



FARM VIEW

43rd year of publication!

May 2020
VOLUME 43 #5

Lily Watkins enjoyed finding the perfect place for her Chick-a-dee nesting box.

See contest details on page 14

Complimentary copy for
the FARM household

AGcalendar

Farm View's Ag Calendar is free to non-profit agricultural groups, up to a maximum of 40 words. All others are invoiced at \$25 per month. Please note the format of the listings below and submit your item by mail or email, in a similar fashion.

COVID-19 update and resources

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic many, if not all, events and meetings have been cancelled or postponed for the time being. If you are wondering if an event is cancelled please contact the organization to confirm or email Farm View, we would be happy to assist in determining the details and getting back to you.

In the meantime, please continue to practise social/physical distancing, travelling only as necessary and washing your hands. Please remember our most vulnerable. We may feel well but we could be carriers of the corona virus and infect our loved ones.

The following is a list of reliable websites providing up to date information and guidelines. As well as information on gaining support from our government.

- www.cfa-fca.ca
- www.agr.gc.ca
- www.ofa.on.ca
- www.ontariopork.on.ca

We hope to return to our usual Ag Calendar postings in the near future.

Email: farmview@on.aibn.com



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May 15: News and Advertising deadline

The deadline for news and advertising in the June edition of Farm View is Friday, May 15th, 2020.

June 26/30 Agricultural scholarships

Scholarships are available from The North Simcoe Soil and Crop Improvement Association and The Simcoe County Federation of Agriculture. See details on page 11.




News from the pews...

- **St. George's Anglican Church**
Utopia,
8360 6th Line
9:00 a.m. Service
- **Christ Church St. Jude's Anglican Church**
Ivy, 7330 9th Line
11:00 a.m. Service

Devotional Corner

The death and resurrection of Jesus: What does it mean to you?

By Kathleen Greidanus
Retired Priest



The societal upsets that I mentioned in last month's column were but the thin edge of the wedge of changes that have come to pass in the last month as a result of COVID-19. Every once in a while I stop and wonder if this is all a dream inspired by a Stephen King book. Then I'm floored by the reality of the number of deaths reported on the news.

So how did this lockdown situation affect your Easter? As an Anglican priest I have long boasted/complained about the Anglican marathon of services that take place in Holy Week. It was usual practice to have a minimum of ten public services from Palm Sunday through Easter morning. At the end of the week I was both physically wrung out and spiritually elated.

The Gospel of Mark, which happens to be my favourite, has been described as the Passion of our Lord with a prologue. That is just a fancy way of saying that the three years of our Lord's teaching, preaching and healing are condensed into thirteen chapters while one week is given three chapters all to itself. The writer moves from describing events in broad strokes of time to an almost hour by hour rendition of Jesus' last week. That is the reason I love Holy Week so much – it gives us the opportunity to walk that last week with Jesus in great intimacy. And it all culminates with a church service full of wonderful special music, flowers, family and friends and especially the message of the gospel that changes our world view – He is Risen! He is Risen indeed, Alleluia!

I emailed some friends in Jerusalem during Holy Week. They, too, were in complete lockdown. They told me that even the Church of the Holy Sepulchre was closed to all. People were arrested if they were out on the street without good reason. This year only four Franciscan Fathers walked the Via Dolorosa. (That is the traditional route that Jesus walked to Golgotha while carrying the cross.) What a difference from all other years when the streets and churches of Jerusalem were filled with pilgrims from all over the world.

This year I still observed Holy Week and the joy of Easter, not in a congregation, but by myself in self isolation. It afforded time and quiet for contemplation and prayer. Even in the midst of no big dinner with family, and no outward traditional expressions of the season, (not even chocolate) I still experienced the power of Jesus Christ. Not even a global pandemic has the ability to lessen the effect of the Resurrection. A question that came into my mind many times during the week was – what difference does the death and resurrection of Jesus make in my life? How about you?

I hope that you are safe and well and of a healthy mind.

Shalom,
Kathleen

If you have a question for Kathleen or would like to comment on something you read, send it to farmview@on.aibn.com, or directly to her at kathleengreidanus@yahoo.ca.



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WHAT DO YOU CALL AN EARLY MORNING VOLUNTEER?

A DEW-SOMETHING.

Six by Sixteen helps families spend more time in the kitchen

Food has always been a key ingredient in bringing people together. And during these uncertain and challenging times when so many of us are apart, food is still helping us connect with each other.

Families are spending more time in the kitchen talking about where food comes from, food security and maybe even cooking together for the first time. Social distancing could see a new generation of Ontarians taking more interest in food than ever before. Food literacy, building healthy eating patterns, food safety, and how to clean, prepare, cook and serve food are all essential skills. Now that kids are spending more time at home, why not make the best of the COVID-19 situation and use this extra family time to learn more about food literacy?

The Ontario Federation of Agriculture (OFA) is a proud advocate for food literacy through the Six by Sixteen initiative – a resource that encourages families to use their family time in the kitchen. Six by Sixteen focuses on teaching youth how to plan and prepare six nutritious, locally sourced meals by the time they are sixteen years old. The website offers resources from OFA and supporting partners to help young people develop lifelong skills, healthy eating habits and a new appreciation for food. Fostering food literacy skills and challenging our youth to embrace and enhance their culinary skills also extends their educational studies like math and science as they measure and test ingredients. Six by Sixteen also promotes buying fresh, healthy, local Ontario-grown food to support the local economy.

The website, sixbysixteen.me offers food literacy resources for families with children and young adults of all ages, including recipes, cooking videos, how to find local, in season food, and more. OFA encourages families to share photos of their cooking activities by tagging #sixbysixteen in your social media posts. OFA is also offering families an exclusive Six by Sixteen recipe guide to help inspire the next generation to learn how to plan and prepare healthy meals. The recipe guide is available for download here. For more inspiration, follow Six by Sixteen on



Crispin Colvin

Twitter, Instagram and Facebook.

OFA is proud to partner with Ontario and Canadian agricultural organizations to offer Six by Sixteen's online resource. We've also partnered with education and awareness groups to bring Six by Sixteen and food literacy into local communities. Working together with 4-H Ontario, OFA's food literacy initiative has been adapted into a 4-H club that is offered provincially. Through the club, youth members learn about knife safety, proper handwashing, how to source and prepare six meals, and the importance of food literacy for overall health. OFA has also partnered with Farm & Food Care Ontario to promote the program at their Breakfast on the Farm events.

In the fall of 2019, Six by Sixteen had the opportunity to promote food literacy to more than 2,500 students for Education Day inside the Semex Ring of Excellence. OFA representatives guided students through Kitchen Party, an interactive and educational game designed to teach kids about food literacy and shared the Six by Sixteen recipe guide.

An appreciation of food, understanding of how to safely prepare and serve it, and the pride of enjoying a meal you've created are all part of the Six by Sixteen experience. As more families turn to their own kitchens and spend time at home together, why not take the Six by Sixteen challenge – to learn how to plan, prepare and cook six meals by the age of sixteen. Together, we can learn to eat healthy and stay healthy.

By Crispin Colvin, Director,
Ontario Federation of Agriculture



On the Cover

Lillian Watkins of Anten Mills is pictured here with one of John Quick's nesting boxes for Chick-a-dees.

