



# Track Watch

SEPTEMBER 2025



306097 192 ST W, MILLARVILLE, AB T0L 1K0



OFFICE@MRAS-TRACK.COM



(403) 931-3411



[WWW.MILLARVILLERACETRACK.COM](http://WWW.MILLARVILLERACETRACK.COM)



## OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY - FRIDAY 9:00AM - 4:00PM

OPEN SATURDAYS (JUNE 21 - OCT. 11, 2025)

8:00 AM - 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.



# Track Watch

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

5

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

6

2024-25 MRAS STAFF

7

MRAS STAFF INSIGHTS AND  
ADVENTURES

8

118<sup>TH</sup> PRIDDIS & MILLARVILLE FAIR

15

MILLARVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

19

NOMINATIONS FOR LIFE  
MEMBERSHIP ANNOUNCEMENT

20

PRIDDIS MILLARVILLE FAIR

21

KIDS ONLY SHOPPE

23

EQUINE ACTIVITIES

27

MILLARVILLE HORTICULTURAL CLUB

29

KIDNEY MARCH

30


THE MAN VAN

31

OUR SPONSORS







# Happy Albertan Day





# 2024-25 MRAS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Natasha Phillipson  
*President*



Brent Foster  
*Treasurer*



Colin Hill  
*Vice President*



Suzanne Sills  
*Director*



Andrea Neumann  
*Secretary*



Chit Lutchman  
*Director*



Sylvia Checkley  
*Director*



Kerry Dark  
*Director*



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

[\*\*feedback@mras-track.com\*\*](mailto:feedback@mras-track.com)



# *President's Message*

As we step into the fall, it truly feels like a season of change and renewal for our Ag Society. The past months have brought growth, adjustments, and fresh energy into the MRAS office, and we are embracing these changes with optimism. With new processes in place and a stronger foundation for moving forward, we look ahead to the coming months with positivity, purpose, and excitement. Our office is a welcoming space, and we encourage all members, volunteers, and community friends to stop in, connect, and be part of the journey as we continue to grow together.

It is a pleasure to officially welcome our new Operations Manager, Cori Thompson, who has already embraced the challenges and opportunities of this role with enthusiasm and dedication. We are also deeply grateful to the many hands that supported the office this summer—especially our summer students, whose energy, hard work, and commitment allowed us to successfully manage our events, programs, and facilities through the busiest time of the year. Their contribution was vital, and we extend to them our heartfelt thanks. Another special Thank you to Suzanne Sills who graciously stepped beyond her role as a board member to serve as one of our temporary operations managers. She provided the support when it was needed most, always with the most sincere best interests of the MRAS! These experiences remind us that connection is at the heart of what we do—building bonds across generations, sharing skills, and working side by side.

In addition, I want to recognize and thank the Maintenance Committee, who stepped in as dedicated volunteers to support our facilities and events until we are able to fill the maintenance staff position. Their commitment reflects the heart of this Society—neighbours helping neighbours, working together for the good of our community. Finally, to all our volunteers who made the season's biggest events possible, from the 120th Anniversary of our Canada Day Races to the Priddis & Millarville Fair, thank you. Your passion, generosity, and hard work ensure these traditions remain strong and vibrant. Together, through connection, service, and shared vision, we celebrate what has been achieved, and together we look forward to all that is yet to come as we head into a new season.

With Gratitude

Natasha

President MRAS



# 2025 MRAS STAFF

**Cori Thompson**

*Operations Manager*  
[ops@mras-track.com](mailto:ops@mras-track.com)

**Amanda Morris**

*Office Coordinator*  
[office@mras-track.com](mailto:office@mras-track.com)

**Alex Batara**

*Farmers' Market Lead*  
[market@mras-track.com](mailto:market@mras-track.com)

**Shannon Breeze**

*Bookkeeper*  
[accounting@mras-track.com](mailto:accounting@mras-track.com)

**Shelby Ferguson**

*Social Media Coordinator*  
[social@mras-track.com](mailto:social@mras-track.com)

**Lance Piltingsrud**

*Maintenance*



# WE ARE HIRING!

Do you take pride in keeping spaces safe, clean, and welcoming? Are you handy with tools, equipment, and problem-solving? MRAS is looking for a Facilities Maintenance Lead to keep our facilities and grounds running smoothly year-round.

**APPLY NOW** and be our next Facilities Maintenance Lead

Why Join Us? At MRAS, you'll be part of a dynamic and community-driven organization that values teamwork, innovation, and service. This role offers variety and the chance to see your effort directly contribute to community success.

- **Competitive salary**
- **Health benefits plan**
- **Work that makes an impact in your community**

Apply Today! Send your resume and cover letter to Cori Thompson, Operations Manager via email [ops@mras-track.com](mailto:ops@mras-track.com)



# MRAS STAFF INSIGHTS AND ADVENTURES



Hello! My name is Cori, I am pleased to tell you a little bit about myself and how I've come to be at the Millarville Racing and Ag Society as the new Operations Manager!

**My Millarville roots run deep** - more than 100 years ago. Some of you may remember my great-grandparents, Bill and Ethel Lee; others might remember Bud & Linda Codd, my grandparents. And more yet perhaps know my parents, Bill and Deb Russell.

My whole life has been at Millarville, I grew up here; and taking on this role at MRAS feels like coming home!

