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OCTOBER 2020



## ***All in the Head: Animal Telepathy***

**Plus Halloween 2020 Horse Costumes, Fall Treat Ingredients, NFR and Cowboy Christmas Update, Paddy Melon Dangers, and more!**

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THOUGHT OF THE MONTH:

# Happy Halloween!



# 2020 NFR & Cowboy Christmas Cancelled in Vegas

By The VHN Writing Team



Much to the disappointment of fans across Las Vegas and beyond, both The Wrangler National Finals Rodeo and Cowboy Christmas have officially been cancelled – at least in Las Vegas.

As of the beginning of September, the PRCA (Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association) announced that NFR will be moving the 2020 event to a stadium in Texas. The rodeo will be held at Arlington’s Globe Life Field.

Cowboy Christmas, a massive accompanying convention to the NFR will follow the rodeo to Texas and be held at the Fort Worth Convention Center in Fort Worth. Dates for both are posted online.

While many fans are happy to see the NFR go on rather than being cancelled outright, those in Las Vegas find it bittersweet news. For many Vegas residents, the NFR and Cowboy Christmas are not only a yearly experience, they’re practically tradition. December is as much for Christmas as it is for when the strip turns cowboy.

Both events were originally touted to be cancelled due to COVID-19 restrictions as people anxiously waited for the final decisions. Per governing orders, social distancing measures needed to be followed which led people to wonder how these events could proceed with so many individuals in attendance every year and in such close confines.

The overwhelming demand for live viewing of the NFR forced some hard decisions, inevitably leading to a move of venue. While the move is not foreseen to be a permanent change, the decision has caused widespread worry in a city that relies on the tourist industry.

“I’m very disappointed and saddened over the decision to move NFR and Cowboy Christmas. It’s such a huge tradition and financial boost for our City,” one Las Vegas resident told Valley Horse News. “The excitement and overall Cowboy way that it brings will be truly missed.”

It can’t be denied, the question of what the lack of NFR and Cowboy Christmas will do to the Las Vegas economy. The city is already feeling the effects of COVID-19 shutdowns, with rampant bankruptcy and permanent closures across the valley.

With the loss of both events, it is projected via 2019 statistics that the city could see a hit of around \$200 million – a grim number at the end of a dismal economic year for sin city.

The NFR will have to be a tradition viewed through a tv screen this year with exception to those willing to travel to a new location to enjoy. Officials have said that every safety precaution will be exerted at the new venues.

Only time will tell what the turn out will be like with the change in events and the pandemic still thriving into the fall season.

Las Vegas will be waiting with bated breath to see what December of 2021 will hold for the city and the events we all adore so much. With a little bit of Vegas luck, the pandemic will draw to a close and familiarity along with financial stability will return once again.



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# Paddy Melon Toxicity

By The VHN Writing Team



CC: Peripitus via Wiki Commons

It’s not an easy task to get horse owners to agree on things. A difference of opinion is guaranteed when it comes to horse care, but one thing just about every horse owner can agree on is that horse care is a full-time job.

We love our horses, but holy cow are they a lot of work. It’s kind of like having a toddler that never truly grows up, never stops being hungry, and outweighs you by a lot.

On that list of jobs that we fulfill with our horses is making sure they not only eat the things they’re supposed to, we also have to make sure they don’t eat the things that could make them sick. Naturally, there tends to be a lot of those things and they’re the ones our horses are super curious about. Go figure.

Most often we can name the substance our horses shouldn’t eat, whether they occur in nature or not. But one plant that many horse owners do not know about is Cucumis Myriocarpus, also known as the Paddy Melon.

It can also be called the gooseberry cucumber, gooseberry gourd, mallee pear, or prickly paddy melon. It is a climbing annual herb that is becoming more and more common in the U.S.

The melon has a small, round, yellowish green or striped green fruit with spines, hence the prickly nickname. They also have small, yellow flowers with light green leaves. The melon is usually found in roughed up soil or areas that have been stripped. The plant thrives in summer moisture and can take root fairly easily.

The important part to remember about the paddy melon is that it can be toxic when consumed, both the fruit and the foliage of the plant. It contains cucurbitacin, a naturally occurring biochemical in some of the pumpkin and gourd family. The toxin is specifically produced to ward off herbivores.

Typically, the taste of the paddy melon will be more tart or bitter due to the toxin, and not very appetizing to horses. But it’s become apparent that horses and other livestock will grow a taste for the plant. The annoying fact about this weed is that it’s easily spread. When the melons are broken open, all of the seeds will lead to more of them and before you know it, you have a regular infestation.

The best thing to do as soon as you recognize the melons, remove them, careful to keep any seeds from spreading. If you can remove them before the melons start growing or are not yet big, you’ll have a better chance of getting rid of the weed altogether.


If you suspect your horse has eaten paddy melon and you start to see symptoms of poisoning, contact your vet as soon as possible for treatment. The severity of your horse’s condition will depend on how much of the plant your horse has ingested, your horse’s overall size and health, and how much time has passed.

The toxicity of the plant does not change from when it first sprouts to when the melons are fully formed, so the age of the plant does not play a factor in how dangerous it could be.

