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## November 2017 Newsletter

DON'T MISS WATCHING THE BREEDER'S CUP RACES AT DEL MAR, CA TELEVISED FRIDAY NOVEMBER 3RD & SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4TH!



### WHO IS THE GREATER KANSAS RACING ALLIANCE?

The Alliance is comprised of farmers, ranchers, Kansas businesses and trade associations who believe in Kansas agriculture, Kansas communities and in ensuring Kansans have the opportunity to excel in a free market economy. The Alliance has come together to support pari-mutuel race tracks in Kansas. Together, the Alliance is in a RACE for Kansas to win for rural Kansas, agriculture in Kansas, communities in Kansas, and economic development in Kansas.

#### 1. WHY RACE FOR KANSAS?

This legislation is about more than just four (4) pari-mutuel tracks in Kansas: The Woodlands,

Wichita Greyhound Park, Camptown, and Eureka Downs. It is about bringing back two of Kansas' historic entertainment and agricultural segments - horse racing and greyhound racing. This legislation is a win for rural Kansas, for agriculture in Kansas, for communities in Kansas and for economic development in Kansas. It provides enjoyable destinations for Kansans and visitors from across the U.S. and from around the world. Once passed, this legislation will provide the opportunity for high-quality jobs and an expansion of agricultural production in Kansas. All of this leads to greater economic development across Kansas and, therefore, it would provide a larger tax base to help fund Kansas education, infrastructure and various state- funded programs.

## **2. WHY IS RACING GOOD FOR KANSAS?**

Racing is good for all of Kansas - both rural and urban communities. It is good for Kansas agriculture, for Kansas' ability to better fund education, for Kansas infrastructure, and many other services. In addition, racing attracts tourism dollars to Kansas from across the U.S. and around the world. Overall, Kansas can expect a significant amount of economic impact. This impact is realized not only by the 4,475 jobs the racing industry and tracks will create but also by farmers, ranchers and breeders raising horses and greyhounds - as well as the feed and bedding needed to support those animals, allied industry such as veterinarians, hotels and restaurants, equipment dealers and more than 100 different business segments touched by Kansas race tracks.

## **3. IS KANSAS THE ONLY STATE THAT ALLOWS PARI-MUTUEL WAGERING AND ELECTRONIC GAMING AT RACETRACKS?**

No. In fact, several states immediately surrounding Kansas allow for pari-mutuel wagering and electronic gaming at race tracks. Iowa and Oklahoma have several racetracks that draw thousands of visitors each year. In horse racing, the animal athletes are awarded a larger purse if they breed their horses and win a race in their home state. Since Kansas' last race track closed nearly 10 years ago, many of Kansas' sires and broodmares have been relocated to Iowa and Oklahoma, taking with them the state tax revenue dollars from racing and related industries. Greyhounds, including many from Kansas, are racing in 18 other states. Every year, Kansas loses the tax dollars, tourism revenue and other economic impacts that would be gained if these amazing animals could race at home - here in Kansas. The loss of these animal athletes has not only taken a wonderful recreation option away from Kansas but also the economic impact of thousands of horses and greyhounds from Kansas farms, ranches and communities. In 2012, Oklahoma injected more than \$491 million dollars into its state's economy due to horse racing. Oklahoma is home to more than 14,000 horses dedicated to racing that live on 800 farms across the state.

It's time to RACE for Kansas so we can bring these animal athletes back to Kansas along with those who enjoy watching them run. Kansas is unique in that it provides not only the opportunity to watch world-class horses racing but also top-notch Greyhounds too.

## **4. ARE RACING AND ELECTRONIC GAMING MACHINES ALLOWED IN KANSAS?**

Yes. Pari-mutuel wagering on horse and greyhound racing has been legal since 1986. Electronic gaming machines were legalized in 2007. Electronic gaming machines at race tracks never operated due to the state mandated 40% tax rate. The race tracks were forced to close due to the disparity in the tax rate. Changing the tax rate to 22%, which is consistent with the four state owned casinos will provide the opportunity for our race tracks to reopen.

## **5. DOES OPERATING ELECTRONIC GAMING MACHINES AT RACETRACKS NEGATIVELY AFFECT THE STATES CONTRACTS WITH CASINOS?**

No. The proposed legislation ensures compliance with existing casinos' contracts with Kansas.