I never strayed far but over the last 20 years, I have been out gathering world experience, both personally and professionally.

I graduated from Mount Royal College with a Bachelor of Applied Computer Information Systems and Business. I spent 6 years working for Western Life Assurance Company out of High River in the Business Development department. And I have spent the better part of the last 12 years as an executive member of Atrema Technologies, where I joined the company as the first employee and helped build the company up to the 23-person, multi-million dollar entity it became.

At Atrema, we valued relationships; treating our customers not as a number on a list, but as human beings. We believed in working hard and doing things the right way, thinking outside the box, and at the end of the day, having fun doing what we were doing. There is a synergy with what I have been doing and the values and opportunities I now get to do at MRAS.

The Millarville community is such a special one. I truly believe there is no place like it on earth and I am honoured to represent the Board of Directors, the Employees, the Members, the Volunteers and the community at large that this organization is committed to supporting now and for decades to come!





# 2025 Priddis & Millarville Fair

By Yvonne Sterrenberg on behalf of the Volunteer Fair Committee

The 2025 Priddis & Millarville Fair was a resounding success, marked by record-breaking attendance and a wonderful experience of community spirit! The weekend had excellent weather.



The Fair was a true intergenerational affair, with both young and old immersing themselves in the experience of exhibiting, volunteering, and attending the Fair.

- 6000 guests on Saturday and 3800 on Sunday (record attendance on both days)
- 1787 ribbons were awarded to celebrate the talents of our 555 exhibitors and competitors
- 367 participants received prize payouts. 27 received over \$100
- The youngest exhibitors were 2 years old. The oldest exhibitor age disclosed at registration was 94.
- Over 320 individuals volunteered their time.



Watch the [Fair page](#) on the website and social media pages for the daily schedules. There are enough differences between the days to make a visit on both Saturday and Sunday worthwhile.





# 2025 Priddis & Millarville Fair

By Yvonne Sterrenberg on behalf of the Volunteer Fair Committee



There was something for everyone. The hay and straw bale tosses were lots of fun, and the farm chore relay was a new challenge that we offered. Magicans, pie and watermelon eating, an arena full of the amazing exhibits, livestock and equine competitions and shows, stock dog demonstrations, tractor pulls... there was so much to see and do.

The Make & Takes at various locations on the Fair grounds offered opportunities for creativity to flourish. 329 cookies transformed into edible art and over 200 rocks receiving colorful makeovers. The Sheep Creek Weavers and the Adult and Junior Arts & Handicraft Departments shared their expertise with our guests and had activities for our guests too.

Local guilds and organizations came to offer information and expertise: Sheep Creek Weavers, Calgary and District Bee Keepers Association, Alberta Institute for Wildlife Conservation, Stampede City Model A Ford Club, Foothills Model T Club, Agriculture for Life, Priddis & Longview Firefighters, Alberta Community Bat Program, Calgary Amateur Radio Association, Sheep River Library, Valley Neighbours Club, Alberta Birds of Prey Foundation, Ann & Sandy Cross Conservation Area, and the Chinook Llama and Alpaca Club.

The Fair has been part of the Open Farms Days initiative for a second year. We are excited to be part of the Alberta Government Agri-tourism initiative. We believe being part of Open Farm Days is having a positive effect on the attendance to the Fair and surrounding area venues, such as Hartell Homestead and Spirit Hills Winery.



Photo By: Byung Chi



Photo By: Byung Chi



Watch the [Fair page](#) on the website and social media pages for the daily schedules. There are enough differences between the days to make a visit on both Saturday and Sunday worthwhile.







## 2025 Priddis & Millarville Fair

By Yvonne Sterrenberg on behalf of the Volunteer Fair Committee



**WE ARE PROUD TO ANNOUNCE BILL JACKSON AS OUR OUTSTANDING EXHIBITOR/CONTRIBUTOR OF THE YEAR. BILL'S DEDICATION AND CONTRIBUTIONS WILL BE CELEBRATED IN THE OCTOBER ISSUE OF TRACK WATCH.**

A heartfelt thank you to our exhibitors, organizing committee, volunteers, and donors — your support is the what makes this amazing event possible!!



Watch the [Fair page](#) on the website and social media pages for the daily schedules. There are enough differences between the days to make a visit on both Saturday and Sunday worthwhile.





# 118TH PRIDDIS & MILLARVILLE FAIR

**What a tremendous effort by this community. Thank you to our generous sponsors and volunteers! Financial and in-kind contributions, as well as volunteer time and effort, make this event possible!**

## Supporters of the Fair

Anderson Family Sheep Ranch  
Berrigan Family  
Jeanne Brkich  
Kathy Coutts  
Coyote Acres & Sheep Trax  
Kathy Flundra  
Shirley Goerlitz  
Rod Griffith  
Diana Hocking  
Carmen Peccie  
Richardson Family  
Nancy Seaman  
The Design Group of Sheep Creek Weavers  
Tiny Springs Farms  
Arlene Visser

