
THE MIDWEST EQUESTRIAN

WINTER 2021
COMPLIMENTARY

Nardi equine prairie preserve

WHAT'S IN A TREAT?

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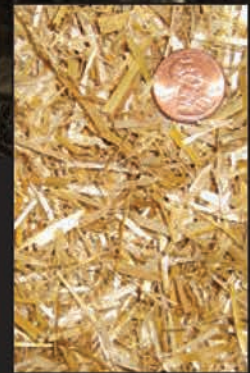
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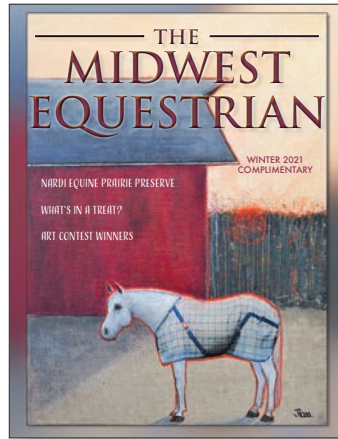
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THE MIDWEST EQUESTRIAN

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 Production
 Johnson Press of America

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Winter. My favorite time of year. I love the cold and the peacefulness of a cloudy grey sky. It makes me relax and contemplate. It's the time of the year that I find myself gazing at the horses more. I think that animals look their finest outlined against the bare limbs of the trees and the stillness of the skies.

Here, at The Midwest Equestrian, we are fortunate to have Jennifer Ross's art grace our cover again. Her images bring me thoughts of the feelings I have for my own horses. Soft and reflective, yet strong and powerful. I am drawn to them. Be sure to check out her website and view her work.

This season, with it's short days and long nights is the time for comfort food. I tend to spoil my horses with a lot more snacks this time of year, a hot bran mash, sweet oats, and extra treats. Having a bit more time on my hands, I felt ambitious and decided to make my own treats. Searching the Internet for recipes was confusing, I wasn't sure which recipes were good and what ingredients to substitute. Dr. Michelle DeBoer, an assistant professor at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls, wrote an informative article for us addressing these concerns. In it, she shared a very simple recipe with natural ingredients. I don't bake often, and once I realized how important measurements are in baking, I mastered this in no time. I will be making these often and, for me, this is the only horse treat recipe I will ever need.

Winter is a prelude to spring and soon it will be time for spring check ups. The staff at Fox Valley Equine Practice shared some tips for a smooth vet visit. Marilyn Borglum's graphite illustrations helped to put things in a tongue-in-cheek perspective. I am sure we can all relate.

We are happy to welcome back Dr. Paige Billek as a contributor. Her article is the first in a 3-part series on equine lameness. This article addresses the types of lameness exams. Hopefully, your horse won't need one, but it's good to know what's available and how the exams are performed. I am looking forward to her next articles in this series.

Like the days of winter, I'll keep this letter short and sweet. Take care and ride on.

Janice

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p/c Carrie Dodt



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Photo by: Mario Contreras/ Horse: Maximus



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Trail Trekking in the **MIDWEST**



By Debra Rubel

Here's a new park with horse trails to explore next summer. You may not be aware of its existence unless you live close to Byron because it's a park. The trails are exclusively for equestrian use and travel through a beautiful restored Illinois wildflower prairie.

Stephen J. and Deirdre Nardi Equine Prairie Preserve

is a Byron Forest Preserve District park located on the south side of the Rock River in Byron, IL. If you're familiar with the Byron area, the parking lot and trail entrance are located on River Road, west of the Jarrett Prairie Center, west of the Byron Dragway and west of Friday Road, a cul-de-sac road with houses.

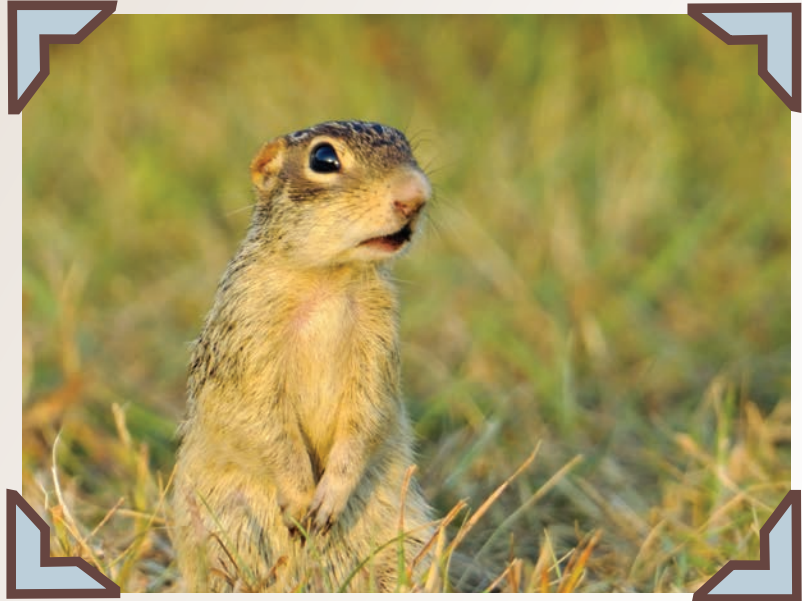


The Trails

The Nardi trail system consists of 10 miles of trail. The majority of the trail at the north end is through prairie and has long, straight stretches. The south end of the park has an oak savanna and oak forest. The backside of the park is framed by two nuclear power plant cooling stacks from the Byron Power Generating Station. I like to refer to them as the “cloud makers.”

The trails are wide, mowed grass. The terrain is rolling. No shoes are needed on a horse here, though there is harsh gravel in the parking lot and on the steep trail over the culvert on the south trail along the property line.

There’s an ample amount of wildlife at this park. It’s common to encounter deer, wild turkeys, and ground squirrels. There are also groundhogs. Beware of their many large holes along the trail edges. They’re mostly present in the prairie area at the north end of the park.



p/c Byron Forest Preserve Staff and Volunteers

From Fox Hunting to Prairie Preserve

This park has an interesting history. The Oak Brook Hounds hunt club used to fox hunt on this land, and adjoining parcels, in the 1980s. At the time, Stephen J. Nardi was the Hunt Master. In 2004, the Oak Brook Hounds were retired and Mr. Nardi purchased a portion of the land out of foreclosure, naming it Fox Chase Farms. When he retired, he donated his farm to the Byron Forest Preserve District with the understanding that it would be used for equestrian activities and that the natural prairie would be restored. Since that time, the Byron Forest Preserve District acquired a 200-acre parcel of land adjacent to Fox Chase Farms and combined the two properties to create the Nardi Equine Prairie Preserve. The combination of the two land parcels totals 557 acres.

When you leave the parking lot, you’ll first ride through prairie but then come onto some sections with crops, delineated with barbed-wire fence. The prairie loop in the trees toward the back and the low-lying loop north of that are my favorite areas to ride. I also enjoy the loop that takes you to the Jarrett Prairie entrance. The paths in the trees are a refreshing change from the long treeless prairie stretches at the north end of the park.

There’s a bench with a placard memorializing Stephen J. Nardi at the top of Rohrssen’s Hill. The trail to Rohrssen’s Hill ends at the top of the hill. If you ride directly to this location from the parking lot, the distance is 1 mile. A simple way to get to it is to ride down the trail on the west side of the park, from the front of the park to the back. The trail to Rohrssen’s Hill will be the next trail

immediately following the trail with the shed.

Nardi contains a restored Illinois prairie. The wildflowers are abundant in June and July. This is the only Illinois park I've ridden at where I've seen blue and



p/c Byron Forest Preserve Staff and Volunteers



purple lupines blooming. To catch the lupines blooming, ride the park in early June. Lupines do well in sandy soil and this park has this soil type at its north end. In early July, the fields are overflowing with bergamot, black-eyed Susan, purple coneflower, coreopsis, and many other lesser-known species. There are a lot of spiderwort flowers but to see them bloom, you must ride in the morning. They have a deep purple flower with three petals. When closed, the flower cluster looks like a little fist.

If you're riding the park to see the flower show, the most bountiful trails will be those in

the prairie at the north end of the park, east of Friday Road. The perimeter loop trail in this area is named the Lupine Trail and is 2.25 miles long. On a hot day, these trails are not the best choice to ride because they offer no shade. Keep an eye out for

If you're riding the park to see the flower show, the most bountiful trails will be those in the prairie at the north end of the park, east of Friday Road.

groundhog holes, which are prevalent on the prairie trails. They tend to be on the trail edges but the groundhogs are always making new holes. Beware of any in the middle of the trail. I would not recommend cantering down these trails until you've passed over them once and checked for holes.

My favorite way to ride this park is to begin by riding the perimeter and then zig-zag on the trails in the back among the trees. The southernmost trail, which runs along the property line, has a steep spot where it dips down and over a large culvert. This is the steepest spot you'll encounter in the park. The remainder of the park is gently rolling hills and long, straight level stretches.

Although the trails at Nardi connect to the Jarrett Prairie trails, horse riding is not allowed there. Nardi is also located next to the Byron Dragway. If you're interested in a quiet ride, it's best to check the dragway's event calendar and choose an inactive day.

Although there's a berm, the east trail alongside the dragway is still very noisy. I enjoy zig-zagging among the inner prairie



p/c Byron Forest Preserve Staff and Volunteers

trails rather than remaining on the east trail. The prairie east of Friday Road and west of the dragway is the most flower dense and contains the lupines.

Riding only the perimeter of the park will take approximately 2.5 hours, depending on how fast your horse walks. The perimeter loop south of the parking lot and west of Friday Road is 1.8 miles long. I once made it a point to ride up and down every trail in the park and it took 3 hours walking, with a little trotting.