DEADLINE for June Farm View is May 15th

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JD 4066R (E84006): 2016, 4WD, 66ENG HP, 1000 HRS, HYDROSTATIC, CAB, HEATER, A/C, LOADER READY, HOODGUARD, LESS MID PTO, R4 INDUSTRIAL TIRES, FRONT WIPER, REAR WIPER.....\$37,900.00

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JD 333E (E83873): 2017, 97HP, 1300HRS, 2SPD, CAB, HEAT, A/C, 3300LB SAE RATED CAP, EH-ISO CONTROLS, 84" HYD BKT QUICK TACH BUCKET, 18" TRACK, 90%.....\$67,370.00

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JD Z915B (E82765): 2013, 25HP, 95HRS, KOHLER, 2CYL, 54" MOWER, 7-IRON DECK, MANUAL LIFT MOWER, DELUXE SEAT, COMMERCIAL ZERO TURN, INSPECTED & FULLY SERVICED, APPEARANCE 8.....\$9,270.00

JD Z950R (E82384): 2016, 27HP, 710HR, KAWASAKI, 2CYL, GAS-CARBURATED, AIR COOLED, 60" MOWER, MULCH-ON DEMAND DECK, POWER LIFT MOWER, SUSPENSION SEAT.....\$10,640.00

JD Z950R (E82384A): 2016, 27HP, 765HR, KAWASAKI, 2CYL, GAS-CARBURATED, AIR COOLED, 60" MOWER, MULCH-ON DEMAND DECK, POWER LIFT MOWER, SUSPENSION SEAT.....\$11,900.00

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O P I N I O N

EDITORIAL

On the brighter side

Most people have something that stands out in their memory that they never forget. Sometimes it is when a child is born, their wedding day or the day they gave their first kiss. For me it was the day I stopped reading the local newspaper and watching the news.

I remember it like it was yesterday. I was 22, still living at home (yes I was what they call a “late leaver”) and reading the paper that my parents had subscribed to every Sunday at the kitchen table. Flipping through the paper to get to the sports section was one negative story after another.... as it usually was. Murder, robbery, scandals.... the articles went on and on. The straw that broke this late leavers back was that on the front page of the sports section there were two players in a fisticuffs match. I grabbed the paper and in a huff I went downstairs to shame and condemn my parents for subscribing to this rubbish, (choosing my words carefully of course in fear they might raise my rent) and what was on the local news? More negative news, fires, car chases, gang shootings, not a single positive thing unless you count that the forecast for the following day was calling for sun! Well that was it for me, that was the last day I ever read a newspaper or watched the news.

Fast forward 19 years later. You don’t need to watch the news or read the newspaper to realize there is something negative going on in society. All you need to do is visit a grocery store, or go for a walk and see the person coming your way wearing a medical mask cross the street to assure they don’t get too close. We certainly are going through a very interesting and trying time for many. Many people are sick, many have died and many more are going to die as a result of COVID-19, but as this article was titled “On the brighter side” things would be so much worse if we didn’t have the brave women and men in our hospitals battling every day to help stop the spread. While many of us are trying to avoid the hospitals these people are on the front lines risking their own health and the health of their families to assure you and I and our families don’t contract this virus. They truly are our soldiers in fighting this virus battle.

When I first read a bumper sticker saying “If you ate today thank a farmer” I thought “Wow, now there is a very true statement”. Maybe with the way the world is today we should start another bumper sticker, something like “If you feel well today thank a healthcare worker”. Farming food for thought.

From my family to yours, stay positive, keep your family safe and be kind to your neighbours, we will get through this.

Submitted by: Shawn Watkins

 **Ag Snapshot**



The beautiful farm fields of Vespra Valley at spring time.

Photo by: Roslyn Watkins

LETTERS

Dear readers,

I would like to thank you for your loyalty and interest over the years while Farm View was being published by John Beischer, of JB publishing. I look forward to getting to know each of you through your article, photo and story submissions. If you have something you would like to share with your fellow readers please email or mail it to Farm View. If you mail a photo please include your return address and I will make sure to mail it back to you.

If you have a story or event you would like to read about please let us know. We will try our best to report on and publish as much as we can.

Thank you to all for the incredibly warm welcome as the new publisher of Farm View. I look forward to many years hosting the communication between advertisers and readers.

Roslyn Watkins

John, Roz and Diana,

Thank you for sending us news of the Farm View’s transition to new ownership. We, along with your readership as evidenced by their letters, are pleased that the View will be kept in the family. Congratulations John on a successful career. The success you have made of the Farm View, especially in these changing times is admirable. We never knew that Diana was there to keep everyone accountable to the bottom line. Well done Diana. John, enjoy your retirement and all the things you are going to explore.

Mac and Jane

Dear Roslyn,

Congratulations on the exciting news that you are the new owner of Farm View. I can’t think of a better person and family to run the paper. I just read the entire paper (online) and it was excellent.

I will certainly get the students involved with the bird house contest. Plus a big thanks to John Quick and all that he does for the environment.

Regan Frankcom
Minesing P.S.

To the Editor,

Was so pleased when this issue arrived. Mother would have been so proud and sure father is. Wishing you much success and stay healthy.

Dick & Gale

CORRECTION:

John Beischer’s editorial in the April issue should have begun as: “Any thank you must begin with my wife and two daughters,” Farm View apologizes for the error.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Farm View invites letters to the editor. They should be fewer than 300 words and deal with a single topic affecting farmers. All letters must be signed, including your full name, address and daytime phone number.

All letters are subject to editing for brevity.
E-mail: farmview@on.aibn.com

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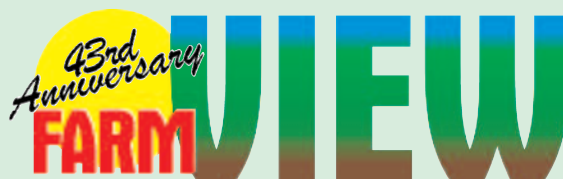
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**In memory of
Jill Beischer**

Farm View attempts to present a forum for varying points of view from the agricultural community. Editorial opinions are freely expressed by individual authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the executives or directors of the federations unless specifically noted.

**“Burn down your cities and leave our farms,
and your cities will spring up again as if by
magic, but destroy our farms and the grass
will grow in the streets.”**

W.J. Bryan

OFA Members Service Representative:

Leah Emms 1-866-660-5511 email: Leah.Emms@ofa.on.ca

OFA Zone Director for Peel, Simcoe and York:

Keith Currie: 705-444-1398 email: keith.currie@ofa.on.ca

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SELLING LIVESTOCK AT THE LOCAL SALE BARN DURING COVID-19



www.farmviewonline.com

Story and photo by: Cathy Hamill-Hill

Ontario has shut down much of the province due to trying to stop the curve of infection from COVID-19. However, essential services related to maintaining the food chain remain open with strict restrictions. Farmers are blessed to have two of the province's most popular livestock sale barns right here in the Farm View area, the Kawartha Lakes Community Sale Barn Inc. (KLSB) in Woodville and the Ontario Stockyards Inc. in Cookstown.



Pictured above the Kawartha Lakes Community Sale Barn Inc. better known to many farmers as "Woodville". It has been located in the village of Woodville for over 50 years. The weekly sale here takes place on Saturdays with the barn opening for livestock to be entered at 7:00 a.m. Local farmers consider themselves very lucky to have a sale open that is close to home especially now during COVID-19.

Ab Carroll, popular farm auctioneer and Barn Manager at Ontario Stockyards Inc. (OSI) reports that, "the volumes of livestock through the facility (at Cookstown) has been relatively unaffected."

At KLSB, a spokesperson there says a big change happened at the Saturday sale with the "temporary closure of the small auction of rabbits and chickens, etc." Further, the popular restaurant on site is now fully closed.

At this time, the Province allowed for 50 people only to be at a "gathering". This means there can be no more than 50 people, staff included in any gathering including the sales ring area of the sale barns. People must stay six feet apart to maintain the Province's "social distance" rule. These rules are mandatory and both sites are in full enforcement.

"Due to COVID-19, sales cannot be a social event. Buyers are asked if they are purchasing or not before they come to the sales ring. If they are not, they are asked to please leave," KLC states. At the OSI, regular buyers are registered. "We save the available seats for regular buyers. Once the regular buyers have been seated we will see which seats are left, and if possible, let other people in to buy," Carroll explains adding, "we are absolutely enforcing social distancing. The ring has approved seating areas marked. Management has been watching the rings and will ask people to move if they are breaking our social distancing policy."

At KLC, there is an option to call in with a "shopping list" to the staff. The spokesperson explains, "Farmers can call the office prior to the sale with a request listing details and a budget. The staff will then "purchase the livestock on his/her behalf".