## Benefactors of the Fair

422089 Alberta Ltd.  
AgTek 360  
Benediktson Family  
Blue Ridge Excavating  
Cathro Family  
Blaine & Lorraine Clark  
Hawkview Charolais  
Hulleman Farms Hay Sales  
Bill & Edith Jackson  
Melodie & Derek Lalonde  
Lana Shea Consulting Inc  
May & John Lockhart Millarville  
Horticultural Club  
Ralph & Diane Onciul  
Mike & Barb Parker  
Planet Auto Inc  
Judi Powell Red Deer Lake  
Meat Processing Ltd  
Scott Daniel Seaman Fund  
Valerie Seaman  
Sheep Creek Arts Council  
Sills Family  
Yvonne Sterrenberg  
The Plane Girls - Donna Kendall  
& Riel Erickson  
Gerry Tofin  
Patty Webb  
UFA  
Western Wrangler Construction

## In-Kind Donations

ATCO  
Action 3D Print  
Birds of Prey Foundation  
Bow Habitat Station  
Calaway Park  
Cathie Dallas  
Chain Reaction Canada  
Cherry Family  
Country Food Mart AG Foods  
Harris & Mark Gardiner  
Heritage Park  
Homestead Valley Farms  
Jeff & Jessie Moen  
Okotoks Recreations  
Revival Seeds  
RONA Diamond Valley  
UFA High River  
West Coast Seeds

## Patrons of the Fair

Don & Kathleen Arkes  
Gwen & Wayne Blatz  
Gerald & Sandra Bull  
Barb Castell  
Sylvia Checkley  
Chinook Llama & Alpaca Club  
Gisler Boar Goats  
Barb & Cliff Larson  
Rediscover Play Nature  
Schools Gillian Ross  
Cathie Scatterty  
Linda Schaal  
Square Butte Ladies Group  
Joyce Teskey  
Allan & Joan Tosh  
Mary Ann Watson  
White Moose Ranch

## Friends of the Fair

David & Jody Ball  
Neil & Di Bates  
Theresa Boyce  
Dale & Joe Burritt  
Calgary & District Beekeepers Association  
Neal Campbell  
Jo-Ann Collins  
Harry Cowan  
Frances Dover  
Kathy Flundra  
Betty Foran  
Brenda Geiger  
Lauren Hitchner  
Donna Kendall  
Doreen Marthaller  
Kathy McCabe  
Sandra Neish  
Pat & Arlene O'Brien  
Origin Partners  
Louise Patterson Bruns  
Loretta Stabler  
Julie & Bill Thomson  
Turner Valley Oilfield Camera Club  
Sheep Creek Weavers  
Sheila Virgo  
Tangle Ridge Ranch  
Sue Watkins  
Wild Rose Dairy Goats Society





# THANK YOU FROM THE PRIDDIS & MILLARVILLE FAIR ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

## Fair Committee Members

Adam Buchholz  
Darryl Evans  
Nancy Thomson  
Adele DePauw  
Doreen Marthaller  
Natasha Phillipson  
Alex Batara  
Doug Martin  
Pat Collison  
Amanda Diamond  
Edie Pujo  
Patty Webb  
Andrea Neumann  
Jackie White  
Paul Rishaug  
Angie Dawson  
Janet Scott  
Ralph Onciul

Arlene O'Brien  
Jill Dakers  
Sandi Scott  
Arlene Visser  
Julie Thomson  
Saskia Knoll  
Barb Castell  
Kathleen Arkes  
Saxon Evans  
Barb Larson  
Kathy McCabe  
Shannon Schneider  
Barb Parker  
Kathy Sosnowski  
Sheila Giles-Smith  
Betty Foran  
Kayla Friesen  
Sheila Virgo

Bill Jackson  
Laura James  
Suzanne Sills  
Callum McLeod  
Lindsay Estey  
Suzanne Sills  
Carmen Peccie  
Lorretta Stabler  
Suzon Watkins  
Carol Papworth  
Marian Anton  
Sylvia Checkley  
Cathie Dallas  
Nancy Seaman  
Todd Watkins  
Danielle Bradish  
Nancy Simmons  
Yvonne Sterrenberg



