn., driving Buck and Buster, at the ND Winter Show Horse Pull. Above right: Jeff Neidermyer, Knap, Wisc., won first place in the Percentage Pull driving his team, Sam and Dick and third place in the Heavyweight Pull driving his team Smokey and Prince, pictured above. Photography by Jessica Sell, All Event Photography

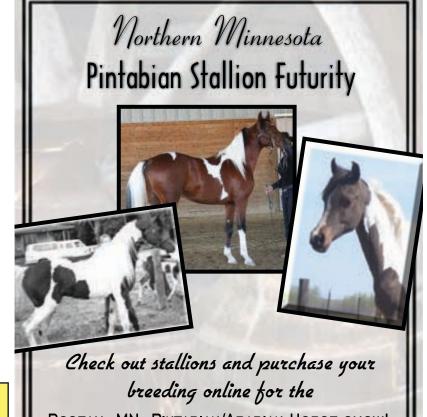
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Golden Eagle Hunt Seat Equestrian Team Does Well at Regionals

(Crookston, Minn.) The University of Minnesota, Crookston Hunt Seat Equestrian team had a solid showing at the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association (IHSA) Regionals on Sunday, March 1 in River Falls, Wis. The Golden Eagles ended the regular season as the number two team in the region and took home the Reserve High Point team award.

The Regional Championship began with Nicole Veres (Jr, Random Lake, Wis.) and Kelsey Sherman (Fr, Lansing, Mich.) competing in Novice Jumping, where Veres took fourth place. Heather Fogelson (Fr, Grant, Minn.), competing in Intermediate on the Flat, came in sixth place. In Novice Flat, Veres took third place, Lauren Snively (Fr, Herndon, Vir.) took fifth and Tandra Klein (So, Hazen, N.D.) came in ninth.

"I was very pleased to have all three of the Novice Flat riders make the first cuts and end the season so well," says U of M, Crookston Hunt Seat Coach Brooke Leininger.

Walk Trot Canter ended with Lindy Hausauer (Sr, Moorhead, Minn.) taking the reserve championship and qualifying for the

Zone Nine Championships on March 29. Only the top two riders in each division from each region go on to the Zone Championships. They will be held at Purdue University in West Lafayette, Ind. If Hausauer places in the top two at the Zone Championships, she will move on the IHSA National Championships held in Murfreesboro. Tenn. from April 23-26

Lindy Hausauer For more information,

visit the Golden Eagle Athletics Web site at http://www.goldeneaglesports.com/.

The University of Minnesota, Crookston is a NCAA Division II Institution and a member of the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference (NSIC). Golden Eagle Hockey is a member of the Midwest Collegiate Hockey Association (MCHA). The Golden Eagle Equestrian team is a member of the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association (IHSA).

\$30,000 donation helps DNR develop day-use parking facility at Forestville/ Mystery Cave State Park

The Minnesota Horse Council donated \$30,000 to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) during a DNR Equestrian Advisory Group meeting on Feb.

These funds, along with a \$30,000 match



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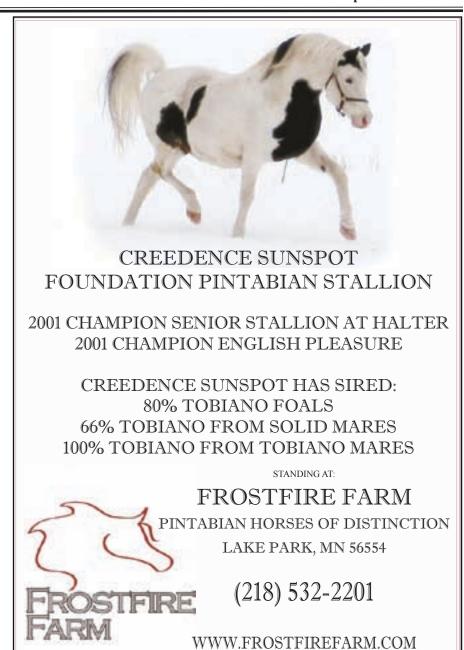
Forestville/Mystery Cave State Park, near Preston, Minn.

Darrell Mead, vice president of the Minnesota Horse Council, presented the check to Joel Stedman, regional manager for the DNR Parks and Trails Division.

"Currently, there is very limited space for day users, and this donation will allow us to måke important improvements in customer service," said Stedman.

Courtland Nelson, division director, added that the agency's cooperative working relationship with the Horse Council is an example of a successful public-private partnership.

Forestville/Mystery Cave State Park is the most heavily used, state-owned equestrian facility in Minnesota, hosting approximately 13,000 horseback riders each year. About 8,000 of these visitors are overnight guests in the horse camp, and 5,000 are riders visiting the park for the day.





Play and Learn Preschool students in Buffalo ND, had a special visitor March 3rd, during the ND Winter Show Western Week. Darcie Basette, Play and Learn Preschool Teacher, asked a Kevin Roehrich to bring a horse, Fred, to preschool to familiarize the children with the large animal and teach them equine safety. Photo story by Jessica Sell, All Event Photography.



FROSTFIRE FARM@HOTMAIL.COM

The Valley Equestrian Page 13 www.theveonline.com **April 2009**

Talking Horses

Recently, I was at a committee meeting for World Animal Day MN. We were talking about the different booths that we are organizing for this event. At the end of the meeting, we went for a walk in the barn to say hello to the horses. We chose two horses and began grooming them. As we brushed them, we continued our discussion about the horse booth at this event. Finally, one of the horses said "Are you going to ask us what we think you should do?" I said "Well of course."

