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MONDAY TO FRIDAY 9AM-3PM <u>UNTIL</u> JUNE 10TH TUESDAY TO SATURDAY <u>AFTER</u> JUNE 10TH

#### **OUR VISION**

MILLARVILLE RACING AND AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY IS DEDICATED TO BUILDING COMMUNITY SPIRIT.

#### **OUR MISSION**

MILLARVILLE RACING AND AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY PROVIDES
AUTHENTIC FAMILY EXPERIENCES AND EXCEPTIONAL FACILITIES WHICH
CELEBRATE OUR AGRICULTURAL HERITAGE, INSPIRING A SENSE OF
BELONGING FOR THE COMMUNITY.



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Dear MRAS Members,

As summer approaches, though I am a little wary from the blast of snow in May, the needed moisture is sure to bring all the welcomed signs of summer.

The Market committee has been busy the last couple of months vetting the vendor applications for Spring, Summer and Christmas Markets. With each new market season, many favourite vendors return though this year there are quite a few new vendors. MRAS hosts the second largest Alberta Approved outdoor farmers' market in Alberta, hosting an average of 185 vendors each week for 18 weeks. The Alberta Approved Farmers' Market program is an Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation program. One requirement is that 80% of vendors make, bake or grow their product. Melonie, Market Manager extraordinaire, has an average of hosting 90%+ make, bake or grow it vendors.

As we embark on another grand market season, the 15th of the month also kicks off the 11th Run to the Market 1/2 Marathon along the Farmers' Market opening day. It has been one of my many favourite days here at the track. It is a chance for us to showcase our community spirit as the grounds are buzzing with so much activity. Since joining MRAS I have experienced a few changes, however what has remained is the community spirit. This community spirit is demonstrated by our volunteers. Not just the ones that are here today but the ones that laid the foundation for the organization and those that have contributed throughout the years. Most members, I am sure, have gifted their time here at some point and without that, we wouldn't be where we are now. Each contribution, each gift, has built our Community. Thank you!

In other news: As the concession building has seen a change of usage this year, MRAS has partnered with the operators to create an MRAS branded food product. The new MRAS Cowgirl Relish, a little kick of sweetness (a limited edition), will be available for purchase at the start of the market season. We are also working on another product that will be revealed closer to Market opening day.

Happy Father's Day gentleman, whatever role you have (father, grandfather, uncle, etc.) thank you for your contributions to the lives of those around you.

Enjoy your summer, making the most out of the moments and creating and capturing memories along the way!

Colina Clark
Director



#### MRAS "Name A Brick" Campaign Continues

Our agriculturally themed playground is much loved by children and adults alike. Many stories have been shared about delighted children and their families enjoying our playground so much that the children don't want to leave! From the barn play structure to the tractor, farm animals and every other piece of equipment, our playground is a hit. It is a credit to all the volunteers who worked to make it a reality and to everyone who donated funds.

Is there someone in your family that is hard to buy for? The MRAS may have the perfect solution for you! For \$200 a brick, you can not only give a long-lasting and meaningful gift but also help MRAS continue to build our playground legacy. Please consider buying a brick and having your choice of a name or names engraved as your individual or family legacy.

The purchase forms are on the MRAS website under Facilities/Playground and also available at the office. For more information, please contact the MRAS office at 403-931-3411.

Thank you for your kind consideration of continuing to build our playground legacy one engraved brick at a time. Here is the link to buy a brick: <a href="https://www.millarvilleracetrack.com/MRAS-Name-a-Brick-Donation/">https://www.millarvilleracetrack.com/MRAS-Name-a-Brick-Donation/</a>











In February, the Millarville Stockland 4-H Club's Public Speaking was a hit. All of the speeches were incredible and magnificent. The cleavers' topics speeches were mind-blowing. Congrats to all winners at the club level. And everyone who made the club also made an area. Happy Valentine's Day.

In March, there was Area, District and Region public speaking. Peyton Christman, Sterling Christman, Harry Rawn, Pyper Stanley, Justin Watkins and Maddie Watkins all advanced to Area and District Levels. Harry, Pyper and Maddie moved onto Region as well. It was a very tough competition. Congrats to all winners. Read the *Western Wheel* article <u>here</u>.

Sheep had their farm tour/weigh-in on March 16. It looks like all the sheep members are off to a great start.

On March 24, 2024, we had our master showmanship clinic. It was soo much fun learning about Horses, Cows, Goats, Chickens and sheep.

