

# NEWS FROM THE “NEIGH”BOURHOOD

## June

### ~Dates To Remember~

#### June

June 20  
Volunteer Appreciation  
BBQ 4-7 p.m.

#### July

July 1  
Canada Day - Office Closed  
July 4-8  
Camp Tamarack Wk 1  
July 11-15  
Camp Tamarack Wk 2  
July 18-22  
Camp Tamarack Wk 3  
July 25– August 1  
PARDS Summer Camp Wk 1

#### August

August 1  
Heritage Day—Office Closed  
August 2 - 5  
PARDS Summer Camp Wk 2  
August 8 - 12  
PARDS Summer Camp Wk 3  
August 15 - 19  
PARDS Summer Camp Wk 4  
August 22 - 26  
PARDS Summer Camp Wk 5  
August 29 - September 1  
Adult Summer Camp

### ~Keep in the Know~



Click [here](#) to visit  
our website



Click [here](#) to “like”  
us on facebook



Click [here](#) to follow  
us on instagram



Click [here](#) to follow  
us on twitter

## ~ FUND Ride Sponsors ~



**Peace Fuel Dist.**  
**Rainbow Automotive**  
**Northern Bottling**  
**Devon Tretiak**

**Northern Metalic**  
**Wapiti Shell**  
**Sheldon Hannah Ins.**  
**The Co-operators**  
**Fentie's Petroleum**

**Field Engineering & Assoc.**  
**Costco**  
**Horse Trekking Adventures**  
**Vector Communications**

## ~ FUND Ride Donors ~

ATCO  
 Beachcomber  
 Hot Tubs & Home Leisure  
 Bowling Stones Ten Pin  
 Entertainment Centre  
 Carolynne McBride  
 Champion Feed Services Ltd.  
 Chris Wolf  
 CIKT Q99  
 Cineplex  
 Countryside Motor Sports  
 County of Grande Prairie  
 Fire Department  
 Daddio's Pizza  
 Dino's Potable Water  
 Domino's  
 Elite Vac & Steam  
 Evergreen Park

Expert Mobile  
 Communications Ltd.  
 Freson Bros.IGA North  
 Freson Bros.IGA South  
 Giant Tiger  
 GP Tourism  
 Greenhawk Harness & Equestrian  
 Happy Trails  
 Home Depot  
 In the Zone Party Rentals  
 James Holton  
 Jennifer Wolf  
 Jim Rawlek  
 Kakwa Stone  
 London Drugs  
 Marble Slab Creamery  
 Marilyn Walker  
 Party H.Q.

Peace Country Amateur Radio  
 Club  
 Peace Draft Horse Club  
 Pita Pit  
 Prairie Coast Equipment  
 Prairie Signs  
 Reach FM  
 Rick Parsons  
 RONA  
 Rotary Club of Grande Prairie  
 Save On Foods  
 Starbucks, Cobblestone  
 Stucky's Candy  
 Sue Waslychew  
 Superior Fire Control Ltd  
 The Butcher Shop  
 Trin Potratz

# ~ Volunteer Spotlight ~

PARDS 31st Annual FUND Ride was a huge success, as fun was had by all!  
We couldn't have done it without the amazing volunteers who gave hours of their time.  
We thank you!



Thank you to the  
ROTARY CLUB of Grande Prairie  
Barbeque Crew  
for providing an amazing  
pancake breakfast and BBQ lunch

## TRAIL CHECKPOINTS

**Rick Parsons**—Captain  
Brian Nock  
John Potts  
Mike Cassidy  
Dennis Bancosco  
John Gilge  
Lee Johnson  
Heinz Schar

## REGISTRATION

**Gayle Mayer**- Captain  
Carolynne McBride  
Sue Wasylchew  
Barb Wald  
Shirley Kyle  
Dave Perks  
Nancy Ingram  
Marge Elliott  
(Trail Boss)

