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WWW.MILLARVILLERACETRACK.COM





TUESDAY - FRIDAY 9:00AM - 3:00PM

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.







2024-25 MRAS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Natasha Phillipson President



Brent Foster
Treasurer





Colin Hill Vice President







Andrea Neumann
Secretary







Kerry Dark Director



Sylvia Checkley
Director

We would love to hear from you, please reach out:

mras.feedback@mras-track.com

Board of Directors Message

Spring on the Board: Fresh Energy, New Momentum

As the days grow longer and the grass turns green, there's a sense of renewed energy in the air—and it's buzzing around our Millarville Ag Society too! Spring is always an exciting time at the track, and this year is no different. We're gearing up for a dynamic & busy season, with lots of planning underway and plenty of opportunities for members to get involved, connect, and celebrate our community spirit.

Behind the scenes, your Board of Directors is hard at work. We have added a few extra meetings to ensure we stay ahead of upcoming events, facility needs, and society priorities. This pace reflects our deep commitment to serving you, our members, and ensuring we're creating space for both tradition and innovation to flourish this spring. Projects are underway, with a solid team of staff and volunteers working together to refresh key areas and ensure facilities are well-prepared for an active season.

We know that the heart of MRAS isn't just in the buildings or the grounds—it's in the people who show up, share ideas, lend a hand, and make things happen. Whether you're a longtime volunteer or just starting to get involved, your voice matters. If you've got a question, suggestion, or just want to say hello, our doors are always open.

Stop by the main office anytime—Suzanne and I would love to see you! Whether it's a quick visit or a cup of coffee and a catch-up, we're here to listen and support the great work of our members, volunteers, staff and community.

On behalf of your MRAS Board of Directors, Stay well, stay connected, and Happy Spring!

Natasha & Suzanne



Craig Howe

Maintenance Manager grounds@mras-track.com

Tylene Hay

Office Administrator office@mras-track.com

Chad Thomas

Farmers' Market Manager

market@mras-track.com

Alex Batara

Farmers' Market Assistant mrktasst@mras-track.com

Melonie McKee

Farmers' Market Consultant melonie@mras-track.com

Ainsley Christine

Social media Manager theainsleychristine@gmail.com

Shannon Breeze

Bookkeeper accounting@mras-track.com

Val Evenson

Janitorial/Cleaning

Lance Piltingsrud *Maintenance*

MILAS STAFF INSTANTS AND ADVENTURES

Welcome to our new Track Watch feature! Each month, we'll share articles written by our MRAS staff to help you get to know us and stay updated on our adventures. We'll kick off with introductions and move on to department adventures. We're excited to share our stories, photos, and updates with you!



Hey y'all!

My name is Alex, I am the new Farmers' Market Manager Assistant here at MRAS!

I'm a Filipino-Canadian with a background in junior graphic and UX designer. I have a passion for creativity, connection, and making things run smoother — whether that's through thoughtful design or behind-the-scenes support. Outside of work, you can usually find me walking my dog, exploring new hiking trails, playing video games, or hunting down delicious food spots!

I can't wait to meet all the wonderful vendors and guests that make this community so special.



MILLARVILLE RACES 120 YEARS

FOR TICKETS CLICK HERE

Or go to: https://www.millarvilleracetrack.com/race-track/

SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER HERE

Or go to: https://mras.getcommunal.com/volunteer-opportunities/1075



MRAS is so incredibly proud to announce this very well-deserved and honorable achievement. On April 4, 2025, Anna DePaoli (former MRAS President and life member) and Ralph Onicul (life member) were presented with the **King Charles III Coronation**Medal in recognition of their valuable contribution to their community and country by John Barlow, MP.







