



LCHA Roundup

LARIMER COUNTY HORSEMAN'S ASSOCIATION www.larimerhorseman.org
www.facebook.com/larimerhorseman

November 2026

Welcome to LCHA Roundup November 2026! We want to thank **Hugh Templeton** for his many years of service producing the LCHA newsletter and keeping us all informed! You will continue to see the content we enjoy each month as a newsletter team takes the reins. And please help make the Newsletter your own by contributing items of interest. We also want to thank **Hugh Templeton** for his many years of leading the Trail Maintenance team!

Upcoming LCHA events:

LCHA Trail Ride, Eagles Nest: Friday November 6, 2026. 10:30 AM. Contact Bonnie May, Trail ride leader. (970) 217-1113 or bonnie.may724@gmail.com. We will monitor the weather.

LCHA Educational Meeting: Wednesday November 4, 2026. 7 PM to 9 PM, The McKee Building, Ranch Events Complex, 5280 Arena Circle, Loveland. Jay McDonald will talk to us about the Backcountry Horseman organization, and the work they do to upgrade equestrian trails and camping in America's backcountry and wilderness areas.



LCHA BOD meeting: Friday, November 13, 2026. Time and Location TBD. Check the LCHA calendar for updates.



LCHA Christmas Caroling in Berthoud: December 5, 2026, Please RSVP to Bonnie T. at 970.481.4307 or Susan Kurzweil at 970.619.0966. Sign up is needed in case of cancellation due to weather. Arrive at Turner Middle School parking lot at 9:00 AM, saddle up by 9:30 AM. Event is in concert with the local business The Ranchers Wife and Santa Claus. The Public, and children are welcome, as well as equines, ridden or led. There is also a hayride wagon available. Dress up yourself and/or decorate your horse. Join this festive long-standing LCHA tradition even if you can't sing in tune! Ride your horse and carol the neighborhoods. After we deliver Santa to the Ranchers Wife, we return to Turner Middle School parking lot and share hot chocolate and cookies. Bring your favorite cookies to share. Contact Bonnie T. or Susan K. to RSVP or for Q and A.



LCHA Holiday Party: December 6, 2026, at the McKee Building, Ranch Events Complex, 5280 Arena Circle, Loveland. It will be held in the Laporte/Timnath rooms from 5 PM to 9 PM. Please RSVP to Pati Morel at (970-488-0041) or realcowpati@gmail.com. LCHA will provide the main dish, dinnerware, and drinks. Bring a favorite festive dish to share if you like. If you have event pictures or memorials to share, please send to Chuck Morel at chuckm@skybeam.com by December 1, 2026. There will be games, music, and fellowship. Come have fun and celebrate LCHA 2026 and the Holiday season!



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Recent LCHA events:

October events:

October 16th, 2026: Movie night at home of Susan Kurzweil.

October 17th, 2026: Celebration and review of September Fundraiser.

October 3, 2026: Nate Bowers Cow Clinic, will be rescheduled for Spring 2027.

October 3: Trail maintenance clean-up day was cancelled as targeted area was clean!

October TBD: Chicken Fried Trail Ride: cancelled as October was full of events!

September events:

September 23, 2026. **Thank you** to Trail Ride Leader Jean Beucler and the 9 riders who joined her at Soderberg. Riders: Jean Beucler, Katie and Haley Harris, Cyntia Van Farowe, Cathe Read, Ellyn Prescott, Craig Keeton, Nicole Ruby, Barrie Nelson and Lauren Hart! And thank you Jean for the lovely pictures below!

September 19, 2026: LCHA obstacle Fundraiser: weather was perfect. 58 tickets were sold, resulting in gross total income of \$3624.58, with the expenses still to be totaled for the net. This is the highest financial success to date. 13 prizes were given out, thanks to the donors: Barnyard Vet, Latigo Lariat, Tractor supply, Karen Muhler, Janet Pancoast, Susan Kurzweil, Jill Colby and Karen Finfer. Thank you to everyone who made this happen! Thank you to Bonnie Templeton for this report.

Pictures of September trail ride at Soderberg-thanks Jean for the pictures!



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LCHA New Members to Spotlight!