Gone are the days when the public could see livestock before going in the sale ring. To protect both the sale barn staff and the public, there is no admittance to the penning prior to any sale at either location.

When a farmer drops off livestock at the sale barn in these times, it is greatly preferred the farmer then goes home and waits for a cheque to arrive in the mail. Receiving the cheque in the mail helps to reduce the biggest amount of transmission risk of COVID-19 infection for both the farmer and the sale barn staff. There are times though when the cheque needs to be received immediately and the seller cannot wait. "Sellers can call in to our office and see if their cheque is ready and then come in and pick it up. Or, staff will meet the seller outside the door to deliver the cheque," the spokesperson for KCL explained.

Carroll explains that a cheque will be automatically mailed unless the office has other direction from the seller, "We ask that if a farmer needs his or her cheque immediately, that they call ahead. The staff in our main office will make arrangements with the person for pickup."

Both locations still accept cash for payments.

COVID-19 remains an ongoing issue for Ontario. Changes could come in the future for selling livestock at the sale barn at any time. Farmers are asked to monitor Facebook for updates or see below for contact information.

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Projects continue, despite COVID-19

We are in uncertain times. Everyday we are faced with new details about COVID-19's impact on our personal health, the health care system and the social economic impacts in all our communities. As we try to tame our anxiety, please remember to be kind to each other and be grateful for the positives in our daily routines no matter how small. Finding joy in the little things can lessen the feelings of being overwhelmed by negative news headlines.



By Leah Emms
OFA Member Services Rep.
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terms of features such as species composition, age of trees in stand history, functionality important due to its contribution to the broader landscape because of its location, size or amount of forest cover in the planning area or economically important due to site quality, species composition or past management history."

A key piece to remember when municipal staff are discussing these policies is that, there is a 30 meter buffer around the significant Natural Heritage feature or area. When the land adjacent to this significant feature or area is agricultural, the land in the buffer can be used for agricultural purposes but, not for structures or buildings. It is important for property owners to review municipal mapping of Natural Heritage features to determine that the identified feature exists. Ground truthing may be required to determine that the feature or area is definitely significant. It is critically important that the corrected versions of maps are included in updated Official Plans.

County Federations value your input into these processes. The more eyes that view the mapping and policies, the better the chances are to correct misinformation. For additional information on your local MCR process, please visit your upper tier municipal website or speak with staff in that Planning Department.

Stay safe, stay apart but know, we are all in this together. Wishing you all, a safe planting season.

Water works 4H press report

We started our water works club on April 5th. We started our meeting with our 4-H pledge and roll call. We decided it would be reasonable to have executives just as if it were a non-digital meeting. We were showed a video delivering information on our water sources and the percentages we can drink. After our video we talked about the information we learned in the video. We then talked about our water sources and how we could reduce our water usage in many ways. We then closed our meeting with our 4-H moto.

Submitted by: Jaiden van Kolschoten.



South Simcoe 4H chess club report

In April, we had two 4-H meetings online. In one of the meetings, we were asked to dress as our favourite chess piece or make a new one and say what it would do. At the other meeting, we had to pick our favourite game and tell everyone how to play it. We also had to research famous people who played chess. First we did men, then we did women. When the meetings were finished, we played on chesskid.com, an online chess playing platform with our club mates. Our Leader Scott told everyone who they were supposed to play with. After we were done playing with that person, we could play with other people in the group too. Scott showed everyone how to castle on the chessboard and he showed other chess moves too.



Nicole and Milana Palmateer

Submitted by: Milana Palmateer

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CFFO Announces New Leadership



Provincial delegates have acclaimed a new president for the Christian Farmers Federation of Ontario (CFFO). This year's annual

business meeting was held March 24, 2020, via remote communications.

Having formerly served as vice-president, Ed Scharringa will now lead the CFFO as president. Scharringa has served on the CFFO Board of Directors for eleven years; in that time, he has also served on the boards of Farm & Food Care Ontario and the Agricultural Adaptation Council. Scharringa has worked in food and farming for over forty years, running businesses in vegetable and flower wholesale, farm market retail and the restaurant industry.

"It's an honour to serve as President," says Scharringa. "CFFO brings a distinct voice to Ontario agriculture, and I look forward to advocating on behalf of our members."

Appointed to positions as vice-president are Richard Blyleven of Cayuga (incumbent) and Frank Hoftyzer of Hastings. Returning to the Board in the role of director are Simon de Boer of Tara (incumbent) and Peter Peeters, from Omemee, who has served on the CFFO Board in previous years.

"I am very pleased to see Ed at the helm," remarks Clarence Nywening, who has served as CFFO's president since 2016. "Especially given challenges posed by the current pandemic, we are encouraged by the committed leadership of the entire board."

Nywening has been appointed by the Board of Directors to the role of Interim General Manager. He will lead the organization in strategy development and will guide the Board as they search for a permanent general manager.

Spring chimney inspections

Being proactive about chimney maintenance can keep your home and family safe from potentially life-threatening situations such as fires and carbon monoxide poisoning.

Inspecting your chimney at the end of the burning season will provide plenty of time to address and repair any problems prior to the next burning season. Instead of waiting for that first cold night to realize you need to book an appointment.

The following are 5 safety reasons to have your chimney cleaned in the spring.

#1. The main cause of chimney fires is creosote, which is a highly acidic residue that is created when hot combustion by products meet with cool air in the chimney and create condensation. This condensation sticks to the interior walls leaving a residue. If creosote is left to accumulate a chimney fire can occur.

#2. Soot and creosote build-up as well as bird and animal nests are a few examples of what can create a blockage in your chimney. This can lead to blocked airflow, a chimney fire or a house fire. A properly functioning chimney will ensure combustion by-products such as smoke, carbon dioxide, nitrogen dioxide and hydrocarbons are safely carried out of the home.

#3 An excessive build up of creosote or soot can create an increase in odor coming from the fireplace. These odors can happen even when your fireplace isn't in use. Clearing out the buildup in the spring will provide increased airflow and improved air quality for the months to come.

#4. Poor chimney performance can result from damaged flue tiles, a cracked chimney liner or a warped damper. These inconsistencies may also lead to a house fire. Discovering these defects in the spring leaves ample time financially to have repairs made prior to the next burning season.

#5. In some cases home insurance companies may deny your claim in the event of a fire if you do not have documented proof that your chimney has been professionally cleaned and inspected.

A clean chimney provides reassurance that your home is warm and safe for yourself and your family.

Submitted by: Roslyn Watkins

Volunteer Corner

A family affair, Diana and Aaron volunteer at the Holland Landing Food pantry



Diana and Aaron Robichaud

Approximately five years ago a local organization realized there was a need in the Holland Landing community to open a Food Pantry as many residents accessed the Newmarket Food Bank. This organization was headed by Christine Stewart and she partnered with the Town of East Gwillimbury and East Gwillimbury Public Library to get this Food Pantry up and running. In the beginning Diana's involvement included late night phone calls answering questions such as where can we store the food, how can we handle the cash donations, etc. The organization of the Food Pantry has changed slightly and is now a program run through the East Gwillimbury Library. Diana joins a few other great volunteers who regularly arrive once a month to sort food, welcome clients and hand out what they can. Food Pantry's are different than Food Banks. The room used for the Food

Pantry is only available for 4-5 hours once a month. Throughout each month an amazing local church collects donations, then brings them to the library the morning of the Food Pantry and helps sort items into the donation buckets. Aaron works alongside the other volunteers helping with this task.

Community members can buy prepacked bags from the Vines grocery store in Sharon and then drop off the donations at a local Chiropractic Centre. Volunteers pick those up on the way in and sort them. Some months the volunteers buy fresh food with cash donations. Being a Food Pantry vs a Food Bank also means the program can quickly change how it is operated to accommodate changing situations such as the current pandemic. Currently volunteers can't access the food storage, so they are using cash donations to buy more of what is needed to hand out, and local farmers are donating produce as well. The Food Pantry also has the flexibility to operate from anywhere. As municipal buildings are currently closed, the Food Pantry has been operating in the library parking lot. Diana continues to volunteer her time because she has seen how people's lives can change in an instant and they need assistance – and now, the whole world has seen that. Diana hopes everyone can continue to have that compassion for their neighbours after this pandemic is over. For donations to the Holland Landing Food Pantry please visit <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/6444> and write Food Pantry in the description. If you want to help all York Region Food Banks please visit <https://yrfn.ca/>.