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• Happy Trails Monthly Recipe •

Created by Chef Sharon Hauht

“Homemade Dog Treats”

Prep Time: 5 minutes Cook Time: 25 minutes  
Servings: 48

Ingredients:

1 cup pumpkin puree  
2 eggs  
1/3 cup peanut butter natural, NO Xylitol or sugar substitutes  
2 cups whole wheat flour all purpose can be used instead  
1/2 tsp pumpkin pie spice or cinnamon (check your pumpkin pie spice or make your own - NO nutmeg, can be toxic to some dogs)

Directions:

Preheat oven to 350F. Line a large baking sheet with a silicone baking mat or parchment paper.

In a large bowl, combine pumpkin, eggs, and peanut butter. Stir until completely combined.

Add in flour and pumpkin pie spice (or cinnamon) - stirring just until combined.

Lightly flour a flat surface and roll out dough to one quarter inch, using flour as needed to keep dough from sticking.

Cut shapes out of dough and place on prepared baking sheet.

Bake for 20 to 40 minutes - depending on desired level of crunchiness.

Remove treats from oven and let cool on a cooling rack. Store in an airtight container for up to 1 month in the refrigerator or 6 months in the freezer.



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About Happy Trails Kitchen



Sharon Hauht is the owner of Happy Trails Kitchen that specializes in baking and artfully decorated custom celebration cakes, cupcakes, cookies and sugar art for your special occasion. Sharon is an award winning cake decorator who has more than 40 years experience. Sharon competed with her team, Gouly Goblins, on Season 10 of Food Network’s Halloween Wars and was featured on the Road to Halloween Wars, which aired on September 13, 2020.

Happy Trails Kitchen (HTK) is registered by the Southern Nevada Health District (SNHD) as a cottage food operation, which means HTK’s food labels have been approved by SNHD, applicable recipes have been lab-tested for shelf stability (pH and water activity), and Sharon Hauht has been approved to bake and decorate cakes out of her home. She can print edible images (logos and Photographs) on your confections. She has her food handler’s card for food safety.

You can see pictures of some of her recent projects on her website: [www.happytrailskitchen.com](http://www.happytrailskitchen.com). You can contact Sharon through her website or by emailing her at [happytrailskitchen@gmail.com](mailto:happytrailskitchen@gmail.com) or call (702) 277-8000. HTK is also on Facebook and Instagram under HappyTrailsKitchen.



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## Fall Prepping

By The VHN Writing Team



Much to everyone’s relief, the hot months of the year are about to fade away as fall starts to make itself known. After a horribly hot summer, cooler temperatures will be both good and almost strange. Along with all of the enjoyment that the cooler temperatures can bring, fall is also a reminder for us that winter is not far off.

Depending on where you are located, fall can bring very chilly temperatures much more quickly than expected. Which means that now is the time to prepare yourself, your horse, and your property for the cold.

Take a look at your horse’s deworming schedule. It might be coming up for the next round, and preparing for an infl ux in different types of parasites as the weather changes is a good idea.

Pack up your summer supplies. Summer fl ysheets, masks, and other hot weather gear can be stored to make room for winter supplies. Remember to launder before storing and protect against potential pests looking for a warm place to sleep.

Take stock of your winter gear. It’s time to air out those winter blankets and check for repairs. It may be time to get a new one altogether. Similar to your horse’s gear, prepare your winter riding clothes and accessories before the cold hits.

Prepare your tack for winter storage. While the summer is hot and dry, the cold can be just as dry if not more so. Properly storing your tack and keeping it clean and oiled will prevent damage through the season.

Insulate water pipes. A busted water pipe can be a pain to deal with in the freezing cold, not to mention the risk of ice build up in general. Preparing pipes and spigots now can save you damage and costly repair later on.

Check your property for damages, wear and tear. The cold can wreak havoc on your property, and cause even more damage to weak areas like fences. Now is the time to decide if things should be replaced or strengthened.

Also check feed bins and buckets for any damage that may not last the winter.

Prevent critters and pests from taking over your barn. As the weather gets chilly, critters will looks for warm places to live, which includes your barn. Check every area for holes or cracks that could let them in.

Consider an extra light source. As the time changes and it gets dark earlier, it may be a good idea to invest in a lantern or extra fl ashlight for chores in the early morning or evening.

Figure out a working and feeding schedule for your horse. As the weather gets colder, your horse may not get as much exercise as in the warmer months. If your horse’s routine is about to become more relaxed, changing his feeding schedule and amount to match his level of work will keep him healthy.

Also, many owners will feed extra hay in the winter months, as it helps your horse to keep warm. Balancing out this extra roughage by decreasing other goodies can keep your horse from receiving too much sugar and other ingredients.

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Take extra care with older horses or those with health conditions. The cold can put extra strain on older horses and those with different health conditions. Speak to your vet about the best ways to keep them healthy and comfortable as the temperatures drop.

Double check your winter ride provisions. Most of us have a set amount of supplies that are useful for the hot months of the year. The fall and winter temperatures can be just as harsh as the heat.

If you like going out on trail rides or trailering out to other cold areas for competitions, preparing an emergency list for cold weather can keep you safe in case an accident or breakdown happens to and from home.

It also never hurts to have some emergency contacts on hand in case you need some extra help, or need someone close by during the harsher days of the season.