LCHA is happy to welcome new members! Jill (“Mandy”) Hartman, Becky Arb, Barrie Nelson, and Laura Bechtel recently joined trail ride leader Bonnie May and photographer Greg May on a LCHA sponsored ride at Elkhorn Creek. Please welcome them as well as other recent new members: Collen Duncan, Thomas Hargis, Betsy Walton, Sarah Greiner, Geraldine Zell, Jessica Guenther, Katie Harris, Jennifer Haug, Elizabeth and Robert Kearney, Cindy Loader, Hannah Raffle, Nicole Ruby, Ellyn Prescott, Heather Purdue, Betsy Lynch, and Jane Gress. Thank you for helping LCHA to grow!

Special thanks to **Thomas Hargis**, the new LCHA Trail Maintenance Lead and LCHA Board member at Large. Thomas is from Louisiana, and currently lives in Fort Collins. He has had horses all his life and prizes a good American Quarter Horse. Welcome!



Photo credit: TJ Holmes - Spring Creek Basin

Fall 2026 update: How Colorado is building a sustainable wild horse management strategy:

Managing wild horse populations on public lands directly impacts range health, local wildlife, livestock operations, and animal welfare. While Colorado’s four federally protected herds fall under Bureau of Land Management (BLM) jurisdiction, federal budget constraints have historically left critical gaps in management—leading to overpopulation, habitat degradation, and reactive gathers. To bridge this gap, Colorado is taking a proactive, science-based approach to state-level conservation. Here is how state legislation and funding mechanisms have evolved to support long-term rangeland health: Senate bill 23-275 laid the foundation by funding targeted fertility control and expanding immunocontraceptive programs to stabilize herd sizes. It also improved on-range water sources, fencing and established a multidisciplinary Working Group. To fund the permanent program, lawmakers passed 2026 legislation establishing a dedicated Wild Horse Special License plate. This license will be available in January 2027 and will fund the program and a new Program manager.

How you can help!

Support the Program: Consider purchasing a Wild Horse license plate when they launch in January 2027 to help fund sustainable, science-backed herd management across Colorado.



COLORADO
Department of Agriculture

It hasn't been the easiest of years in Colorado with the lack of moisture. See what the Colorado Department of Agriculture has for resources:

As Colorado producers adapt to demanding weather and shifting feed needs, the 2026 Colorado Hay Directory provides a useful tool to simplify your search for local alfalfa, grass, and specialty hay products.

The [2026 Colorado Digital Hay Directory](#) is organized by region and listings include the type and amount of hay available, bale type and size, whether laboratory analysis is available, certified weed free status, and identifies organic hay. The directory has other resources listed for hay donations for dire situations.

"In the world of agriculture, efficiency and strong networks are key, and that's precisely what the [Colorado Hay Directory](#) offers our producers," said Danielle Trotta, senior marketing specialist for the Colorado Department of Agriculture. **"By connecting buyers and sellers directly, we are not only facilitating transactions but also strengthening the vital relationships that underpin Colorado's agricultural economy."**

The Department of Agriculture also encourages producers to utilize the [Drought Task Force page](#) for updated information and resources.

The [Directory](#) and other hay resources are available online at ag.colorado.gov/markets. For more information call Danielle Trotta at 720.697.3781 or email danielle.trotta@state.co.us



Winter Horse Care Tips: The Horse (2026) and Equus Magazine (2001)



As the temperatures drop, ensure your horse has adequate shelter from the elements and a well-balanced diet to maintain their condition. Regular grooming not only keeps their coat healthy but also strengthens your bond. Don't forget to check their hooves daily for any signs of thrush or injury, especially if they're spending more time in muddy conditions. Always ensure fresh, clean water is available, even in freezing temperatures.

To blanket or not blanket? “Must I blanket my horse?” the short answer is “no.” The horse generates his own blanket—a haircoat that is long enough and thick enough to withstand the coldest days of winter. It's an adjustable covering that flattens against or elevates above the skin as the horse grows warmer or cooler.