Do you have a wonderful volunteer in your life? Email us your favourite volunteer's name and a paragraph or two describing their work and we will feature them here.



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Coping with COVID-19 on the farm this spring



Drew Spoelstra



Ontario Federation of Agriculture

As spring rolls on and the pressures of COVID-19 unfold, Ontario farmers are bracing for the full impact of this pandemic. Many sectors within the agri-food value chain are already dealing with significant ramifications of

the virus – from labour shortages, excess product supply and reduced processing capacity, to raw dairy products being dumped, cancelled or reduced contracts and prolonged delays in feed and supply deliveries.

The agri-food industry anticipates more challenges as the growing season moves forward with the expectation that every farm and agri-business will be impacted to some degree by disruptions along the supply chain.

A drastic shift in consumer spending and shopping patterns at grocery stores along with unexpected overnight changes in markets like restaurants, schools, community and recreational facilities has required the entire food value chain to fundamentally rebalance the distribution of products. With an excess supply of fresh products and the fluctuation in consumer demand, many Ontario farmers and agriculture organizations are donating their goods to food banks and shelters in an effort to adjust to the new realities of our supply chain. Supporting Ontarians in need through COVID-19 offers a glimmer of light and positivity during an otherwise difficult situation for our industry.

The Ontario Federation of Agriculture (OFA) understands the transition to the new normal of the value chain will take time, but it's important to remember we are all in this together, and we are advocating for workable solutions to ensure production and processing across the agri-food sector is maintained. We are regularly engaging with our members and industry organizations for perspectives and insights on how COVID-19 is impacting farm businesses.

OFA members are sharing their concerns about accessing necessary inputs, safety and sanitation needs, veterinary supplies, livestock bedding and equipment parts. They are also concerned about access to farm services like agronomists, nutritionists, veterinarians and mechanics. OFA recognizes each service provider is making modifications to their businesses to keep their staff safe while serving the needs of their customers, and this new situation could result in some service delays.

CropLife Canada reports that most seed and early season pesticides are already within the Canadian supply chain and there are no concerns about supply shortages

at this time. The organization also notes their members throughout the supply chain have implemented a number of COVID-19 contingency plans to ensure employees are protected and farmers receive essential crop inputs in a timely manner throughout the growing season.

As the COVID-19 response continues to evolve, farmers may need to adopt new farm practices to manage social distancing, including video conferencing with crop specialists and sending high quality images of problem areas to their agronomists. Farmers are encouraged to be proactive and communicate with retailers to schedule deliveries and pick-ups of crop inputs.

The Ontario Agri-Business Association (OABA) offers suggestions for farmers to help the retail sector manage during these challenging circumstances.

Reduce the number of trips, visits and contacts where possible.

Maximize deliveries by considering what products could be delivered at the same time instead of separate shipments.

Provide a detailed description of where deliveries should be placed. And when deliveries arrive, do not meet with delivery staff – always maintain physical distancing.

We are all living in a period of adjustment and uncertainty. We can work together to keep our businesses and industry moving with as little disruption as possible. CropLife Canada reminds growers that our industry continues to adhere to public health recommendations regarding physical distancing and hygiene and is adapting how we do business to ensure farmers get the support they need as they head into the planting season. CropLife Canada and the plant science industry is also looking at what the longer-term impacts of COVID-19 might be and are watching how the pandemic develops in places like India and China, where a significant amount of pesticide manufacturing happens.

Spring is already one of the busiest, most stressful times on the farm. This year, we all need to work patiently and understand we're all affected in one way or another. If you have concerns about inputs and product availability, reach out to your supplier. If you're having a hard time managing stress or coping with the unexpected, reach out and talk to someone you trust or access mental health support at ofa.on.ca/resources/managing-farm-stress-during-covid-19. OFA is working with government leaders and industry organizations to ensure the challenges and frustrations faced by our members and everyone along the agri-food supply chain are heard and considered as new accommodations and decisions are being made every day.

By Drew Spoelstra, Executive member OFA

See the classifieds section page 18



Submitted by: Mary Lucky

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How Can Ontario Heritage Organizations and Museums help?



The Ontario Historical Society hopes all of our members and affiliated organizations are adjusting as best as possible to the current situation.

We want to assure you that OHS staff will be here to serve your membership needs throughout this crisis. Please follow all public health recommendations applicable to your organization.

We are here and available to you by email, but due to the COVID-19 pandemic, John McKenzie House will remain closed to visitors

for the foreseeable future.

Please email us at ohs@ontariohistoricalsociety.ca and we will be happy to help you.

In addition to following public health protocol, there are other ways our sector can help the province manage this crisis.

The Ontario Medical Association is asking all museums and heritage organizations that may have access to personal protective equipment to donate what they have to Ontario's healthcare system. This includes gloves, N95 masks, eye protection, and more.

Follow the link below for instructions on how our organizations can contribute, and what kind of personal protective equipment the province is currently in need of.

Please pitch in to help protect our frontline healthcare providers!

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/how-your-organization-can-help-fight-coronavirus>

Food Processing Sector Needs Support



I've often said it's not the problem that is the problem, but how we respond to the problem that becomes the problem. Now that Ontario is one month into the COVID-19 state of emergency, it is high time we make adjustments to deal with the day-to-day and long-term changes that are caused by this situation.

Of course, we must continue to abide by the recommendations of our governments and those in the health system who are managing the crisis. We need cooperation not dissension. Right now, we are seeing the importance of cooperation between government and all of us working in food and agriculture.

Earlier this week, CFFO sent a letter to Minister Hardeman asking him to work with the processing industry to allow flexibility

of regulations and creative solutions where possible.

Because of the closures of restaurants and other venues, and due to people being home more, food processors are seeing a big change in demand. They need to change processing to be able to package raw product into what is needed, but in many ways they are hindered.

Dumping of milk, as we have seen recently, should not be necessary. Greater effort should be made to prevent food waste during this crisis; food banks still need supplies and would be grateful for all they can procure.

The CFFO is also seeking other solutions facing the value chain, including the potential for re-opening some of the local abattoirs that have closed in the past few years to open up more capacity for beef and off-sort animals. We are also seeking some relaxation of municipal bylaws to allow more farm sales, particularly for the horticulture industry. We

believe solutions that keep farms in business, while also maintaining the necessary public safety measures, are possible.

Over the past few years, we have often spoken about the food industry, which includes farmers, processors, transportation, and retail stores, working together for the best returns for all. Today, we recognize how valuable it would be if a well coordinated plan were in place. In times like these, it's also important that every sector in the value chain, including producers, needs protection from being taken advantage of.

Looking ahead, as farmers and food industry, we have an opportunity to remind the consumers where food comes from and who begins the process of producing their daily food. This crisis could be the spark that sets off a much larger conversation of food sovereignty for Canada.

By: Paul Bootsma

Worth a Chuckle... and life lessons

by Aunt Hazel

As a farmer, I hear lots of jokes about sheep. I'd tell them to my dog but he'd herd them all.

Why did the scarecrow win the Nobel Prize? Because he was out standing in his field.

If a cow laughed really hard... Would milk come out of her nose?

What kind of pigs know karate? Pork chops!

What do you call a sleeping cow? A bull dozer

What do you say to a cow if it's in your way? You tell it to Moooooooooooove.

What do you get when you cross a robot and a tractor? A transfarmer.

Why did the tomato blush? Because he saw the salad dressing!

What do you call cattle with a sense of humor? Laughing stock.

Who tells chicken jokes? Comedihens!