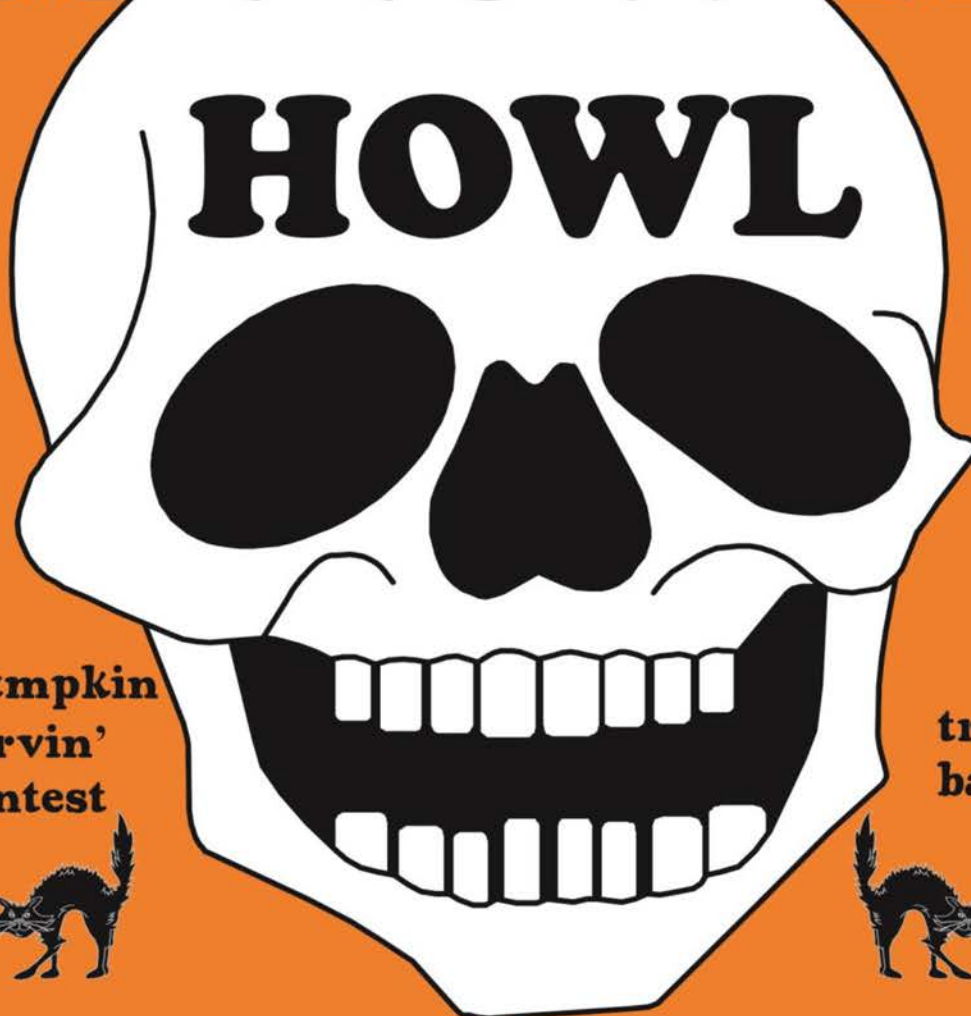




**Millarville Racing  
& AG Society  
proudly sponsors the...**



# **HALLOWEEN**



**pumpkin  
carvin'  
contest**

**treat  
bags**



**games**



**costume  
parade**

**Saturday, October 25th**

**6:00 pm- 10:00 pm at Racetrack Hall**

Admission is one bag of wrapped candy per child and a potluck item  
(peanut free please!).

Optional: enter a carved pumpkin for the carving contest (prizes!)

Halloween Photo Booth by Amie Bell Photography

Cash bar fundraiser...parents dress up and have fun too!!

*\*Food bank donations are also being accepted.*

Text

Leanna at  
587-664-4072  
to volunteer for  
a shift or  
Kristen at  
403-669-9502  
to help with the  
haunted house





**MILLARVILLE  
CHRISTMAS  
MARKET**

**300+ VENDORS**

**PRE - PURCHASE TICKETS  
ONLINE IN ADVANCE**

**Nov 6th - 9th  
Nov 13th - 16th  
2025**

**Daily  
9am - 4pm**

**make it,  
bake it,  
grow it!**

**tickets \$7.50**  
12 & UNDER FREE

**millarvilleracetrack.com**  

**TICKETS  
ON SALE  
SEPTEMBER 15TH!**

**Be part of the magic by  
participating with  
decorating the**



# MILLARVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY



[millarvillehistoricalsociety.ca](http://millarvillehistoricalsociety.ca)

## UPCOMING EVENTS



Sept. 4, 2025 - Join us for our Annual General Meeting (AGM) at the MRAS Racetrack Hall 6:30. Louise Patterson-Bruns will present info about the 150 Anniversary of the NWMP. Membership fees: Individual \$20, Family \$30. Please renew or join MHS by sending an e-transfer to: [millarvillehistoricalsociety@gmail.com](mailto:millarvillehistoricalsociety@gmail.com)

\*\*\*\*\*



Oct. 4, 2025 - A special Members' Dinner at the MRAS Racetrack Hall. Enjoy a buffet supper and fascinating presentations by Lindsay Amundsen-Meyers, archaeologist at the John Ware site and Bill Jackson, a local historian sharing stories and discoveries from our community's past.

Dinner at 5:00pm

Speakers at 6:30 pm

\$40 per person ..... Reserve your spot by Sept. 28 by sending an e-transfer to:  
[millarvillehistoricalsociety@gmail.com](mailto:millarvillehistoricalsociety@gmail.com).

A current Millarville Historical Society Membership is required to attend.

Membership fees: Individual \$20, Family \$30

\*\*\*\*\*



Nov. 22, 2025 – Enjoy an afternoon listening to Cooking with History, where local ladies' groups and Best of Bridge members will share stories and food traditions. 2:00 -4:00 Millarville Racetrack Hall with tasty delights.

Help support our initiatives by purchasing raffle tickets \$5 per ticket on an original oil painting titled "Love Stuck", donated by renowned western local artist, Renee Gould. This painting was inspired by a photo of Frank and Beatrice Ball stuck in the mud on their honeymoon returning to the farm (see Foothills Echoes, page 174). We will draw for this oil painting Nov. 25th.

Membership fees: Individual \$20, Family \$30 Please renew or join MHS by sending an e-transfer to: [millarvillehistoricalsociety@gmail.com](mailto:millarvillehistoricalsociety@gmail.com)

Hope to see you at our events and thanks for supporting our non-profit society!

Contact Lorretta Stabler MHS President 403-931-2188 if you have questions!



# The Farmerettes of Sunny Slope Ranch

Submitted by Marie Nylund – Millarville Historical Society Director



Miss Webber and Mrs. Goppel.

