

MORMON PIONEER NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA (MPNHA)

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RELEASE: May 29, 2019



in partnership with



Discovery Road — The Power of the Horse Continues

MT. PLEASANT—Horsepower continues to inject money into the local economy as it attracts big crowds and world class talent to the Contoy Arena in Mt. Pleasant.

After last month's big horse jumping event at the center was a big success, a slightly different category of horsemanship came to town when the World Series of Team Roping held their 2019 qualifiers at the arena on Friday and Saturday, May 17-18.

More than 500 teams flocked to the qualifier to compete, and the large parking lot in front of the arena nearly swelled to capacity with camp and horse trailers.

Arena organizer Jack Widdison says this is the fourth team roping event held so far, and also the biggest.

Quinn Kesler, lifelong rodeo competitor and owner of Double Dollar Livestock, hosted the qualifier and says the Mt. Pleasant facility is extremely well suited to large events like the one he organized recently.

"We love coming here," he says. "The Contoy organizers are always very helpful and accommodating to our needs. If any changes have to happen, Jack [Widdison] handles it quickly. We love the small town feel from the community. It's a great fit for our events."

Widdison says he hopes to develop the arena further by adding men's and women's showers so overnight visitors have a place to clean up. He also would like to include a new PA system that can cover the entire complex and make improvements to the stalls.



Horses and livestock scrambled around the arena as competitors sent their lassos flying in the team roping event at the Contoy Arena.



When the 2019 World Series of Team Roping qualifier took place at Mt. Pleasant's Contoy Arena on Friday and Saturday, May 17-18, more than 500 teams showed up to compete from all over the western U.S.

Monte Bona, director of the Mormon Pioneer National Heritage Area, says the arena has a lot to offer the community and those who come to utilize it. He believes even in a modern society, the power of the horse can benefit the populace, just like it did for the Mormon pioneers.

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About the MPNHA:

The Mormon Pioneer Heritage Area is a federally designated area of central and southern Utah running along the beautiful and historic U.S. Highway 89 — including the All-American Road Utah State Route 12, and Capitol Reef Scenic Byway Utah State Route 24, which both intersect with U.S. 89 and together form the MPNHA's Boulder Loop. The area includes the counties of Sanpete, Sevier, Piute, Wayne, Garfield and Kane.