Lastly, it’s never too early to prepare for the following winter. Try making a checklist during this winter season for things that could make the next one easier. You also may fi nd that you forgot some things this time around which could end up being something you forget next year.

This list could include anything from extra large water buckets, more insulation for your pipes, a couple extra bales of hay, or simply keeping a few more stocking caps and gloves in the barn for your own comfort and convenience.

It’s better to be as prepared as possible now, than stressing later as problems arise. And I’m sure your horse will appreciate the extra attention and fore thought on your part. Checking over your horse and property for the cold weather can make the next two seasons much more cozy and welcoming.





# Hungry, Hungry, Horse

By The VHN Writing Team



As we finally slip into the fall months, many of us are having visions of yummy recipes and baking with a house that smells like pumpkin and cinnamon. We’re gearing up our Pinterest boards full of mouthwatering ideas and can’t quite pick which one to make first as the temperatures slowly start to dip.

While you love to enjoy both making and eating your fall treats, and so does your family, your equine buddy can also partake in some festive fall munchies.

This fall and winter you might consider giving horse treats a go as you work up a sweat in the kitchen. First, be sure to do your research on what your horse can and can’t have.

Consider the sugar content of your ingredients and the recipe overall as some horses are sensitive to sugar intake, especially if they have conditions such as insulin intolerance. There’s always the option of using other ingredients as substitutes so that all horses can enjoy some goodies.

Keeping your treats as natural as possible is always a good way to go, so think about including things like: apples, carrots, pears, oranges, bananas, watermelon, pumpkin, dates, and more. Be sure to remove any pits and slice up pieces to prevent any choking problems.

When whipping up something extra, you can also include ingredients like molasses, oats, cinnamon, beat pulp, honey, brown sugar, peppermints, apple sauce, safe types of seeds, and more.

If you want to add flavors, consider purees or mashes of different fruits tossed with dry ingredients. Always check to make sure that the spice you pull from your cabinet is horse safe.

There are tons of recipes online as well for making horse treats and mashes that either require baking, setting up, or nothing at all.

And the best thing about having a recipe is that you can tweak it how you like, and you can make it as many times as you want.

Here’s a quick list of some approved horse ingredients to reference:

- Apple
- Apricot
- Banana
- Blackberry
- Coconut
- Grapefruit
- Orange
- Peaches
- Pear
- Pineapple
- Plum
- Strawberry
- Watermelon
- Pumpkin
- Grapes
- Raisins

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- Cucumber
- Carrot
- Celery
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Depending on how crazy you want to get with your recipes and how picky your horse is, you could make a huge variety of horse treats. You can also experiment with textures like crunchy or soft and whether the treats are served warm or room temperature.

When testing out a new ingredient, it’s always best to err on the side of caution and do a very small taste test. This way you’ll know if your horse hates something before you go to the effort of making a bunch and you’ll know if your horse has any surprise sensitivities to a specific fruit, veggie, or spice. As always, feeding treats in moderation is important, so your horse’s body stays in top condition and he doesn’t develop bad habits from too many treats.

Now get to cooking, your chunky monkey equine is waiting to taste test! And he just might be the toughest food critic you’ve ever had!







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## Wildfires and Horse Health

By The VHN Writing Team



2020 has been anything but a predictable year. It seems as if each new month has to outdo the last, and one of the worst things outside of the pandemic this year are the wildfires ravaging the country, namely in California, Oregon, Washington, and farther.

It is a given that every year will have wildfires. Most at risk states plan for them in advance and take the previous year's activity into account to adequately prepare. This year, the wildfires reached unpredictable and catastrophic levels, to the point of breaking records and being referred to as one of the worst wildfire seasons in history.

Right now, the west coast is plagued by these fires, prompting evacuations as many people lose their homes and some even their lives. It will not be until the end of the fire season, when all of them are finally put out, that the total damage will be quantifiable.

It might be tempting to feel secure if the fires are far away from you, but a second threat accompanies the fires and it is spreading even further – smoke.

Western cities in the U.S. are experiencing the worst air quality in the entire world as a result of the smoke that is building up. Skies have turned shades of yellow, orange, and even red, as smoke blocks the sun's light, casting everything in an almost apocalyptic filter.

As everyone reaches for the fall season and cooler temperatures, as well as hoping for some rain in a record-breaking dry spell, many people are wondering what to do about their horses as they deal with the horrible air quality.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's air quality index or AQI ranks air pollution and accompanying health concerns on a scale of 0 to 500.

A number above 300 is considered by the AQI to be "hazardous" quality, and the states listed here and beyond that are experiencing numbers on the scale of above 500. Yet another record being broken.

This air quality effects both humans and our animals. As our horses are stuck in outside conditions, it's important to consider their care during this trying time. The air quality can worsen respiratory distress in people, and this can be extended to our horses as well.

Equine asthma, along with coughing and reduced lung functioning can all be blamed on the smokey air. Horses that are exposed to such bad conditions over a long period of time could develop symptoms like coughing, snorting, nasal discharge, labored breathing, loss of appetite, and even fever. Infections and more severe symptoms are possible.

Older horses with heart conditions or poor immune systems can be hit hard by the air quality.

Unfortunately, evacuating to an area with better air isn't possible for most people, especially with the smoke reaching into neighboring states.