## COUNTY OF GRANDE PRAIRIE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Kevin LeBlanc and his  
crew

## PONY RIDE

**Robyn Boudreau**— Captain  
**Shauna Wells**— Captain  
**Amanda Udey**— Captain  
Carol Balcome  
Doug Balcome  
Louis Ducsharm  
Marilyn Walker  
Laura Jansen  
Nicole O'Flaherty  
Nicole Crowley  
Lynda Brown  
Arlene Stubbs  
Rose Donnelly  
Barb Wald

Laurie Prichuck  
with ponies Tory & Jetta

Horse Hauling  
Alysoun Wells  
Vince Hauber

## VOLUNTEER BBQ & FUND RIDE DINNER

**Sue Wasylchew**— Captain  
Shirley Kyle  
Cathy Withers  
Rob Lovely  
George Boudreau  
Dan Buchaski  
Charlie Cramer  
Daniel Bartlett

## PEACE DRAFT HORSE CLUB

Gordon Frentz's team

## TRAIL SETUP

**Mort Timanson**— Captain  
Darrel Sweetman  
Gordon Frentz

## SITE PLANNING SETUP & TEARDOWN

**Jenn Douglas**- Captain  
**Jim Rawlek** - Captain  
Dave Westwell  
Jenn Ash  
Terry Proulx  
Corrina Boudreau  
Tyler Boudreau  
Mark Van der Raadt  
Martin Paradis  
James Holton  
Robyn Boudreau  
Amanda Udey  
Cal Isley  
Matthew Withers  
Rick Parsons  
Jennifer Wolf  
Gayle Mayer  
Nicole Wasylchew  
Josh Dyck

Thank you to Trin & Ariane  
For our dinner time  
entertainment



## MEDIC

Connie  
Steigenberger

## CARNIVAL VOLUNTEERS

**Jennifer Wolf**— Captain  
**James Holton**— Captain  
Dave Westwell  
Dale Roth  
Bill Jones  
Josh Dyck  
Wade Mayer  
Grande Prairie 4H  
Achiever Club  
Caitlyn Holton  
Kim Aickelin  
Rebecca Charles  
Charlie Cramer  
Kailey Coombs  
Ellen Bowles

Marcella Flasha  
Bernadette Gordon  
Lon Rubie  
Sharon Wilson  
Audrey Raskaukas  
Lisa Reid  
Grace Bordas  
Shelby Douglas  
Brandy Boudreau  
Lindsey McNeil  
Nancy Ingram  
Katie Mayer  
Judi Harker  
Sally Perkins

Eve van deBeek  
Jane Penson  
Robyn Wells  
Presley Wells  
Dave Perks  
Amber Walsh  
Jillian Coughlin  
Lacy Schramm  
Jami Clark  
Jenn Steele  
Kashe Clark  
Stephanie Clement—  
Lacroix  
Kaydence Gerwatoski

1st Grande Prairie Rangers  
Emma Linfield  
Emily Andrews  
Loren Gomez  
Renee Morvan  
2nd Grande Prairie Pathfinders  
Courtney Stadelman  
Molly Linfield  
Peyton Blinston  
Holly Stark  
Cassandra Wohlgemuth  
Leaders:  
Adrea Simmons  
Carolyn Schmid

PARDS RIDER'S  
Donna Hatton  
Zayda Charles  
Kevin Simon  
Nicole Wasylchew  
Michael Knox  
Gloria Bigstone  
Aly Keay  
Hayley Greig  
Matthew Withers  
Laura Flett  
Todd Perks  
Jaiden Walsh  
Anevey Fraser

## FUND RIDE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Jim Rawlek Dave Westwell James Holton Rick Parsons  
Mort Timanson Sue Wasylchew Marge Elliott Shirley Kyle  
Carolynne McBride Robyn Boudreau Gayle Mayer  
Jenn Ash Jenn Douglas Jennifer Wolf

# ~ FUND Ride Prize Winners ~



Michelle Sandvold with mom, Rose  
1st Place PARDS Rider Fundraiser



Nicole Wasylchew  
2nd Place PARDS Rider Fundraiser

Both Michelle and Nicole ride in the Therapeutic Program at PARDS. Their hard work in raising pledges has earned them credits towards lessons next year.



