



Wildwood Farm CLIPS & CLOPS Oak Harbor

May 2023

YOUR NEIGH-BORHOOD HULLABALOO

CREATED & EDITED BY HEATHER CARDER

The Great Netherlands Horse Rescue of 2006

In the small seaside village of Marrum, Friesland, Wednesday October 31st 2006 began dismal with blustery winds and sideways rain. As the day progressed the storm gained ground and shortly after 3:00pm local authorities posted severe storm warnings to the residents who hunkered down, their small village about 90 miles northeast of Amsterdam in the Netherlands.

Along the northern coast of the Netherlands is a shallow belt of mudflats and sandy barrier islands. Usually these remain under water but twice a day, when the tide goes out, the water retreats to expose a massive expanse of tidal flats. Hikers are often seen navigating from one sand bar to the next, and even if the water comes in it is generally shallow enough to wade through during the summer months. It was not unusual to see horses and other livestock wander through these mudflats, as

the grass – though coarse- was salty and tasty.

That Wednesday the mixed herd of 200 or so Friesian horses did not seem to mind the inclement weather, they were certainly used to the harsh conditions of this area and were of hearty stock, big boned with thick coats to keep out the late fall chill. Though the tides were encroaching on the sandbars, the horses were not phased and eagerly sought the salty rye gras, oblivious to the danger they would be in in just a few hours. Young horses played in the shallow sand while their mothers grazed in consortium, older colts scampered about sizing up their elders with exuberant defiance.

As the strong weather front gained force throughout the evening, it only took moments for the fierce storm to push seawater into the wilderness area outside the dikes of Marrum. Torrential rains and rising seas caused the small island these horses were on to be completely surrounded by seawater. As the water rose the horses gathered

closer and closer together and soon found themselves on a small area of land barley large enough to hold them. They were trapped and some of the horses started to panic. Some leapt into the water which was deep and swirling, others stood shivering on the small bank, hunkered down amidst the unrelenting rain and disappearing dry land. The storm lifted the North Sea waters as much as 13 feet above normal. Three days later it would be less than 3 feet deep in most flooded fields, but up to 6 feet deep where they are crisscrossed with drainage channels and barbed wire.

According to the local news sources these horses were to be trapped there for three long days. 19 of the horses who panicked drowned, the ones that were unsure were ousted from the herd and left to their own defenses. There was no room to eat and there was no water for them to drink. Many horses became weak from the water and cold with biting winds that went right through them. News of their story spread across the

Continued on page 11

WHAT'S TRENDING NOW

Vbite: Vibrating Horse Bit

Vbite is a horse bit that is completely covered in waterproof rubber and is equipped with a vibrating system that works via Bluetooth through a mobile phone app. The vibrations emitted inside the horse's oral cavity stimulate both jaw release and salivary glands. This process induces chewing and generates a sense of well-being for the horse. With Vbite, your horse will be more receptive during training, exercise and competitions.

Horse riding requires great communication between horse and rider, and it is essential that the horse and human are able to listen and understand each other. The greater the well-being of both, the easier it is to find harmony and the performance is improved. The Vbite system has also proved extremely effective in handling the horse from the ground in situations of potential stress such as clipping, farrier or veterinary visits.

With the intuitive interface with the "Vbite" application for IOS and Android, the pattern and



intensity of the vibration can be changed as needed. It can also be conveniently recharged thanks to its special case to be always ready for use.

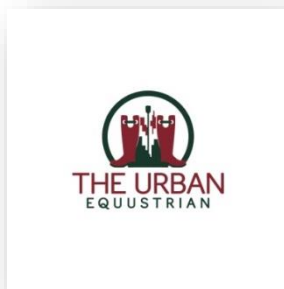
Vbite is made in Italy with a modern, Avant-garde design and appealing aesthetic. The innovative vibration system is covered in a transparent rubber coating and completely waterproof.