There are a few things owners can do in the meantime to help keep their horses as healthy as possible.

First, stop all exercise for now. Exercising will only exacerbate your horse's need to breath in, irritating your horse's lungs much more quickly and thoroughly.

To mitigate the sudden loss of exercise, adjusting your horse's amount of feed can prevent serious impact on your horse's body condition.

It's also very important to provide your horse with lots of clean drinking water. The water will help to hydrate your horse's body and flush out his airways. Any discharge that may accumulate as a response to smoke will be thinned by staying hydrated as well.

Also consider moistening your horse's environment. While you can't control the smoke in the air, you can control dust and other substances.

Keep your horse's pens and arena's wet to limit dust and dirt. Wet your horse's hay and other feed, or even soak the hay to rid it of excess dirt and debris.

If your horse has elevated symptoms, start monitoring his temperature and check for symptoms of infection. If your horse has nasal discharge or cannot catch his breath, he may need professional help.

The last thing you can do is try to maintain a sense of normalcy for your horse as much as possible. Keep a regular schedule and spend time with your horse. He will be able to sense the changes in the air and know that something is off. Stress can worsen your horse's condition, so keeping him as happy as possible will help in the long run.

If your horse is having a difficult time coping with the air quality or is in respiratory distress, contact your vet as soon as possible.

Your veterinarian will be able to offer ideas on what you can do and tell you what your horse needs to recover. He may be able to benefit from care at a veterinary facility rather than at home. If nothing else can be done, moving your horse to a new place could be necessary.

If you need to move your horse away from poor air quality, doing research is the best option and getting in touch with friends or family in other states.

Due to the pandemic, travelling and staying with those you don't know may be problematic. Renting out a place with little to no contact is the best option. Your vet can also help you plan for the change, which should only be temporary as the wildfires are put out.





# Animal Telepathy: All in the Head?

by The VHN Writing Team



The animals that inhabit our lives can and most often do show us some extraordinary things. While we humans tend to classify ourselves differently than the animal kingdom in mind, body, and spirit, our animals can reflect our own “humanity.”

Animals may be diverse, but they are very similar to us physically, emotionally, and even mentally.

One area of research that seeks to bridge the gap between animals and people is telepathy.

Telepathy is referred to as the potential ability to receive and understand the thoughts of other beings without using the standard, recognized senses.

Basically, telepathy means you can understand what someone is thinking without them needing to tell you with their voice, with sign language, in writing, or any other direct and physical form of communication. Information is specifically transmitted from one mind to another.

The opinions about telepathy range all over the place. Some believe that it’s complete nonsense, like magic, while others are curious but not wholly convinced about it being a real ability. There also is no real, scientific proof that it does in fact exist, either between two people or a person and an animal. Animal telepathy is most often associated with pseudo-science, metaphysical beliefs, or different types of spirituality.

The idea of being able to speak telepathically with animals instead of another person can be even harder to grasp. While the concept seems very far-fetched, animal telepathy is a growing hobby. This growth in interest can be attributed to the basic curiosity of “what are our animals thinking?”

We are denied access to our animals inner most consciousness since they cannot speak up and voice what they are thinking or feeling. While we cannot speak directly with them, our animals tend to show us in other ways that they understand us and connect with us on other wavelengths.

Many horse people can probably think of a time when their equines provided a sense of comfort during a difficult time. Perhaps there was an instance where it seemed as if your horse could read you or anticipate how you were feeling.



Maybe they even did something in response to an unspoken need of yours and you chalked it up to coincidence.

There could be many explanations for these situations, all of them totally rational and explainable. But imagine if by communicating telepathically with your horse, you could get the real answers without having to guess.

Think of the questions you could ask them and all of the things you’ve ever wanted to know. Is your horse happy? Did they lose a friend at one time? What do they think about you? Do they miss you when you’re gone? What’s something they wish they could tell you? Did they really think that puddle was going to eat them?

Okay, there’s definitely more serious questions than that last one on your list, though you’d probably like to know just how scary that puddle actually was to your equine.

The possibilities of the things our horses wish they could tell us and the things we wish we could ask them or have them ask of us is limitless.

According to the experts in the field of animal telepathy, it’s possible for anyone to communicate in this form with their animals. It’s like learning to ride a bike in a way. You have the ability to do so, but until you try and train your muscles and balance, you won’t be able to. The only thing preventing you is your disbelief or unwillingness to attempt it.

If you’re curious and want to try flexing those telepathy muscles, here’s how professionals say you should go about training yourself.

First, try meditating. Getting into a balanced and tranquil state of mind and body is important for opening up to the experience of telepathy. A calming atmosphere for both you and your animal is essential.

Try saying your horse’s name telepathically. Visualizing your animal in your mind’s eye can help you reach out to them. Think of it as pushing your mind out towards theirs, offering a connection that you hope they will accept.

Next, you can try asking your questions to see if you receive some kind of mental response. Start small and simple at first. Keep your mind open to any possibility, as answers will not always manifest in words, they can also come across as emotions or intense feelings, a disjointed thought, smells or sounds, or even flashes of images.

No matter the kind of response you get, always acknowledge it. Don’t give up if you don’t find any connection as first or at all. Keep trying. If you don’t have any success during the first attempt, practice.

