



PARDS
THERAPEUTIC CENTRE

News From the
"Neigh"bourhood

October

Important Dates

October 28 ~ Volunteer Orientation

October 29 to November 1 ~ No Lessons

November 2 ~ PARDS Dine & Dance

November 11 ~ Remembrance Day ~ No Lessons ~ Office Closed

December 3 ~ Session 2 Begins

Upcoming Events

Join us for the
22nd Annual Dine & Dance
with proceeds benefiting

 **PARDS**
THERAPEUTIC CENTRE

Angels Among Us

Saturday, November 2 | Tickets \$85

Five Mile Hall
Champagne Reception at 5:30pm
Dinner | Auction | Draws | Dance

"Mane" Sponsor  **Big Stick**
RENTALS

For More Info
and Tickets:
780-538-3211
www.pards.ca

DINE & DANCE

Saturday, November 2nd

Festivities begin with a champagne greeting followed by a delicious buffet dinner, cash bar, auctions, draws, music and dancing! The event promises to be a magical evening honouring PARDS' riders.

Tickets can be reserved by contacting the PARDS office at 780-538-3211 or on our website at www.pards.ca

This is our main fundraiser for the year and enables PARDS to keep therapeutic lessons accessible to everyone!

If you would like to donate a silent or live auction item, please contact the PARDS' office at 780-538-3211.

Joe Duffy

Joe, at a young at heart age of 73, has been with PARDS taking public riding lessons for the past 2 years. He joined our volunteer team last year after several invites from our Volunteer Coordinator who let him decide *when the time was right for him*, often hearing him say, "Let me think about it". He was a bit hesitant to respond at first because he had never been directly involved with persons with disabilities. Fear held him back, *fear of futility*. Since there is no *cure* for most disabilities he was afraid he would never see any progress and that these programs would be rather useless in the long term.

Joe is very outgoing and quick witted, always talking and joking with staff and volunteers. He is a father and a grandfather and has very big soft spot for children. He began to speak with riders in the rider lounge when he was here for his own lessons and decided he would like to try volunteering in a lesson. That is now over a year ago!



It didn't take Joe long to notice a change; but he says the change was more within himself. Joe became more relaxed and more positive and now finds himself looking forward to helping every week. Since being at PARDS he watched other volunteers and staff interact with the riders and now Joe's learned to look beyond the disability and see them just as they are, *a person*. Joe loves seeing how accepting the PARDS team is of everyone. "People here are inviting, the staff, the riders and the other volunteers. There is no pressure and no stress here; PARDS is a place where everyone is welcome. New skills *can* be learned and there are helpful people around every corner", says Joe. Joe also shared, "Our riders are very inspiring". He remembers trying to teach a young man with Down Syndrome to whistle and how eager the young man was to try and learn to whistle like him. "It's those little things that can make you feel special!"

For Joe, watching the other volunteers in the past and seeing them interact with everyone and how much help they give and what they got back from the riders was what drove him to give as well.

Volunteering with the same horse Joe rides in his own lessons has really helped build his understanding and relationship with Ace. "I always wanted to ride a horse and I thought it would be easy but I've learned there is a lot to it and it is very therapeutic for anyone who wants to build confidence in themselves. I now see why riders of ALL abilities come to PARDS".

Thank you Joe, for letting yourself grow in all areas and we look forward to having you around the barn!



Hope to see you there!



LOCATION

PARDS facility NE of Evergreen Park

DATE AND TIME

10/28/19 6:00pm-10/28/19 8:00pm

Volunteer opportunities for this orientation include, leading (horse) or side walking (client support) as well as barn help. There is no experience necessary, as training will be provided. If you have daytime, evening or casual availability we would love to have you on our team!

I'll be there

Maybe

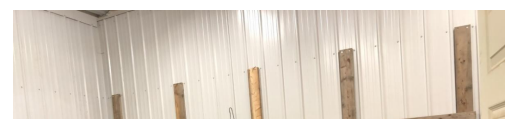
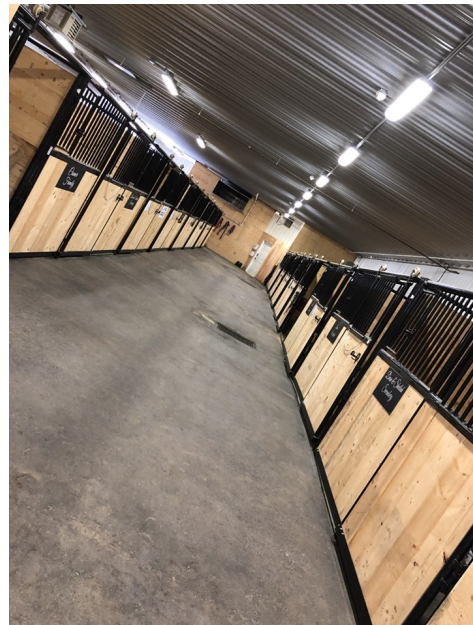
I can't make it

Look What's Happening at PARDS

Winter Is Coming! PARDS Boarding Available

PARDS offers a variety of boarding options. Year round indoor arena use For more information please go to our website by clicking on the link below

[PARDS Boarding Information](#)





Equine Partner Spotlight

Chance

Chance is an 18 year old, 15 HH, black, registered Quarter Horse who is leased to us by Gisele Dion. He is medium in width and rides well English or Western making him an excellent addition to all PARDS programs. Chance is actively working in the Youth Leadership program and is a great example for his youth partners how gentle handling and reassuring gestures create a calm environment for both horse and human. Chance's smooth gaits are extremely valuable to those riders learning independence or wanting to try their first steps at a canter. Chance also supports his riders participating in the Equine Canada Para Equestrian Video Competitions.



FAMILY FUND DRIVE



*Providing high-quality equine assisted therapeutic programs to Peace
Country residents since 1984*

*Facility Enhancement & Accessibility Projects
Family Fund Drive*



Jennifer Douglas, Executive Director
Main Office: (780)538-3211

Cell: (780)931-9326

710009 Range Road 55, County of Grande Prairie, AB T8W 5A7

About the Family Fund Drive...

PARDS is all about championing people of all ages and abilities to be the best version of themselves, supporting them to challenge themselves in an effort to reach their personal goals. Our volunteer committee is reaching out to families within the community seeking funds to finish up the incredible facility PARDS and the Grande Prairie and surrounding communities have built. Why families? Because our committee feels that strong family values are very much in line with PARDS core values of learning, caring, competence, responsibility and integrity.

For more information or to have a committee member contact you please call the PARDS office @780-538-3211.

Would you like more information?

LOCATION

LOCATION

Peace Area Riding for the Disabled

DATE AND TIME

10/22/19 1:00pm-12/31/19 5:00pm

Would like more information on the Family Fund Drive?

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Christmas Ideas

Looking for Christmas ideas?

PARDS offers a variety of gift items which can be easily personalized with a picture with one of the PARDS horses or many other possibilities.

For more information please contact the PARDS office at 780-538-3211



Make a Donation or Sponsor a Horse

Do you have that person on your gift list that has everything?
How about a gift that gives to others in their name?

\$100.00 ~ a ASTM/SCI riding helmet

\$600.00 ~ sponsor a rider for Therapeutic Lessons for a year (3 x 10 weeks)

\$1000.00 ~ hay for a year for one of PARDS' horses

A unique Christmas gift!

[Make a Donation](#)



2019/2020 REGISTRATION

Registration for all PARDS programs
available online at www.pards.ca

For a list and overview of all our programs and
registration, please click on

Program Information

registration, please click on
Program Information

PARDS Therapeutic Centre

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Contact Us