Johnny did most of the talking. He considers himself a professional trail riding horse. One of his concerns is that when people come to ride him on the trail, they do not have a clue about normal horse behaviors. Therefore, his main idea was to explain the different horse behaviors. Here are some of the horse behaviors he thinks we should talk about: Why we breathe into each other's nostrils and why we want to breathe the person's hair? (Teach humans the difference between breathing the hair and eating it; kids don't know the difference.) Why we raise our upper lip when we laugh? Why we get spooked? Why we whinny? Why we wear bits? Why we refuse to go or stop when asked? Why we sleep standing up? Why some horses don't like the hose and a bath? When to give praise; and punishment should not cause real pain.

We spent time talking about praise and punishment. Johnny said that people who come to ride him are often unhappy and expect the ride to take their unhappiness away -- their tone of voice is usually harsh and they are impatient; they usually confuse him. After our talk on praise, I thought it might be good to reflect on how I praise not only horses but all animals.

Here are some of my thoughts on praising

heart. Praise is not an emotion; it is a tool to be used to help your friend know when they have done something right.

Secondly, praise can take the form of words, treats and touch or a combination of all three. If you are using treats with words such as 'good boy" then your horse might begin to associate the treat with those words. Be careful what words you use with the treats. For example, if you say good boy to your horse out on the trail and he has associated "good boy" with treats, he might stop the ride and expect a treat.

Thirdly, smile when you are giving praise. One of the concerns of my animal clients is how often they see unhappiness in the humans around them. I think one reason is that when we are working with them, we are so focused that we forget to smile. We also can let the events of the world deform us and our thinking.

Finally, breathe deeply. This will help you relax. The more you relax, the more believable you are. Your attitude will help your horse know that all is well.

For me it is not hard to give praise to animals. As I grow in authenticity, I see not only the good I do but also the good that my animal friends do. Over the years, I have found myself falling in love with many wonderful animals. They have helped open my heart. As I was reflecting on praise, I realized how they have given me praise, joy and happiness. It is an honor to telepathically communicate with them and to do energy work on them. As we celebrate the new life of spring that is all around us, I hope you will enjoy the uniqueness of each of your animals.

AHC Urges Land Managers to use Stimulus Funding for Equestrian Trails

The American Horse Council has asked the National Park Service (NPS), U.S. Forest Service (USFS), and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to use stimulus funding for trails

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 signed into law on February 17 appropriates over \$1.7 billion for the NPS, USFS, and BLM that can be used for the maintenance and construction of trails and other infrastructure improvements on public

The AHC recently wrote to NPS Acting Director Dan Wenk, Chief of USFS Gail Kimbell, and BLM Acting Director Mike Pool urging the agencies to allocate a significant portion of stimulus funding to address the current backlog of needed infrastructure improvements on public lands, including maintenance and construction of trails and other facilities that are open to equestrians.

The AHC cited the importance of public lands and trails to recreational riders around the country and the economic impact of the recreational riding community on the national economy. "The recreational horse industry contributes \$11.8 billion a year

directly to the economy and directly employs nearly 130,000 people nationwide. Indirectly the industry contributes an additional \$20.1 billion and generates another 307, 000 jobs. That is significant and extremely important in these economic times," said AHC President

The NPS, USFS, and BLM have yet to finalize spending plans for this recently appropriated money. "An opportunity exists for equestrian groups to provide input to land managers in their states and communities on how this money should be spent," said AHC Legislative Director Ben Pendergrass, "and recreational riders must work with these federal agencies to ensure that equestrian trails are among the projects to benefit from these funds."

The AHC encourages members of the eques trian community who use these public lands to contact their local Ranger Districts, Forest Supervisors, BLM field or District offices and NPS Superintendents to work with them to identify projects beneficial to riders in their area. "This is a great chance to improve trails for equestrians and stimulate the economy,"

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Alexandria, MN

Pintabian at Stud: Dakota Gambler Pintabians for Sale: Mares & Foals Part/Purebred Arabians for Sale

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"A concerned neighbor called me

abandoned at a neighbor's house;

neighbor, unemployed with five

no one knew what was wrong. The

children, couldn't afford food for the

horse. She called a veterinarian and

the police and the horse died with

the vet in attendance. The horses

had no shelter or food. The police

took them into custody and Wis-

consin is prosecuting the owner."

This is one of the many stories Drew

Fitzpatrick shares about her work

Minnesota Hooved Animal Rescue

Fitzpatrick is a Minnesota State

Foundation in Zimmerman, Minn.

Humane Agent: that means that

in an area where there would be

no agent, she fills that role. One

ing law enforcement credits, etc.

Fitzpatrick has been an agent for

about 10 years.

becomes an agent by training, earn

as an investigator and director of

about a downed horse that had been

APRIL EVENTS AND MORE

April 3-5- Judy Myllymaki Barrel Horse Workshop at the ND Winter Show Building Contact: Terri Berg-Crooks, 701-

www.myllymakibarrelhorses.com

April 3-5: Centered Riding Clinic with Sue Leffler of Ontario, Canada at Wiedemann Stables in Sabin, MN; sponsored by AEER, contact www.AEERfargo.org for more information or email Sara Forness at bisfornes@yahoo.com

April 3: Team penning at Hi Circle Vee Ranch in Isanti, Minn. at 6:30 p.m.; contact (612) 803-5950

April 4: Team sorting sponsored by the Barron County 4-H at the Barron Area Community Center in Barron, Wisc.- contact 715-651-1213