It makes sense that the connection wouldn’t be easy to acquire as humans have spent their entire relationship with horses separated in communication.

There’s also the option of hiring an animal communicator to help you. Now, we cannot make any claims that this field is tried and true and 100% real. But, if you’re curious enough and believe enough, it might be worth a try. You never know what kinds of surprising answers you will get in the process. Some of them might just shock you into believing.

It’s recommended that you research your animal communicator as much as possible to prevent any kind of fraud or chance of losing money on someone who’s only objective is to steal with false claims.

While animal telepathy may sound like something out of a science fiction book or a fantasy movie, it’s important to remember that just because things are difficult or not yet understood doesn’t mean they’re in fact impossible, they’re just still in the making.

After all, people used to believe that if man were meant to fly, he would’ve been born with wings.





# 31 Horsey Halloween Costume Ideas

By The VHN Writing Team



Halloween 2020 is fast approaching as the year seems to be flying by. Whether that’s a good thing or not is for anyone to say. While the holiday will look a lot different this year, there’s no restriction on the ways you can create your own spooky fun.

What better way to enjoy than to include your equine buddy in your costume choice?

Here’s a list of some great Halloween costumes to create with your equine (quick, before your horse chews it up!)

1. Knight and dragon
2. Angel and devil (depending on your horse, he could be either)
3. Unicorn/ Pegasus and a princess
4. Frappuccino and a barista
5. Zebra and zookeeper
6. Headless horseman
7. Cop and robber
8. Painter and a paint horse
9. Shrek and donkey
10. Witch and a pumpkin
11. Flower and a bumblebee
12. Zombies
13. Mickey and Minnie Mouse
14. Carousel Horse and rider
15. Sheriff and deputy
16. Maleficent and her steed
17. A bag of M&M’s and one M&M rider
18. Farmer and a cow
19. Nurse and a patient
20. Lion and lion tamer
21. Evil scientist and Franken-horse
22. Mouse and cheese

23. Taco and a Margarita
24. Cruella DeVil and dalmatian
25. Fish and fisherman
26. Clowns
27. Dorothy and Toto
28. Tortoise and the Hare
29. Vampire and a Bat
30. Zorro and Tornado
31. If you don’t have a horse handy or your horse is having none of it, try doing the “invisible horse” costume. Take some wire and tape, fashion the look of a halter and lead rope like it’s on a horse’s head. Bend the rope part up.

Voila! It looks like your leading an invisible horse.

Which costume idea is your favorite?

Have you dressed up with your equine buddy before? Send pictures to valleyhorsenews@gmail.com and we’ll feature them in the next edition.

What’re you planning on being this year? Happy Halloween and Stay Safe!



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If you're interested in giving a L.E.A.N horse a forever home, please contact Karin at 702-533-4656 or visit them at [www.LEANhorses.org](http://www.LEANhorses.org)



Above: Minnie



Left: Frieda

## Minnie -

Found trapped in the hot desert far from any developed area, Minnie was mere hours from a point of no return. She staggered after some heavy equipment operators nearby, one of whom knew horse expert Robin Bailey and called for advice. A chain reaction was set off, as workers gathered to share their water ration with the emaciated horse, Animal Control was called to come immediately with a trailer, Desert Pines was set to receive this extreme patient, and Robin made arrangements to foster this amazing girl should she survive at all. Many hands, more prayers, and a good deal of luck has brought Minnie into the care of L.E.A.N. as their 77th intake (in the last 8 years). With a lot of experience in the rehabilitation of such cases, there is no better chance for Minnie to survive this horrifying neglect and live her twilight years with love and plenty of all she needs.

## Frieda -

Shortly after the dramatic arrival of Minnie, another horse who had been patiently waiting for her own hero was finally granted release also into the care of L.E.A.N., as their 78th intake. An aged Friesian and thankfully nowhere near the deplorable shape that Minnie suffered, Frieda needed some quality feed and careful monitoring of her liver values as she recovers from moderate malnutrition. Thankfully L.E.A.N. specializes in medical cases, since they only receive their horses from Animal Control agencies, and are sometimes the last bastion of hope for the unwanted and broken. Taking in two new horses who are both advanced in age and unlikely to be rideable, or adoptable, is not easy for this rescue who already has a sanctuary herd of six horses to support.... especially in these strange times of hardship. If you would like to help support either Minnie or Frieda, please visit [www.LEANhorses.org](http://www.LEANhorses.org) for options. To follow their progress in pictures, please go to page LEAN Horses at Facebook.com

[WWW.LEANhorses.org](http://WWW.LEANhorses.org)

## A Horse, Of Course

By DON BLAZER

There's got to be a better way.

I guess one horseman or another has been saying that since man first tried to ride the horse and quickly discovered there's got to be a better way.

Every time I see riders (sometimes calling themselves "trainers") spurring, whipping, jerking, pulling and punishing, I say, "There's got to be a better way".

So if there's a better way, what is it and where is it?

It's really easy to tell you what it is. (Horsemen have been telling us for more than 2,500 years.)

The hard part is convincing you it is just beyond the insidious, "I agree, but..." (No one wants to be told they are using excuses to avoid the issue.)