VOLUNTEERS NEEDE

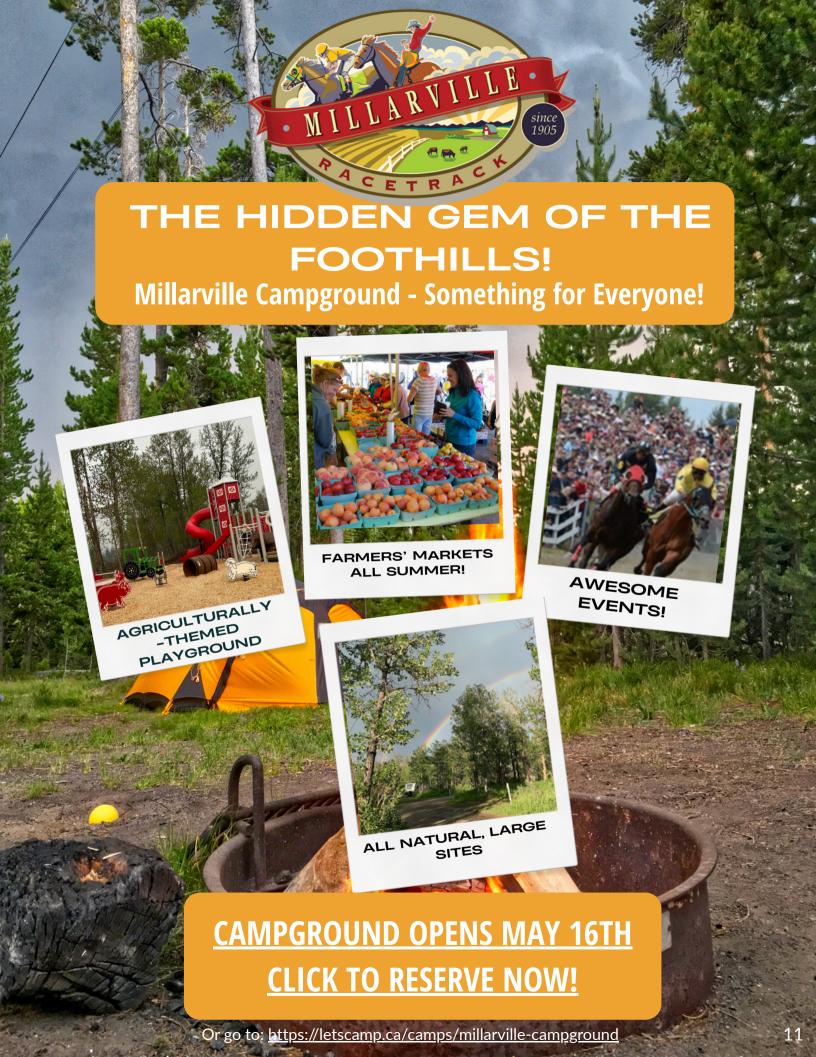
We are preparing our Campground for the season and need help refreshing our picnic tables with a new coat of paint. Would you be interested in assisting us?

CLICK FOR DETAILS AND TO SIGN UP

Or go to:_

https://mras.getcommunal.com/member/volunteer-opportunities/1115

Contact Craig for inquiries: 403-483-7034 or grounds@mras-track.com





MILLARVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

millarvillehistoricalsociety.ca

Riders Hunt Rancher Lost on Sarcee

Submitted by Marie Nylund - Millarville Historical Society Sources: Calgary Herald archives, Our Foothills

This article illustrates how routine ranch life can quickly take a dangerous turn under certain conditions. The event described occurred in the spring of 1940 and involved 58-year-old Jake Fullerton. It was reported in the Calgary Herald on June 26, 1940. Mr. Fullerton was no stranger to the extremes of weather and possessed keen bush skills which likely made the difference in his survival. References to the Sarcee Reserve in the article pertain to the Tsuut'ina Nation."

Jake Fullerton Has Gruelling Night in Snowstorm; Suffers Exposure (by our own Calgary Herald correspondent)

Jake Fullerton, well known foothills rancher, is recovering today from the gruelling ordeal of an all-night exposure without fire or shelter, in the worst snowstorm of the year. He was lost on the Sarcee reserve nearly 24 hours. Despite an intensive hunt made in the deep snow by residents of the district he finally made his own way home.

Fullerton left home Monday afternoon about 3:30 pm in pursuit of a work mare which was lured into the Sarcee reserve by wild stallions. When he failed to return home by 9 o'clock at night his daughter Hazel and his son-in-law, Kenny Binns went to look for him, but their search was fruitless in the blinding snow and darkness.

HUNTED ALL NIGHT

By 1:30 am, equipped with flashlights, another son-in-law, Bunny Purmal, with two others started out again. They hunted all night in the thick bush of the reserve until 7 a.m. when they returned home to rest their weary horses and change into dry clothing. By that time the worried family called on all neighbors and horses available. Within a few hours more than 15 riders were organized and a systematic hunt was in progress. Horses were an essential and it was difficult to find mounts for the many volunteers, so all ridable work horses were used. The deep, wet snow made it impossible for the men to walk.