This month's workshop was making planters, and it was fun. More clinics and Achievement Day will make for more exciting times.

Club Reporter - Pyper Stanley



The members of the Millarville Stockland 4-H Club at the Club's Public Speaking at the Millarville Racetrack Hall on February 4TH.

#### **EQUINE FACILITIES**



Questions about the MRAS Equine Facilities email: grounds@mras-track.com. For memberships email: office@mras-track.com

Hello Equine Members,

The MRAS riding rules, and sign-up sheet have been developed to help our members have a safe and enjoyable time riding while also maintaining our building in good condition.

<u>Riding Rules:</u> These have been created and agreed upon to ensure everyone using the facility remains safe and that our facility can be kept in great condition. Please continue to follow the rules and encourage your fellow riders to follow the rules. Click <u>HERE</u> for the rules or go to: <a href="https://www.millarvilleracetrack.com/equine/">https://www.millarvilleracetrack.com/equine/</a>.

<u>Booking Sheet:</u> Please use the booking sheet when you plan to ride and honor your time. This practice is in place to ensure fair usage of the facility and helps the maintenance team and myself plan when we can be in the arena for maintenance.

<u>Manure:</u> Please continue to clean up after your horses. I know the vast majority of you are excellent at this, but it continues to be a problem.

#### \*\*NEW PROCESS\*\*

Remove your horse's manure from the arena using the <u>forks and pails</u> and transport it to the blue bins. <u>Pails</u> should not be used for storage of manure; it belongs in the blue bins.

Help us take pride in our arena and its use by following the rules that we have in place,



## UPCOMING EQUINE ACTIVITIES:

### JUNE 3-DAY DRESSAGE LESSONS SERIES

Wednesdays evenings: June 5, 12 & 19 Thursday mornings: June 6, 13 & 20

Work on the fundamentals of Dressage:

- Fine tuning of aids
- Rhythm, balance through suppleness
- Connection and softness through transitions

Lessons are open to both western and English riders. Participants will be divided into groups base on their riding ability and training needs.

Pre-registration required. Must choose Wednesday evening OR Thursday morning, NO combination of dates. If interested in both dates, you must pay two registrations fees, no discounts.

Cost: 2023/24 MRAS Riding Members \$170.00 Non-Members \$200.00 (All prices include GST)

To register contact mras.equine@gmail.com. Please contact us if you are interested in auditing or spectating during these lessons.

## KIDS RANCH RIDING EQUITATION AND PATTERNS

June 7 4:45pm to 6:45pm

Fun-filled way for kids to work on and develop their equitation skills and ride a pattern at the end of the day. Good for any age and level providing they are riding independently, can stop their horse and the horse is good in a group of horses.

Cost per Ride:
2023/24 MRAS Riding Members \$15
Non-Members \$20
(All prices include GST)

Any questions or to register please contact Lynn Brunton lynnbrunton@gmail.com 403-651-4301. Once you have registered, payment instructions will be sent to you. Payment then confirms your spot.

#### **LINDY BARRON - RIDING LESSONS**

Friday mornings: June 21 & 28
Spots available for either or both dates



Come out and fill your tool box with more tools. Fine tune those skills and take your riding to the next level. Lindy is an award-winning rider and trainer; she trains riders and horses in Working Cow Horse, Ranch Horse Versatility, Reining and general horsemanship skills. A positive, direct, and encouraging Coach, her classes are fun, challenging and packed with great learning for you and your horse.

Cost: 2023/24 MRAS Riding Members \$67.00 Non-Members \$77.00 (All prices include GST)

Any questions or to register, please contact Lynn Brunton lynnbrunton@gmail.com 403-651-4301. Once you have registered, payment instructions will be sent to you. Payment then confirms your spot.

## KIDS 3-DAY RIDING LESSON SERIES WITH DANIELLE BARTLETT

Wednesday through Friday mornings: July 3, 4, 5

Danielle is a fabulous instructor who has a wonderful ability to communicate with children and youths of all ages. In this three lesson package, riders will have the opportunity to build on their learned skills at each day developing better communication with their horse. This program is designed for any level of rider.

Cost: 2023/24 MRAS Riding Members \$174.00 Non-Members \$200.00 (All prices include GST)

To register or for more information, contact Lynn Brunton lynnbrunton@gmail.com. Once you have registered, payment instructions will be sent to you.

