

DROGE ANIMAL HEALTH CENTER, INC.

804 N Jefferson, Eureka, KS 67045



Ph.: (620)583-7190 Fax: (620)583-7196

Dr. Duane Droge, DVM

Dr. Kailey Fitzmorris, DVM

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Dear Fellow Kansans,

My name is Dr. Duane Droge, I have been a practicing veterinarian in Eureka Kansas, home of Eureka Downs since 1980. I was involved in horse racing before para-mutual was passed in Kansas. The community had many horses and a lively racing season that became even better after para-mutual was introduced.

The racing weekends brought people and business to town. Other than the track itself, there was increased trade at hotel, restaurants and gas stations. The track employed people, not only on race days in service areas but also management and maintenance of facilities for people and horses. The horsemen brought their families and became community members. The horse industry was a huge asset for our area and the entire state due not only to the horse breeding, training, and feed production but also the sale of equipment, buildings, and vehicles.

My involvement in the industry was preparing horses for racing. This included equine health recommendations, disease prevention and care of the horses to yield the best, most competitive athlete possible. I was also involved in meeting the requirements to travel to different racing venues throughout Kansas and the Midwest. Eureka Downs was conveniently located to the other race tracks, the Woodlands near Kansas City, KS and Remington Park in Oklahoma City, OK , which made us a popular place to train the horses.

Removing the 40% barrier from a para-mutual track would be a huge economic boost to Greenwood County and I believe the entire state.

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