Miss Peter Webber, an English woman, with her companion, Ms. Cullette (Weaver) Goppel, an American divorcee, bought the S 1/2 of Section 31 and the E 1/2 of Section 30 Twp 22 R2 W5 in early 1924. This land is located 1.6 kms east of the junction of Hwy #22 and Hwy 22X on the north side of the highway. They were the first women locally to run a farm and operate machinery along with the men so they were dubbed the Farmerettes. Miss Webber was not her real name as she was the daughter of a well to do London, England member of Parliament. What was learned was she was an expert driver, a good shot, and extremely venturesome and that she had worked for the British Government in Turkey and India. During the war she is supposed to have driven an ambulance in Serbia.

Also, as an author she wrote "The Gilt on the Gingerbread" while on the ranch. (I researched this book and found one book published anonymously in

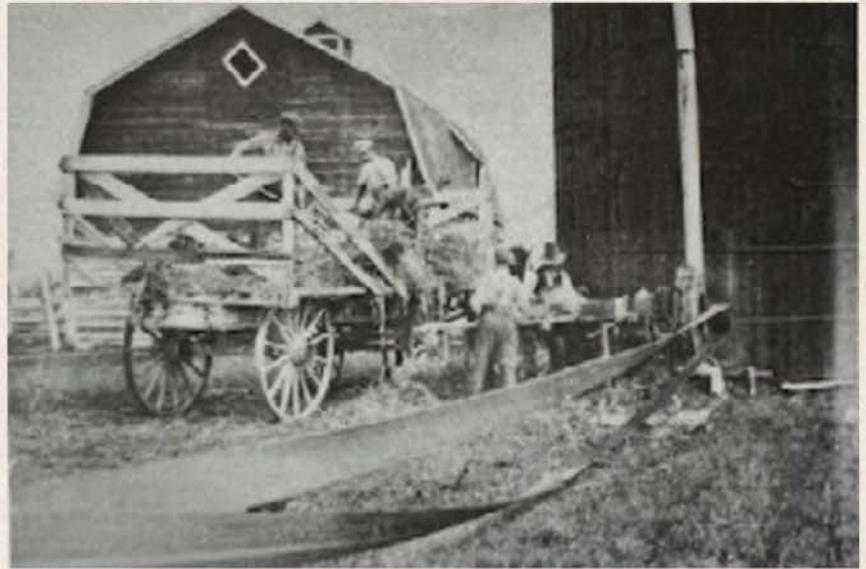
1925 by Williams and Norgate, London, England. The forward to the book was written by W.L. George a British journalist who wrote several novels and short stories. The book presents an autobiographical "low life" narrative of a "girl wretched from birth" in England.) I cannot help but assume that this book is in fact the one written by the mysterious Miss Webber.

The farmerettes put three hundred acres in crop and when they hit the first good crop Miss Webber went to Calgary and bought a new Fordson tractor and Sawyer-Massey grain separator. To bring it home, she drove the outfit along 9th Avenue to 1st Street East and then west on 8th Avenue to John Irwin's Grocery where a large order (of groceries) was put in the blower. Joe Grisedale, an Englishman who worked briefly for Miss Webber, rode on the back of the outfit all the way. Tractors at the time all had steel wheels and lugs so they were forbidden on Calgary pavement but no one stopped them. This is probably the first and only time a tractor and separator moved along Calgary's 8th Avenue. They finished the trip in the dark by the headlights of a truck. Sometime later, Miss Webber abruptly left for England but returned again and was thought to have lived for a while on the Walker Ranch (West ½ Section 12, Twp 22 R2 W5), Pine Creek area.

Meanwhile, in the fall of 1926, Cullette Goppel married Major Bernard Francis (Bumpy) Rhodes, a wealthy Englishman who held a commission in the British Army in World War I. Bumpy owned the Minnehaha Ranch in Grand Valley near Cochrane. Bumpy and Cullette adopted a son David. About 1930 they moved to Victoria and bought a mansion. Bumpy died at the young age of 47 on June 19th, 1935 at Victoria. Shortly after Bumpy died, Cullette and David left Victoria and moved back to the ranch at Cochrane. David attended Brentwood College on Vancouver Island but spent his vacations at the ranch.



In the late 1930s Cullette went to Tahiti on a vacation and while she was there, she bought a coconut plantation at Papeete, the capital of French Polynesia. Two of her companions Eric Hanner who she had married, and Count von Luckner, (Check out this link for an interesting story of Count von Luckner). Both men were German citizens so the French government revoked Cullette's visa and she had to leave Tahiti. Undaunted, Cullette bought a 50-foot two-masted schooner, the Valkyrie, and she and David, with Eric Hanner as captain and two Tahitian sailors as crew, sailed for Honolulu.



At some point, Cullette met Margot DeCarie, who had been Amelia Earhart's secretary and an admirer of the famous aviator. Cullette, Eric, Margot and David cruised the Pacific Ocean stopping at many small islands in hopes of finding Amelia who had disappeared July 2nd, 1937 when she attempted to be the first woman pilot to circumnavigate the globe accompanied by her navigator Fred Noonan. (In 1971 Margot DeCarie donated over 60 photographs of Amelia Earhart to the International Women's Air and Space Museum). (More interesting information can be found on Margot DeCarie on this link - <https://earharttruth.wordpress.com/tag/margot-decarie/>).