Keep in mind that there's a strip of farm field separating you from the Lupine Trail and the return to the parking lot. You'll need to ride around

this. You can orient yourself by looking for Friday Road. This is the cul-de-sac road with the houses. Ride toward Friday Road and then west of it to return to the parking lot.



Nuclear Power

The cooling stacks from the Byron Nuclear Power Generating Station can be seen from the park. The water condensation exhaust from the stacks offers a surreal backdrop and makes the facility look as if it's producing clouds. Each stack is associated with a nuclear reactor. There are 60 active nuclear reactors in the US and 11 of them are located in Illinois, making Illinois the state with the most. Nuclear power is not the most cost-efficient method of producing

The prairie loop in the trees toward the back and the low-lying loop north of that are my favorite areas to ride.

energy but it does not pollute the air with exhaust. With the increased popularity of fracking to extract fossil fuels, fossil fuels have become a more cost-efficient method to produce energy but the burning of fossil fuels, to produce energy, pollutes the air. The Byron

facility was saved from closure this year when President Biden signed the Clean Air Protection Act, offering incentives to facilities with low air pollution methods.

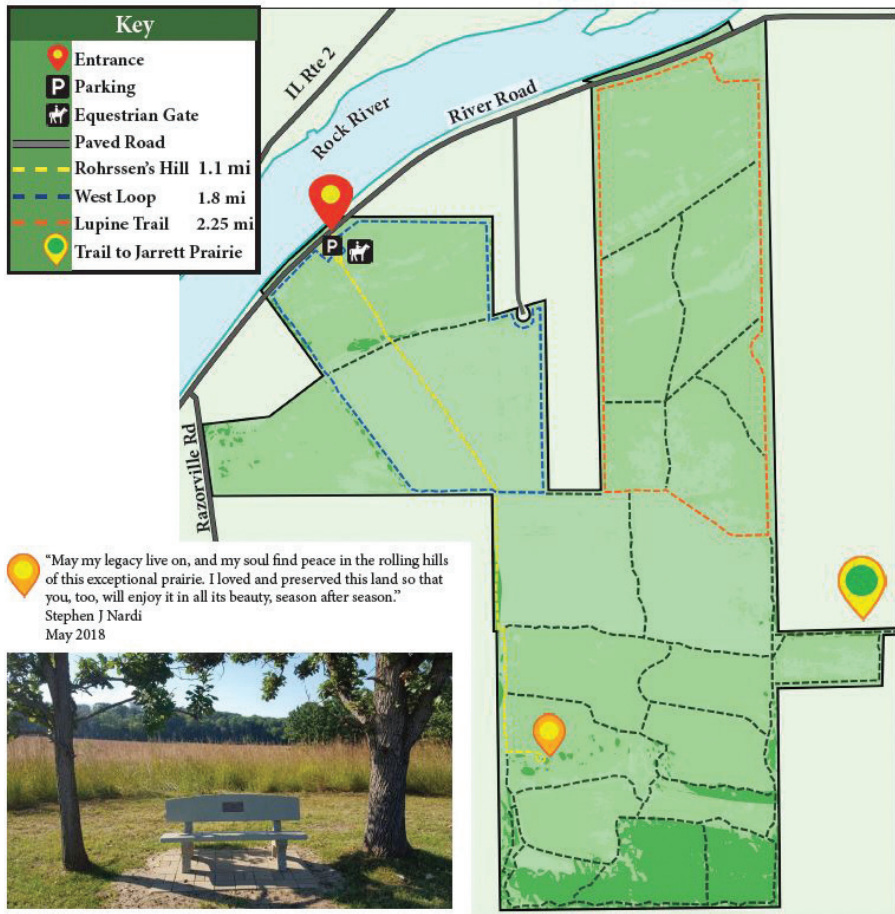
The Logbook

You enter the trail system by passing through a gate. The kiosk contains a logbook. To ride this park, call the Byron Forest Preserve in advance and register. When you depart from the parking lot, sign in and record your start time in the logbook. Sign out when you return. I'm not sure why they have this system as it's obvious when someone's still on the trail because their horse trailer will be in the parking lot. They may be interested in tracking where users are coming from. Sometimes there's a portable toilet on site, sometimes there's not. Bring water for your horses. There's no overnight camping at this park. The parking lot and front of the

property along River Road are bordered by a wood fence. The Lupine Trail section along River Road does not have a fence separating the trail from the road.

The trails are open sunrise to sunset. They shut down during the Fall hunting season, so call ahead to check on closures if you're planning to ride then. The trails may be used for horse riding and hiking. Dog walking is not allowed.

I hope you enjoy this park as much as I do. The Byron Forest Preserve has done a wonderful job of restoring the natural prairie at this park. If you're looking for a park with a spectacular summer wildflower display, this park will not disappoint.



p/c Byron Forest Preserve Staff and Volunteers

TRAIL MAP - click QR code or go to: <https://www.byronforestpreserve.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Nardi.pdf>



PARK SUMMARY

LOCATION: Ogle County. Byron, IL. 6651 N. River Road. South side of the Rock River. Next to the Byron Dragway.

TRAIL DESCRIPTION: 10 miles. Wide, mowed grass trails. Lots of long, straight stretches. Predominantly prairie with forested section at southern end.

Horseshoes not necessary.

TRAIL DIFFICULTY: Easy. Rolling hills. Wide trails.

TRAILHEAD: Large gravel parking lot with hitching posts. Mounting block, kiosk, portable toilet. Enter trails through gate. Sign in/out logbook in kiosk.



PARK AND TRAILS:

BYRON FOREST PRESERVE:

Before riding, register with the Jarrett Prairie Center at 815-234-8535 x 200.

www.byronforestpreserve.com

Happy Trails!



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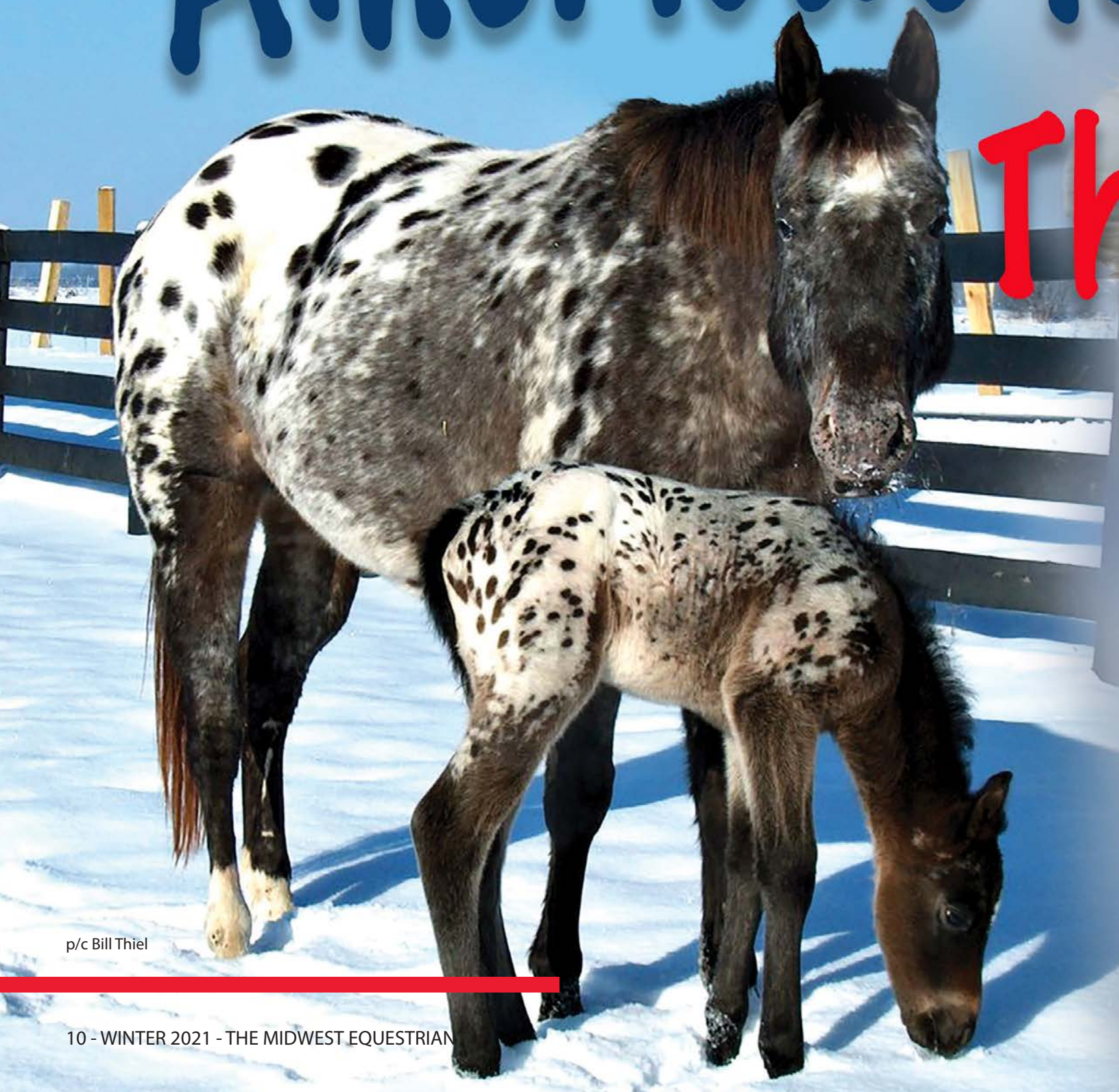
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p/c Bill Thiel



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the Appaloosa

By Sarah M. Aldridge, MS

For many horse lovers, their introduction to the Appaloosa was in a favorite storybook or movie, depicting Native Americans sweeping across the plains riding bareback on spotted horses aiming their bows and arrows at buffalo. Nowadays these horses ride the range rounding up cattle, compete in rodeos, jump fences, and perform dressage tests. From its original breeding grounds in Idaho to international competitions, the Appaloosa is making a name for itself as a well-rounded horse with many talents.