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Scholarships in Agriculture

The North Simcoe Soil and Crop Improvement Association has a scholarship for students enrolled in an agricultural program at a college or university. To be eligible, you must be in your second year or later of an agricultural program, reside in North Simcoe and attend an interview.

Applications must be returned to Sam Langman no later than June 30th. The amount of the scholarship will be up to \$1,000 per applicant, or \$2,000 total per year.

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SIMCOE COUNTY FEDERATION OF AGRICULTURE SCHOLARSHIP

The Simcoe County Federation of Agriculture's Scholarship in Agriculture is designed primarily to raise educational awareness of young farmers in Simcoe County in the field of agriculture.

REGULATIONS

1. The Scholarship shall be open to Secondary School students resident in Simcoe County at time of application. The applicant's parent(s) must be a current member of the Ontario Federation of Agriculture in Simcoe County. The applicant must be enrolled in an approved Degree, Diploma, or Apprenticeship program in Crops, Food or Agricultural Science.

2. Applications are available from Secondary School Guidance Departments or the Simcoe County Federation of Agriculture office in Midhurst.

3. The Student's Application Form and the Principal's Confidential Report must be submitted by June 26, 2020 to:

Simcoe County Federation of Agriculture
Administrative Centre
1110 Hwy. 26, Midhurst, ON
L9X 1N6

Email: office@simcoecountyfa.org

Student Application and Principal's Report at:
<https://ofa.on.ca/federations/simcoe/>

4. An official transcript of the applicant's Secondary School marks must be forwarded to the Simcoe County Federation of Agriculture's office by June 26, 2020.

5. The Selection Committee will schedule interviews during the summer with the students, if necessary, for those who have completed the application process.

6. The dollar value of the awards will be at the discretion of the committee.

7. Any questions, please call the SCFA office at 705-726-9300 Ext. 1224

Supporting Local Farms through a Pandemic



The current COVID-19 crisis is affecting all of us in different ways. With increasing measures from government to contain the crisis and stem the spread, individuals, families and businesses are all being impacted in different ways.

At CFFO, we have received correspondence from farmer members who are facing new challenges from the crisis. Farms geared to the local market are finding that customers such as restaurants no longer need as many supplies. Greenhouses are already experiencing canceled orders, and with the upcoming Easter and May planting season still uncertain, there is a lot of concern about the future. We encourage any farm businesses experiencing or anticipating difficulties to investigate what government and other supports may be applicable to help in this current situation.

In the face of this crisis we are even more grateful than ever to have such a strong provincial and Canadian food system. At the same time, we realize how much

our food system is connected to and reliant on the broader global food system.

Recently, as the federal government announced travel restrictions, the fate of temporary workers coming into Canada was a serious concern. According to the CBC, Ontario employs around one third of all migrant workers coming to Canada for farm work. The crops of fruit and vegetables in particular, growing right here in our province, are dependent on labour coming from overseas to make sure trees and vines are pruned, vegetables are planted, and ongoing work through the growing season and harvest are completed.

Agricultural organizations, including the CFFO, responded swiftly with requests to government to keep borders open to temporary workers. We were heard.

Much to the relief of many in the industry, the government was able to make arrangements to ensure farm workers will still be able to come to Canada through the Seasonal

Agricultural Workers Program (SAWP) and Temporary Foreign Workers Program (TFWP).

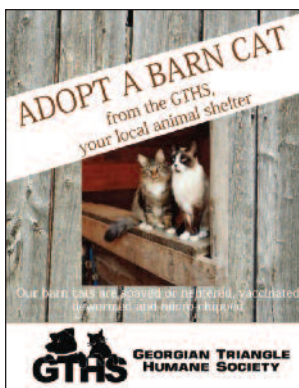
It is more important now than ever to remember our neighbours in this stressful time. This means making an effort to still do business with small local businesses, including local farms. With farmers markets closed, many are still finding ways to serve customers directly.

It means calling neighbours and friends on the phone to check in, chat, and connect. Mental health risks from financial stress and isolation are real. We need to support one another.

Times like this bring us together. Even if we have to maintain our physical space, we can still connect and support our neighbours in so many ways.

By: *Suzanne Armstrong*

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Spring farming fire prevention

As we head into warmer weather it is a perfect time to tour your farm property and note which areas may need a little preventative maintenance. A little maintenance now could save your property and livestock in the event of a fire. The following are a few tips to help get you started.

Exit doors should be clearly marked. If possible consider putting in an entrance/exit mid-way down a row of stalls.

Smoke detectors for livestock facilities should be loud enough to be heard from a distance, in case no one is in the immediate vicinity of the barn.

Once a year have a licensed electrician inspect the electrical equipment in your farm buildings. To protect wires from exposure to weather and animals keep them enclosed in metal or PVC pipes.

Have a no smoking policy in and around the barn, hay/bedding storage area, or tack room. Post No Smoking signs where they can be clearly seen with proper means of disposing of cigarettes. Potting soil should not be used in butt cans as it can become combustible in dry conditions.

Barn and yard areas should be kept clear of brush and other flammable debris. Rake or sweep aisle ways of hay and bedding regularly. As well as cleaning dust/dirt off light fixtures, outlet covers, switches and panel boxes. The area surrounding the barn should be kept free of weeds, twigs and firewood.

If the temperature of a manure pile passes 180 degrees Fahrenheit there is a risk of spontaneous combustion. Manure should be monitored for temperature and re-distributed in small piles to increase surface area, allowing for heat loss. Manure piles should be located at least 20 feet away from the barn.

Hay also has the potential for spontaneous combustion if the temperature rises above 130 degrees Fahrenheit. When storing newly baled hay the temperature should be closely monitored.

Flammable substances such as gasoline, oil, kerosene, paint, paint thinner, aerosol cans, fertilizer and pesticides should be stored away from livestock in a different building. Refuel equipment outdoors to allow dispersment of chemical vapors.

To help protect animals in an emergency keep vehicles or other equipment clear from stall doors when cleaning. Also provide a halter and lead shank on each stall door to help move horses out safely.

Lastly and most importantly, portable fire extinguishers should be maintained, regularly inspected and easy to locate as well as a fire hose and buckets. Fire drills should be practised, with evacuation procedures and routes, routinely to ensure all family members, staff and boarders are prepared in the event of an emergency.

Talk with your local fire department to address safety concerns unique to your farm.

The following websites have more information on fire prevention around the farm.

www.omafra.gov.on.ca
www.oafc.on.ca

Submitted by: Shawn Watkins

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William Roe: War Hero, Founding Father

Village stories

by Andrew Hind

Viewed as something of a founding father in Newmarket, William Roe is immortalized by the local boulevard named in his honor. He deserves every

honorific, if for no other reason than for his heroics during the War of 1812.

William Roe could proudly claim prominent descendants from whom he inherited staunchly pro-British views. His grandfather, John Loughton, was an officer in the Royal Navy who played a vital role in General Wolfe's capture of Quebec City in 1757. Loughton supervised the task of hoisting the cannon up the steep cliffs leading to the Plains of Abraham. This cannon, which Loughton personally commanded, provided General Wolfe with the only artillery piece employed in the subsequent battle and was pivotal in winning the war. This one cannon, and the man who commanded it, helped shape the course of history.

Roe's father was not a military man, but rather a successful barrister-at-law in London, England. He settled in Detroit while that town was still under the British flag and was that community's last mayor while it flew the British flag. It fell to him to hand over the key to the fort when Detroit was ceded to the Americans in 1796. The Roe family lived in Windsor for several years—it was here that William was born in 1797—and then came to York (Toronto) in 1807.

While his father carried on a successful career in law (he was one of Upper Canada's first lawyers), as a young man barely into his teens William was employed as a clerk by the Receiver-General for Upper Canada, Prideaux

Selby. William was serving in this job when war broke out with the United States in 1812. As a patriotic young man, William wanted nothing more than to join the militia and fight the hated Americans. Unfortunately, Selby would not allow it. As clerk, Roe was deemed essential to the governance of Upper Canada and more particularly in collecting and distributing tax money that paid for the war effort. William's pleading to be allowed to take up arms fell on deaf ears. It seemed that Roe's burning desire for front-line action was thoroughly doused by Selby. Little could he imagine what adventure was in store for him.