When they reached Honolulu, Cullette had her marriage to Eric Hanner dissolved. She and her son David returned once again to the ranch at Cochrane. David Rhodes managed the Minnehahah Ranch for a while and then joined the Lord Strathcona Horse. He later transferred to the U.S. Army and served in World War II. After David went off to war, Cullette assumed her old name and ran the ranch herself for a while. The ranch was sold in 1947 to Jack Bolton and Cullette moved to Santa Monica, California. The ranch is now called the Anchor X and is owned by Jim Burns.

Death records reveal Cullette's name as Ethel Zora Weaver Rhodes who was born in Oregon on April 6th, 1892, daughter of Hezekiah W. Weaver and Francis Elizabeth (McConnell) Weaver. She passed away on November 15th, 1952 at age 60 and is interred in Evansburg, Indiana. At the time of her death, Cullette was survived by her son Lt. David A. Rhodes of the US Army.

Unfortunately, I could find no further information could be found on Miss Peter Webber and so she remains anonymous.

The Farmerettes of Sunny Slope Ranch by J.E. Hunt in Our Foothills, Page 286-287

Source: Our Foothills, Wikipedia, Find A Grave, Big Hill Country, Cochrane and Area, Page 407-408.

Read more historical articles on [Facebook - Millarville Historical Society](#) or email us [millarvillehistoricalsociety@gmail.com](mailto:millarvillehistoricalsociety@gmail.com) if you have photos, information, or questions.

Check out our newly formatted website: [millarvillehistoricalsociety.ca](http://millarvillehistoricalsociety.ca)





# MILLARVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

[millarvillehistoricalsociety.ca](http://millarvillehistoricalsociety.ca)

## Honoring One of Millarvilles' Life Members



**David Evans**

November 14, 1938 - July 17, 2025

David was a third-generation rancher of the original homestead established in 1897 by his grandfather. He was a second-generation volunteer at the Millarville Racing and Agricultural Society, contributing as MRAS Director, Patrol Judge at the Races, and Fair Director. In the 1960's, David raised purebred Appaloosa horses and purebred Charolais cattle and showed these at the Priddis & Millarville Fair. David became a Millarville Racing & Agricultural Life Member in 2004. Our condolences to the family. A celebration of life will be held at a later date.





## **MILLARVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

[www.millarvillehistoricalsociety.ca](http://www.millarvillehistoricalsociety.ca)

**PLEASE JOIN US  
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4 , 2025  
6:30 PM  
AT THE MRAS RACETRACK HALL  
FOR OUR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
FEATURING A PRESENTATION  
BY LOUISE PATTERSON-BRUNS  
CELEBRATING THE**

**150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NW MOUNTED POLICE**

**MEMBERSHIP FEES INDIVIDUAL \$20  
FAMILY \$30  
PLEASE RENEW OR JOIN MHS BY SENDING AN  
E-TRANSFER TO:  
MILLARVILLEHISTORICALSOCIETY@GMAIL.COM**

---



# FROM THE HANDS OF MAKERS

October 18 & 19 2025

10am - 4 pm Millarville Racetrack Hall

SHEEP  
CREEK  
WEAVERS

FIBRE ARTS GUILD



SHEEP  
CREEK  
WEAVERS

FIBRE ARTS GUILD

# SCW FIBRE ARTS SALE

[www.sheepcreekweavers.ca](http://www.sheepcreekweavers.ca)





# SIGNS OF AUTUMN WITH THE SHEEP CREEK WEAVERS

The change of seasons is evocative. Whether it's the smell of pumpkin pies baking or the sharp clear Alberta blue sky in contrast with crisp yellow aspen leaves something signals that fall has arrived. For me, it's the moment that I slip on my favourite sweater. It's super soft, cozy, and fits like it was made for me; which it was or at least that's what I always tell myself. I bought it three years ago from the Sheep Creek Weavers Annual Sale. It was hard to decide if I loved the knitted sweater more or the woven shawl. So, I got the sweater and my sister bought the shawl. The tradition of hand-crafted items made by creative women who live in and around our beloved foothills continues Saturday and Sunday October 17 & 18, 2025 in the Hall at the Millarville Racetrack.

The artistry of the guild members includes items from all the conventional fibre art techniques: weaving, knitting, felting, quilting, embroidery, rug hooking and branches out into woven baskets, roving, fleece, dyed locks, and hand-spun yarn from local sheep. I always buy a ticket for the raffle baskets and bid on the items in the silent auction. The best part of the sale is the opportunity to talk to the guild members and hear the story that inspired the creation of the beautiful object that they brought to the sale. If you see me there please say hi. I'll be the one with an arm load of socks, a hat or two, a new scarf, a tea towel, new Christmas ornament, and a special something just for myself chatting in line and admiring what everyone is purchasing.

From the pen of an Anonymous Admirer of Handcrafted Fibre Arts







# MRAS EQUINE FACILITIES

Questions about the MRAS Equine Facilities email: [ops@mras-track.com](mailto:ops@mras-track.com).

For memberships email: [office@mras-track.com](mailto: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.

Riding Rules: 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 [HERE](https://www.millarvilleracetrack.com/equine/) for the rules or go to: <https://www.millarvilleracetrack.com/equine/>.

Booking Sheet: 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.