PREHISTORIC ORIGINS

Spotted horses first appeared in prehistoric cave paintings in Lascaux, France, more than 20,000 years ago. Artwork from ancient Greece, Persia, and China first featured domesticated spotted horses. In the 1500s, paintings in France included spotted horses being ridden. Louis XVI used them as coach horses.

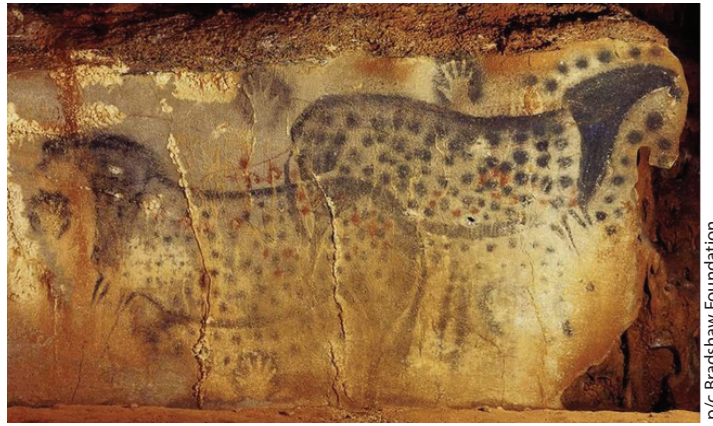
In this country, Spanish conquistadors first brought spotted horses with them when they settled in what is now North and South America. Among the 16 horses Spaniard Hernando Cortez imported to Mexico in 1519 was a horse with a snowflake pattern.

But it is the Nez Perce tribe, originally from Idaho, that is credited with developing the breed and maintaining standards for high-quality stock. During the Lewis and Clark Expedition, Lewis wrote in his journal in 1806: "Their horses appear to be of an excellent race; they are lofty, eligantly [sic] formed, active and durable: in short many of them look like fine English coursers..."

The name of this breed comes from settlers who dubbed them the "Palouse horse," named for the Palouse River near where the Nez Perce tribe lived in present-day north-central Idaho, and eastern Oregon and Washington state. Over time the breed came to be called, with various spellings, Apalouse, Appaloosie, and eventually, Appaloosa.

In 1877, a war broke out between the US Army and the Nez Perce, who refused to give up their land and move to a reservation. Some 800 Nez Perce fled to Montana, a 1,400-mile journey made possible by their fleet-footed, hardy Appaloosas. After a five-day battle, Chief Joseph surrendered; 1,000 Appaloosas were apprehended by the US 7th Cavalry, which then sold the majority.

After that, the breed started to dwindle. However, some of the best stock were bred and used on ranches. In the 1880s, Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show included some Appaloosas. To preserve the breed, the Appaloosa Horse Club (ApHC) was formed in 1938 in Moro, Oregon. In 1947, it moved to its permanent headquarters in Moscow, Idaho. The club has registered more than 700,000 Appaloosas. Members can join one of 118 clubs across the country, which promote the breed, often sponsoring horse shows, trail rides, and more.



p/c Bradshaw Foundation

Paintings of spotted horses were discovered in the Pech Merle cave in southern France. They are believed to be around 25,000 years old.

BREED STANDARDS

At first, the ApHC allowed cross-breeding with several other breeds, including Morgans and Standardbreds. But in 1983 the organization limited it to the American Quarter Horse, Arabian, and Thoroughbred. To register a horse with the ApHC, qualifications that must be met include: having at least one ApHC-registered parent; displaying striated (striped) hooves; showing noticeable white sclera around the eyes; and having mottled skin around the eyes, lips, and genitals.

Although certain coat color patterns are preferred, the ApHC began accepting solid coat patterns in 1982. That's because breeders had discovered that solid-colored mares could give birth to spotted foals. In addition, solid-colored horses often display the striped hooves, white sclera, and skin mottling characteristic of the breed. However, this decision was contested by some breeders. In 1983, they founded a separate breed registry, the American Appaloosa Association, in Missouri.

Appaloosas are typically between 14-16.5 (56"- 66") hands, and weigh 900-1,200 pounds. No ponies or drafts are allowed. The horse should appear symmetrical and smooth, according to the ApHC. The head should be straight and lean, with prominent eyes and pointed ears. Appaloosas are deep-chested with sloping, well-muscled shoulders. They have a short, straight back and strong legs with hard hooves.

SPOTS, SPRINKLES, AND SPECKS

Despite the picture you may have in your mind of a dark-colored Appaloosa with a snowy white blanket on its rump dotted with large spots, and sporting a short, thin mane and tail, the breed shows a huge variety in color and patterns. The ApHC recognizes these base colors: bay, black, buckskin or dun, chestnut, cremello or perlino, grulla, and palomino. It also accepts bay, blue, and red roan. Overlying those can be spots surrounded by a halo, specks, sprinkles, or a mottled look. But abundant white markings, as found in paints and pintos, are not accepted by the club.

The five basic coat patterns the ApHC approves are: leopard, white loins and hips, with dark, oval spots; snowflake, spots on the body and very obvious on the hips; blanket, spots or flecks on the body but not on the hips, which are white; marble, mottled all over the body; and frost, small white specks on a dark base coat.

But it's anybody's guess as to what color a foal will be when it matures. "We had one mare, Nakai, who was black as a yearling with a blanket. Then around age 3-4 she started to roan out and turned into a blue roan spotted horse," says Joy Carr of Sunset Ranch Appaloosas in Platteville, Wisconsin. "You just never know." Her 20-year-old stallion, Wapuzzan, has a plain blanket without spots, which is called a black snowcap.

The leopard complex, or LP, gene determines in part the variety of coat patterns and pigments found in Appaloosas. It produces the mottled skin, white sclera, and striped hooves characteristic of the breed.



Koda, an Appaloosa cross owned by Tamara Bitton of Grayslake, IL, has a distinctive heart-shaped spot on the blanket covering his rump.

That LP gene is also responsible for two genetic eye conditions in Appaloosas: equine recurrent uveitis (ERU) and congenital stationary night blindness (CSNB). ERU, or moon blindness, is characterized by repeated inflammation, which can lead



Derby may be a rising star in the dressage arena, but he also likes to play keep away with Aurora, who is 7 and has autism.



p/c Bill and Carol O'Leary.

Wrangler, a 26-year-old Appaloosa, has had quite a career. This former polo pony, ridden by Bill O'Leary in the inset photo, is now in the Equine-Assisted Services program at the Ray Graham Association, Hanson Center in Hinsdale. Here he is ridden by Michaela Vanlier, who share boards him.



to blindness if untreated. It is thought to be an autoimmune disease, and Appaloosas are eight times more likely to have it than other breeds. CSNB occurs when the photoreceptors in the eyes, called rods, do not function properly, so the eyes cannot adjust to dim or dark conditions. However, daytime vision is normal. Horses that inherit two copies of the LP gene are much more likely to inherit this condition.

FROM RODEOS TO POLO FIELDS

The Shawnee National Forest in southern Illinois is Carr's favorite place to ride. "My fondness is to get out and see the country. We can ride the trails all day long." Her son and daughter, on the other hand, competed on Appaloosas in rodeo events from barrel racing and roping to cutting and steer wrestling. Further, some of the foals from the Carrs' breeding farm have become

hunter/jumpers and polo mounts. "These horses are whatever you want them to be," Carr says.

Kimberly Nikole Eitland's love affair with Appaloosas began in 2013, when her fiancé, whose family showed the breed in the Western Michigan Appaloosa Horse Club breed shows, gave her ApHC Polka Band Leader (Ziggy), an 8-year-old red roan spotted blanket Appaloosa. She learned to ride Western and enjoyed hours of trail rides on Ziggy. When he died suddenly in 2019 after a freak accident, Eitland felt a loss in her life that only an Appaloosa could fill.

Along came Derby, a colt from the world-famous stallion Zip Me Impressive of Saddlebrook Appaloosas in Oconomowoc, Wisconsin. Among the awards Zippy has garnered are Top Ten World, National,

and Year End Titles, and being singled out as the 2003 World's Best Appaloosa. But Derby's sire's accolades and lineage didn't matter to Eitland. Rather, it was his enormous personality. "He came trotting up to me, happy as could be, then wrapped his head and neck around me, giving me an Appy hug." His beautiful snowcap coloring sealed the deal.

Little did Eitland realize, however, that Derby would become the comedian and entertainer for the entire barn in Belleville, Wisconsin, where she boards him. "He can army crawl under a fence to get the grass on the other side, and then run back into the barn, waiting for someone to put him back out," she says. The barn cats are his toys. "He follows them and puts his nose on the ground to play with them." He even tries to fit through the cat door, she adds with a laugh. The water hose provides endless fun. "He pulls at it and starts wiggling it around in his mouth," says Eitland. He's successfully sprayed Anne, the barn manager, a couple times. Derby's antics also include snatching the grain pan from Eitland's thoroughbred to



My Pops A Doc (Bill), shows off his Appaloosa athleticism as a national and world reining champion. This 14-year-old leopard Appaloosa gelding is owned and ridden by Amy Elam of Beardstown, Illinois.

scoop water from their outdoor trough.