Tom Brown  
1st Place Adult Rider

Kevin Logan  
2nd Place Adult Rider



Brielle Evaskevich  
1st Place Youth Rider



Cierra Hauber  
2nd Place Youth Rider



Charles Richard  
1st Place Adult Bike



Linda Duval-Richard  
2nd Place Adult Bike



Evangeline Richard  
1st Place Youth Bike

Mark Van der Raadt  
1st Place Adult Walker

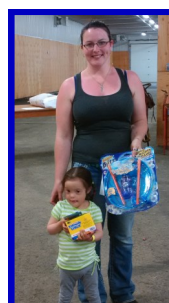
ATB  
Team Spirit Award



Webster Trail Riders  
Largest Team &  
Highest Fundraising Team



Tom Brown  
Oldest Participant



Evangeline Richard  
Youngest Participant



Lise Richard  
Hardluck Story



Alyssa Logan  
Furthest Travelled



# ~ Rider Spotlight ~

## SLIM ALLEN AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

Slim Allen was one of the founding members of the PARDS organization more than 30 years ago. As a horseman, Slim knew full well the marvelous healing power of horses long before therapeutic riding programs were established. He was already on board when discussions began around establishing such a program for Peace Country residents.



Slim's countless hours spent in support of PARDS endeared him to staff, other volunteers and particularly the children who rode in the program. They absolutely loved him and he is remembered fondly by many to this day.

Slim and his family established this award to recognize individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to PARDS. Despite failing health, Slim attended our Fund Ride in May 2008 and presented the first annual T.W. (Slim) Allen Award of Excellence. Sadly, Slim passed away in 2009 but his memory and legacy have been kept alive through the commitment of his family members to attend the event and present the award each year on Slim's behalf.

How fitting that this man who contributed so much himself was thinking about recognizing others who shared his passion for the organization. The words Slim chose for the plaque captured his understanding of the challenges that our clients face every day..."Courage is being scared to death and saddling up anyway".

### **And the award goes to...**

Aly began riding at PARDS 14 years ago, at the age of 6. When she began riding she was supported by a team of two, consisting of a leader and a sidewalker. As a young girl, she rode with an eagerness and fearlessness that led to her quick progression and growth to ride independently. She soon outgrew her team and began riding all on her own. To watch her mount her horse and ride away from the confines of her wheelchair for the first time and every time thereafter, was truly amazing. Aly has quickly grown into a talented rider, with dreams as big as her fierce spirit and now competes with her equine partner in Equine Canada National Video Competitions and local dressage shows.

When Aly gets on her horse, there is something very special that happens. She isn't just a girl on a horse, she becomes free of all barriers that she faces on a daily basis; she becomes one with her horse, a team that is ready to take on the world! Aly never takes herself too seriously and loves to have a good time, but when she shows up at the barn, she's ready to work. Aly shows up for her lessons determined, as she sets goals for her and her equine partner; letting nothing stand in her way of achieving them. If you looked up determination and dedication in the dictionary, I am positive you would see a picture of Aly.

No matter what challenges stand before Aly, she faces them with confidence, perseverance, and integrity. To watch Aly each week is nothing short of inspiring. She is the personification of what PARDS stands for and we couldn't think of a more perfect individual to be awarded the Slim Allen Award of Excellence.

PARDS Instructor— Amanda Udey, CTRI

# ~ Community Champion ~

## Telus Days of Giving

WOW!! Telus Days of Giving brought Duncan, Rob and over 20 other Telus Employees (and family) out to our new facility on Saturday, May 14. These enthusiastic individuals helped us to complete the painting of our arena and barn area as well as clearing some of our trails of stumps and debris. They gave us their time, they fed us and they worked along side us to bring our riders closer to getting into the new facility.

Thank you, Telus! You're awesome!!