## EQUINE INFECTIOUS ANEMIA UPDATE

October 26, 2017: A premises under official quarantine for Equine Infectious Anemia (EIA) in Finney County presented all horses for the 60-day retesting protocol. Two horses, which were previously EIA-negative, tested positive at this retest. Both of the confirmed EIA-positive horses have been humanely euthanized.

Both horses had been maintained on the premises under the official quarantine since August 11, 2017, pending the 60-day retest.

All other horses from this premises will remain under official quarantine for an additional 60 days pending a negative EIA test.

The Kansas Department of Agriculture-Division of Animal Health will continue to update our website as we work to resolve the EIA incident in southwest Kansas.

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Heather Lansdowne  
Director of Communications  
Kansas Department of Agriculture  
785-564-6706  
Heather.Lansdowne@ks.gov

KANSAS NEWS

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING 4H EQUESTRIANS FOR THEIR HIGH POINT ACCOMPLISHMENTS AT THE KANSAS STATE FAIR HORSE SHOW. BUCKLES SPONSORED BY KANSAS HORSE COUNCIL.



WAY TO GO SIDNEY BEESLEY, SENIOR DIVISION. 14-18 YEAR OLD, HIGH POINT CHAMP. THANKS TO JUDGE, KIMBERLY GARRETT.



WAY TO GO REGAN WETZEL, INTERMEDIATE AGE DIVISION. 9-13 YEAR OLD, HIGH POINT CHAMP.

THANKS TO JUDGE, KIMBERLY GARRETT.

JOB WELL DONE LADIES & CONGRATULATIONS FROM KANSAS HORSE COUNCIL!

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## EQUIFEST OF KANSAS 2018

**EQUIFEST OF KANSAS  
February 23 -25, 2018  
Kansas Expocentre, Topeka**

**Kansas' All Breed Horse Fair and Exposition Featuring:**

**~ BOBBY KERR ~  
MUSTANG TRAINER/ENTERTAINER**



[Click to visit Bobby's website for GREAT pics and info!](#)

~ PAUL HUMPHREY ~  
"BREAKING THE MOLD",  
AUTHOR/CLINICIAN/TRAINER

# Paul Humphrey

Paul Humphrey



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THE 21ST EQUIFEST OF KANSAS, FEBRUARY 23RD-25TH,  
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CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT 785-776-0662 OR VISIT OUR  
WEBSITE: [www.equifestofkansas.com](http://www.equifestofkansas.com), GET INVOLVED LINK.  
VENDOR & SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES ARE STILL  
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***Visit the EQUIFEST website!!***



Seeking a Foundation Chairperson to take the reins! After 5 years, our esteemed Chair, Theresa Peddicord is "retiring". If you are energetic, organized, and have a philanthropic heart, we need YOU. This is a volunteer position responsible for overseeing and managing the Silent Auction at Equifest which is the primary fundraiser for the Kansas Horse Council Scholarships Program, providing \$14,000 this past year to applicants who are going into their first year of college and some who are returning to college. Cumulatively over the years, the KHC Scholarships Program has awarded over \$108,000 to qualifying applicants. The Scholarships are presented at the annual awards banquet in June. If you are interested in more information, please contact: Justine Staten, [director@kansashorsecouncil.com](mailto:director@kansashorsecouncil.com) or by phone, 785-776-0662.

## UNWANTED HORSE COALITION



### THE UNWANTED HORSE COALITION

#### IS COMMITTED TO HELPING UNWANTED HORSES BY:

- Educating current and future horse owners on responsible ownership, proper care and breeding, and options available before a horse becomes unwanted

- Raising awareness about the unwanted horse issue and its impact on horses and the horse industry
- Reducing the number of unwanted horses and working toward eliminating the problem
- Ensuring that horses are treated humanely and with dignity
- Facilitating the exchange of information on adoption, care, and alternative careers
- Providing information on end-of-life decisions, including veterinary decisions, euthanasia, and disposal
- Explaining the issue through presentations at industry gatherings, including horse association meetings, conferences, symposiums, and horse fairs

**Operation Gelding Clinic at  
Rainbow Meadows Equine Rescue  
November 11, 2017  
Sedan, KS**



**Quick Links**

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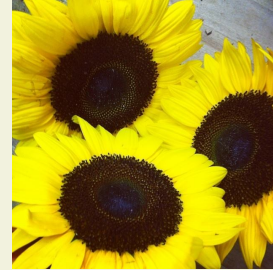
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