But it's Derby's keen ability to quickly learn new riding talents that has really wowed Eitland. When pastured next to the outdoor arena where riders were performing dressage moves, Derby began to pick up English gaits. "We started noticing he was doing a beautiful extended trot, moving effortlessly, moving much like my thoroughbred dressage school master," Eitland says with awe. She and Derby are now training with Abby Onsgard, a Grand Prix dressage competitor and coach. "It's coming to him naturally," she says. "He's the unlikely dressage horse."

What warms Eitland's heart even more, though, is the way her horse takes care of her daughter. Aurora is 7 years old, and has autism, with limited verbal skills. "If Aurora's in the pasture, Derby will follow her around with his nose on the top of her head." Derby takes delight in grabbing one of Aurora's stuffed animals, shaking it until she swipes it from him, then starts the game



Kelsey Welter of Helicon Horsemanship rides Phoebe, a 16-year-old Appaloosa mare owned by Peggy Judd, in a dressage performance at McCrae Farm in Grayslake, IL.

all over again. When Aurora goes for a ride, Derby calmly tolerates her bouncing around on his back while Eitland walks him on a lead line around the arena. "When Aurora slides off, he'll turn his head and nudge her, waiting for his hug and kiss. Then she'll lead him to the cross ties and he carefully walks beside her," says Eitland with pride.

APTITUDE, NOT ATTITUDE

Underappreciated. Overlooked. Misunderstood. Appaloosas have been given a bad rap, say their owners. "They don't get

the recognition they deserve," says Carr. "They are the most versatile horse out there." She ticks off some of their strengths: endurance, agility, stamina. "They're fast walkers; they can even keep up with gaited horses," she adds. "They are incredibly smooth."

The so-called "Appy attitude" of being assertive, single-minded, and testy may stem from a different source. "They do naturally come into

being stubborn and bullheaded, but it's because they're so highly intelligent," observes Eitland. She noticed it in Derby when she first had him under saddle in the indoor arena. "He was so bored with the basic walk, trot, and canter, and wanted to do his own thing." But once he picked up on dressage, his personality under saddle changed. "He was more than willing to please. He was extremely forward and wanted to work," Eitland says. "He loves his job." Now the boarders in the barn have changed their opinion of Derby and of the breed. "They see how hard a worker Derby is and his ability to take on anything from Western pleasure to jumping and dressage."

Carr has had Appaloosas for more than 32 years. From her first one, Apache in 1979, to the 19 horses on her farm today, her attitude toward them has not changed. "They have an eagerness to please," she says. "They are wonderful horses, and I absolutely love them."



FUN FACTS



- Appaloosas are the state horse of Idaho. Residents can buy a license plate with the breed on it.
- Matt Damon rode an Appaloosa named Cowboy in the 2010 movie "True Grit."
- Renegade, a leopard Appaloosa, is the mascot for the Florida State University Seminoles.
- In 1995, the Nez Perce began crossbreeding Appaloosas with the Akhal-Teke breed to create the Nez Perce Horse, a new breed.
- **LEARN MORE** Appaloosa Horse Club, www.appaloosa.com

The Lameness Exam

By Paige Billek DVM, CVMMP-EQ, CERP, CVA
Photos provided by Dr. Billek

This article is the first of a 3-part series on equine lameness. In parts 2 and 3 treatments for and prevention of lameness will be discussed.

Lameness Defined

Lameness is asymmetrical movement in one or more of the horse's limbs most often caused by pain. (Occasionally asymmetrical motion will be caused by a structural or functional abnormality.)

The Lameness Exam

Veterinarians perform lameness exams to help narrow the area where the horse is having pain to make the best treatment plan. Some exams will be very brief, while others may require advanced testing or diagnostics. Most lameness exams are a combination of a static (standing) exam and dynamic (motion) exam. Once the area of soreness is determined, diagnostic imaging may be needed to determine which specific structures (bone, joint, soft tissue) require treatment. Most veterinarians will grade lameness on a scale of 0 (normal, no pain or lameness) to 5 (completely not using the limb).

Static (Standing) Exam

This is the part of the exam done while the horse is standing, and not in motion. Your veterinarian will feel or palpate the horse's body, searching for areas of abnormality. Normally pain, heat, decreased motion, or swelling. During this part of the exam, the back and neck will be checked for soreness, areas of tension, and range of motion. The limbs will be flexed and extended to assess for range of motion. The joints will be checked for effusion (swelling) or heat. The tendons and ligaments will be palpated systematically to feel for pain, heat, swelling, or thickening. Digital pulses will be felt for and hoof testers will be used to apply pressure to the hooves, both searching for areas of pain within the foot. Some veterinarians may also include a diagnostic acupuncture scan during this part of the exam to check for areas of referred pain that can indicate certain areas of lameness. Your veterinarian will also use this part of the exam to assess your horse's confirmation, muscling, and body condition, all of which can be used to predict possible areas of stress.

Dynamic (Motion) Exam

This part of the exam is done while the horse is in motion. The trot is the gait that tends to exaggerate

lameness the most, so the bulk of the dynamic exam is done at the trot. Some veterinarians will also assess the horse while cantering or even under saddle.

Dynamic Baseline

The horse is assessed on both the straight line and circling. The veterinarian is particularly searching for areas of asymmetrical movement and watching the overall character of movement. The limbs themselves are watched but the practitioner will also watch the horse's head, neck, back, and hip movement. Often a "head nod" is seen as an indicator of front limb lameness; the horse will move its head down toward the ground when the sound (more comfortable) front leg touches the ground and up when the lame leg touches the ground. This movement helps decrease the pressure and pain associated with the footfall of the uncomfortable leg by shifting the weight of the head and neck. In contrast, a "hip hike" is used as an indication of hind limb lameness; when the sore hind limb touches the



Palpation of the muscles of the back.

ground the horse reacts by lifting that leg higher with the muscles at the top of the pelvis. This causes the hip to go up or “hike” on the side of the more painful leg. Trotting in a circle tends to exaggerate lameness by increasing the pressure or force placed on different limbs. Thus, examining a horse on a lunge line may give a more sensitive indication of lameness. Different footing (hard vs. soft) may also cause different types of lameness to be more apparent.

Flexion Tests

- Flexion tests are another way to temporarily exaggerate lameness to help determine the location of the horse’s pain. To perform flexion tests, a veterinarian will lift and hold certain joints in the bent position and hold for about 30 to 90 seconds to put pressure on the joint. The assistant will then trot the horse while the vet looks for increased limping.

Nerve/Joint Blocks

- Nerve or joint blocks are another tool used to help localize lameness. The practitioner will inject a small amount of medication into certain areas of the leg (right over a nerve or in a joint) to numb the area. After the numbing medication takes effect (about 5-10 minutes) the horse is trotted again. If the lameness is improved, that is considered a positive nerve block meaning that the blocked area is where the pain and lameness originated.

Computerized Gait Analysis

- Some practitioners may recommend using computerized gait analysis to get quantifiable data about a horse’s lameness. These systems use sensors attached to the horse during an exam to record data that can be used to help determine the area of lameness or be used to track rehab progress or response to treatment.



Palpation of the tendons of the front limb.



Palpation of the shoulder joint and range of motion assessment of the knee.

Diagnostic Imaging

Once the area of lameness is localized during the exam diagnostic imaging can be used to help determine the specific cause of soreness in that area.

Radiographs (X-Rays)

- Radiographs are used to look at the horse’s bones and joints. In most cases they can be taken on the farm and the results are available on a computer screen immediately.

Ultrasound

- Ultrasounds can also normally be done on the farm with instant results. The ultrasound is generally used to assess soft tissue structures such as tendons, ligaments, muscles, and internal organs. In some cases, ultrasound can also be used to look at the joint and surface of the bone.

Advanced Diagnostics

- Advanced imaging techniques such as MRI, CT, and nuclear scintigraphy (bone scan) can be performed at hospitals to provide more information. MRI and CT are typically used to give very specific detailed images of a smaller area of the horse (inside the hoof or part of one leg for example). On the other hand, scintigraphy can give a broader indication of where pain is coming from by scanning the whole horse.

Once the cause of lameness is diagnosed a treatment plan can be established. Treatment options will be discussed in the next article of this lameness series.

TIPS & TRICKS

By The Staff at
Fox Valley Equine Practice

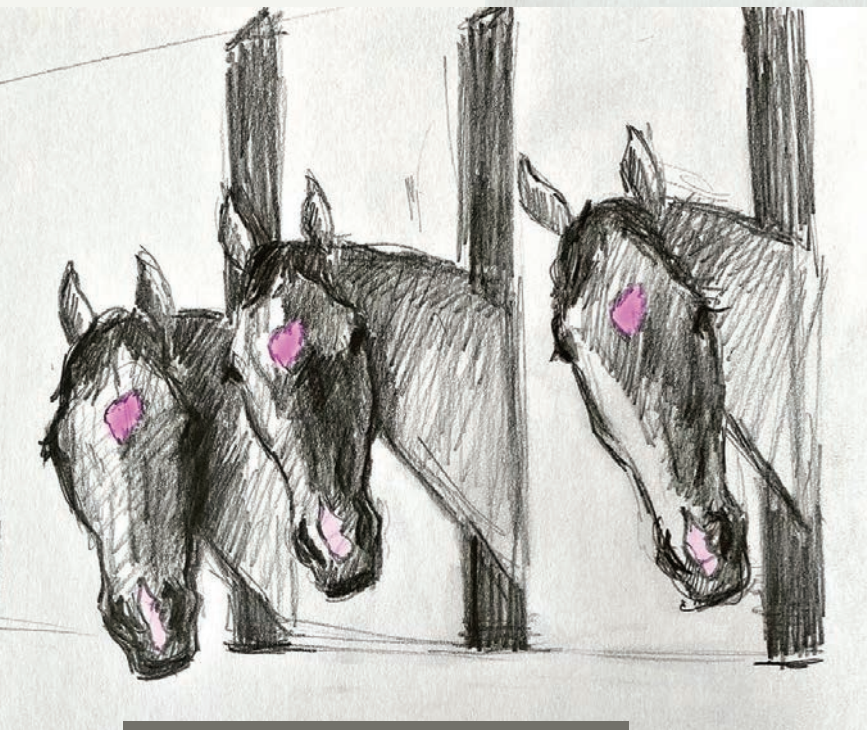
Illustrations by Marilyn Borglum

for a Successful Vet Visit

Remember your
appointment
date and time.