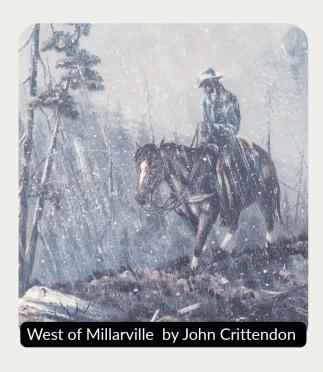
THROWN INTO CREEK

Towards noon the search party had just found a definite track to follow when Mr. Fullerton himself appeared on his way home. He was soaking wet and so paralyzed with exposure he was only able to say a few words, but this is what apparently happened. He had ridden for hours to overtake the mare which had gotten into a wild bunch. Just how far he traveled he does not know but somewhere about ten miles east of Bragg Creek, on the east side of the big Moose Hill, his horse tried to jump a snow-filled creek and misjudged the distance. The horse went down, throwing its rider over its head. This happened about 9 p.m.

NIGHT UNDER TREE

Finding himself soaking wet in a bad snow storm, in a strange wooded country and a heavy fog, Mr. Fullerton had completely lost his bearings. He has only vague recollections as to what he did for a few hours; at any rate he spent the night under a tree which was the only shelter available. His matches had been wet by the fall into the creek, so he could not light a fire.

When daylight came, he once more got his directions straight and started home but the snow was as high as his horse's chest, and the beast could hardly move. Two faithful dogs remained with him through the ordeal.





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.

Check out our newly formatted website: millarvillehistoricalsociety.ca





VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Be a part of Southern
Alberta's Largest Outdoor
Farmers' Market!

Sign up Here





The Fair Book will be available on-line and in hard copy by mid-May! The beautiful graphics and informative content of the Fair Book, have been a collaboration with our graphic designer, BrandBrighter, and the Fair volunteer planning committee.

The Book contains all the competition class lists for anyone considering exhibiting at the Fair. There is also information that acknowledges our generous Fair sponsors, instruction on how to exhibit, attractions, competitions, and a list of our hard working volunteers.

The Fair's theme of "Country Fun For Everyone" has been teamed up with the Open Farm Days 2025 theme of "Water". Open Farm Days is an Alberta Agricultural Societies Agri-tourism initiative, designed to encourage people who live and visit our province, to experience a variety of rural life and culture. Visit this website link <u>About Alberta Open Farm Days</u> to find out more. There will be some added elements at this year's Fair, that relate to water in some of the bench classes and other activities.



https://www.rafflebox.ca/raffle/millarvilleracing

This year we are having an online raffle. Please support this FUNdraiser! All funds raised are used to support this amazing community event.





Follow us on Facebook and Instagram for Fair fun and information.





MRAS EQUINE FACILITIES

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

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: https://www.millarvilleracetrack.com/equine/.

<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 plan when they can be in the arena for maintenance.

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

LEAVE IT BETTER THAN HOW YOU FOUND IT

Please respect all riders and clean up after every ride. Sweep the mats, put things back where they belong, dispose of your horse's manure from the arena and parking lot using the forks and transport it to the BLUE BINS (not the garbage can).

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

Thank you!

UPCOMING EQUINE ACTIVITIES:

The volunteer members of the MRAS Equine Committee are working hard to bring a variety of clinics and activities to the MRAS riding membership and equine community. Please check the website regularly to see what is available at: www.millarvilleracetrack.com-Equine tab under Upcoming Events.

PROGRESSIVE 3-DAY ENGLISH RIDING/JUMPING LESSONS

with Stephanie Patterson May 1, 8 & 22

Stephanie Patterson was a Hunter/Jumper for many years, working for competitive and successful barns as an assistant trainer in Calgary, Vancouver and Ireland. She loves being able to help horse and rider pairs in their jumping journey whether it's just starting or has been going for a long time.