April 4: Red Horse Riders Horse Show at Red Horse Ranch Arena in Fergus Falls, Minn. - contact Tim Crowley at 218-736-7769

April 4: Team sorting at Olmsted County Fairgrounds at 8:30 a.m. in Rochester, Minn. call: 507-754-5249

April 4: ND State 4-H Judging and Hippology Contest at 9 a.m. at the NDSU Equine Center in Fargo, ND; contact Carrie Hammer at (701) 231-5682 or email: Carrie. Hammer@ndsu.edu

April 4: Cowgirls ONLY Ranch Rodeo at 1 p.m. at Birch Coulee Arena near Morton, MN; contact Stacy Hennen at (507) 697-6167 or email: birchcoulee@birchcouleearena.com

April 5: NDSU Fuzzy Wuzzy Horse Show at the NDSU Equine facility in Fargo, ND; contact Tara Swanson at (701) 231-8865 or by email: tara.swanson@ndsu.edu

April 4-5: Central Minnesota Spring Horse Fest at the St. Cloud Civic Center; call 763-972-8005 for more information

April 12-18: Wild Horse Trail Camp near Honobia, OK sponsored by the Appaloosa Horse Club; contact Jane and Riley at 580.244.3232 or email: trailrides@ appaloosa.com

April 17-19: Hunter Jumper Clinic starting Friday at 6 p.m. at Sterling Rose Stables in Fargo, ND; contact Pam Harris at (701) 371-7824 or swank07@vahoo.com

April 18: Family Day Ranch Sort at 10 p.m. at Birch Coulee Arena near Morton, MN; contact Tim or Stacy

Hennen at (507) 697-6167 or email: birchcoulee@birchcouleearena.com

April 18: "5th Annual Boots and Bållgowns Dinner and Silent Auction" for the North Dakota Horse Park in their new Cover-All Pavillion at 7 p.m., Fargo, ND; donated items due by April 1; contact Heather Benson, 701-232-3832 or email: heather@hrnd.org

April 18: Dressage Clinic at Otter Creek Farm at 1 p.m. at Wheeler, WI; contact Betsy Jones at (715) 658-1602 or email: ionsbs@ chibardun.

Page 14

April 19: Dressage Clinic at Otter Creek

Farm at 2 p.m. at Wheeler, WI; contact Betsy Iones at (715) 658-1602 or email: jonsbs@chibardun.net

April 18-19: Spring Tune Up Saddlebred Horse Show at Cannon Falls; contact Todd Perkins at (763)

April 18&19- AQHA Team Penning/Sorting & Sheyenne Valley Team Penning at the ND Winter Show Building; Contact: Diane Anderson, 701-252-4020

April 18-19: NDSU Horse Fair from 8:30 a.m. both days; until 6:30 p.m. Saturday and 3:30 p.m. Sunday at the NDŠU Equine Center; contact Josh Thorp, Mgr. at 701-541-0281

April 24: Shevenne Red River Barrel Race at the Red River Valley Fairgrounds Indoor Arena in West Fargo, ND with exhibitions from 4:30 – 6:30 p.m. and start time of 7 p.m.; free admission; contact Shanon Lindberg at 218-790-2654 or mlind@cableone.net

April 24 - 26: MN Horse Expo at the MN State Fairgrounds in St. Paul, MN: for more information contact: 2009 Minnesota Horse Expo information, contact glen@ mnhorseexpo.org

April 25: ND High School Rodeo and Wrangler Rodeo at the Red River Valley Fairgrounds Indoor Arena get more info

April 25: Twin Cities Quarter Horse & Appaloosa Horse Sale at 10 a.m. at Twin Cities Horse Sales Cannon Falls, Minn; contact (507)

April 25 & 26: Dressage Schooling Show at Otter Creek Farm at 1 p.m. at Wheeler, WI; contact Betsy Jones at (715) 658-1602 or email: jonsbs@ chibardun.net

April 24-26: MN Horse Expo at the



MN State Fairgrounds; visit www. mnhorseexpo.org or call 1-877-462-

April 24-27: SD Spring Arabian Horse Shows I & II at Sioux Falls contact grandviewfarms@svtv.com or call Heather Swanson at (605)

April 25: The 4th Annual Legends of Ranching Performance Horse Sale at the Colorado State University Equine Center.

April 26: Endurance Ride Clinic at Canyon Creek MT; contact Drin Becker at (406) 834-3444 or email ikn@3444@smtel.com

May 1-3: NDWS Quarter Horse Show at the ND Winter Show Building; Contact: Jean Fredrich, 701-725-4420

May 1-3: Riding in Lightness Clinic with Susan Norman at the Featherbrook Farm in Corcoran, Minn. Contact Trudy Midas (612) 210-4489 or email: midastr@msn.com

May 3: 2009 Prairie Home Carriage Festival from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. at Dakota City Heritage Village located on the Dakota County Fairgrounds, 220th Street West in Farmington, MN sponsored by the Minnesota Whips and Wheels; for more information please contact: Steve Crownover at 612-759-4111 steve18787@vahoo.com or Susan

Call before you haul -- The Valley Equestrian is not responsible for changes to scheduled events Lockling at 651-463-3353

> May 3: 2009 Prairie Home Carriage Festival from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Dakota County Fairgrounds, 4008 – 220 Street West, Farmington, MN; contact Steve Crownover at 612-759-4111 or Susan Lockling at 651-463-3353or go to www. mnwhipsandwheels.com

May 3-4: Black Hills Arabian Classic in Rapid City, SD; contact Mary Bowden (605) 331-4332 or email maryb453@sio.midco.net

May 8 - 10: Anne Cizadlo Clinic at Southwind Stable in Horace, ND; contact Jeanette Lyon at (218) 494-3309 or email: dressage83@yahoo.