Let's start at the beginning. More than 2,500 years ago the Hittites left us a partial horse training manual. What the Hittites discovered was mankind has the ability to teach a horse a communication system by which mankind can solicit a specific performance from the horse. The Hittites did not advocate the use of force or special equipment. (The equipment was crude and pretty rude, but got the job done.)

Primarily, the Hittites explained, basic cues taught slowly and with plenty of practice result in good performance. Now there's an idea that is going to seem too radical for a lot of today's trainers.

And how are so many of today's horsemen going to react to Xenophon's observation 2,400 years ago, that it is not the bit which is cruel or gentle, but the rider's hands. Just imagine how difficult a concept that is to grasp. And think about the 10,000 full-color advertisements with endorsements by name trainers claiming "it's the bit, it's the splint boots, it's the vitamin supplement."

After Xenophon, it is one master horseman after another, offering help in understanding the horse, help in mastering techniques of communication, help in developing the individual's unique talents which result in innovations of style and horsemanship.

So, the better way is there. It's been explained, and reviewed, and offered in different languages and is demonstrated by those whose passion is the horse. It's yours for only a tiny bit of effort.

Unfortunately it is not seen everywhere, nor all the time. Quite the contrary, it is seldom seen, anywhere.

It's hiding behind, "I agree, but..."

"I agree, but" are the words used right after all the highest standards are claimed. "I agree, but" are words a horseman uses to try to fool you into thinking he'd really like to practice a better way. "I agree, but" is the excuse offered to avoid a tiny bit of effort.

Worst of all, "I agree, but" are words given to protect the ego and keep the speaker wrapped in the warm approval of all the other horsemen who say, "I, agree, but..."

There are so many convenient excuses for not finding a better way, that it is a wonder anyone tries.

It's hard to establish a workable communication system with a horse.

It's hard not to use force. It's hard to ignore merchandising claims of a magic cure.

It's hard to see the wrong things emerging victorious.

It's hard to watch judges claim to want one thing, then reward just the opposite.

It's hard to see breed associations bend the rules, ease the rules and change the rules to make things more convenient for those who are more interested in profits and results than horses.

So why not say, "I agree, but"?

Because you have the creative potential to find a better way, without the gimmicks, without the force, without the specialized equipment and without the compromised standards.

Because I believe in you.

Because there is a better way.

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**October 10** Nevada State Horsemen's Association Region V

**October 22-25** Western States Versatility Ranch Horse Association



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**SAM'S TOWN**  
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### The Bronc Rider

By Anna Dunstone

A puny thing, that bucking horse  
With faulty conformation  
But the rider's dangerous game  
Is one of aviation  
For up and down the rider flies  
The bronc's nostrils a-flare  
And with a stubborn buck, the man  
Goes soaring through the air  
He never thought he'd learn to fly!  
Too bad it was crash-course  
He hit the ground before he knew  
That he'd come off his horse  
He'd had no time to spread his wings  
As through the air he shot  
No time to say a prayer, or think  
Feathery, light thoughts  
The ground was eager now, to meet  
The man, and kiss his face  
The man was not so eager, though  
To meet the ground's embrace



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# NDOW Tip - Nevada Department of Wildlife New App

By The VHN Writing Team



The Nevada Department of Wildlife has launched a brand-new app to the public.

The app, searchable as NDOW Tip, allows individuals to report/ submit completely anonymous tips to help report crimes against animals to the department.

The app has features that permits the public to send photos or videos of any suspicious or illegal activities directly to the Operation Game Thief hotline.

The aim of the new app is to help protect Nevada’s wildlife by integrating with the public on an easy to use platform that’s available right in their pocket or purse. It also allows a more seamless way of submitting evidence of a crime in full via the ability to submit accompanying visual aids.

When a report is made via the app, the information is kept totally anonymous so that any personal or identifying info is removed before the game warden views the tip. It is hoped that this app will allow the public to feel secure and empowered to take interest in Nevada’s natural wildlife and safeguard it for the well-being of everyone.

It also provides a very straight forward link to the department to solve these issues.

The app can be downloaded for free from the Google Play Store, iTunes App Store, or by visiting the department’s website at [www.ndow.org](http://www.ndow.org).

Individuals will still have the ability to call in to the Operation Game Thief Hotline directly at 1-800-992-3030, if they do not wish to download the app to their devices.

From the NDOW official website:

NDOW’s Mission-

To protect, conserve, manage and restore wildlife and its habitat for the aesthetic, scientific, educational, recreational, and economic benefits to citizens of Nevada and the United States, and to promote the safety of persons using vessels on the waters of Nevada.

The Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW) is the state agency responsible for the restoration and management of fish and wildlife resources, and the promotion of boating safety on Nevada’s waters. NDOW is organized into seven divisions (law enforcement, game, fisheries, conservation and education, habitat, wildlife diversity, and operations division) that develop programs and projects, and three regions (eastern, southern and western) that implement these programs. In addition, NDOW coordinates agency planning activities, legislation, and support operations by assigning senior management level personnel to coordinate these efforts. The Department is led by a governor-appointed Director, who also serves as the Secretary of the Wildlife Commission. The Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, a 9-member, governor-appointed board, is responsible for establishing broad policy, setting annual and permanent regulations, reviewing budgets, and receiving input on wildlife and boating matters from entities such as the 17 county advisory boards to manage wildlife.