Lesson Series Format:

Maximum group size - 4 riders

Lesson 1: Flatwork prep for jumping

Lesson 2: Gymnastics

Lesson 3: Course work

Minimum riding requirements:

Walk/trot/canter, ability to stand in stirrups

Cost: Current MRAS Riding Members \$120.00

Non-Members \$150.00

(All prices include GST)

Please email MRAS.equine@gmail.com to reserve your spot. Please indicate you class time preference and jumping experience. Any questions about the lesson series, please contact Caia Williamson directly at caiawilliamson@hotmail.com

MAY/JUNE KIDS & ADULT RIDING LESSON SERIES

With Danielle Bartlett

Friday evenings: May 2, 9, 23 & June 13

Danielle is a fabulous instructor that has a wonderful ability to communicate with youth and adults of all ages. From learning to ride youngsters to those that are refining their skills. She is a certified Equestrian Canada Instructor with over 20 years of experience in the equine industry, which has led to the success of Danielle Bartlett Performance Horses. She is a graduate from Dalhousie University, earning a Bachelor of Science (Agriculture), majoring in Animal Science.

In this lesson package riders will have the opportunity to build on their learned skills at each ride developing better communication with their horse. Individual lessons may be purchased if space allows.

Cost: Current MRAS Riding Members \$260.00 (per lesson \$68) Non-Members \$300.00 (per lesson \$78) (All prices include GST)

For more information or to register contact lynnbrunton@gmail.com

MAY DRESSAGE LESSONS SERIES

with Kimberly Cox Wednesdays evenings: May 7, 14 & 21 OR Thursday mornings: May 8, 15 & 22

- Fine tuning of aids
- Rhythm, balance through suppleness

Work on the fundamentals of Dressage:

· 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. A minimum number of riders required to run each series date.

Cost: Current MRAS Riding Members \$189.00 Non-Members \$219.00 (All prices include GST)

Contact mras.equine@gmail.com if interested in a spot.

JUMPING PRACTICE / FUN NIGHT AT MRAS

Thursday, May 29th

Group II: 5 to 6PM - X-rail to 2' Group II: 6 to 7PM - 2'3"to 2'6" Group III: 7 to 8PM - 2'9"+

Full course practice (7 to 9 jumps).

Maximum 6 riders per group. Groups are based on jump height.

Prior jumping experience highly recommended. Ride at your own risk.

There will not be jumping instruction, this is NOT a lesson. No first aid on site.

Cost: Current MRAS Riding Members \$25 Non-Members \$35 (All prices include GST)

Contact <u>mras.equine@gmail.com</u> if interested in a spot This is a non-refundable program.

RIDE A TEST CLINIC

Judge: Kimberly Cox May 17th

Any dressage test can be ridden. English dressage (<u>www.equestrian.ca</u>), western dressage (<u>www.wdaa.org</u>) or working equitation (WE) dressage (<u>www.workingeq.ca</u>) test (note: only one WE test per competition level).

Three (3) riders per group will have 1 hour 45 mins beginning with warmup, then into a mock show experience.

Cost: Current MRAS Riding Members \$100.00

Non-Members \$110.00 (All prices include GST)

Contact <u>mras.equine@gmail.com</u> for more details and to register.

Payment details will be forwarded once registration has been confirmed.

4-DAY JILL BARRON CLINIC

Tuesday, June 3rd - Friday, June 6th

Jill empowers riders by equipping them with the skills and confidence to enhance their partnership with their equine. Her instruction aligns with the training goals for individual riders. She shares knowledge that is transformative and embraces positivity. Please join us as we host Jill Barron, one of Canada's most sought-after clinicians!

The clinic format:

Day 1 & 2 - Focus on flatwork and horsemanship skills

Day 3 - Schooling rides

Day 4 - Flatwork and horsemanship skills

Clinic Cost:

Current MRAS Riding Members \$ 795.00 Non-Riding Members \$ 875.00 Clinic registration full - WAITLIST available

Auditors MUST register, payment required prior to clinic Audit Fee:

Current MRAS Riding Members \$ 40.00 Non-Riding Members \$ 60.00

Contact: MRAS.equine@gmail.com to register and if you have any questions.

Payment details will be forwarded once registration has been confirmed.

4-DAY AUGUST KIDS CAMP

Tuesday, August 5th - Friday, August 8th 9:30am to 12:30pm

This is a perfect place for that horse loving kid to spend summer days with their horse and other horsey kids. There will be a riding lesson with Danielle Bartlett on three of the days. Crafts, games, grooming, ranch riding, patterns, showmanship and more!

Kids must have their own horse. Best suited for kids ages 6 to 12. Children must be riding independently, unassisted and at minimum walk, trot and stop their horses.

Horses must be good in a group of other horses.

Cost - Current MRAS Riding Members \$250.00 Non-Riding Members \$290.00

Any questions and to register please contact lynnbrunton@gmail.com. When registering please specify your child's age. Once you have registered, deposit and payment instructions will be sent. 50% deposit is required upon registration with the balance due 30 days prior to the start date.