#### **KIDS SUMMER 4-DAY HORSE CAMPS**

Dates: August 6 - 9

This is a perfect place for that horse-loving kid to spend summer days with their horse. Come and have some fun in the sun! There will be a riding lesson with Danielle Bartlett on three of the days plus other riding activities!

Crafts, games, grooming, ranch riding, patterns, showmanship and more!

Kids must have their own horse as there are no horses supplied. It is suggested that an adult stay while their child is riding. Best suited for ages 6 to 12.

Sign up for one or both weeks.

Per Week Cost: \$200.00 MRAS Riding Members
\$240.00 for Non-Members

(All prices include GST)

Any questions or to register, please contact <a href="mailto:lynnbrunton@gmail.com">lynnbrunton@gmail.com</a>

Additional details available about all of the above Activities and Lesson Series are available on the MRAS website: <a href="www.millarvilleracetrack.com">www.millarvilleracetrack.com</a> on the Equine page.

#### **OTHER ACTIVITIES, CLINICS, EQUINE EVENTS**

If you have ideas or suggestions for any clinics or activities that you would like us to explore, please send us the information to <a href="MRAS.equine@gmail.com">MRAS.equine@gmail.com</a>. One of our goals is to incorporate activities that our members are interested in.



## The 2024 FAIR Book is <u>HERE!!</u>

The book contains ALL the information you need to discover how you can be part of the fun as a visitor or an exhibitor, or both.

As an Exhibitor, don't miss out on the chance to win! Pick your classes, register your entries, and show your stuff!! It's time to showcase your talents and compete for those prestigious ribbons and exciting prizes.

You can look at the book online or pick up a copy while quantities last. Books can be found at the *Priddis General Store*, the *Millarville General Store*, and the *Millarville Racing & Agricultural Society* Office.

Would you like to get involved? Volunteering at the Fair is a wonderful opportunity to meet people, have fun, and help host this amazing event. You can spend as much or as little time as you want. Please reach out if you are interested by clicking **HERE**. Watch for the daily schedule of events and other updates on our <u>website</u>, <u>Facebook</u>, and <u>Instagram</u>.

Please join us for **COUNTRY FUN FOR EVERYONE** on August 17 and 18, 2024, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

#### An Ode to the Fair Dads of all ages:

These wonderful men share their days with family and friends. They are the masters of the tractor pull. Their strength is showcased in the hay bale toss, and their wisdom is evident when they identify all types of poop with a knowing nod. These are woodworkers, bakers, artists, photographers, gardeners, growers of field crops, and handlers of livestock who show us how it's done. These dedicated men help in setting up the fair and can back up hay racks with precision. Their love for antique engines and cars is a testament to their appreciation of craftsmanship and history. Here's to the tellers of dad jokes who make our Fair memorable and who teach us the value of hard work and the joy of the simple pleasures of spending time with family, friends, and community.







We are in need people to help with the day of activities for the June 15, 2024!

Please go to this link to sign up: RUN TO THE

MARKET or contact millarvillefarmershalf@gmail.com

for more details.

## LOVE A GREAT MARKET? VOLUNTEER

## WITH US! We are looking for gate greeters for our

We are looking for gate greeters for our <u>Summer Market Saturday's</u>, June 15th to Oct 12th! Please click <u>HERE</u> to sign up! For more info email: <u>office@mras-track.com</u>

## Happy Father's Day

Today we're thinking of...



Dads around the world



Uncles, brothers, grandads, and friends who act like fatherly figures



Those with strained Father/Children relationships



Those that have lost Fathers



Fathers that have lost their children



New Dads, and the experienced Dads







## THE Kids Only Shoppe at the Millarville Christmas Market



There is a lot happening in the elves workshop in June with several workbees that are described in the newsletter. Over the summer we will be sorting, inventorying and pricing all the delightful contributions received to date. Dates are not yet set but if this type of activity is more to your liking than crafting, drop us a note at <a href="mailto:kos@mras-track.com">kos@mras-track.com</a>. If you are interested in crafting over the summer, feel free to host your own workbee. We can connect you with supplies if needed.

A huge thank you to all who have contributed so far!