The inventors of Vbite had a vision to produce a gentle method to make the horse accept the bit and the rider's aids no matter the type or level of training. Vbite induces a relaxed and collaborative attitude in the animal, putting its well-being first.

For more information visit www.vbite.it



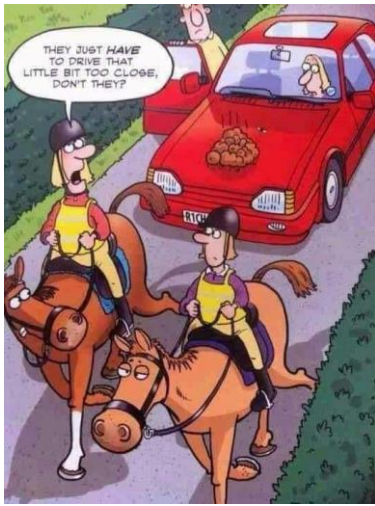
Our Store is currently open by Appointment



Shop Online!
www.thenoblehorsevintage.com

New Items for May





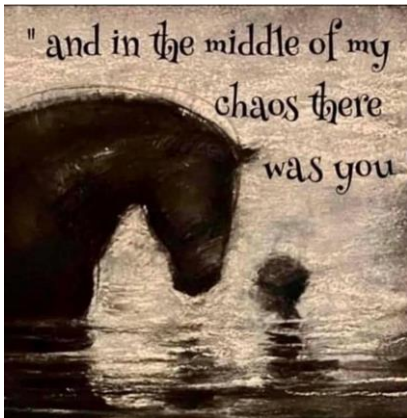
I admire those with hairstyles. I don't have a hairstyle. I have hair. Some days it doesn't have hay in it. That's as good as it gets.



HORSE WOMAN LIFE STAGES

-  LEASING
-  1 HORSE
-  2 HORSES
-  3+ HORSES

WHEN IT'S A BIT WINDY AND YOU LITERALLY JUST ASK FOR TROT...

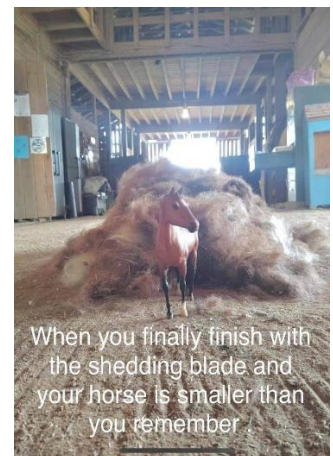


As soon as you say, "My horse would never." there he goes, nevering like he's never nevered before



A woman goes out shopping with her husband and spots a pair of boots she loves. The husband says, "No chance love, they're way too expensive." Later on in bed, the wife is just falling asleep the husband tries his luck and places his hand on her hip and lower on to her thigh. She turns to him and says. "I don't think so mate. If you're not prepared to shoe the horse then you sure as hell ain't riding it!"

harryhall.com



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www.wildwoodfarmbandb.com

WILDWOOD FARM HAS IT ALL!

PACIFIC
NORTHWEST
PNWA
Riding
Academy



“We will never have to tell our horse that we are sad, happy, confident, angry or relaxed. He already knows—long before we do.”

-Marijke de Jong



“It is the horse’s gift to connect us with heaven and our own footsteps.”

-Ronnie Sweet



WWW.PNWRiding.com

PACIFIC NORTHWEST
RIDING ACADEMY

BECOMING A HORSE

ROSS GAY

Ross Gay wants to understand joy. He is the author of four books of poetry and two essay collections, including Inciting Joy, which was published in October 2022.

"Becoming a Horse" was published in the July 2012 issue of the Sun magazine..

**I was dragging my hands along its belly,
loosing the bit and wiping the spit
from its mouth that made me
a snatch of grass in the thing's maw,
A fly tasting its ear. It was
touching my nose to his that made me know
the clover's bloom, my wet eye to his that
made me feel the long field's secrets.**

**But it was putting my heart to the horse's that made me know
The sorrow of horses. Made me
forsake my thumbs for the sheen of unshod hooves.**

And in this way drop my torches.