Have your horse clean for Coggins pictures

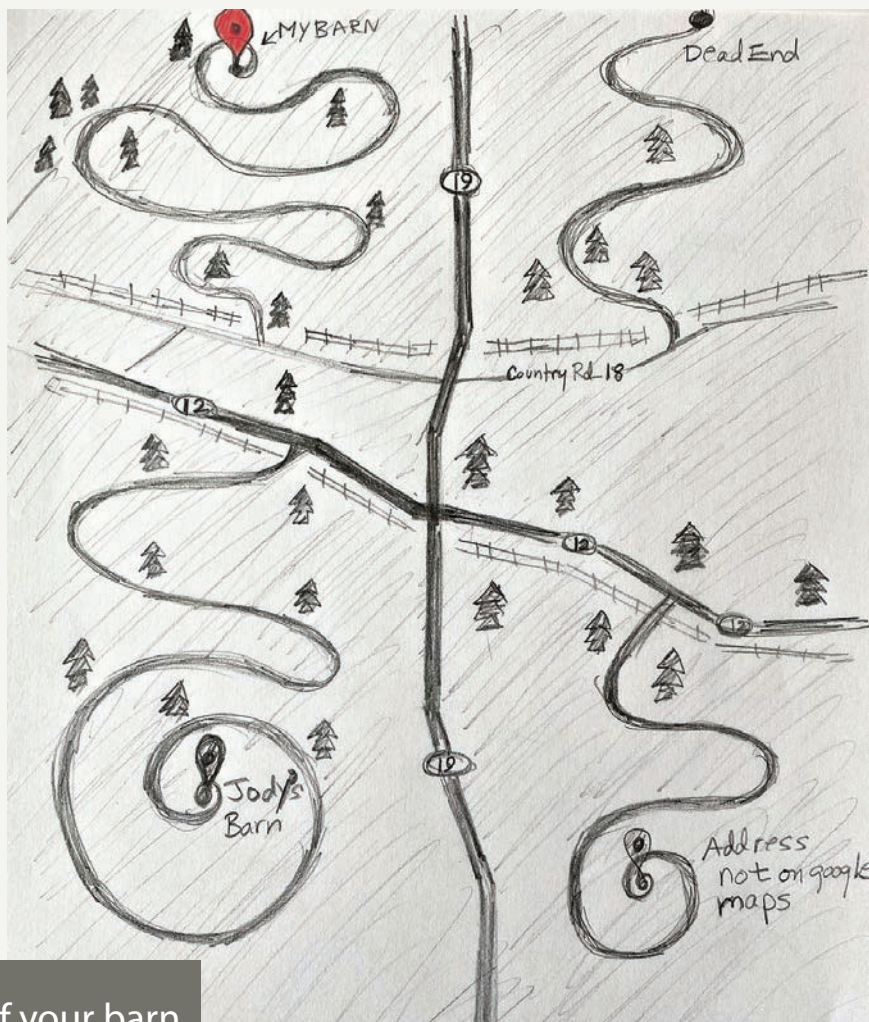


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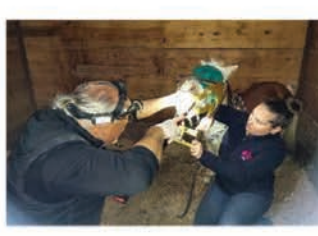
Allergy Testing

Hoof Cinches

David Heinze, DVM, P.C.

Dale Stapleton, DVM

Emily Weathered, DVM



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LETTING

GO *Literally & Figuratively*

By Janice Fischer



There comes a time in most animal owners' lives when we must let go of our loved ones. For some, it might be as simple as rehoming, but for others it might be a bit more heart wrenching, such as when our animal dies. Death is not a pleasant subject to talk about, but it is inevitable and something that all of us, animal owners or not, will encounter. Death of a companion animal is unique though, because more often than not, we make the final decision as to when, how, and what to do afterward.

My neighbor, who comes from an old family of farmers, always makes a joke about, "... shooting the darn horses ... and bringing my buddy with a back hoe to bury them." A true farmer, he believes animals are for work and not for pleasure. He is joking, of course, as he is the first to bring the horses apples and treats and, whether he admits it or not, he really gets a kick out of them. But this year, I questioned him. Ruby, my horse, is almost 25 and several of my friends have lost horses recently. Would he really help bury my horses when the time comes? Can I bury my horses on the land?

All of my dogs, cats, and chickens have been buried on the land. I just assumed I could bury my horse's here as well. But a horse's body is much larger and there are a lot of regulations that go into the disposal of a horse's body. How and when you decide to euthanize your horse is a personal matter between you and your veterinarian. But, how you euthanize your horse can have an impact on your burial options.

So what are our options? The most common means of disposal are burial, cremation, and landfill. Other options are rendering and composting.

Burial

Not everyone has the land available to bury a horse. Even if you did, it can be a bit complex. The rules on how and where to bury your horse vary from state to state, and even region to region. For example, the burial site has to be so many feet away from a well and so many feet deep. It is best to check with your county and state for current rules and regulations in your area.

Keep in mind though, as to what will happen if it is winter. If you have a horse that passes suddenly in the winter, odds are the land will be frozen. What then?

There are pet cemeteries, such as Paw Print Gardens in West Chicago, that provide burial of horses even in the winter.

Cremation/Burning

Just as there are cremation services for people, there are cremation services for your animal.

I spoke with Carrie Cassaro from Metro Animal Service in Plainfield, IL. She said prices vary depending on size of animal and type of cremation service. For horses, there are two options, private and communal. With private cremations you receive the ashes, with a communal cremation you do not. Instead, the ashes are spread on their family farm. (In contrast, some places discard ashes in landfill.) The facility offers "whole horse cremation" in which they can accommodate an individual animal up to 5,000 pounds. There are many types of urns and memorial items to choose from as well. And Metro also offers a reflection room where you can say your final farewell. Costs range anywhere from \$400 to \$1,400 but do not include transportation to their facility.

Landfill

Though it is not pleasant to realize, some bodies are taken to a landfill site. You call a livestock removal company and it will take the body to a site that accepts horses. However, some landfills will not take horses that have been euthanized with certain drugs.

A licensed livestock removal service will know where to go in your area.

Rendering

Rendering is the process of using high temperatures to convert the animal carcass to an end product. This may not be an option in certain areas. Further, rendering facilities are limited. It is a misnomer when people say they "called the renderer." What they most likely did is call a company to remove the body, which then most likely took it to a landfill.

Composting

Composting is a natural way to dispose of animal remains, but requires a lot of care and specialized practices. In my opinion, this process is best left to the professionals.

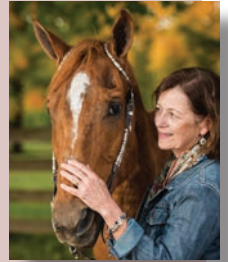
The above options and descriptions mentioned here provide a brief synopsis. It is best to speak with your vet to see what is available in your area. The main thing is to plan ahead and be well-prepared. When your beloved horse starts to falter, it's a very emotional time and the fewer major decisions you have to make the better. I would also suggest having a key person to be there with or in lieu of you when it's time to have your vet put your horse down.

I have been fortunate not to have to bury a horse, but I have helped others in assisting with the loss of their loved ones. Some have buried them, some have had them cremated, and others have chosen the landfill route. There is no right way or wrong way. The body is, figuratively speaking, only a vessel. Take the time and energy to enjoy the memories spent being together



Carrie Dodt's Story

I had owned Levi, a Quarter Horse mare, since she was six years old. We had shown at pleasure shows and rode many years on the Timmermann's Drill Team. We put her down on January 3, 2021.



p/c Tricia Carzoli

One day she fell while being taken out on turnout. Many people helped try to get her to stand, but she could not get her legs under her. I was a little shocked, but shouldn't have been. At age 33, she had been showing her age for a while. It seemed something neurological was going on. After some discussion with the vet, friend and barn owner Dale Timmermann, my friend Joan, and my husband, we let her go.

The vet politely explained the options and I was ok with hearing "the body will be disposed of." After all, Levi was not "in" her physical body anymore.

It happened on a Sunday, and I had some time to think and grieve and talk to friends. All the while though, something was not sitting right with me. I felt I had not made a good decision. I felt I needed her near me after all the years we spent together. As I write this, I feel tears coming on. I thought about cremation. I could plant a magnolia tree on our property and put her remains there.

I decided to sleep on it and see how I felt in the morning. And, of course, I knew it could be too late to do anything else. After a night of not feeling closure, I left a message with the vet in the morning. I asked if I could change my mind and have her remains returned to me. (If it was too late, I told myself that would be ok, too, and let it be.) I received a callback, and she had contacted the removal company and was told it could be done – he could take her to the cremation facility, I was very relieved. That's the way it was meant to be and when spring arrives I have plans to plant a beautiful tree.