On April 27, 1813, a squadron of American ships appeared on the horizon off York. The Americans under Major General Henry Dearborn and Commodore Isaac Chauncey were intent on attacking the town, which despite being the colonial capital was a weak point in Upper Canada's defenses, with few fortifications and only a small number of regular troops to supplement the local militia. The Americans landed, and despite a desperate fighting by outnumbered defenders, by noon the invaders managed to secure the town.

When he saw the British soldiers in headlong retreat from York, Receiver-General Selby knew something had to be done to save the colony's treasury from being captured. For this vital mission he turned to his young clerk. Here was Roe's chance to get out from behind his desk and see some action. Three bags of gold and a pay chest containing a large sum of army-bills were loaded into the back of a wagon and then covered with a thick blanket of vegetables. Then Roe, disguised as an old woman in a long-faded dress and face-shading bonnet, climbed onto the seat and whipped the team of horses into action.

The teenager was suddenly very frightened. He had craved adventure and excitement, to do his part to defeat

the Americans, but now he wanted nothing so much as to turn the wagon around and go back the way he had come. If captured, he would be treated as a spy and either shot on sight or hung by his neck from a tree limb. His youth, he knew, wouldn't save him. But he couldn't go back. Selby was counting on him. Mustering his courage, he drove the horses onward and away from the rapidly approaching American forces. Several times his breath caught in his throat as he saw enemy patrols intent on rounding up Canadian militia, and each time he was certain he would be stopped and searched. The Americans saw only an aged woman driving a cart full of garden produce and paid him no mind.

Roe raced to the property of Chief Justice Robinson, located on Kingston Road east of the Don River. There, the wealth was hurriedly buried in the woods for safekeeping.

Thanks to Roe's courage, the treasury remained out of American clutches and was later uncovered to continue financing Canada's defense. Had the money been taken, soldiers would have been left unpaid and the purchase of food and supplies necessary to keep them in the field would have been impossible. Who can say how the war would have unfolded then?

In 1814, after the war had ended, William Roe moved to Newmarket. It was here that the young man would find his fortune, operating a fur-trading post on the Holland River. As belated reward for his service during the War of 1812, Roe was made Newmarket's first postmaster, a position he would fill for four decades. Roe was wealthy, respected, and had authority; he was one of the community's most important citizens. He died there in 1879.

A historic plaque to the man stands at 253-261 Main Street in Newmarket, but his War of 1812 exploits are largely forgotten.

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AFTER THE CHORES, LIGHT OUT OF DARKNESS

By: Cathy Hamill-Hill

The sky looked like someone had pulled a dark grey blind down. The weather forecast was for heavy rains and screaming winds so today's ugly day was just going to worsen. The gloom settled over me like a wet blanket as everywhere life was just bad.

The old doe's kidding was met with disappointment. Her expected twins like all her others years was just one big kid this year. And it had to be a buck kid. I wanted all does this year. The healthy kid was not appreciated.

At lunch time, my husband who I call Sweetie said a word that I cannot print here in this family newspaper as he stared out the big living room window. He seldom uses profanity so I knew he was furious at something. I went also to the window and a distinct rusty red coloured animal trotted down the lane with its mouth full. This fox was carrying a Rhode Island Red hen from the laying flock. The fox certainly deserved to be called that bad word.

The winds were starting to ramp up so we decided to do chores early this night. I figured I would spend my long evening with a good library book to see if I could find some joy in this depressing day.

My first job that night at chores was to move the old doe and her kid to a quiet pen for the night. The old doe ate her grain- and promptly pushed the makeshift pen over and let herself out in the hallway. I fixed up a second pen and got the doe in there securely. I then went to go feed my rabbits.

I heard the distinct tattle-tale baa of "a sheep is out and it's not me!" which sent me rushing back out to the sheep pen. Grumbling more about this rotten day, I took out a knife and went to the truck outside with the load of dump-destined stuff and cut some baler twins into useful lengths to fix the pen. With the heavy winds flapping my hair around and rain bashing my face, I finally got the baler twine I needed.

I go back to the barn and tie the panel in place. Now, it was sheep-proof I decided. Next was to get the big ewe back to the pen. My sheep are quiet but not educated to lead so I have to back them up and steer them where I want them to

go. Moving this big ewe was not easy as she was having a good time out there stealing the grain set out for the lambs. By the time I got her back in, I was gasping and looking even more forward to my long evening with a good book.

I was well into feeding my rabbits when I heard that tattle-tale BAA again only this time it was multiple sheep voices. I rushed to look and this time I saw the same big ewe and five of her closest sheep friends out in the hallway and there was a steady procession of sheep spilling out of the pen. My fixed sheep-proof panel was flapping useless. I was so mad.

Again, I was back to cut baler twines at the truck midst of the pelting rain and shrieking winds. It might have been cold but I was too mad at this day to feel anything but warm. I heard sheep on the lawn behind me so had to call out Sweetie from the house to help me round up the woolly rebels.

Sweetie and I tied down the panel between pushing sheep out of the way. Sweetie snuck in the pen while I went to get another bucket of sheep grain. My sheep will not move without grain.

Waiting for the sheep to move out of the way, I got an opening and gave Sweetie the bucket of grain to distribute into the two feeders. He opened the gate and a mass of sheep rushed in the pen.

Sweetie went back to the house and I went back to feeding rabbits. I came back to the lambs to re-fill their grain buckets and found that I was not being mobbed per usual. I did a count, there

were THREE missing! I remembered that fox- could a fox carry a lamb away for dinner too? Did the fox have a big mate that was an experienced hunter? Or, is someone now stealing lambs? Could I have missed a human lamb thief through the day? My mind was reeling, I was devastated-THREE lambs were missing. I went to the hay barn and looked, nothing. I looked at the llamas and they were content. I called out "Lambies" and no answer. It was official- GONE, three lambs. With great sadness over the loss of THREE lambs, I trudged back out to get the llamas in.

I opened the gate for the llamas. At a speed like I never seen before, a blob of white hurled toward me out of the blackness. The beautiful sound of young baaass filled the air as the three lost lambs came running full out to the barn.

Never give up was the message I received for facing these strange times remembering those three lost lambs. There can well be light in what looks to be all darkness.

Urgent Animal Care Fund launched to support pets during COVID-19 crisis

The Ontario SPCA and Humane Society has set up an Urgent Animal Care Fund with the Georgian Triangle Humane Society and other SPCAs and humane societies in Ontario to help animal organizations in the province continue to care for animals and support pet owners during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Following direction from the Government of Ontario and advice of health professionals, the Georgian Triangle Humane Society and its partners in animal welfare, closed their buildings to the public to help slow and stop the spread of COVID-19. With adoptions put on hold, many SPCAs and humane societies are facing growing costs as they continue to care for the animals who will now have to wait longer to be adopted. While adoptions are on pause, animals in shelters still need nutritious food, veterinary care, enrichment and daily attention to keep them healthy and happy.

Pet owners from across Ontario are also reaching out for help caring for their animals. As the demand for critical resources like pet food and supplies continues to grow, funds are needed to ensure animal owners in under-served communities can continue to care for their beloved companions. The



Urgent Animal Care Fund will help ensure animals in our communities are safe should their families become ill, face financial hardship, or if they can't access critical supplies and resources like food or veterinary care.

"We know that the long-term costs of care for animals in shelters are adding up, and not just for us, but for other SPCAs and humane societies across the province, which is why the Urgent Animal Care Fund was established," says Sonya Reichel, Executive Director, Georgian Triangle Humane Society. "By supporting your local SPCA or humane society, you will help ensure that vulnerable animals in your community are fed, safe and cared for during these challenging times."

To donate to the Urgent Animal Care Fund, visit urgentanimalcarefund.ca

Bird House Contest: The Value of Birds

Every morning I look out my kitchen window to watch my visitors at the bird feeders.