And in this way drop my knives.

**Feel the small song in my chest
swell and my coat glisten and twitch.
And my face grow long.
And these words cast off, at last,
for the slow honest tongue of horses.**



Nutrition Corner

Avoiding Gas Colic in Horses

As a grazing herbivore, horses require a steady flow of fibrous forage for a healthy gastrointestinal tract. The equine hindgut (cecum and colon) plays a significant role in digestion, heavily relying on a vast microbial population that works in balance to ferment the fibrous components of plants that make up the majority of the equine diet.

Gas is a byproduct of normal digestive tract operations, and the average horse produces copious amounts of it every day. However, if excessive amounts of gas are produced or it is unable to pass through the many turns and rotations of the gastrointestinal tract, particularly in the colon, it can build up and cause the distention, bloating and abdominal pain that is known as gas colic.

There are some instances when rapidly-growing or stressed pasture grass can be too rich for some horses due to their sugar content, specifically from the oligosaccharide fructan. These specially-adapted sugars are chains of fructose molecules found in cool season grasses, such as fescue and perennial ryegrass. They are resistant to the enzymes of the foregut (stomach and small intestine) and pass undigested into the hindgut where they undergo rapid fermentation producing lactic acid shifting the cecal pH and leading to increased gas and bloating.

Lush, immature spring grass also can contain a high content of sugar. Stressed grasses caused by major temperature shifts can cause pasture grasses to store sugar and quickly become a potentially rich feed. If possible, when dealing with new spring grass or stressed pastures, turn out horses for a limited amount of time and increase pasture access over 14 days or more to allow the digestive tract to acclimate to this "new" feed.

Supplementation with prebiotics, probiotics and glutamine help support the beneficial microflora that reside in the digestive tract.

Prebiotics nourish the "good" bacteria and support fiber digestion. Probiotics are beneficial bacteria or yeast strains that support nutrient absorption, feed efficiency and help restore the good bacterial community in the gut. Probiotics are beneficial to any horse and are often advocated during feed changes, travel or antibiotic use.

Glutamine maintains healthy intestinal cells and supports immune health. The vitamin B complex also supports a healthy GI tract and helps to ensure proper digestion.

WILDWOOD FARM AND TRIPLE CROWN FEEDS.

Our partnership with Triple Crown began in 2014 through a promotion with the USEF encouraging farm members to compare their current feeding programs with Triple Crown products. We have found the TC products to be superior over other products primarily because of the EquiMix technology and the research support of a leading edge team including independent representatives of Equine Universities, Medical clinics and top level riders and trainers



A BLAST FROM THE PAST!

Meet ZOE

In the summer of 2019 Wildwood Farm was contacted by a horse owner in Sedro Woolley who was looking for help with her 6 yr old Quarter/Draft Cross Mare named Zoe. The owner was in a health crisis and could not give Zoe the care she needed, as the mare was diagnosed with PPSM and had to be on a fairly strict diet. Two nights before Zoe had escaped her shelter and was found grazing on fresh grass, and unfortunately she had a slight case of colic.

We agreed to take Zoe in and see if she would be happy in our lesson program. She was a lovely horse, dapple grey with black legs and black mane and tail, a structural power house with a laid back personality.

Though Zoe's training was spotty, she was pretty quick to learn and we found her willing to try. She was not a suitable mount for any of our beginner students but she was enjoyed by our more advanced ones.

When Zoe was about 18 months old she was spayed due to the owner wanting a trail horse that was dependable and she did not want to have to worry about heat cycles and mood changes. Though this is not a common procedure for most horses, it certainly can be effective in controlling marish attitudes. Unfortunately it also sealed her fate for any chances for breeding.