Sources:

Resources:

www2.illinois.gov/sites/agr/Pages/default.aspx
[datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Programs_Services/Carcass Disposal.aspx](http://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Programs_Services/Carcass_Disposal.aspx)

Suggested Resources:

Metro Animal Service

www.metro-animal-service.com/grief-support/

Paw Print Gardens

www.metro-animal-service.com/cemeteries/

The Humane Society

www.humanesociety.org/resources/humane-horse-remains-disposal

Midwest Horse Welfare Association - Wisconsin

www.equineadoption.com

mhwf.websitetoolbox.com/post/euthanasia-and-rendering-in-wisconsin-putting-down-a-horse-9779345



Just about every farm owner or manager, when asked, will tell you he or she is happy with the bank. If I can personalize that for a moment: Are you happy with your bank or are you simply **not unhappy?** Further, is this a question even worth thinking about?

If you can't quickly and clearly come up with the answer to that question, let me suggest that a few minutes exploring the specifics of your relationship with your bank can materially reduce the financial risks your farm faces and improve the returns it generates.

If the best thing you can say about your banking relationship

is that they cash your loan payments on time, it is worth looking into how much better and deeper the relationship can be.

Farm owners and managers are busy juggling every aspect of their business. Deciding on inputs, understanding pricing and hedging programs, managing and maintaining implements, identifying the timing of product sales, and accurately keeping track of everything is more than enough to fill the day. However, the financial glue that holds it all together – the banking relationship – is often taken for granted and ignored, usually because it doesn't change much

day-to-day. Further, it is simply part of the necessary but tedious background activity of the business part of farming. In fact, in most cases, nothing material has changed with the banking relationship in many years, often since the founding of the farm or its last major transition.

This stagnant relationship stands in stark contrast to the rapid pace of change in every other aspect of the business, from technology applications, to implement innovations and scale, to data and systems security, to transportation challenges, to maintaining production efficiency, to land management issues, etc. It is often not until the farm

needs to renew or expand a loan arrangement that any serious discussion occurs between banker and customer. By then, there is little time to adjust, little room to maneuver, and relatively little capacity to negotiate. Ironically, the deposit and transaction aspects of the business often just “come along for the ride,” but are really the lifeblood of the business of farming.

As in any relationship, both sides need to work at communicating clearly and openly about their needs and trying to understand the other side. Ideally, the bank is taking the initiative to stay on top of your needs and objectives, but if it is not doing so, you need to be more deliberate and proactive in managing the relationship. To have a healthy, and hopefully happy, relationship with your banker, here are six specific topics to explore:

1 What are the key drivers of how your bank views your credit capacity? How close are you to those thresholds and what risk does that pose for your next loan renewal or expansion request?

2 Is your bank willing and able to make long-term (10-, 15-, or 30-year) fixed-rate mortgage loans on your farm property, or is it forcing you to take on the risk of rising rates because it can't or won't absorb it?

3 Are there financial performance metrics that, if achieved, might allow a reduction in your loan rates?

4 Are you using the appropriate tools in your deposit account to maximize the security of your payments – both inbound and outbound? What else could be useful?

5 Do you schedule periodic (at least annual, if not semi-annual) performance updates with your banker or the bank's credit analyst to keep them informed of any changing

dynamics of your business and prepare for any changes as early as possible? Are they actively trying to understand the dynamics of your situation and future plans?

6 What tools might be available for automated and secure updates of critical business and personal required documents (e.g., tax returns, financial statements, borrowing base certificates).

Pursuing these questions with your banker and staying up-to-date on them can provide both parties with comfort that you are protecting your financial resources, protecting your customer and vendor payments and data, and operating with the maximum credit flexibility available. While it might seem that your current arrangements are “good enough,” taking the time to manage the relationship can pay enormous dividends when pricing or production hiccups occur.

If you would like to explore these topics further, we would welcome a conversation. A good lender should be able to listen intently to your objectives and help you select the loan terms that best permit you to take advantage of today's exceptional rates and structural alternatives. Although many banks may not be able to offer the full range of long-term fixed rates currently available, McHenry Savings Bank, through its relationships with FarmerMac and other leading farm lenders, can provide a full menu of attractive financing alternatives. Please feel free to contact us to discuss your situation or address any questions you may have.

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The winter season and the holiday songs on the radio bring thoughts of horse-drawn sleigh rides to mind. In our area, sleighs were once a popular mode of transportation. Outings were often arranged so groups of young people could meet and go to parties by sleigh. According to the Woodstock Sentinel of March 13, 1913, sleigh loads of people from Hebron, Ringwood, Bristol, and Wilmot came to Richmond to attend a high school play called "The Masonic Rings." (Source: McHenry County Historical Society and Museums' digital newspaper collection.)

Because the Farmers' Almanac is predicting that snowfall will be below average for the Midwest in 2022, it may not be possible to take a sleigh ride this winter. Anywhere from 2-8 inches of snow is recommended for running a sleigh, and the type of snow and ground conditions are additional factors that must be taken into consideration. When the proper snowpack is on the ground, there are places in Wisconsin to make a reservation for a sleigh ride. Dan Patch Stables of Lake Geneva, Kettle Moraine Carriages of Kewaskum, and Hoof Beats Express, LLC, of Oconomowoc all offer this unique experience.



DASHING THROUGH THE SNOW

By Elaine Ramesh

For do-it-yourselfers, a sleigh can be purchased from the Frey Carriage Company of Columbus, Wisconsin. Prices range from around \$4,000 to \$15,000 for these vehicles made in the US. Don't forget the sleigh bells to go with your new sleigh. A great source is Bevin Bros, a Connecticut company that has been manufacturing bells in the US since 1832. You likely have heard a Bevin bell, because the company supplies them to the Salvation Army for its Red Kettle Campaign.

Although use of sleigh bells is optional in Illinois and Wisconsin, two states still do have laws on the books requiring bells when operating a sleigh. To drive a horse-drawn sleigh or sled in Massachusetts, by law the horse must have at least three bells on its harness. In New Jersey, the law doesn't say how many bells, but instead only requires that the horse's harness must have a sufficient number of bells to give a warning of approach. However, this rule only applies when driving the sleigh on a highway. A horse-drawn sleigh on a New Jersey highway would be a sight, indeed.

Looking for other winter activities with horses? Some adventurous souls enjoy horse skijoring, which involves a horseback rider towing a skier at the end of long lines or, even more adventurous, a riderless horse being guided by the skier. It's not for the faint of heart, and probably also not advisable for inexperienced skiers but it is another way to go dashing through the snow, without the need for a one-horse open sleigh, as long as the horse is willing.

Author Elaine Ramesh is a McHenry County resident, attorney, and horse owner. She's also the founder of the Equestrian Coalition of McHenry County. Read her blog at petpatentsandpolicy.com; follow her on Twitter @petpatents, or on FaceBook (Equestrian Coalition of McHenry County).



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What's in a Treat?

by Michelle DeBoer, Ph.D.
Photographs by Janice Fischer

Whenever I put on my barn jacket, without fail I will always find some type of horse treat in the pocket. As an equine nutritionist, this always leaves me with a tinge of guilt, but I can never seem to resist my horses with their sweet nickers as I walk into the barn or the nudge of their muzzles when I enter the stall. However, I know I am not alone in this, as a previous survey reported more than 90% of horse owners offer treats to their horses to some extent.

Addressing Concerns with Feeding Treats

This controversial topic leads to a lot of debate, typically stemming from the behavioral and nutritional aspects. Feeding treats by hand can lead to unwanted behaviors, such as begging or a horse who may miscalculate and bite a finger. Additionally, treats are often higher in sugar and are not a nutritionally balanced part of the diet, which can impact the health of the horse, especially those with metabolic concerns.

While these are warranted concerns, they can be solved by awareness and moderation. For a horse who may be pushy when receiving treats, placing the treats in a bucket rather than feeding them by hand is a preventive measure. Additionally, feeding treats in moderation to a healthy horse and selecting appropriate treats for a metabolic horse can help manage or prevent health problems from occurring

Commercial versus Homemade Treats

Essentially any type of food that a horse enjoys can be used as a treat. Popular choices include carrots, apples, peppermints, sugar cubes, and homemade or commercial treats. While I prefer to feed carrots and apples straight out of my fridge due to the ease of preparation and high palatability, I often keep a bag of commercial treats in the barn due to the longer shelf life. Occasionally I will make homemade treats for my horses to enjoy on a special occasion.

There are some pros and cons to whether you purchase commercial treats or make your own at home. Commercial treats are typically formulated by a nutritionist, and are tested to be palatable and to maximize benefits while not disrupting the horse's normal diet. However, when selecting a treat to use, it is important to read the nutrition label and evaluate the ingredients. When looking for healthy horse treats, I recommend selecting a treat that uses fewer ingredients that you can easily identify. Additionally, look at the ingredient list for additives, preservatives (e.g. potassium sorbate, propionic acid, calcium propionate), artificial flavors, and colors. For example, if a treat is apple-flavored, apple should be one of the first ingredients listed. On the flipside, while you know what goes into the treats you make in your kitchen, you may not know if they are healthy for your horse or if they'll even enjoy them. When I select a recipe, I try to choose one with ingredients I would feel comfortable adding to my horse's feed.

Common Ingredients

A wide range of ingredients can be found in horse treat recipes. These recipes often contain at least one binding ingredient such as molasses, applesauce, honey, oil, or bananas. While these ingredients are acceptable for horses to consume, the best one for your horse may vary based on their specific qualities. Molasses, bananas, and applesauce have higher vitamin and mineral concentrations in comparison to honey, which is known for its antioxidant and anti-inflammatory effects. However, higher potassium observed in molasses and bananas can negatively impact a horse with hyperkalemic periodic paralysis (HYPP) and honey should not be fed to young nursing foals due to the risk of botulism associated with an immature GI tract. It is also important to note that molasses, honey, applesauce, and bananas all contain sugar in the forms of glucose, fructose, and sucrose, which can contribute to the glycemic response in horses after consumption. As a result, horse owners should be cautious when feeding treats containing these ingredients to horses with poor insulin sensitivity such as those with polysaccharide storage myopathy, equine metabolic syndrome, or horses who are obese or prone to laminitis. However, despite these concerns, treats are a small portion of the equine diet and if they are fed in moderation, it would be rare for the occasional treat to impact a horse with these dietary concerns.