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- ❌ Kephart was **rated 4th Worst Judge** out of 29 in the 2019 Judicial Performance Evaluation.
- ❌ In May 2020 the Nevada Supreme Court affirmed **Kephart’s actions were “improper and judicially unbecoming.”**
- ❌ As an attorney Kephart **withheld evidence that put an innocent man in prison for over 20 years for a murder he did not commit.**

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OCTOBER 2020 CALENDER OF EVENTS						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<div>*The scheduling of events for all organizations and locations is currently under constant change due to COVID-19. For the most up to date schedules, attendance, and virtual show dates/ info please regularly visit the corresponding websites.* <i>Thank You</i></div>				1	2	3 Southern Nevada Hunter Jumpers Association Horseman's Park snhja.com
4 Southern Nevada Hunter Jumpers Association Horseman's Park snhja.com	5	6	7	8	9	10 LVGA Henderson Saddle Association www.lasvegasmkhanaassociation.com
11	12 APACHE LAND APPALOOSA CLUB Meeting 7:00pm, Horse-shoe Restaurant, Benson AZ; Contact Fred @ 520-384-5332	13 NSHA GENERAL MEETING 7pm Olive Garden - 1361 S. Decatur Blvd. 702-645-2988 POSS GENERAL MEETING 7pm @ WULFY'S Hwy 160 Pahrump 775-727-9576	14 HCON MONTHLY MEETING 7pm Doc's Saddlery 6185 Elkhorn RD LV, NV 702-361-5456 BCH of UTAH WASATCH FRONT CHAPTER 7:00pm American Legion 345 Depot st Clearfield, UT Info. 801-773-9419	15	16	17
18	19	20 SSPHC MONTHLY MEETING 7pm IHop Cheyenne & Rainbow 702-373-2673 paintmee@aol.com	21 LVAHA GENERAL MEETING. 7:15pm; Marie Calenders - 8175 W. Sahara Info: keppes@cscinfo@aol.com	22	23	24 LVGA Henderson Saddle Association www.lasvegasmkhanaassociation.com
25	26 S. NV REGIONAL TRAILS 4701 N Torrey Pines Dr., LV Contact Ed @ 702-645-1791 editoredd@juno.com	27	28	29	30	31 HAPPY HALLOWEEN!

NOVEMBER 2020 CALENDER OF EVENTS						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9 APACHE LAND APPALOOSA CLUB Meeting 7:00pm, Horse-shoe Restaurant, Benson AZ; Contact Fred @ 520-384-5332	10 NSHAV GENERAL MEETING 7pm Olive Garden - 1361 S. Decatur Blvd. 702-645-2988 POSS GENERAL MEETING 7pm @ WULFY'S Hwy 160 Pahrump 775-727-9576	11 HCON MONTHLY MEETING 7pm Doc's Saddlery 6185 Elkhorn RD LV, NV 702-361-5456 BCH of UTAH WASATCH FRONT CHAPTER 7:00pm American Legion 345 Depot st Clearfield, UT Info. 801-773-9419	12	13	14 LVGA Henderson Saddle Association www.lasvegasmkhanaassociation.com
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22 Southern Nevada Hunter Jumpers Association Horseman's Park snhja.com	23	24	25	26	27	28
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# Farm Animal Adoptions

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Give a short description explaining why they are such a great candidate for a new home.

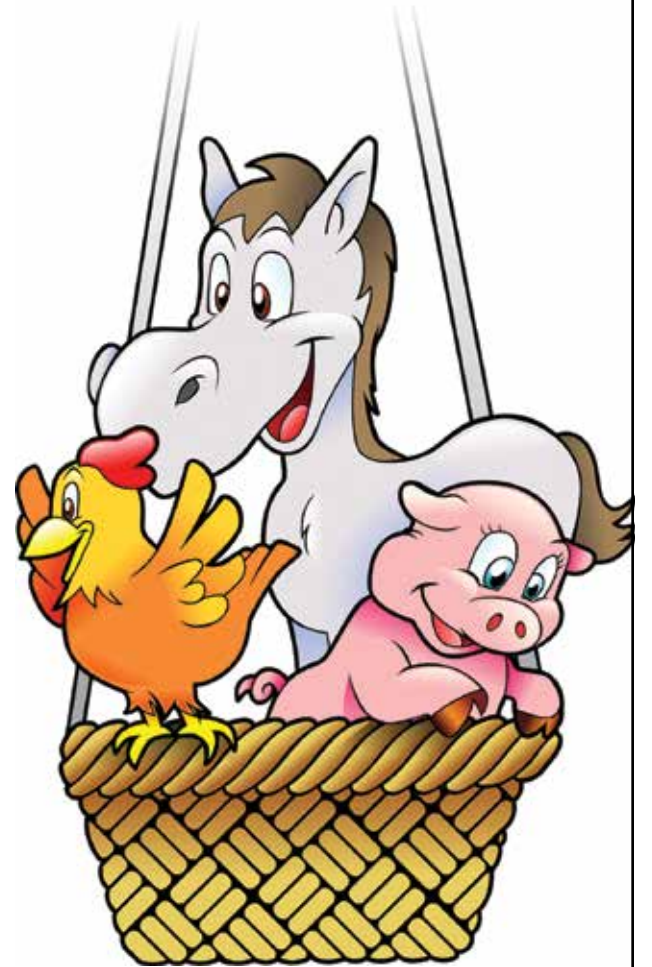
And lastly, provide the best contact information for those that are interested.