“Hair is a great insulator, and it fluffs up to warm the horse,” says Michael Foss, DVM. “Heat rising from the body warms the air, but that air doesn't go anywhere because it's trapped between the hairs. Special circumstances make “maybe” or “definitely” the correct responses for certain classes of horses. Blanketing is necessary for competition horses who are routinely clipped during colder weather to maintain a sleek appearance, reduce sweating, shorten cooling-out time and speed drying after rigorous workouts. Aged horses whose appetites and digestion may not supply enough fuel to keep flesh on their bones and their internal “furnaces” stoked require shelter or blanketing during bad weather.

Relocated horses transported from a warm locale to a much colder climate often need additional covering for their first colder winter. Horses relocated before the autumn equinox have time to grow a woollier coat to match the colder weather, but even then, they may not be sufficiently insulated for the new climate.

What weather conditions make blanketing the most beneficial? **Cold wind** causes horses the greatest discomfort and more rapidly saps their energy because it whips away body heat faster than any other condition. **Cold rain** is a close second, chilling the skin through conduction and flattening of the hairs' insulating loft. In extreme or severe weather conditions, shelter—stabling, sheds, windbreaks or other forms of natural cover—are better protection from the elements than a single garment. If you blanket your horse to protect him against wind and cold rain, use a waterproof garment to keep the rain from soaking the fabric and penetrating the haircoat. Cold horses reveal their discomfort by **shivering**, which is a reflexive action of the muscles generating more body heat. Clipped horses who are insufficiently blanketed for the current weather conditions can become thoroughly chilled, particularly when they are unable to move around at will.

Winter Horse Care Tips: The Horse (2026) and Equus Magazine (2001)



Sweating is the most obvious sign that a horse is overheated, and a blanketed horse sweats first beneath the material, then along the neck and behind the ears. Overheating typically occurs in horses turned out during warming daytime weather in the same heavy blankets needed for still-cold nights. When temperatures rise from early morning teens to midday 50s, horses in heavy turnout rugs are likely to sweat. On days of significant temperature swings from chilly to warm, err on the side of less turnout clothing. Horses can raise their temperature to the comfort zone by moving around or basking in a sheltered, sunny spot, but when blanketed they have no cooling alternative other than sweating. Jusine Harrison, a certified equine behaviorist based in northwest England, says "Many of our standard practices are based more on human comfort than equine biology. When considering blanketing, we know the majority of horses tolerate cold well, and fiber digestion generates internal heat. When we over-blanket, especially in mild weather, we can create heat stress, sweating, skin irritation, and pressure points."

If you have any specific concerns, consult your veterinarian or a trusted equine professional.



Leg Up Financial Assistance: see website at <https://chr.org/resources/leg-up-program/>
Temporary hardship happens, and our financial assistance program is here to help you and your horse get through unexpected tough times together.

Hardship doesn't discriminate, and sometimes even the most devoted horse owners need a leg up to help care for their beloved companions. If you are facing a temporary financial strain due to loss of employment, short-term illness or injury, death in the family or another setback, CHR may be able to help.

Our Leg Up Program offers modest, short-term financial assistance to support day-to-day feeding, basic care, emergency veterinary care, or gelding for your equine partner while you focus on getting back on your feet.



The Vet's Corner! Note: Your local veterinarian will always be the best source to answer specific questions related to your horse. The below content from **American Association of Equine Practitioners (AAEP)** webinar 07-15-2026.

When to call the vet for wound care: Any of these: • Full thickness skin • Over a joint or tendon • Significant blood loss • Marked lameness. (note: picture below shows serious wound being irrigated by a vet)



What do to while waiting for the vet: If horse is stable, move to a barn or shed • Electricity ideal • Bandage if bleeding: Clean and cover wound only if you have been trained and are skilled in emergency equine wound care. Remember: "Do no harm!" **And stay calm: your emotions influence your horse!**