In comparison to the other binding agents, oils do not contain protein or carbohydrates, meaning they are void of simple sugars. They can also provide valuable fatty acids, depending on which type of fat is fed. However, fats are known to be a dense energy source that will increase caloric intake; in high enough quantities they can lead to weight gain. Coconut oil is a common ingredient found in homemade horse treats and is primarily composed of saturated fatty acids, which act as a good energy source for the horse. Other common oils found in horse treats include vegetable or canola oil. These fats primarily



contain unsaturated fat, including the essential fatty acids known as omega-3s and omega-6s. Although fats can act as a good substitute for horses requiring a low sugar alternative, oils are often accompanied by one of the other binding agents containing sugar to improve the consistency and palatability of the treat.

In addition to adding fat in the form of oil, ground flaxseed is a common fat source added to the equine diet. Flaxseed is known for its anti-inflammatory benefits associated with its high omega-3 concentration and can be a beneficial addition to a horse treat. Another dry ingredient often found in horse treats is flour, which is acceptable for horses when provided in small quantities. However, I prefer to grind rolled oats or sweet feed in a food processor until it has a flour-like consistency. This allows me to substitute it so I can use feed designed for horse consumption instead. Additional ingredients often found in horse treats include sweet feed, rolled oats, and old-fashioned or steel-cut oats. Although these feeds are higher in sugar and may not be considered a healthy option for horses with metabolic problems, they are suitable for healthy horses and provide energy and nutrients. Some treats may also contain grated carrots, diced apples, or peppermints. These ingredients are palatable to most horses and an acceptable addition to your horse treat when fed to healthy horses. Carrots and apples have a higher fiber content than most other ingredients in a horse treat. However, all three of these additions will add to the sugar



consumption of the horse and should be fed with caution to a horse with metabolic concerns. Other ingredients may be included in a treat recipe and there are few limitations on what a horse can consume. However, prior to making the treat it is important to consider any dietary restrictions your horse may have, in addition to how the ingredient may impact palatability.

Treat Options for Horses with Metabolic Concerns

For those who have horses requiring a low-sugar diet, treat alternatives are available. Many horse owners turn to hay cubes or pellets to feed their horses. Although these processed forages still contain some sugar, fiber is the most prominent carbohydrate in them, resulting in a lower glycemic response. Some owners even suggest gently soaking the hay cubes and adding small amounts of high-value feed, such as oats as desired. Additionally, many feed companies are releasing low-sugar, low-calorie treat options that are scientifically

formulated by nutritionists and promoted for horses with these metabolic concerns.

Conclusion

While horses do not require treats, most owners relate this concept to relationship building. Thankfully, there are treat options for horses regardless of the requirements or restrictions they may have. Overall, it is acceptable to feed treats to respectful horses in moderation without risking the horse's health. However, overweight horses or those with metabolic concerns may benefit from alternative treat options, such as hay cubes or pellets. Despite feeding treats in small quantities, treats provided to a horse should be considered when evaluating the horse's complete ration. If you have any questions or concerns about a treat choice, it is recommended that you consult your veterinarian or nutritionist.

Happy treat making!

- 1 Carrot
- 1 Apple
- 1½ Cups Rolled Oats or Sweet Feed
- 1 Cup Oat Flour
- ½ Cup Old-Fashioned Oats
- ½ Cup Molasses
- ¼ Cup Flaxseed
- 1 Tablespoon Coconut Oil

1. Preheat oven to 300° F.
2. To make oat flour, put rolled oats into a food processor until it has a flour-like consistency.
3. Dice the apple and grate the carrot into small pieces.
4. Combine all ingredients and mix them well. The mixture should be able to form small balls and stick together. If the mixture is too wet, you can add more flour. If the mixture is too dry, add 1 tablespoon of water. The smaller the balls, the faster they will cook through.
5. Form balls and place them on a greased cookie sheet.
6. Bake for 35 minutes.
7. Remove cookie sheet and allow treat balls to cool. Store them in an air-tight container. Use within a week. They will remain the freshest if stored in a fridge.

Dr. Michelle DeBoer has her M.S. and Ph.D. in Animal Science from the University of Minnesota – Twin Cities. Currently, Dr. DeBoer is an assistant professor at the University of Wisconsin – River Falls where she teaches Animal Physiology and Equine Production and performs research focusing on nutrition, blanketing, and deworming horses. Outside of work, Dr. DeBoer competes on her Arabians primarily in dressage and endurance.

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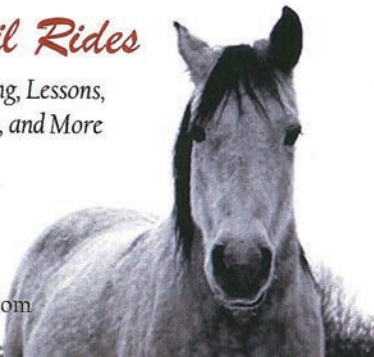
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Adopt Out



Loving, smart, and cute as can be! Lightning is a 7-year-old mustang mare that is ready for her forever home. She stands at 14.1 hands, is bay and has a dazzling blaze, along with an adorable snippet.

Lightning is from the Southern Black Hills region. After capture, she spent some time in a mustang sanctuary in South Dakota. In 2016, she was brought, along with six other mustangs, to Hooved Animal Humane Society (HAHS) in Woodstock, IL.

One of Lightning's favorite places is right by your side, which is probably because she was bottle fed and raised in the house. A mare that "adopted" her could not provide milk. The staff at the sanctuary stepped in and started bottle feeding her.

Lightning has good ground manners and was started under saddle at the Midwest



Rescue Trainers challenge in 2019. She loads like a champ and has had a little bit of liberty work.

"I love this horse," said Cynthia Glensgard, executive director at HAHS. "She is so wonderful and has soooo much potential. I want the very best for this special girl and would love for her to have someone that can devote themselves to her."

If interested please contact:

Hooved Animal
Humane Society
10804 McConnell Road
Woodstock, IL 60098
P: 815-337-5563



"Carry me across the sea . . . running through the forest." Grace

Congratulations to our

I ♥ Horses Art Contest Winners!

The entries were beautiful. One can truly see the artists' love of the horse in their work.

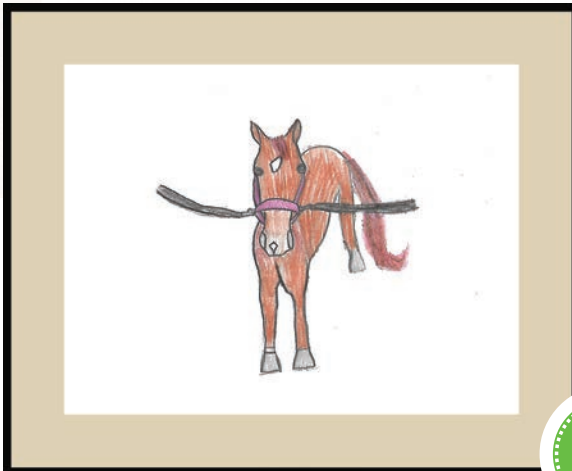
1



First Place: Mia

Mia is a very adventurous 10 year old. She loves to try new things. The first time she went horseback riding was at a birthday party, she immediately fell in love with it. From that moment she didn't want to do anything else but horseback riding. She is always anticipating her riding days at New Traditions Riding Academy, where she loves to see Fahey.

2



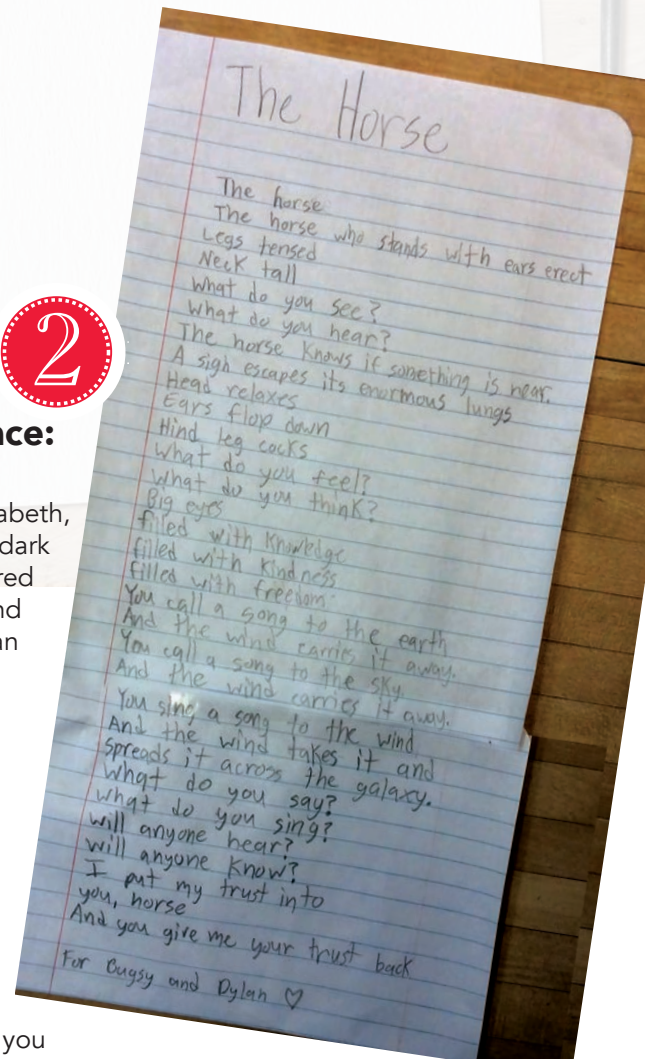
Second Place: Elizabeth

My name is Elizabeth, age 11. I ride a dark bay Thoroughbred named Dylan and a bay Hanoverian named Buggy.