I have a total of 7, all different sizes and material that I have picked up along the way. I never refuse when offered one. Some hang off the old apple tree that has seen better days and others off the clothes line post.

The male cardinals are so vibrant. The woodpeckers sure enjoy my suet blocks.

As I limp over to the feeders with my cane I call out chickadee...dee..dee. They in turn call back to me fluttering around the limbs above my head. They know its meal time...better get there before the bluejays and squirrels do.

They bring a lot of joy to me on the old farm.

Submitted by: May Willoughby

To win a Chickadee nesting box: simply send us your 100 word essay on the 'value of birds'. We'll award a prize to the first 43 entries and print the top three entries in the June issue of Farm View. (See page 4 for mailing and email addresses.)

Winners will be contacted shortly after the draw and advised where they can pick up their prize. Deadline for entries is April 30th.

Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority announcement

Effective immediately and until further notice, all NVCA conservation areas and trails will be closed to all members of public, including annual membership pass holders and hunters.



This closure has been put in place to ensure the safety of the public. NVCA trails and conservation areas will not be maintained during this closure.

NVCA will continue to monitor the developments of COVID-19 and re-open our conservation areas when deemed safe for public use.



Healthy Waters Program

Grants & Technical Advice for your Stewardship Project



NVCA's Healthy Waters Program helps landowners in the Nottawasaga Valley undertake projects that improve water quality and stream health by providing funding and free, on-site technical advice.

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COVID-19 information from St. John's Ambulance

At a time when we should be appreciating the springtime weather, most Canadians are locked indoors. The COVID-19/Coronavirus pandemic has changed the way we live, requiring us to distance ourselves from others to slow the spread of the virus. With many people visiting grocery stores and public health authorities discouraging social activity, it is only natural to feel nervous and scared. After all, it is a global health pandemic.

Most of our branches are working remotely, and we have cancelled all of our training and volunteer activities until further notice. Such attempts to engage in "social/physical distancing" are in the best interest of both our staff and the public. However, as leaders in health and safety, St. John Ambulance is still here to guide you through this tough time. Our staff are still available via phone and email should you have any questions. Plus, a great selection of online training are still available through <http://www.sja.ca/>.

Four months ago, if anyone told you that an outbreak of a respiratory illness would drastically change the way everyone around the globe approached their daily lives, would you believe it? It sounds like the stuff of science-fiction films, and yet it is real. The COVID-19/Coronavirus pandemic is causing international borders to close, some supplies to go out of stock, and Canadians to stay indoors to avoid contracting – and spreading – germs.

The situation poses a major global health risk, but we can overcome it by making informed decisions to avoid the spread of the virus. However, in an age when people can generate and spread fake news so easily online, it is difficult to know who to trust. That is why St. John Ambulance has compiled these verified answers for frequently asked questions about the COVID-19/Coronavirus pandemic - so that you can base your decisions upon only the truth.

What is the COVID-19/Coronavirus?

COVID-19 is a new strain of virus classified under the family of coronaviruses (CoV). Coronaviruses are zoonotic, meaning that they spread between humans and some animals alike. Seven known strains of coronavirus are circulated in humans, two of which are already well-known as Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS-CoV) and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS-CoV). However, COVID-19 is being tackled differently than these two coronaviruses because though its symptoms are less severe, it is more contagious.

How does COVID-19/Coronavirus spread?

Person-to-person spread is the most common way to contract COVID-19. This entails coming into physical contact with someone who is already infected, or even through respiratory droplets released through a cough or sneeze. This is why "social/physical distancing" and "self-isolation" has been recommended by health experts. By staying away from others, we can lower the risk of contracting the virus, or transmit it to others, and therefore slow the spread.

Spread may also be possible by touching an object that has been previously contaminated, and then touching your nose, mouth or eyes. However, this form of spread is much less common and is unclear if it is a major mode of transmission. Still, to be safe, it is advisable to practice good hygiene and avoid touching your face before you have washed your hands.

What does "community spread" mean?

Community spread refers to when people within a defined area test positive for a virus despite not knowing who or where they contracted it from. It is common with viruses that travel easily from person to person, like Coronavirus. Again, this is why it is so important to be vigilant about staying away from social gatherings at this time.

Who is at risk for contracting COVID-19/Coronavirus?

Anyone can contract COVID-19, but certain people may experience more intense symptoms once they are infected. In particular, the elderly and those with pre-existing medical conditions are at greater risk for experiencing severe symptoms of COVID-19. For this reason, young people are encouraged to follow government recommendations and practice "social/physical distancing". Even if they only experience mild symptoms of the virus or show no symptoms at all, they could infect someone who cannot or may not easily recover.

For more information please visit:

www.sja.ca

The Spanish Flu The 1918-1920 Influenza Pandemic

By Tom Glover

You may have read about the great influenza outbreak of 1918-1920 in your history books or remember stories from your parents or grandparents about losing family members or neighbours and its effect on the community. I heard tales from my grandfather and fellow concerned community members of travelling to neighbouring farms to look after the livestock for those who had fallen ill. Ropes were strung across

1918 in Europe and affected over 500 million people, a quarter of the world's population at the time. The death toll was estimated to be anywhere from 17 to 50 million people; one of the deadliest epidemics of all time. Although it first occurred throughout Europe, affecting Britain, France, Germany, Italy as well as Spain reports of its early casualties were censored by the countries at war. Spain, a non-combatant in WW1,

the war in Siberia travelled westward and took the disease with them. There were no quarantines in place so infected travellers spread the virus. The influenza epidemic rapidly spread to even remote parts of our country. As the pandemic worsened, municipal and provincial authorities tried to limit the spread by prohibiting public gatherings and isolating the sick but unfortunately it had little effect. As the infections grew, the number of healthy workers declined, and the economy was devastated. Of course the health care workers were hardest hit, leaving family, friends, and church groups to risk their own lives to deliver modest health care and supplies to the ill.

Inadequate quarantine methods, powerlessness against the illness and a lack of coordinated efforts from the health authorities led to insurmountable



During the worldwide flu epidemic that began in 1918, women in this U.S. office wore cloth masks.

Image: Bettmann/Bettmann Archive

laneways of affected families to warn people of the danger, and groceries would be left at the bottom of the lane by the local storekeeper.

My family was anxiously awaiting the return of their brother Frank from overseas where he had been serving on the frontlines in France. Sadly they received the bad news that he had died in a London hospital from influenza.

The Spanish Flu also known as the 1918 Influenza Pandemic began in early

those stricken by the illness in an attempt to help them overcome the disease.

In Canada the disease arrived in the port cities of Montreal, Quebec City and Halifax and rapidly spread across the county, the main centres of return for the soldiers coming home from war-torn Europe. The intensification of the war effort in the final year of the war was instrumental in the spread of the disease, as troops mobilizing to fight

chaos. Countless nurses, family and friends risked their lives to care for

One positive result of the Spanish Flu in Canada was the creation of the Federal Department of Health in 1919 which established a partnership between the various layers of government making public health a joint responsibility between all levels of government and where the federal government played a prominent role.

Over 50,000 lives, most of them young people between the ages of 20-40, were lost as a result of the Spanish Flu in Canada. Add that to the 60,000 Canadian deaths in WW1 and you understand how a generation of Canadians became devastated. The health and well being of Canadians and the economy of the country recovered from this terrible time and Canada grew stronger as a nation.

Let us learn from the past, and go forward with a positive outlook, and care for our fellow Canadians as we face our generation's challenges.