May 16-17: Double the Fun Arabian Show in Sauk Center, Minn.; contact Debbie Raszler at (701) 725-4692 or email raszlerd@srt.com

May 17: AEER Fun Show at 8 a.m. at the ND Horse Park in Fargo, ND; for more information contact:

May 23: Ranch Rodeo Series 1 at 1 p.m. at Birch Coulee Arena near Morton, MN; contact Stacy Hennen at (507) 697-6167 or email: birchcoulee@birchcouleearena.com

May 23-25: "Spring Spotacular" of the Center of the Nation Appaloosa Horse Club at 7:30 a.m. daily at the Swiftel

Brookings, SD; contact Lori Richards 605-238-5125 or conap-pclub@ hotmail. com or Dorine Bennett, 605-256-4983 or dbennett@

Center,

23-25: MAHA Class "A" Arabian, Half/ Angle Arabian & **MSHSA**

svtv.com

Billings, Mont. - contact (406) 855-5411 or email: llanderson@180com.

May 24: Team Penning Jackpot at 1 p.m. at Birch Coulee Arena near Morton, MN; contact Stacy Hennen at (507) 697-6167 or email: birchcoulee@birchcouleearena.com

May 30-June 1: The ND Appaloosa Club is sponsoring a Mark Shaffer 'Mechanics N Motion" clinic from 9-3 p.m. at the Missouri Ledge Appaloosas in Bismarck, ND; for more information contact Crystal Gandrudat cdgandrud@yahoo.com or (701) 226-5613

May 30 – June 1: Wyoming Arabian Horse Show in Douglas, Wyo. - contact: (307) 234-0968 or email: cwaters@wvoming.com

June 6-8: Dressage and Jumping schooling show in Pierre, SD, with day clinic following, presented by Dakota Dressage and Eventing. Details online at www.DakotaDressageAndEventing.org or contact committee chair Joann at 402-639-Joann@YourNextSportHorse.com

June 27-4-H Achievement Days Horse Show at the ND Winter Show Building Contact: Barnes County Ext. 701-845-8528

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is hosting: An Equine & Pet Food Nutritional Seminar Featuring Nutrena®Products

Featured Speakers: Nutritionist Roger Tilberg of Nutrena®



Dates: April 2nd Location: West High School at the Library 225 2nd Ave E. Halstad, MN 56548 Time: 6:30pm

For Further Information Feel Free to Contact:

Pia: 701-730-0335 Email: pia@eagletreehorsemanship.com

www.eagletreehorsemanship.com

Introducing MN Hooved Animal Rescue Foundation

animals are abused; it's easier to see because they're outside and not wearing clothes.

a budget approximating \$80,000 to in we spend it! Right now, money isn't coming in and we have to do with less. There are many harder decisions when we don't have the money. Vaccinations, dental floats are needed. Approximately \$4,000. every year is spent on vaccinations and that is when we buy the tanks and I administer the vaccine myself," said Fitzpatrick, who over the years has learned many costcutting tasks. MHARF is funded with multiple events each year, some annual events, adoption fees for horses, private donations, once in a while a grant is written but Fitzpatrick admits it's hard to find time to do grantwriting.

"I work with county agencies and stuff. I work with social services and child protection: if they're not taking care of their animals they're probably not taking care of their kids," said Fitzpatrick. "It's like teachers, we have to report if we've seen stuff. I've gone on cases where

MN Hooved Animal Rescue has \$100,000 annually. "When it comes

"We publish a newsletter and people pay \$25 a year for that; we have 1200 subscribers a year and have done this for 15 years. We started making it in a church with hand-cranked mimeograph machine. We did the layout on blue boards. Now it's made with desktop publishing and it goes to

a printer, it's all laser. We encourage people to share the newsletters hich are usually now about 8 pages," said Fitzpatrick.

One of the best fundraisers MHARF does is the Trainer's Challenge. "It's a very important thing we started last year. It is an all volunteers event. I came up with this stupid idea and the volunteers made it into to a good one where we take an untrained horse - it's really unadoptable. For a \$25 application fee, trainers take one of our horses home and they have 90-100 days to work with them. Sometimes there are coalitions that get together and train. All the horses are sold to pre-qualified owners at the end of the training.

Trainer's Challenge is planned for Aug. 22, 2009 at Leatherdale Center on the University of Minnesota Campus. MHAR places about 125-1500

horses a year through their all volunteer organization. For more information or to volunteer, call Drew Fitzpatrick at Minnesota Hooved Animal Rescue call (763) 856-3119 or check out the web site: http://www.mnhoovedanimalres-

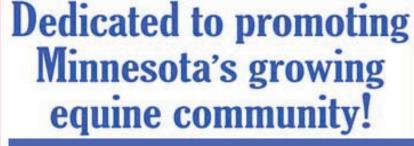
GOT A HOME?

The Valley Equestrian introduces Perdita for adoption



cross mare. Born in 1997. She is very intelligent and has excellent ground manners. She has had 60 days training, and we are continuing with her education this spring. Please call Tanya Mueller at 320-260-3571 or timueller 21@vahoo.com or her foster mom, Tami Seelen at 320-253-5869. Available for adoption through: MN Hooved Rescue

www.mnhoovedrescue.org



Attend the MN Horse Expo April 24 - 26, 2009

Support the MN Horse **Council Programs**





www.theveonline.com The Valley Equestrian **April 2009**

Churchill Downs Implements Safety/Welfare Policies

Churchill Downs Incorporated has announced a series of new rules and policies designed to enhance the safety and welfare of jockeys and horses. The measures will be in place at Churchill Downs racetrack in advance of the this year's Kentucky Derby and will include standardized third-party testing of track surfaces and comprehensive testing of all winning horses for more than 100 prohibited drugs.

