

July 19, 2017

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Melanie Christianson Memorial Race set for August 13th**

Come on out to the Green River Saddle Club in Auburn on Sunday, August 13<sup>th</sup> for an adrenaline fueled day as some of Washington's TOP barrel racers compete to honor the life of Melanie Christianson and raise funds for paralysis recovery. Races start at 11 am, gates open at 8:00 am. The Green River Saddle Club is located at 16321 SE Lake Holm Road, Auburn.

Enumclaw resident Melanie Christianson grew up on a horse, dedicating endless hours to the arena and the sport she loved. In 2010 Melanie was critically injured while competing, sustained a spinal cord injury and was paralyzed from the chest down. In the aftermath of her injury, it was Melanie's drive and ambition that helped her face new challenges. Melanie's drive took her to Pushing Boundaries, Washington State's only rehabilitative exercise therapy recovery center. At Pushing Boundaries, Melanie worked hard to re-strengthen her body and regain function. She also became a motivator to other clients who were facing their own challenges.

Melanie passed away in 2013 but her passion continues through family and friends who organize the annual Melanie Christianson Memorial Race to honor Melanie's legacy. The event also raises funds for Pushing Boundaries, so that individuals with paralysis have the opportunity to push the boundaries of their recovery.

Silent auction, vendors, concessions and games for kids will also be available. Event will be held rain or shine.

For more information about the event: <http://pushing-boundaries.org/melanie-christianson-memorial-barrel-race/>

### About Pushing Boundaries:

For 12 years Pushing Boundaries, located in Redmond, WA has been Washington State's only exercise therapy center focused on regaining function in those paralyzed due to illness, injury or other neurological disorders. Pushing Boundaries mission is to deliver rehabilitative exercise therapy that strengthens and supports people living with paralysis, and their families, to maximize health and improve quality of life.

There are an estimated 70,000 people in the Puget Sound region living with neurological conditions that result in paralysis. Causes could be congenital, illness or injury, such as spinal cord injuries, stroke, traumatic brain injuries, tumors, MS, ALS, Parkinson's, Muscular Dystrophy and literally dozens of others. Clients have ranged in age from 6 to 82.

Community tours and new client site visits are always welcome and can be scheduled by calling 425-869-9506.

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