In October of 2020 we sent Zoe to a trainer in Oregon to try her for jumping, and though she was a bold jumper her true calling turned out to be as a reining and cutting horse. She just seemed to have a natural way with the cows and loved getting down and dirty with them!

Zoe was purchased by one of the trainer's students and she is competing successfully in local shows.

Horse Word Search

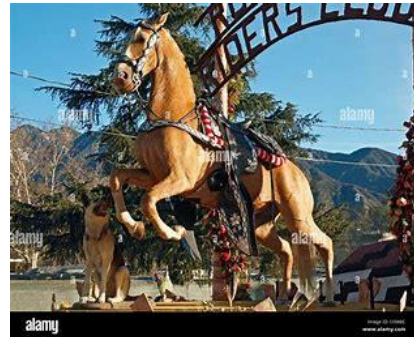


mane
fetlock
hoof
withers

colt
filly
blaze
saddle

english
dressage
girth
western

MARDI GRAS HORSE FLOATS



Lawrin Gravesite

Prairie Village, Kansas

A tiny racehorse graveyard in the middle of a quiet Kansas City suburb.



LAWRIN, THE ONLY KANSAS-BRED HORSE to ever win the Kentucky Derby, was buried on his home farm beside his sire. Nowadays, the tiny equine cemetery is the only piece of the farm that remains.

Lawrin was born in 1935 on what was then the 200-acre Woolford Farms, which specialized in thoroughbred racehorse breeding. The operation was owned by Kansas City clothier and horse aficionado Hebert Woolf, who had inherited a family chain of luxury goods department stores. (Incidentally, Woolf was also a cousin to British political theorist Leonard Woolf, who would marry one Virginia Stephen, later known as writer Virginia Woolf). Lawrin inherited a thing or two of his own as a son of Insko, who had sired several successful stakes winners.

The 64th Kentucky Derby in 1938 was Lawrin's 24th competitive start. He was ridden by a young jockey named Eddie Arcaro, who took him to an early lead close to the rail and staved off the steadily gaining competition through the last moment. The race was over in two minutes and four and four-fifths of a second. Arcaro would go on to win an additional four Kentucky Derbies and is still one of the most celebrated jockeys of all time.

Woolf sold Woolford Farms in 1955, which was the same year that Lawrin passed away at age 20. The farm would become part of Prairie Village, a suburb of Kansas City that had been incorporated just four years before. All that's left of the land where so many horses used to roam is a well-maintained green rectangle at the end of a residential cul-de-sac. Surrounded by a black wrought iron fence, Lawrin rests easy after a life lived at top speed.

Know Before You Go

The area is easily accessed by a quick stop in a car, bicycling, walking, and other similar means.

The Marwari



Marwari horses, also referred to as Malani horses, are a unique breed of horse that are found in Marwari, a part of India which is also referred to as Jodhpur. These horses have a number of interesting features, perhaps the most well-known being their ears which turn inwards at the tops. This gives the horses their characteristic appearance.

Marwari horses have become one of the most popular breeds of horses across the world because of their unique appearance, their intelligence, and their strength. However, there's one thing that horse breeders may not always tell people about the Marwari: it's not always considered a horse. The breed descended from ponies native to the Indian region crossed with Arabian horses. This means that they have a lot of pony in their lineage. Some of the members of the Marwari breed can be quite short and are not as big as normal horses.

Marwari horses are pretty rare on the Indian subcontinent, but they're even more rare in the rest of the world. The main reason for this is because these horses have been banned for export for most of their existence. There was a few years – between the years 2000 and 2006 – that the horse was legal for export. However, only a few were sent out of the country during these years, so breeding of Marwari horses outside the world is extremely uncommon. In 2008, a law was passed that allowed these horses to travel internationally for set amounts of time.