Amazing



Awesome



# ~ PARDS Rider Fundraisers ~



Michelle Sandvold  
1st Place Fundraiser



Nicole Wasylchew  
2nd Place Fundraiser



Evangeline Richard  
1st Place Youth Bike

**You should be so proud of yourselves for investing your time and energy to benefit all PARDS riders!**

Your participation goes beyond showing support for PARDS; it shows your belief in the benefits you receive from our programs and your commitment toward making sure PARDS is here to support you and other riders far into the future.

PARDS riders enjoyed a special day of recognition for their hard work in collecting pledges for the 31st Annual FUND Ride & Community Carnival. A personalized trail was made for them, they enjoyed cart rides, had a personal tour of the new facility and enjoyed a great BBQ lunch.

PARDS riders can earn credits towards riding lessons and other great prizes through their fundraising efforts. We look forward to seeing all our riders next year!



# ~ Summer Camps ~

Come join us at summer camp! Our Inclusive Youth Day Camp is full of fun and friendship. It is also full of all kinds of learning and personal discovery hidden within the games, activities and adventures. Almost all of PARDS' programs are incorporated into the day camps, making it a fantastic way to learn the basics of horse care, riding, horsemanship, cart driving and much more.

Youth day camp is open to children between the ages of 6 (as of January 1 of current year) and 14, of all abilities. Campers spend each day practicing and learning the basics of horse care and horsemanship, including grooming and tacking, through activities, lessons and hands-on learning. Youth Leadership activities are also incorporated into the daily camp schedule along with games, group activities and crafts. The last day of camp includes a horse show where campers are individually celebrated for their achievements and family members are invited to watch and enjoy a BBQ lunch (by donation, please) with their camper.

PARDS summer camps provide an inclusive environment where children and youth of all abilities are encouraged and supported to identify and build on their own strengths as well as recognize and appreciate the strengths of others.

## PARDS Summer Day Camps Gives Youth the Opportunity to:

- Develop character
- Learn valuable life skills
- Make new friends
- Discover new interests

One of the many benefits of our Youth Summer Camp is the mix of campers of all abilities. The activities are designed to suit a wide range of ability and it gives the whole group a chance to operate on an even playing field as friends, together.



Crafts



Riding



Barn Chores



Youth Leadership



Horse Care



Grooming

**Dates and registration forms are available on our website at [www.pards.ca](http://www.pards.ca).**



## ~ Volunteer Stars ~



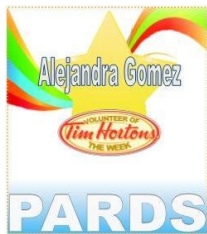
Louis has just joined the volunteer team, helping lead horses in the lessons to ensure the safety of the riders and keeping them on track. Louis has also helped us out when we have been short on volunteers and with grooming horses and helping getting them tacked up for lessons. Thank you Louis for joining our volunteer team!



Silken has just begun volunteering in the barn, grooming, catching, saddling and cleaning stalls. She also volunteers leading and side walking on a regular basis in lessons as well as jumping in when we are short on volunteers. She pretty much does it all! Thank you Silken for being on our volunteer team!



Nicole has been volunteering her time twice a week (and whenever we call) since October 2015. She has a warm heart and a strong work ethic. Nicole helps us in lessons as both a leader and side walker as well as in the barn doing the dirty work which keeps her close to the horses which she loves. Nicole also gives of her time in other areas of PARDS, such as selling tickets at our events to recently helping to paint the offices at the new facility. no matter where she is within her volunteering role she is greatly appreciated for all she gives to PARDS.



PARDS would like to welcome Aly to our team of volunteers. Although new, Aly has jumped right into lessons helping side walk and lead. As well Aly has shared her time in other fundraising events and helped us on June 4<sup>th</sup> with the pony rides at the FUND Ride. Thank you for all you give us Aly!!!



### **PARDS runs Inclusive Summer Camps all summer long and we are in need of volunteers!**

This is a unique opportunity to be out in the sun while assisting campers with leading, side walking and other barn activities.

If you have weekday, daytime availability and would like to join us, please call the office at 780-538-3211.

Full orientation will be provided.