Manure: 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](http://www.millarvilleracetrack.com-Equine) tab under Upcoming Events.

## KIDS & ADULTS RIDING LESSONS

with Danielle Bartlett 

Friday Evenings

Sept. 12, 26, Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24

Danielle is a certified Equestrian Instructor and holds a Licensed Coach Certification with Equestrian Canada. She has an excellent ability to communicate with all levels of riders to reach their goals. She has a background in reining, working with young horses and showing.

All horses must be well mannered in a group of horses.

Cost - Current MRAS Riding Members - \$390.00 for 6 lessons or \$69 individually, if space allows

Non - MRAS Riding Members - \$420.00 for 6 lessons or \$74 individually, if space allows

To register or for more information please contact [lynnbrunton@gmail.com](mailto:lynnbrunton@gmail.com).

## DRESSAGE SEPTEMBER LESSONS SERIES

with Kimberly Cox

Wednesdays evenings: Sept 10, 24 (date changed) & Oct 1  
OR

Thursday mornings: Sept 11, 25 (date changed) & Oct 2

Work on the fundamentals of Dressage:

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

Western and English rider welcome, dressage fundamental are the same. As much as possible, participants will be divided into groups based 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](mailto:mras.equine@gmail.com) to reserve your spot.  
Registrations will be accepted to Friday, August 29th

## PATTERN PRACTICE

Sunday, October 26

10:00-11:30AM or 11:30-1:00PM

Come out and have some fun riding patterns in a relaxed and fun environment. Riders will start with transition rail work and then execute one or two patterns depending on the complexity.

For best success and fit for this program you need to be comfortable at all gaits including a lope. Horses must be good with a group of horses as you will be required to be in a lineup with other horses.

To register or for more information contact [lynnbrunton@gmail.com](mailto:lynnbrunton@gmail.com). Once you are registered payment instructions will be sent.

Cost \$15 for MRAS Riding Members & \$25 for Non Riding Members

This is a non-refundable program.



## RIDE RIGHT: FOUNDATIONS FROM THE GROUND UP

with Keira Forsyth, B Diamond Physio

Tuesday evening:

Sept 30, Oct 7 & 14 (6 to 7pm)

All disciplines & breeds welcome.

All exercises will be done in hand, NO riding.

More details found on the website Equine Page.

Day 1: Stretch & Reset – Static Stretching for Pre & Post Ride

Day 2: Mobilize & Move – Joint Mobilizations & Range of Motion

Day 3: Strength & Stability – In-Hand Strengthening for the Hind End, Core & Topline

Ideal For:

- Owners wanting to be more proactive in their horse's health and wellbeing

Rider of all disciplines & breeds welcome

Cost: Current MRAS Riding Members \$150.00, priority registration until Aug \_\_

Non-Members \$175.00

Auditors \$ 75.00, Auditors must pre-register and prepay

(All prices include GST)

Contact [mras.equine@gmail.com](mailto:mras.equine@gmail.com) to reserve your spot.

Registrations will be accepted to **September 20th**

## JUNIOR RODEO

Friday evenings: December 2025 through April

The MRAS Junior Rodeo Series is a 10-night series of gymkhana and rodeo events offered to junior riders throughout the winter months. This series brings all levels of riders together ages 2-17 to participate in these events.

More information and registration details will be available in the October Trackwatch and on the MRAS website.

### 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](http://www.millarvilleracetrack.com) Equine tab under Upcoming Events.



# 2025-2026 MRAS GENERAL MEMBERSHIPS



**DO NOT MISS OUT!**

**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](https://www.millarvilleracetrack.com/membership/) OR**

**GO TO:**

**<https://www.millarvilleracetrack.com/membership/>**





# WHY BECOME AN MRAS MEMBER ?

Purchasing a membership with MRAS provides you with great opportunities and privileges.



Connection with  
neighbours,  
friends and our  
community.



Event committee  
participation



Access to Indoor and  
outdoor riding  
facilities with riding  
membership.

We encourage all regular users of MRAS facilities to get involved. For more information about any of the MRAS Memberships, please click Here and/or contact [office@mras-track.com](mailto:office@mras-track.com).





**<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.

Hort Club Members were invited to the Oilfields Hospital and Rising Sun Courtyard gardens on Monday August 11. Patty Webb and her band of volunteers have built beautiful and meticulous gardens to grace the property. And Janet Scott had a special thank you and presentation for Patty and her crew.

The Garden Committee continues to look after planters at MRAS and Millarville Community School all summer.

Thank you to everyone that volunteered and entered the Priddis Millarville Fair , August 16 and 17. It was a fantastic event over 2 days. The Millarville racetrack participated in Open Farm Days. This brings a great range of people from the city to the country. Next year the fair is August 15 and 16, 2026 for planning ahead!

Our next meeting is Tuesday September 9, 2025. This will be our potluck so bring something delicious from your garden ! 6:30 pm start.  
We will be having a Salute to Our Amazing Volunteers .  
Our speaker will be Kathleen from the Foothills County who will talk about weeds in our fields and gardens. We need to know this !

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





# MILLARVILLE COMMUNITY LIBRARY



## Would you?

We are looking for ideas of classes to run in the fall/winter. If you have a suggestion or would like to teach a class, please let Natasha Grusendorf know.