If you have questions, please email MRAS.equine@gmail.com



EOH (EASE OF HANDLING) OBSTACLES CLINIC

With Kimberly Cox Saturday, July 19th

Kimberly is a Working Equitation judge and will review with participants how each obstacles is ridden and judged. New to the sport or a veteran, all WE levels are welcome to participate.

Registration information will be provided shortly. If you have questions, please email MRAS.equine@gmail.com

JULY KIDS & ADULT RIDING With Danielle Bartlett Wednesday & Thursday morning:

Registration information coming soon. For more information contact <u>lynnbrunton@gmail.com</u>

Clinic and Lesson Series Cancellation Policy

MRAS cannot guarantee your spot will be filled in the event of cancellation however every attempt will be made to do so. Should your spot be filled, a refund will be issued less a 15% administration fee. If your spot cannot be filled the full amount will be forfeited. Substitutions may be allowed; the Clinic Coordinator must be consulted and approve the substitution. MRAS will have no part in facilitating payments from a substitute.

For more information about the activities and lessons listed and to see what is available, check the website regularly at: www.millarvilleracetrack.com **Equine tab under Upcoming Events.**



EQUINE MEMBERS



2024 – 25 MEMBERSHIP PLANS

ANNUAL*

NOVEMBER - OCTOBER

FAMILY \$475

(ADDITIONAL DEPENDENT \$70)

INDIVIDUAL \$325

All year access to **Indoor Riding** Arena and Seasonal Outdoor Rings

SEASONAL*

NOV- APR OR MAY- OCT

FAMILY \$350

(ADDITIONAL DEPENDENT \$50)

INDIVIDUAL \$225

For your Seasonal Riding needs.

403-931-3411

OUARTERLY*

NOV - JAN; FEB-APR; MAY-JUL; AUG-OCT

FAMILY \$225

(ADDITIONAL DEPENDENT \$30)

INDIVIDUAL \$150

Try out our Riding facilities!

All Equine membership plans rrequire a General MRAS membership



2024-2025 MRAS GENERAL MEMBERSHIPS

New Lower Rates!

FAMILY \$50
INDIVIDUAL \$40
SENIOR \$30
STUDENT \$30

BENEFITS OF YOUR MEMBERSHIP:

- Free Admission to MRAS Hosted Events
- Access to our indoor arena and seasonal outdoor riding facilities with the purchase of a riding membership
- Event committee participation
- Connection with neighbours, friends and our community

Purchase/Renew your Membership HERE OR
GO TO:

https://www.millarvilleracetrack.com/membership/

**MEMBERSHIP YEAR: NOV. 2024 - OCTOBER 2025



LLARVILLE





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 on Hwy 549.

Tuesday May 13, 2025 is the next meeting.

This meeting will have a flower and vegetable fair demonstration by Paul Rishaug. We will be having questions and answer session by the Priddis Millarville Fair committee.

Any questions you have will be answered.

The club is having a flower fundraiser in May. Check the website of <u>GreenhouseEffects.ca</u> for the purchase of locally grown plants and planters. Check our <u>website</u> for the code. Pickup will be on Tuesday May 13, 4 to 6 pm at the Millarville racetrack.

JUNE 5TH

Our Annual Plant Sale at the Millarville Racetrack Quonset.
Come for plants grown by our club members, perennials, shrubs, annuals. There will be a raffle for a curly leaf jade plant and door prizes.
Come early as the sale is over in 30 minutes!

If you are interested in attending any of our presentations, please contact Louise Patterson Bruns (our new President) at louisepattersonbruns@gmail.com or at millarvillehorticulturalclub@gmail.com. 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.



GARDENING UNDER THE ARCH

Annual Plant Sale

Thursday June 5th, 2025



QUONSET at the Millarville Race Track

7:00 pm to 7:45 pm

Perennials, annuals and surprises ...

Very reasonable prices: all plant material is from our local Horticultural members.





Plant Donations: Please drop off on Thursday, June 5th from 3-6pm ~ Thank you in advance!

Glenda Bruder at 403-620-5509 for more info



Millarville Horticultural Club Annual Plant Sale

The Millarville Hort Club is having our annual plant sale fundraiser at the Millarville Racetrack in the Quonset Thursday, June 5th

The rope drops at 7:00pm sharp. (You don't want to miss this!)