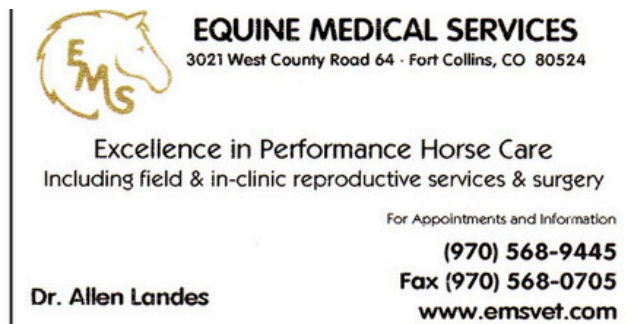
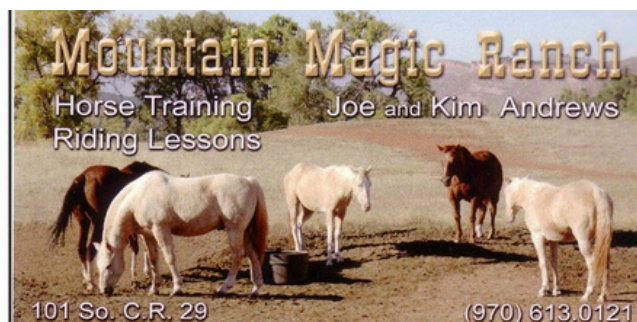
Supplies for Emergency Kit for Wound Care • Betadine/chlorhex (both need diluting) • Alu-mend • Petroleum jelly • Silver sulfadiazine • Wonder dust. Ask your vet what else they recommend and follow all label directions! Do not use ON wounds: SWAT, Surpass (diclofenac), full strength antiseptics, hydrogen peroxide.

Next month: Is my horse in pain???

LCHA Business members ads and business cards :

Mountain Magic Ranch: Joe and Kim Andrews stress safety, balance, communication and unity. We provide foundation training for young and old horses, and young and not so young humans. Our lessons build a proper foundation through the use of proper groundwork exercises that prepare you and your horse for correct balance, movement, and better use of self. To receive a wealth of knowledge, call today for private lessons at MMR and/or your location. Also, barefoot trimming by Joe. Contact us at 970.613.0121 www.mountainmagicranch.com.

Classical Horsemanship <https://www.classhorsemanship.com>. 970.215.3330.
msorentino@classhorsemanship.com. 2546 Boettcher Farm Ct. Fort Collins, CO 80524



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LCHA Members business cards :



Cowgirl Candy Store

Lanette Pritchard

719-469-3949

6635 W. 28th Street

Greeley, CO 80634

lanette@cowgirlcandystore.com

www.cowgirlcandystore.com



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Another Vacation!!!**



LCHA Officers: Contact us with questions or ideas.

- Susan K.: President and Trail Ride Leader: 970.619.0966.
- Rachael C.: Vice President, elections, and temporary shelter database: 720.273.4798
- Pati M.: Treasurer and Trail Ride Leader and Manager: 970-488-0041
- Sherry V. DVM.: (Former Secretary-resigned Sept. 2026): Newsletter team, animal welfare and safety: 517.852.3458.

LCHA Board Members at Large:

- Bonnie Templeton: Membership Chair, LCHA website and Eventbrite manager, temporary shelter dispatcher, coordination of special events, LCHA Newsletter team, and LCHA historian.
- Hugh Templeton: Liaison to Larimer County, Evacuation Team Leader. Decades of service as former Newsletter Producer and former Trail Ride Maintenance lead.
- Thomas Hargis: New Trail Maintenance Lead. Retired environmental consultant, mainly with oil and gas industry.
- Annette Price: LCHA Newsletter team, all-around LCHA cheerleader and promoter. Equine Gestalt Coach and owner of Dragonfly Farms, LLC and "On the Wings of a Horse".
- Karen Muhler: Leadership voice of experience managing other horse clubs, and equestrian events. Loves Andalusians and all other horses!
- Jean Beucler: Trail Ride leader and special projects for LCHA charitable donations. Leader for Girl Scout Troup 76931, WHOA (Women, Horses, and Outdoor Adventure).
- Gary Sibert DVM: (Resigned Sept 2026-former Member at Large). Safety and animal welfare.
- Deb Schauermann: years of experience and horse knowledge, and Certified Equine Massage Therapist.
- Charles Able: Years of horse knowledge and experience, safety and security.



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Larimer County Horseman's
Association

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54 Years of Service