The safety initiatives will be implemented at Churchill Downs effective opening day of its 2009 Spring Meet on Saturday, April 25, and will be phased in at all other company racetracks - Arlington Park in Arlington Heights, Ill.; Calder Race Course in Miami Gardens, Fla.; and Fair Grounds Race Course & Slots in New Orleans - by the start of their respective 2010 race meets.

In development for nearly a year, the "Safety from Start to Finish" initiative is designed to incorporate new health and wellness measures, as well as long-standing safety policies and standards, under a single formalized initiative to serve as a blueprint for all CDI facilities.

The key safety initiatives that will be in place at Churchill

Downs prior to Kentucky Derby 135 are as follows:

--Independent, standardized third-party testing and monitoring of track surfaces;

-- "Supertesting" of all winning horses for more than 100

performance-enhancing drugs;
—Age restrictions requiring Thoroughbreds to be at least 24 calendar months of age before becoming eligible to race; -The freezing and storage of equine blood and urine samples

to allow for retrospective testing; -- The banning of steroids;

--Limits on the number of horses allowed to compete in certain races:

-- The prohibition of "milkshaking", which results in excessive levels of total carbon dioxide in Thoroughbred racehorses; -- Prohibiting the transport of horses from CDI facilities for

-- The banning of unsafe horseshoes, including front shoe toe grabs longer than two millimeters;

—The use of low-impact riding whips with limited usage

-The presence of on-site medical personnel, equipment, and state-of-the-art equine ambulances;

--Immediate online access to jockey medical histories for emergency medical personnél;

-\$1 million in catastrophic injury insurance coverage for

--Mandatory and uniform reporting of equine injuries to the Equine Injury Database System, thereby assisting in the compilation of statistics and trends to improve safety conditions around the country;

-A professionally designed and installed safety rail on the inside of the dirt course;

-- Mandatory usage by all jockeys, exercise riders and other on-track personnel of safety vests and safety helmets that meet internationally acknowledged quality standards;

-3/8-inch foam padding on all parts of the starting gates; --Significant financial support for equine retirement pro-

-Inspection of all horses by regulatory veterinarians prior to and following all races;

--Review of security procedures around barns and other racetrack backstretch areas;

-Continued maintenance of protocols for the treatment of horses that have been injured during racing or training, to ensure the most humané treatment possible; and

-- Mandatory, independent, and complete necropsies of any horse that dies as a result of an injury sustained while racing or training at Churchill Downs.

"Based on historical records, we believe there has only been one catastrophic injury among the 1,710 horses that have competed during the 134 runnings of the Kentucky Derby, but even one is too many," said Bob Evans, president and chief executive officer of Churchill Downs Incorporated "While the Kentucky Derby is the world's most important horse race, we want to implement changes that will improve

safety not just for that race, but for all of the jockeys and horses that compete annually in the over 4.000 races conducted at our four racetracks.

"Over the past year, a great deal of important work and study has occurred on safety issues in our industry." Evans continued, noting that the announcement was the result of cooperation among many different entities within the industry, including The Jockey Club, Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association, Racing Medication and Testing Consortium, Breeders' Cup, Keeneland Race Course, NTRA, American Association of Equine Practitioners, and horsemen. We are optimistic about the NTRA's new Safety and Integrity Alliance program. We hope the NTRA is able to certify all three Triple Crown tracks prior to this year's Kentucky Derby, Preakness Stakes and Belmont Stakes races."

The following information provides additional detail on some of the key safety rules and policies announced March 2:

Track surface testing

CDI is expanding its existing testing of track surfaces to implement regular, standardized, third-party testing of its racetracks, including

a battery of laboratory tests of track surfaces and groundpenetrating radar to ensure track consistency CDI has secure the services of the world's top track surface



researcher, Dr. Mick Peterson, a University of Maine professor of mechanical engineering who has developed an innovative robotic hoof device that duplicates the force and speed of a horse as it runs on a racetrack. Data generated by these and other tests will help to ensure that CDI tracks maintain safe and consistent track surfaces for both horses and jockeys. The company is also a founding member of and financial contributor to the new Racing Surfaces Testing Laboratory, which is identifying safe practices for the future by facilitating and advocating measurements of track safety effectiveness.

Drug "supertesting" of all winning horses

The winning horse in every race at CDI tracks will undergo a battery of "supertests" recommended by the Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association ("TOBA"). The TOBA 'supertests" screen for more than 100 drugs - far more than in standard testing. This will not only ensure that Thoroughbreds in competition receive safe and warranted medications, but it also increases the integrity of the outcome of wagering

Age restrictions

For the purposes of competition, all Thoroughbreds foaled in the Northern Hemisphere – regardless of their actual month and day of birth - turn one year older on Jan. 1. CDI is instituting a policy by which Thoroughbreds must be at least 24 calendar months old before they are permitted to race, in the hopes of promoting healthy and strong equine athletes that can enjoy long, competitive careers. Previously, Thoroughbreds competing at CDI tracks were allowed to race at the official age of 2 years, regardless of their actual date of birth. Sample freezing for retrospective testing

CDI will begin the practice of storing frozen blood and urine samples of racehorses to allow for retrospective testing in the event of suspicious circumstances, an initiative currently being funded by The Jockey Club. The company will work with the Kentucky Horse Racing Commission to adopt the Racing Medication and Testing Consortium ("RMTC") program for frozen storage and retrospective "supertesting" as necessary.