Check out the most recent **KOS Newsletter HERE!** 









#### MILLARVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

#### ROBERT MILLIONS

Submitted by Gene Blakley - Vice President Millarville Historical Society

I got to thinking today of my dad's cousin, Marcie Weiss and his buddy Ed Galvin. Marcie used to come out and visit my dad and mom and I was always impressed by his car and cavalier attitude as he worked as a salesman for a company that sold Band-Aids and other health related needs. This allowed him to come out during the work week as he regulated his time. He would come out, and we kept a horse for him and eventually for Ed Galvin and his family. Marcie's daughter Linda and I would ride for hours. When it became known that a quarter section up against the reserve with Death Valley Creek running through it was up for sale, Marcie and Ed bought it together and it gave them a place to spend time.

That quarter was homesteaded by Robert Millions in 1922 and as SW20-20-4-W5. That little creek had two names - either Sinnott Creek or Death Valley Creek. The name Death Valley Creek came after some of Grandfather's men found a skull further south on that valley. The land now is bordered on two sides by the Forest Reserve and the two families keep it private. Originally, this property was bordered on the North by Galvin Calderwood who bought it from Charles R. Morrison.

Galvin and his brothers Bill and Bob were born in Dunlop, Scotland and came to Ontario to finish their education. The family came to Fort Macleod in about 1906 and in 1911 Bob took a homestead in the Porcupine Hills. He lived there until 1915, when he joined the PPCLI and served overseas until 1918. On his return, he traded his homestead for 60 head of cattle and 40 head of horses and shipped them to Kew. Here he bought W half 12-20-4-W5 (originally homesteaded by Charles Morrison in 1908) and NW29-20-3-W5. Gavin took a homestead on Ware Creek NW20-20-4-W5 in 1922.

Bob worked for the Forestry Department and went on to the goldfields at Barkerville, B.C. He and Gavin worked in the Turner Valley oilfields and carried on ranching at the same time. Bob was married and had two daughters. Bob married later and disposing of his holdings moved his family to Vancouver Island.

Gavin never married. He was very musical, playing the piano and violin. He helped with the entertainment at dances in the old Rancher's Hall and later at the Kew community Hall. He later sold his place and moved to Vancouver Island.

Ranching in the foothills of Millarville was a hard scrabble affair and these boys as well as many others took employment where and when they could to help support the ranch. The name is not known in the hills now, but the Calderwood boys were well known here and remembered by the older families.

Having spent a lot of time on these properties over the years it is nice every so often to go up and sit by Death Valley Creek and remember other times and friends gone. I am sure that each of us has a spot like that and it is nice when they still look and feel the same as they did 70 years ago.

Read more historical articles on <u>Facebook - Millarville Historical Society</u> or

email us <u>millarvillehistoricalsociety@gmail.com</u> if you have photos, information, or questions.





#### 119th RUNNING OF THE MILLARVILLE RACES

The longest standing MRAS tradition is filled with activities guaranteed to entertain your entire family including parimutuel Thoroughbred races, Ladies' Side-saddle, Stock Horse, Indian Relay Races and Pack Horse as well as three-legged, foot, and sack races for children.

Thousands of people attend with some taking advantage of a fabulous opportunity to dress up elegantly for the VIP experience.

If you want to up the experience, you can treat yourself to the VIP Experience!

Gates Open: 10:00am Race Starts at 12:00pm. Please refer to your selected time slot for admission time.

Get your shop on! There will be a mini version (60 vendors) of the famous Millarville Farmers' Market during the event.

#### GET YOUR DERBY VIP EXPERIENCE TICKETS IN ADVANCE!

A fabulous day to dress up in your own elegant take on "Derby Western", there are no rules, but we expect fabulous fascinators will figure prominently. Your ticket will include entrance to the Races, access to the exclusive VIP tents, and lunch. Here you have shade, exclusive ATM and exclusive betting terminals. VIP sells out quickly, so get your tickets early!

**BUY TICKETS NOW!** 



# CANADA DAY RACES VOLUNTEERS WANTED!

Several positions still available including:

- VIP/Tent Runner
- Gate Greeter
- Program Runner
- Kids Foot Races Judges (Adults and Teens needed)

Click to sign up

For more info email: office@mras-track.com







#### 2023/2024 GENERAL MEMBERSHIP RATES

Family \$75.00
Individual \$60.00
Senior \$45.00
Student \$45.00

#### 2023/2024 MRAS Riding Membership Rates

Annual: November 2023 - October 2024

Family \$475.00

Each additional dependent \$70.00

Individual \$325.00

1/4 memberships (per quarter): (May - July OR Aug - Oct)

Family \$225.00

**Additional Dependent \$35.00** 

Individual \$150.00

Click <u>HERE</u> for more Info and to purchase your Membership!