Our members will be hard at work dividing their perennials for this sale, hardy tried and true plants from this area. Anyone can drop off plants for the sale between 3:00-6:00 pm the day of. There will also be some vegetables and annuals. **CASH ONLY!** Come early to pick your favorite perennials and have a coffee, enter the door prizes, and just talk plants!

Glenda Bruder: 403-620-5509



Win a Curly Jade Plant & Instantly Upgrade Your Space!

Millarville Hort Club is raffling off a BIG, Beautiful plant that's ready to become the star of your home or office! Lush, leafy, and full of personality—this green beauty is just waiting for its forever home.

Here's how to enter:

- Grab your raffle ticket at the Hort Club Meeting May 13, or June 5th Plant sale at the Quonset.
- Raffle tickets: 3/\$5.00
- **Draw Time:** 6:50pm at the Plant Sale June 5th, just before the rope drops.

You don't want to leaf this opportunity behind! Jill Dakers: 403-669-4609

MILLARVILLE COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Millarville Community Library was the scene of much laughter and literature last April 10 as the library hosted members from seven book clubs around the area at a Wine and Cheese evening. This gives each club an opportunity to share their favourite read, resulting in a list of reviewed books for all. A highlight of the evening was a visit from Erin Whaling of Spisherbocker Books, Diamond Valley. She regaled the group with a delightful and energetic spotlight on soon to be published books coming to her store this spring and summer. The new releases ranged from publisher's picks to feel-good fiction to calm and cozy fiction to intriguing truths along with non-fiction. Do visit Erin and find out the story behind her bookstore's name while finding a good read.

Mark your calendars for May 1 in order to hear a local author, Rob McWilliam, share his style of writing while participating in an exercise on how to write your own stories. Your children may not be the only ones that would like to hear about their heritage. This is an opportunity to get started. Rob will be at the library at 7 o'clock, Thursday evening.

As you know Millarville Community Library is open for our patrons and community more days of the week because of our volunteers. We welcome Colleen Mortimer and Jill Munroe to our volunteer roster.

Need a read?



Erin Whaling's favourite book from last year is Piranesi by Susanna Clarke. The book starts out as a beautifully descriptive fantasy. Piranesi lives alone in a house of corridors and vestibules, all marked by statues of mythical creatures, gods and goddesses, and the touching moments of everyday life. The house has its own ocean and Piranesi lives by the turning of the tides as they fill the halls of the house. There is one other living soul that visits Piranesi, and through their interactions we see the mystery of Piranesi's true identity and his connection to the house revealed.

We are looking for interested community members to join our library board, so contact Natasha Grusendorf at 403-931-3919. As you know library boards are keepers of a community of readers. Libraries are no longer static depositories of books but rather places for all to gather and learn, while providing audiobooks, movies, and magazines as well as access to a multitude of streaming services. Library boards protect those privileges.







AGRICULTURE AWARDS

Five unique award opportunities for students studying in the field of agriculture and/or veterinary medicine.

Calgary Black Chambers Nutrien Community Scholarship One award valued at \$7,000

Dr. Scott Rairdan Memorial Award

One or more awards valued at \$2,500

Friends of the Stockmen's Memorial Foundation AwardTwo or more awards valued at approximately \$1,500

Shannon Burwash Award for Leadership and Excellence in Equine, Agri-Business and/or Agricultural Studies

Two awards valued at \$5,000 each

Smillie Family Education Award

Three awards valued at \$2,000 each

For full award descriptions, please visit **calgaryfoundation.org**All awards are applied directly to tuition.

Apply by June 1 at midnight.



THE LIFE YOU CHANGE MIGHT BE YOURS





100KM
IOIN US THIS SEPTEMBER

Walk the farthest you have ever walked and raise the most you have ever raised to fight kidney disease and for organ donation.

4 Million Canadians have chronic kidney disease or are at risk. Most people don't even know until it's too late. Together, we will march to make a big difference and have a life-changing impact on all those affected by this devastating disease.









KidneyMarch.ca 4 03. 255.6139 kidneymarch@kidney.ca

Thank you to our Sponsors

(click logo to go to website)



































Sekura Auctions Since 1966







ADVERTISE IN THE TRACK WATCH NEWSLETTER



For inquiries and pricing please contact Tylene: office@mras-track.com

*Local Community Events are free of charge. Submission deadline is the 19th of the month for the next month.