CDI has adopted the Association of Racing Commissioners

International Model Rule on androgenic anabolic steroids that was based on RMTC recommendations. This rule effectively eliminates the use of all anabolic steroids in the training and racing of Thoroughbreds.

Limits on number of horses allowed to compete in certain

CDI has extensively examined the issue of "field size," or the number of horses permitted to compete in any given race. The studies have taken into account the age of the horses competing, the length of the race, the surface on which the race is conducted, the position of the starting gate relative to the track's first turn, the width of the racetrack, the radius of the racetrack's turns, and other dimensional attributes. For many years, CDI tracks have limited the field size of certain races based on these variables. After further review, Churchill Downs will now limit field sizes in additional races, includng 4 ½-furlong dirt races. Those races will now be limited to 10 starters instead of the previous maximum of 12. This rule, implemented due to the short run into the first turn, will be in effect as of the 2009 Spring Meet at Churchill Downs. In addition, Arlington Park and its horsemen will consider starting 4 ½-furlong races at the 5-furlong marker and finishing them at the 1/16-mile pole to allow for a longer run into the first turn.

After thorough analysis and consultations with owners, trainers, and jockeys, the field size for the Kentucky Derby will remain unchanged at a maximum of 20 horses, a limit that was put in place after 23 horses competed in the 1974 Kentucky Derby and 21 horses competed in 1981. "We are focused on action that we know will make a difference," Evans said. "Our priority remains on the enhancement and standardization of practices that will have a daily impact on the health and safety of the maximum number of horses and jockeys that compete at Churchill Downs Incorporated

As in all sports, there's an inherent safety risk involved in horse racing," said Jim Gates, general manager of Churchill Downs racetrack and the leader of the "Safety from Start to Finish" initiative. "We firmly believe that the measures and policies we've put in place will help to minimize that risk and better ensure the safety and well-being of our athletes. We're passionate about this commitment, and we'll continue, as an industry leader, to do what's right to reduce injuries and improve the integrity of the sport.

The safety initiatives announced as part of "Safety from Start to Finish" will continue to evolve. "There are a number of other important safety initiatives that are still in development, and that we hope to launch later this year," Gates said. Those include:

--Out-of competition drug testing;

-The introduction of safety reins;

-Jockey health and wellness programs;

-- Uniform licensing of those involved in racing; and

-Ongoing safety and welfare education and training of those involved in racing.

"We also have recognized that we need to do a better job of communicating to our fans and the general public what our industry has done and is doing to maximize safety," Gates added. "To that end, we have created an interactive, educational 'Safety Center' that is currently on display at Churchill Downs' Gate 17. The Center utilizes audio, video and actual material and equipment samples to educate racetrack guests about the numerous policies and procedures in place to ensure the safety, security and well-being of horses, riders, and on-track personnel. The Centers may be added at other CDI racetracks at a future date.

The final cost of the safety measures has not been finalized, but is expected to exceed \$1 million annually - a figure that is in addition to the millions already spent annually on safety at

For more information about the Churchill Downs "Safety from Start to Finish" initiative, please visit the Safety Center at Gate 17 at Churchill Downs racetrack, or log on to www. churchilldowns.com/safety.

www.theveonline.com The Valley Equestrian

A New Home for Tatonka:

A three year old bay paint arrived at Littleton Veterinary Clinic in Littleton, CO, with a severely lacerated front leg. The current owners ran horses with a business bend. The horse without a barn name was intended for a Colorado Springs man who didn't want to risk surgery on a uncertain outcome. As a feedlot horse from Iowa, a plan was set for training



and a sale. As we all know, plans change. Now the owners' decision stood with euthanizing.

learning everything I could from a well-repected doc. Standing before me was a beautiful Bay Tobiano Paint horse with a very large bandage on his leg. His eyes were so gentle. I looked at his soft eyes, and my heart melted. I spent the night

I talked to the owners and they said that they would sign ownership over to me because I had agreed to take care of him and give him a good home. I jumped at the chance. With ownership transferred, the surgery was on.

The injury required surgery to repair his lacerated right front superficial digital tendon, now sliced in half. The cut lay into his deep digital flexor tendon and tendon sheath. The tendon sheath issue brought concerns for a severe risk of

I stood in that room for about four hours with him just cud dling his head and rubbing him from head to hoof. He kept pushing his head into my chest anytime I would stop. The bond was easily made.

His papered name, Dial the Midnight Oil, didn't fit. He



reminded me of the powerful, strong buffalo that roamed the prairies with the Native Americans. Paints often carry names of such a life. Tatonka, the Lakota Sioux name for buffalo, stood well with his soul.

With two hours of suturing behind us, the rehabilitation began. For the next six months he was confined to a 12 x 12 foot stall in his new home. A cast restricted movement, essential to a successful result. After two months, a steel Kimsey split replaced the cast. The splint kept the hoof at a downward angle to keep as much stress off the tendon as possible. I changed his bandage twice a day every day for four more months.



We went back to the clinic for his check-up to have the splint removed and special shoes fitted. The surgeon was surprised at Tatonka's progress. There was still a bit of scar tissue, but the tendons healed well.

to see us

The heel support shoe had an extension behind the shoe that bent at a 90 degree angle from the ground, topped by a U-shaped cup. Located directly beneath the fetlock joint, the cup could be moved up or down to allow for more or less support. This allowed us to hand walk, stretching the tendon to normal length without

risk of damaging the healing.