Your photo, description, and contact will go here for everyone to see and hopefully will make it to the perfect new home.



Open to all: Horses, Donkeys, Mules, Miniature Horses, Cattle, Piggies, Goats, Sheep, Chickens, Ducks, Geese, Farm Fowl, Rabbits, Alpaca, and Llamas!

Any farm animal in need has a place in this section for as long as they need it!



## ***Welcome all rescues, sanctuaries, and non-profits!***

Now is the chance to give farm animals in need of adopting and fostering an extra spotlight - **on the house**.

Valley Horse News will now have an adoptions section solely for farm animals at shelters and organizations that need to find a loving, forever home. On this page, every month, you will find photos and information about wonderful animals that could be the perfect addition to your home or farm. You will also find the organization that they come from and how you can get in contact.

This section will remain in the paper *indefinitely*.

As long as there is an animal that needs it, it will be open for listings.

Are you an organization or know of an organization that helps farm animals? Contact now for more information and to be featured on this page every month. Remember, this page is for **adoptions only**.

Animals for sale by owner must be advertised in other sections.

Please spread the word far and wide about this section so we can facilitate as many adoptions as possible. These precious animals need and deserve all the help we can get. It is a personal goal to make this section explode every single month! A home for every animal that comes on this page is not only a worthwhile but completely possible goal.

Just imagine what could be done by this time next year. So let's make it happen!

**Have questions?** Email us at [valleyhorsenews@gmail.com](mailto:valleyhorsenews@gmail.com) or call 702-808-7669

We will provide all of the information you need and answer any inquiries you may have.





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7061 Winstar St. Stunning 2 Year Old Emerald Dr Horton Home , 4,230sq ft, 5 bed/4bath, Open floor plan, Modern decor, State-of-art kitchen, beautiful community, great location!! \$729K



4335 N Fort Apache. 1/2 Acre Lot in Private 4 Lot Cul-De-Sac, Priced as Package to Include Gorgeous Architecture Plans for Custom Luxury Home \$324k



4.75 acres Farm Rd. next to top Dressage facility, green like in country, individual pastures & trees can be 4 x 1.25 acre parcels for separate buyers 995K

Excellent Land Lenders - 80% Financing!!



Call Terri Gamboa  
(702) 528-5473



Email: TerriGamboa@aol.com

REALTY ONE GROUP  
A Team of Professionals #1 IN NEVADA  
License #: S.0066408

Website: www.TerriGamboa.com





# Terri Gamboa Team

**#1 Horse Property Specialists**  
in Las Vegas



Cindy Parker  
702-528-1048

Sommer McDaniel  
702-370-2404

*SE - SW - NW - MT*

Terri Gamboa  
702-528-5473

Jenny Parker  
909-322-4601



2410 Trumble Creek Rd. 20 acre Whitefish river ranch, in Kalispell Montana, 3944sqft gorgeous home, \$2,350,000 - Keven Guercio, PureWest Real Estate - Whitefish



6128 Warm River Rd. Charming single story in favorable location. 1,300sq ft. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. Lush landscaping front & back. \$247,000



4335 N Chieftain St. 4bed/3bath - Remodeled 3,313sqft ranch style home. 12 stall mare motel ~ ideal equestrian accommodations. near lone mountain regional park. \$890K



Canyon Highlands: 2 Prime Land Parcels tucked in hills next to MacDonald Ranch Henderson w/incredible strip views 600K and 850K

**Call the #1 Horse Property TEAM to list your property here!**  
**Call us to find your DREAM Horse Property!!**



"Ride in Floyd Lamb Park, approx. 2,000 acres, best ride in town!"

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*~ NW & NW by Floyd Lamb ~*

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6420 Whispering Sands Dr 3000+ SF home on 0.46 acres, no HOA Mountain Views 3BR open plan corner lot RV parking horses permitted - ride to FLP 538K



6325 Iron Mtn. Rd. Gorgeous Luxury 2 Acre Estate. Next to Floyd Lamb, 3,550 Sf, Open Floor Plan, Luxury Living, Huge Stalls, Arena, Income Potential \$1,595,000



2A Iron Mountain Rd. 2 sides block walls. beautiful corner lot in equestrian neighborhood. Directly across from 1,500 acre Floyd Lamb Park. Build your own equestrian estate. \$445,000



7080 W Rome Blvd. Equestrian oasis on 1 acre corner lot. Remodeled, Pool & horse facilities: stalls, arena, hay storage, round pen, pasture. Extra sqft w/ 1,200 guesthouse (2bed/2bath), basement. \$859K

**Floyd Lamb Park - 1,500 Acres - NEW TRAILS - Best Ride in Town!**

**\*\*\*GREEN ROLLING HILLS, PONDS, BIG TREES, TRAILS!!\*\*\***



"Ride in Floyd Lamb Park,  
approx. 2,000 acres, best ride in town!"

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