Marwari horses are actually descended from war horses that were used during the earlier days of India. In the northwest part of India, there is an area close to the Khyber Pass in Pakistan. Here was the place that southern Asia was connected to the northern regions, and as such this was a very popular place for invasion. They were used as cavalry horses by the Rajputs, the people of this area because they was a very loyal and brave breed of horse.

For hundreds of years, the Marwari breed has been carefully taken care of. Ever since the days of the Rajput warriors who wanted to breed them for strength and loyalty, up until today, where they are bred for their beauty and intelligence. Strict breeding practices have been observed since the horses were first bred over 800 years ago. In 1995, a Marwari breeding society was opened to help preserve purity among the Marwari.

Cont'd from page 1)

globe and authorities tried several rescue attempts, but they were unsuccessful. Marrum's mayor, Wil van den Berg, said helicopters were ruled out for transporting the animals, as the noise and lights might have panicked the animals and caused more to drown. The Dutch army also tried to rescue the animals but called off the operation when water levels receded to less than three feet in some places, grounding pontoon boats. Marrum's fire department managed to ferry around 20 horses, including the smallest foals, to safety with the help of small boats, but further rescue efforts later stalled. Dutch television and newspapers showed dramatic images of the horses huddled together, their backs to the wind that was whipping up small waves in water surrounding their isolated island. Rescuers began feeding the animals hay and giving them fresh water to drink to keep up their strength, but hope was fading fast.

The horses needed to be lured through the water to safe grounds, but they were too scared to make the leap. With another storm approaching authorities knew it spelled doom, and it appeared that they would most-likely suffer a chilling death on this little swath of land in the middle of what was now a fairly deep sea.

But then a post appeared on the Friesian Horse Forum: "Horses and riders sought...only experienced riders with horses without fear of water". Seven female riders responded: Susan, Christina, Micky, Hinke, Antje, Fardow and Norma Miedema who would end up leading the rescue – and she was the first one to answer the post. The group met the next day to discuss how they were going to rescue the horses.

The plan was as simple as they could make it – 4 riders would swim out to the island and grab a horse and start taking them back one by one; the other riders would be staged as guards so the riders would avoid the submerged barbed wire and create a barrier to keep the horses moving straight toward dry land. The plan certainly had its own dangers – horses panicking and getting injured, riders getting submerged and caught; but it was really the only plan that had any hope.

Miedema and her horse were the first in the water and the chill was shocking. Her trusty horse forged through however and she was able to secure a halter and lead rope on one of the horses and started to lead him towards land. What happened next was nothing less than a miracle and one that was captured on video for the world to see. As millions of viewers watched, Miedema's horse stepped into the water and began to swim, and in an instant the whole herd became alive and jumped into the water to follow them. It had everyone's heart in their throat as these majestic animals realized the help they were getting and followed her dutifully through the dangerous labyrinth of underwater dangers. It was a sight that is hard to describe other than it was at once majestic and powerful and brought to light the human/horse connection.

The herd slowly progressed until the last horse was led back, escorted by riders. It collapsed from the effort once it reached shore and was immediately attended to by the veterinarian staff who was standing by.

Wildwood Farm CLIPS & CLOPS Oak Harbor

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Oak Harbor WA 98277

Not a dry eye was to be found within the onlookers, it was truly a tremendous success thanks to those 7 brave ladies. It should be reported that as a result of the rescue Miedema suffered from pneumonia, and one of the women fell into the brackish water during the ride back, but she and none of the other women were willing to give up on the horses who needed rescuing. They were praised for their bravery in Marrum.

It was not reported who the horse's owner was or if/how they were involved in the rescue, but an animal rights group filed a complaint against the horses' owner and the operator of the wilderness area where they are stranded, since the Agriculture Ministry ordered an investigation into the incident.

"We're going to work together with prosecutors to see whether there was any criminal act committed," spokeswoman Anita Douven said. "That could be negligence, or possibly mishandling of the animals."

Be sure and watch the live video of this rescue on YouTube, just search Netherlands Horse Rescue