After another six months of progressively lowering the fetlock support, Tatonka was ready to walk on his own. It took three years to be able to ride him, I was in no rush.

What began as an expectation for death offered both of us a new beginning.

HOW THE 2009 FEDERAL STIMULUS PACKAGE WILL AFFECT AGRICULTURE

April 2009

Source: C. Robert Holcomb, agricultural business management educator with University of Minnesota Extension Media Contact: Catherine Dehdashti, U of M Extension (612) 625-0237, ced@umn.edu

ST. PAUL, Minn. (3/10/2009) — The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 was signed into law by President Obama on Feb. 17, 2009. The \$789 billion legislation includes tax cuts, additional spending programs, aid to states, students, schools, the unemployed and communities. This legislation is intended to impact many areas of the economy including the agriculture industry.

The new stimulus legislation makes over 300 changes to the existing IRS code. Two of the most notable changes that will impact agriculture is an extension of special or bonus depreciation and an increase in the section 179 deduction.

The 50-percent special or bonus depreciation provision expired at the end of 2008. The new legislation extends the time period for 50-percent bonus depreciation to include qualifying property acquired and placed in service in 2009. The new legislation also extends 50-percent bonus depreciation through tax year 2010 for property with a recovery period of 10 years or longer, transportation property, and certain aircráft

The section 179 deduction limit was scheduled to be \$133,000 with a qualifying property limit of \$530,000 for tax year 2009. The new stimulus package changes the maximum section 179 deduction to \$250,000 with a qualifying property limit of \$800,000 for tax year 2009. One additional issue the stimulus legislation modified was

the carry back period for a net operating loss (NOL). Typically, the carry back period for a NOL is two years. The stimulus package allows a qualifying entity to carry the NOL back up to five years. This carry back provision would only be eligible for a net operating loss incurred during tax year 2008. Always consult with your tax advisor to examine your in-

dividual situation. This information is offered as educational information only and not intended to be legal or financial advice. For questions specific to your farm business, consult with your tax preparer.

Publication References:

Quickfinder Handbooks/Thomson Reuters. Stimulus Plan Summary Table. http://www.quickfinder.com/intranetfiles/164593/QF%20American%20Recovery%20and%20 Reinvestment%20Act%20of%202009%20table-w%20logo.pdf National Association of Tax Professionals (NATP). NATP's Summary of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. http://www.natptax.com/2009recoveryact.pdf CCH Tax Briefing: American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. http://tax.cchgroup.com/Legislation/House-Senate-Recovery-Act-2009.pdf

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Watch for our open house coming in June!

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The Valley Equestrian

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Jobs, Jobs! Horses, Horses, Horses, Horses, Horses!!!

Due to wanting to retire I have several Pintabian mares, filly's, and a black and white stallion prospect for sale. Would like to place them in serious Pintabian breeding homes. 320-283-5933 after 8 p.m.

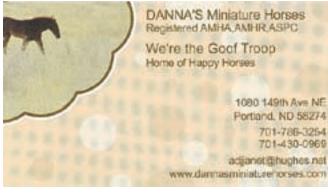
Miniature Mare for sale, 2 yrs. old, Tobiano, Registered, \$500. Can be seen at the Minnesota Horse Expo in stalls 143! Call Karen at 763-682-5324 or karenshorse@charter.net

"9-y/o Registered Arabian Mare. Excels in gaming events, great on rails, would make excellent endurance, rodeo or all around horse, \$4000/offer. 701-241-9793.

Wanted, well-broke, been there, done that mare for riding and driving. Nothing under 8 years please, the older the better. This mare needs to be slow and steady, 14.1 to 14.3 hands. Healthy and sound with excellent manners for a permanent caring home. As long as I'm asking, black and whilte pinto would be a big plus. Please call Tammy at 218-790-6056

Wanted: Serious Your own Pintabian. 1 breeder looking for registered showhave 3 black purebred quality Pintabian Arabian mares (Pintabimare; prefer an Outcross papers) for homozygous tobiano, on farm lease. Will be broke to ride, but will bred to Dakota Gambler consider others. (Black tobiano Pintabian 218-436-2982 Stallion). Call 320-283-5933 after 8 p.m.

For Sale: 4 yr. Old registered black Arabian mare. Great potential for Dressage, Western Pleasure, loving and gentle. Started under saddle, not broke. Wonderful Arab. Great Blood line. Must sell. \$705.00/best offer. 701-318-1973



For Sale: 5 year old small Bay Appaloosa Mare, 6 weeks training. \$800. Saddles, tack,& other equipment also To go. Negotiable. 7 yr. old Mule also for sale. 701-321-0759

ENWANTED HORSE COALITION **Lessons, Training, Boarding!**

RIDING LESSONS begin at North Star Stables March 20. Call to set up your time on the schedule. Newcomers welcome, 4 new spots available. Georgetown, MN 701-306-4404 www.northstarstables.com

Join the fun! Between shows this Spring and Summer, join the Sunday Ladies Horse Habit Support Group! We've been meeting every Sunday thru this last (#!*@!?) Winter season. From 10 till noon every Sunday morning, ladies both younger and older than me (58!) join me to ride, drive, lounge, laugh, sometimes cry.... maybe from laughing so much, and we have horse fun! For the price of a private lesson (\$40), I supply the coffee, munchies are potluck, and the morning takes on a life of its own. Some haul their horse in, others use mine, come join the fun! Cal Karen at 763-682-5324

Little Creek Corrals

Indoor & Outdoor Boarding Training and Lessons Available. Large indoor riding arena, excellent feed program. Former home of Buckle Performance Horses. Located 30 minutes from Fargo & Detroit Lakes, in Ulen, MN. Call Brian at 701-331-1357 or email: little_creek_corrals@hotmail.com www.littlecreekcorrals.com

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Equipment!