Diamond Valley's own

Eau Claire Distillery has been awarded Platinum status at the prestigious San Francisco World Spirits

Competition for their Rupert's Exceptional Whisky!

**CLICK HERE TO READ THE WHOLE STORY!** 

#### Millarville Horticultural Club

#### http://millarvillehortclub.com

Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month, September to May, at 7:00 p.m. The meetings are held at the Millarville Anglican church house.

Our Annual Plant Sale happened on Thursday May 30 at the Millarville Racetrack Quonset. The sale was over quickly. Thank you to Jill Dakers and her crew of volunteers for a successful sale. Well done and thank you. The beautiful planters at the Millarville Racetrack are planted, maintained and watered by Patty Webb and her small army of volunteers. You are awesome and appreciated!

The Millarville Anglican Church hosts the <u>Flower festival</u> July 13 and 14. Horticultural club members are asked to bring flowers on July 12 by 6 pm and to help decorate the grounds. It is always a fantastic show. <u>The Priddis and Millarville Fair</u> is happening this year on August 17 and 18.

The <u>Fair book</u> is available online on the <u>MRAS website</u>. Start your planning of entries now!

If you are interested in attending any of our presentations, please contact Louise Patterson Bruns ( our new president ) at <a href="mailto:louisepattersonbruns@gmail.com">louisepattersonbruns@gmail.com</a> or at <a href="mailto:millarvillehorticulturalclub@gmail.com">millarvillehorticulturalclub@gmail.com</a>.

Whether you are a novice or expert in landscaping or gardening, join our club; \$15/year for singles or \$20/year for a family. Check us out on Facebook as well!





#### Millarville Hamlet Walk and Talk June 23, 2024 – 1:00 pm

The Millarville Historical Society is hosting a "Millarville Hamlet Walk and Talk" Sunday, June 23rd at the Millarville Community School Gym, beginning at 1:00 pm. This event begins with a presentation which will provide a historical "sweep" of exploration and settlement patterns in the Hamlet area from 1892 through to today.

Weather permitting, and for those interested, there will then be a short stroll and further discussions about the school playgrounds where polo was previously played, viewing the archaeological dig locations, and proximity of businesses, creek, and roadway. Pylons will be placed to show these areas.

There will be coffee, water, and trail snacks served in the gym.

Please confirm your attendance by Friday, June 21 via email at <a href="millarvillehistoricalsociety@gmail.com">millarvillehistoricalsociety@gmail.com</a>.

We look forward to seeing you there!

#### MILLARVILLE COMMUNITY LIBRARY

#### Did you know?

There are over 3 million items available to borrow on <a href="mailto:trackpac.ab.ca">trackpac.ab.ca</a>. Included in this are hiking poles for your next hike with your Dad! In the past month we have received over 130 books for all ages and interests to borrow from our library. Get ready for summer reading and activities with the help of our library.

#### **WOULD YOU?**

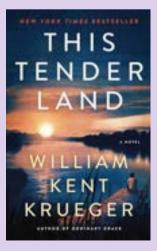
Consider volunteering on a casual basis or dedicate a shift in the library?
A great way to get involved and meet your neighbours.

#### Classes-

Priddis and Millarville Fair classes will be held over the lunch hour beginning June 10th from 12 - 12:40 in the library. Come get prepared to be a winner!

Kids summer program starts the week of July 1 and will run every Wednesday throughout the summer.

#### Need a Read?



"A tale of courage and adventure to get you started on your own summer travels", read "This Tender Land" by William Kent Krueger. Lorraine Vernon, Millarville

#### **Bouquets-**

A huge thank you to all the dedicated volunteers who give of their time and talents to keep our little library running. A valuable resource in our community.



## **Memory Cafe**



An opportunity for people with memory loss and their caregivers to meet for mutual support

Griffiths Center
122 Government Road, Black Diamond
1:00 - 2:30 pm
Fourth Friday of the month starting June 23, 2023

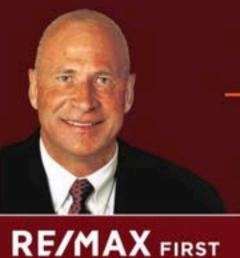
Contact Jennifer 403 969 6040



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Coming in June, an extremely quiet and beautiful park like setting!

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