## ~ Equine Partner Spotlight ~

PARDS offers a feed and vet care sponsorship for our non-sponsored horses at a cost of 1000.00 per year. These horse are available for this sponsorship. This sponsorship does not include naming options. (See below)



HOLLY



FINALE



JINX



HOTWHEELS



PETUNIA

PARDS created the Horse Sponsorship Program where we seek community members and companies to sponsor the purchase price including associated costs (vet check, vaccinations, etc.) of a suitable therapeutic program horse. Sponsors are encouraged to name “their” horse, and signage is provided on the stall door with the horse’s name

## ~ Test Your Horse Sense ~

We are introducing a new feature in our newsletter to “test your horse sense”. Each month we will ask a question and you can watch for the answer on our Facebook page and answers will also be published in the next months’ newsletter.

**May’s Question:** Why do riders mount and dismount on the left side of their horse?

**Answer:** There are a couple of answers.... First, because horses are very one-sided, that is, they only think on one side of their brain at a time; so they can learn something on one side, and not know anything about that particular subject on the other side. So we have standardized the left side as the side the horse is trained for everything, from haltering to leading to mounting. Why the left side and not the right? You have to go back to ancient times when horses were used as war mounts. Soldiers carry their swords on the left side (to reach with their right hand) and so they could only mount from the left or they would sit on their sword.

**June’s Question:** When is a horse, a horse? (Age)

## ~ Did You Know? ~

Horses have good eyesight. The sizes of their eyes are around 5 centimeters, the biggest eyes of all land animal. Compared to humans, the eyes of the horses are nine times bigger. However, they do not have the ability to focus as humans can do. The upper part of their eyes is for closer viewing while the lower part of the eye is for seeing distant objects.

# ~ Community Engagement ~



## GATOR RAFFLE



**Proceeds will go towards a Tractor for PARDS new facility**

**Tickets \$20**

**2015 John Deere RSX850i**

**Value \$17,844.75**

**Draw Date: September 10th, 2016**

**8:00 p.m.**

**Licence # 430309**

**Odds of winning: 1 in 3500**

**Tickets can be purchased at the PARDS office or at Prairie Coast Equipment**



# ~ Community Engagement ~

PARDS "Dime At A Time" is a year long campaign with a goal of raising \$15,000 towards equine staff healthcare through the collection of recyclables. The health & wellness of the PARDS herd is essential to what we do at PARDS, which is to provide high quality equine assisted therapies to Peace County residents. If you would like to contribute towards this goal you can donate your recyclables by dropping them off at the PARDS office (in the red trailer or the rider lounge) or bring them to Recycle Plus bottle depot with PARDS name & account number on the bag: **1273**. If your office or business would like to become a partner in the campaign, PARDS can arrange to pick up your recyclables on a schedule that works for you; weekly, monthly, or quarterly throughout the year.

**Thank you for helping us reach our goal 'A Dime at a Time'!!!**

**A Dime At A Time...**

**Your donation will help us raise funds for our hard working equine staff!**

**To schedule a pick up:**

- Message us on Facebook
- Email [community@pards.ca](mailto:community@pards.ca)
- Call the office at : **(780)538-3211**

**PARDS Recycle Plus Account #:**  
**1273-3211**

**Thank You for Donating!**



**Drop Your Bottles Off At:**

**PARDS**  
**8202 84 Street**  
**Grande Prairie, AB**

**Recycle Plus Depots with PARDS Account # 1273-3211**

To arrange a pick-up,  
please contact the  
PARDS office  
780-538-3211

**THANK YOU!**

Our total as of  
May 31 is

**\$7574.60**

Thank you to everyone that has made donations and to the following partners who have made a continuing commitment

~ Better Than Fred's ~  
~ Centre West Car Wash ~  
~ Game Country Archers ~  
~ Ritchie Brothers Auctioneers ~  
~ Sawmill Prime Rib & Steakhouse ~

~ Boston Pizza West ~  
~ Crown & Anchor ~  
~ Great Northern Casino ~  
~ Starbucks Mission Heights ~  
~ Starbucks Westside ~