## Boquet's

Thank you to everyone who came out for the kid's summer program, it was a great time of crafting, candle making, pool noodle fingers plus counting all of the ducks, dinosaurs, turtles and spiders that came to hang out for the summer too!

## Need a read?

"The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane" by Kate DiCamillo. "I loved this book because it is full of adventure and while you are reading it, you don't realize how many years have gone by in the book. It is a really sad story but at the same time really good." Abigail, age 10.

## Did you know?

We go back to regular hours  
starting September 2.

Monday 9-3

Tuesday 9-3

Wednesday 9-7:30

Thursday 9-3.

## CLASSES

September 18- Join us at the library at 4 pm for a presentation by Romie Christie author of "See You in Le Touquet: A memoir of War and Destiny."

September 25- Want to preform your own facial acupuncture and cupping at home? Dr. Mandie Gillette will show us how to improve your skins natural glow, soften fine lines and achieve a more vibrant complexion. Course fee of \$50 includes a set of glass silicone facial cups, a natural stone gua sha tool, a sample bottle of Rae Dunphy Facial oil and a face map with cupping instructions. Please call the library to register 403-931-3919 as space is limited.

October 25- Come create your most spectacular pumpkin racer out of a real pumpkin and win prizes! This will be held at the Sheep Creek Library, Turner Valley. Don't miss out on this family fun event known as the Western Foothills Pumpkin Derby.



# THREE POINT CREEK RANCH HORSE BOARDING

We're minutes from Millarville only 5 minutes from Millarville's indoor riding arena and just a short stroll away from Diamond Valley, Okotoks, and Calgary

## Heated Barn Features:

- *Private stalls with fenced areas*
- *Tack storage, water & power*
- *New fencing*

## Paddock Features:

- *Fenced paddocks private & non private options*
- *Tack storage & water*
- *New fencing*

## Extra Options:

- *Riding corral & round pen*
- *Access - 56 acres mixed terrain*
- *Trailer parking available*



Scan QR code or email [threepointcreekranch@gmail.com](mailto:threepointcreekranch@gmail.com)



Mobile Mammography Screening is coming to:

## Diamond Valley

September 3 to 6, 2025

Oilfields Hospital



*Photo courtesy of the Alberta Cancer Foundation*

**Call toll free to book an appointment:**

**1-800-667-0604**

**To learn more visit:** [screeningforlife.ca/breast](https://screeningforlife.ca/breast)

*If you're 45 to 74 years of age, have a mammogram every 2 years or as decided by you and your healthcare provider. No referral needed.*



**Primary Care  
Alberta**



**Screen Test**

Post until: September 6, 2025





THE FINAL 15 KM AT  
MILLARVILLE RACING AND AG SOCIETY  
ON SEPT. 7TH!

# THE LIFE YOU CHANGE MIGHT BE YOURS



MARCH • CREW • DONATE



## KidneyMarch

# 100KM

JOIN 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.



SCAN ME



Charitable registration  
No. 10756 7398 RR0001



PRESENTING SPONSOR



Lead Sponsor for the final  
15 km on Sept. 7th!

[KidneyMarch.ca](http://KidneyMarch.ca)

403.255.6139

[Kidneymarch@kidney.ca](mailto:Kidneymarch@kidney.ca)





make it,  
bake it,  
grow it!



# MILLARVILLE FARMERS' MARKET

180+ VENDORS

ENTRY FEE BY DONATION

**June 21st**  
*to* **Oct 11th**  
**2025**  
*Saturdays*  
**9am - 2pm**

[millarvilleracetrack.com](https://millarvilleracetrack.com)  

**VOLUNTEERS  
NEEDED**

**We are looking for gate greeters  
for the Market season.**

**Sign up Here!**

<https://mras.getcommunal.com/volunteer-opportunities/1093>





# BEST KEPT SECRET OF THE FOOTHILLS!

MILLARVILLE CAMPGROUND



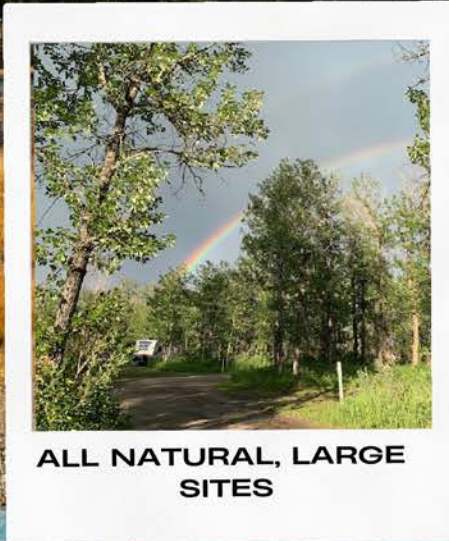
**AGRICULTURALLY  
-THEMED  
PLAYGROUND**



**FARMERS' MARKETS  
ALL SUMMER!**



**AWESOME  
EVENTS!**



**ALL NATURAL, LARGE  
SITES**

**CLICK TO RESERVE A SITE NOW!**

Or go to: <https://letscamp.ca/camps/millarville-campground>



# Thank you to our Sponsors

(click logo to go to website)



Sekura Auctions Since 1966





# ADVERTISE IN THE AWARD-WINNING TRACK WATCH NEWSLETTER



For inquiries and pricing please contact: [office@mras-track.com](mailto:office@mras-track.com)

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