

National Pony Express Association - Colorado

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

National Pony Express Association
Petra Keller, Corresponding Secretary
NationalPonyExpressMedia@gmail.com
<https://nationalponyexpress.org/>

Pony Express Re-Ride Rides Through Northeast Colorado on June 19

Pollock Pines, CA – May 20, 2025 – The thundering tradition of the Old West will cross state lines once again as the **Pony Express Annual Re-Ride** continues its journey on **Thursday, June 19, 2025**. In a ceremonial relay near **Chappell, Nebraska**, the **Nebraska Division** of the National Pony Express Association will pass the mochila — the leather mail pouch — to the **Colorado Division**, kicking off a symbolic ride through northeast Colorado before handing it back at **Big Springs, Nebraska**.

This annual reenactment honors the legendary 1860-61 Pony Express mail service, connecting the past with the present through a continuous, 24-hour, 10-day relay from Sacramento, California to St. Joseph, Missouri.

Colorado Route Highlights:

- **Chappell, NE (Handoff to Colorado Division)**
Thursday, June 19 | Approx. 2:30 AM MDT
Early on June 19, the Nebraska Division will hand off the mochila to Colorado riders just outside Chappell, a town rich in frontier history. The handoff symbolizes the seamless connection between states and divisions on this historic trail.
- **Colorado Welcome Center at Julesburg**
Thursday, June 19 | Approx. 4:15 AM MDT
Local supporters and history enthusiasts are invited to gather here as a hub for interpreting the region's rich Overland Trail and Pony Express past.
- **Big Springs, NE (Mochila Handoff Back to Nebraska Division)**
Thursday, June 19 | Approx. 6:00 AM MDT
After their ride through northeast Colorado, the Colorado Division will return the mochila to Nebraska riders, a key Pony Express handoff point just across the state line. Big Springs was historically a welcome resting stop for riders and stagecoach lines due to its natural springs and location along the Overland route.

About the National Pony Express Association (NPEA):

The **NPEA** is a nonprofit, volunteer-led organization dedicated to preserving the history and legacy of the Pony Express. Through education, reenactments, and community events, the NPEA keeps the spirit of the Old West alive for generations to come.

About the Pony Express Annual Re-Ride

The **Annual Re-Ride** is a living history event that celebrates the legacy of the **Pony Express**, which operated from **April 1860 to October 1861**. Though short-lived, the service became legendary for its daring riders, rugged terrain, and commitment to fast mail delivery across a developing nation. Spanning over **1,800 miles** across **eight states**, the **Pony Express Re-Ride** is a 24/7 non-stop relay involving hundreds of riders and horses. Commemorative letters are carried in a mochila, just as they were over 160 years ago. The re-ride is both a living history experience and a logistical achievement, preserving the spirit of the original Pony Express.

"This event bridges generations and geography," said Petra Keller, Corresponding Secretary, National Pony Express Association. "We ride to honor those fearless messengers of the past and to keep their memory alive for future generations."

Public Welcome!

Spectators are encouraged to attend the mochila exchanges, meet the riders, take photos, and engage with local Pony Express volunteers at each major stop. Forts and interpretive centers along the route will offer special programs and trail information.

Follow the ride live via GPS tracking at <https://nationalponyexpress.org/re-ride/follow-the-ride/>. Spectators are welcome at various handoff points and historical landmarks.

MEDIA CONTACT:

Petra Keller

Corresponding Secretary, NPEA

NationalPonyExpressMedia@gmail.com

Media Kit (incl. High-resolution photos): <https://nationalponyexpress.org/news/media-press/>

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