Negotiable.

7 yr. old Mule also for sale.

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New & Used Horse, Stock & Flatbed Trailers: Wilson, Titan, ABU and Others - Plus Saddles, Tack & Fencing. Sherven's Wahpeton, ND 58103, (800-827-6275)

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Gold Champagne Stallion & Red Roan Stallion

Zipin Sierra Sonrise (550.00) & Roanys Sonny Bunny (400.00) invite you to consider them for your 2009

breeding season. Zipin Sierra Sonrise is a Gold Champagne Palomino. He is the 2008 PHBA Senior Halter, Western & English Performance Horse.

Roany's Sonny Bunny is 2008 2-yearold NDQHA year-end high point winner. He is the Red Roan son of Zipin Sierra Sonrise.

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Please call: 320-596-2160 or 320-760-1698

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Horse Camp 2009

Dancing Sky Ranch horse camp is an eventful and fun week of horses and friends! Camps are instructed by Shana Wright the Ranch Manager at DSR Dates: May 26-30 & August 15-15 Mother Daughter Camps Upon Request!

Ages: 10-17

Activities: Horseback Riding, Swimming, Camping Out, Trail Rides, Horse Bonfires and Karaoke, Volleyball, Game Night and other fun events Facilities: Riverside Log Cabin with shower and bathroom-stove and microwave and TV for movies! We have a 150' x 250' outdoor arena, 60' round pen, and Hundreds of trails to ride on. *Horses:* Campers will be provided a horse that best suits them; they are welcome to bring their own horse as well. There are 14 horses to choose from at the ranch. *We will teach campers how to properly care for their horses from feeding and grooming to saddling and riding. We will be riding in the arena and working on horsemanship as well as riding

on the trails. Private riding lessons are available as well for those who want to further their riding abilities!* Food: All meals are home cooked and garden fresh. One night campers will help us make pizza and popcorn for the movie! Please call Shana for more information at: 218-285-3433 or 763-567-9169!

See You At Camp!

April 2009



For Sale

12-vear-old Registered Ouarter Horse Mare

This blonde lady is double registered with AQHA and Palomino, she has splashy white legs and is ready for her third owner. She has been shown on numerous circuits, has her showmanship abilities down pat and is a pleasure machine. Current owner has trail ridden her and has purchased a bigger horse for both her and her husband to share. She's coming to Rainbow's End for conditioning and will be at the Minnesota Horse Expo in stall 142 to be seen, if not sold before. Call Karen for more details and "test rides"!

763-682-5324 or karenshorse@charter.net

Pinto, Pinto

Pinto, Pinto, Pinto

Pinto Feature Coming in May

Call Now to Reserve Space

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Cowboy Poetry

with Orv Alveshere

EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE AT HOLLYWOOD BOWL

OUTDOOR WORSHIP IMPRESSIVE FOR THOUSANDS Several interesting tickets came to my desk at work Where my soldier duty was the Army Battery Clerk. The package contained outdoor amphitheater reserved seats; Those tickets would become one of my most memorable treats. Twelve soldiers were invited to the Hollywood Bowl, A pre-dawn Easter morning arrival would be our goal. We arrived at a most unusual time: 5:21 Starting time was one-half hour - prior to the risen sun.

AN UNFORGETTABLE EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE Arriving at the Bowl, nestled below the mountain cliff, Checking our tickets and seat numbers, wondering if We would be in the back row and extremely far away. We were then, ushered to the middle, so, our fears allay We could see the speakers, choir, and scenery very well There was an unexpected surprise that we would retell, Of an Easter sunrise experience second to none.

LETTERS AS TALL AS A TWO-STORY HOUSE Above the podium, we saw the Bowl advertising sign; Of alpha characters high up and distant, near the skyline, Each letter was as tall as a two-story house in height. The name "HOLLYWOOD" could then be read in the dawning light, East person was awestruck, when the tip of the sun appeared; From above the sign. It was a sight that's always revered. A keepsake, "momentous" moment, to each and everyone; Watching the progressive sunrise, and then, the risen sun.

A SYMBOL HELPS US UNDERSTAND EASTER It was then we knew that a 5:21 a.m. start Was strategically planned specifically to impart An awe inspiring milestone to carry through life. The event was moving, it was impressive, it was rife With emotion. The sun rose directly, over the sign. The Hollywood Bowl was built, facing east, in direct line So that in rapt attention, we could view the risen sun; And find an Easter 'connection' to God's Risen Son.

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Rural Farmstead For Sale



For Sale: Rambler-style home, 3 bedrooms, 2-car garage and 30x48 pole barn with box stalls and tackroom on 10 acres of land north of Park River, North Dakota. Beautiful yard surrounded by evergreens and corrals in back for cattle or horses plus other out-buildings and another 30 acres adjoining for pasture.

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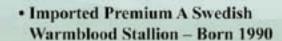
Bayron 885



"How did you get Sweden to let that horse go?" — Ulf Wadeborn International Gran Prix competitor, dressage 'R' judge, formerly of the Stromsholm Riding Academy in Sweden.



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- National Championship winner in Sweden with young rider
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BAYRON 885 Standing at Stud

Contact: Margo Brady • 218-789-7704 • mturkish@msn.com