3

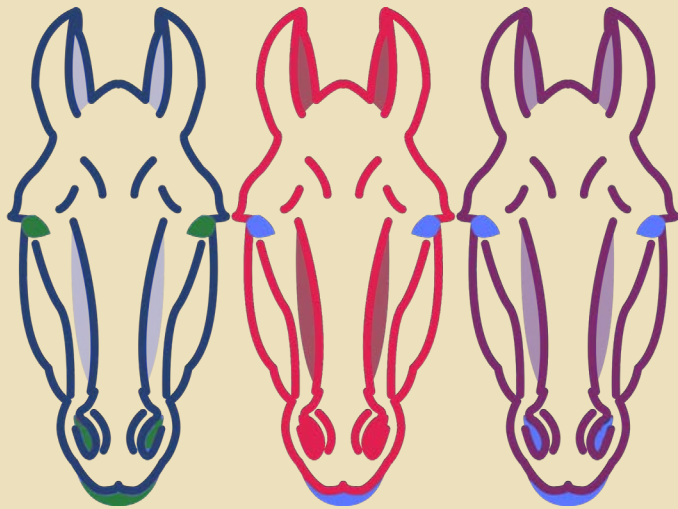
Third Place: Nur

My name is Nur and I'm 11 years old. I love horses and I just got your magazine today. I saw that you had an art contest, so I got to work on that and made a drawing of my lease horse, Addy. She's being sold, and I hope to lease her again in the spring when the new owners buy her. Thank you so much!



The Horse

The horse
The horse who stands with ears erect
Legs tensed
Neck tall
What do you see?
What do you hear?
The horse knows if something is near,
A sigh escapes its enormous lungs,
Head relaxes
Ears flap down
Hind leg cocks
What do you feel?
What do you think?
Big eyes
filled with knowledge
filled with kindness
filled with freedom
You call a song to the earth
And the wind carries it away.
You call a song to the sky
And the wind carries it away.
You sing a song to the wind
And the wind takes it and
spreads it across the galaxy.
What do you say?
What do you sing?
Will anyone hear?
Will anyone know?
I put my trust into
you, horse
And you give me your trust back
For Buggy and Dylan ♥



Problem 1:

Three horses ate a total of 30 apples. Between the first and second horses, 23 apples were eaten. Between the second and third horses, 17 apples were eaten. How many apples were eaten between the first and third horses?



Problem 2:

There are three highland ponies named Prince, Buddy, and Ruby. Prince and Buddy weigh the same amount, but Buddy and Ruby weigh 2420 kg together. Altogether, the three horses weigh 3740 kg. How much does Ruby weigh?

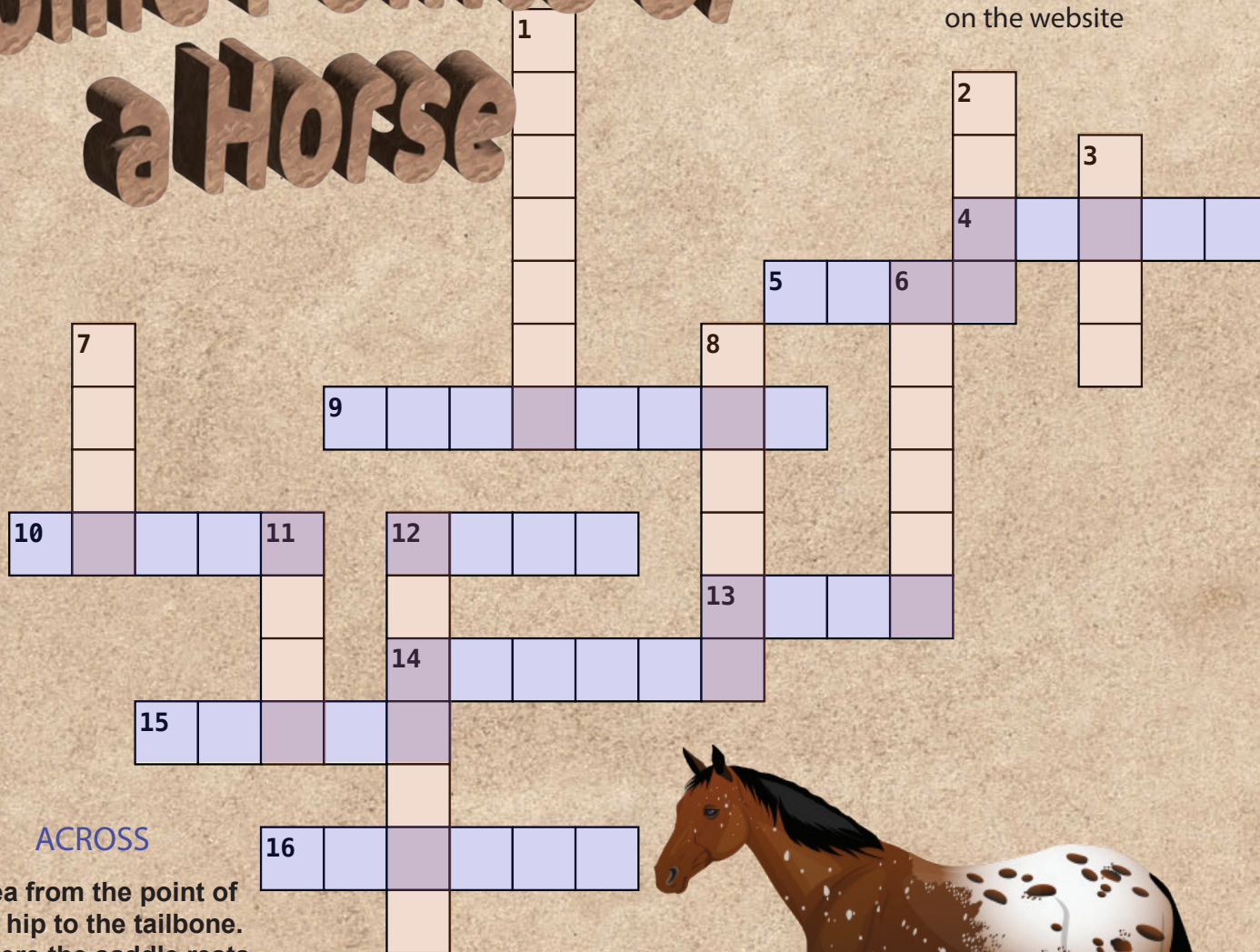
Problem 3: Jenny bought a saddle for 48% off. She got \$432 off. How much did the saddle originally cost? She also liked a saddle worth \$1,200. How much would it cost with the same discount?

 A chalkboard with a wooden frame is shown. At the top center is a red apple icon with a green stem and leaf. Below the apple, the words "Math Problems" are written in white chalk.

Math Problems



Some Points of a Horse



Crossword answers on the website

ACROSS

4. Area from the point of the hip to the tailbone.
5. Where the saddle rests.
9. Believed to be remnants of a toe pad (like a dog's pad) found in the horses' ancestors.
10. Side of the horse between the ribs and the hip.
12. The area between or behind the ear.
13. Located between the last rib and the croup.
14. Largest joint in a horse's body.
15. The ridge of the neck where the mane is attached.
16. Main body of the horse, which encases the rib cage and major internal organs.

DOWN

1. The highest part of the back, located at the base of the neck in between the shoulder blades. It is the point where a horse's height is measured.
2. Equivalent to a human's ankle, it works as a "hinge" between the lower leg bone and the horse's upper leg bone on the hind limb.
3. Area at the base of the tail.
6. A bone that extends from the knee or hock to the fetlock.
7. Used to swat flies.
8. Full of whiskers, this part includes the nostrils, mouth, chin, lips, and front of the nose.
11. A horse has two of these, which are located on each front leg.
12. Part of the leg between the fetlock and the top of the hoof.



Our next issue will come out Spring 2022
For details on home delivery please visit
our website: themidwestequestrian.com

MATH Answers

ANSWER 1:
20 Apples

ANSWER 2:
1100 kg

ANSWER 3:
\$900, \$624

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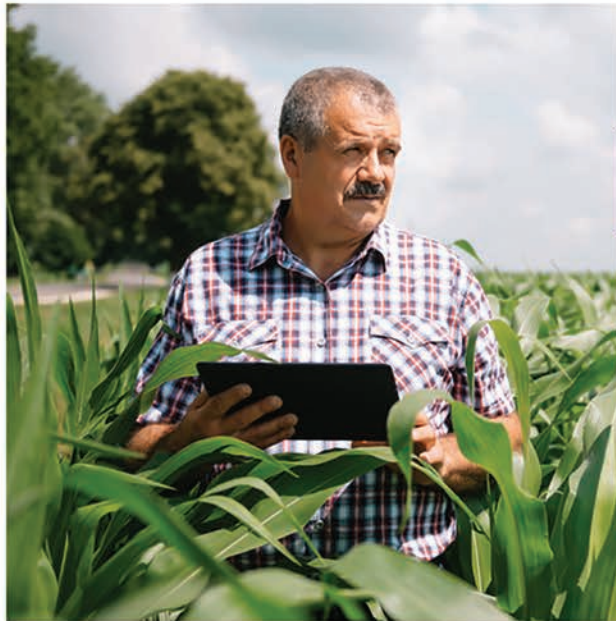
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