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Quilted Memories

Dufferin Piecemakers Quilting Guild responds to Community Groups in their time of need



Moose wall hanging made by Jill Beischer

As I walk through my home each day my eyes don't go far without seeing one of the beautiful projects that my mom gifted to me and my family. From the obvious, customized bed quilts for my husband, myself and our three children, to the quilts folded over the sofa, the chair, the rocking chair on the sunporch, to the three quilts on the blanket ladder waiting for a cozy afternoon. Then there are the beautiful pieces that are not so obvious, the moose hanging above the fireplace, the valentine's pot holder, the tea cozy that looks like art, the treasured travel bags for everyone. We also have of course all the seasonal quilted pieces. The Christmas wreath that replaces the moose, the Christmas quilts that replace the summer ones. These items bring me great joy and all have beautiful memories attached to them. Even funny memories such as me constantly begging my mom to give me the moose hanging for months even though it was being created with someone else in mind. My mom never giving a clue away and my happiness when I opened my birthday gift that year and there it was. Another beautiful memory is from my mom's 50th birthday celebration where she gave my sister and I each a 'daughter' quilt. Typical of my mom to be giving gifts away on her own birthday. Then there is my last gift that was a creation my mom had started and my wonderful Aunt Lori finished for me as a Christmas gift this past year.

I don't know if I will ever be a quilter myself. The time and dedication is incredible not to mention the talent, but I certainly appreciate the beauty, joy and value of each and every piece.

Submitted by Roslyn Watkins



Barn Owl at Sweetfields Farm 11162 County Road 10, Stayner
Photo submitted by: Mary Lucky



Community Outreach L to R: Ms. Davis from Dufferin Caledon Victim Services, Ms. Cook from the Orangeville Youth Shelter and Ms. Kennedy from Family Transition House are presented with quilts from Guild members Penny Squirrell and Judi Sullivan.

Our donation to the Ronald McDonald House in 2017 as part of the Canadian Quilters Association's Big Quilt Bee project to donate 1,000 quilts to the Ronald McDonald homes across Canada.



Quilts were sent to Humboldt, Saskatchewan bus crash victims in 2017 and to Kelowna, British Columbia forest fires victims in 2009. Individual members make sleeping mats from milk bags, Mastectomy pillows, pillow cases for Cases for Smiles for Sick Kids Hospital and those with long arm quilting machines quilt the tops that are pieced.

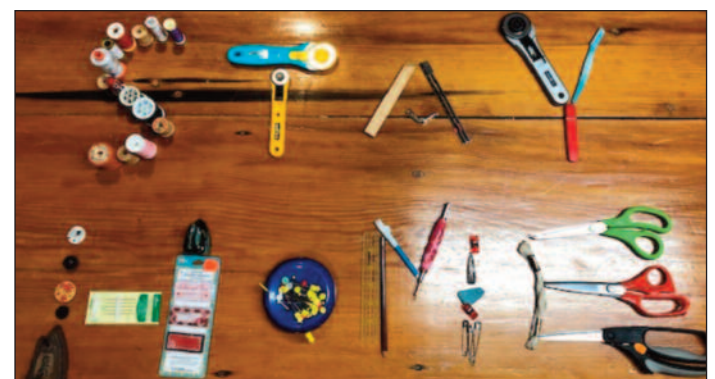
And now, some members are responding to Headwaters Health Care Centre's need for scrub caps, head bands and face masks. They have buttons attached so they can hook the elastic over the buttons to protect their ears. Members are also making community masks to help curb the spread of Covid 19.



OR staff at break time wearing their new scrub caps. April 7, 2020

A creative COVID-19 message encouraging us all to stay home and stay healthy.

Photo submitted by: Lori Korstanje, an avid quilter and sewer.



MARKETING MAPLE SYRUP IN A NEW MARKETPLACE

Story and photos by: Cathy Hamill-Hill

Maple Syrup producers began their season in a normal world and the season ended in a world like none of us has ever seen before as COVID-19 moved into Canada. Changes happened hour by hour leaving stores and markets closed along with longstanding popular events cancelled across the province as the pandemic marched in. Maple Syrup producers had to cope with finishing their busy season and then finding new ways to market their product during this unprecedented time. We contacted four maple syrup producers leading the way in our FarmView readership area to see how they are managing during COVID-19.

For Backwoods Maple Syrup based out of Coldwater, changes happened right at the start of the season.

"We pulled our taps early to protect the health of a couple of our key people," Corey Vandergeest explained. He added he got a short but almost average season worth of syrup as the season was short to begin with due to temperatures.

Paul Harder of Harlaine Maple Products of Sunderland reports that the crop this year was "average" compared to all the other years the longtime producer has experienced. He began the season on March 1st and finished on March 28th.

Robert Ashton of Ashton Maple of Uxbridge started the season on March 3rd and finished on March 27th and found the quantity a bit less than usual.

Kent Breedon of Breedon's Maple Syrup near Alliston reported "above average, one of the best years we ever had" for this year's season in the over 20 years the farm has been in operation. He added tapping started on February 24th and finished March 29th.

Marketing this year's crop was not done as in the past. The Sunderland Maple Syrup Festival is a huge market for Harlaine Maple Products as its owners, Paul and Betty Ann Harder are key participants of the event by offering highly popular sugar bush tours during the weekend and have done so every year since the Festival started 24 years ago. This year, on its 25th anniversary, the Festival was cancelled. Ashton View Maple Syrup owned by Robert Ashton has been a vendor at the same Festival for many

years.

Ashton explains that he now is grateful that "Festivals make up only about 20% of our sales here so we are luckier than many." He adds that he has other markets including selling in stores in Uxbridge and Port Perry. He adds right now though that the "only place left to pick the syrup off the shelf" is the Trading Post in Port Perry.

Harder explains that major sales were lost from the Festival but "a lot of orders" have come in to the farm store that are appreciated. He says that he and his wife are considering doing a big public "maple syrup promotion" day when life goes back to normal to help boost sales. The bush on his farm that he knows was used for syrup production each year since 1922 if not before is a fascinating place to visit all year, he says. Right now, he says a popular order item especially for gift giving is an attractive 500 ml bottle that is sold full of syrup and after can be used as a water bottle.

Vandergeest explains that Backwoods Syrup were a part of a lot of Festivals and tours which cannot happen this year. "We will more than likely have to sell more in bulk than we would like," he said.

Breedon explained that as a full-time maple syrup producer that he has several different markets. The one market now that is actually increasing is the grocery store market as sales are up. Breedon's Maple Syrup is sold at 20 grocery stores in the area. "I think people are buying more of our syrup because they want to be eating local- and to support local. We are sure glad that people are supporting us." He adds his sales overall

though are down, way down as in about 60%. One of his biggest markets was at the St. Lawrence Market in Toronto but right now, he is choosing not to attend.

"We don't go to the market in Toronto though we feel bad we are not reaching our Toronto loyal customers. We feel that we need to stay close to home and this is our way of helping us all get past this virus faster," he explained. He added that as a destination for world travellers to see a "real maple syrup farm" for the first time his place is now



This is Robert Ashton outside his maple syrup operation at his dairy farm near Uxbridge. Robert is known in the area as an extremely dedicated and caring volunteer. He was awarded the highest honour possible from 4H in Ontario four years ago with the prestigious Syngenta Arbour Award and had a tree planted at the Uxbridge Fall Fair in his name.

also missing out on the year round farm tours and visits that are usually booked from the business' popular website.

Maple Syrup, when properly packaged and stored has a long shelf life. Vandergaast explains, "Recommendations for maple syrup is five years unopened and six months to one year once opened in the refrigerator," Harder says that freezing it is a great option. He advises to put the syrup on the counter and let it thaw out naturally and this will happen quickly as sugar does not freeze hard like water does. Ashton says he is soon going to find out how long syrup really will last, "I have a 12 year old syrup in the freezer that I'm going to open soon to see what it's like." He added, "I have customers that buy 4 litre jugs and pour some into a smaller container for the fridge and then put the 4 litre jug in the freezer."

All four producers believe in their product and shared how they most enjoy maple syrup. Ashton says his favourite is "on ice cream and more specifically with Kawartha Dairy Moose Tracks" and adds he starts his day with maple syrup in his breakfast tea and on cereal. Vandergaast says he likes his maple syrup fresh "from the pan in the sugar shack" best but its great also over ice cream. Breedon says his favourite is syrup with "my wife Dawn's homemade rice pudding." Dawn likes maple syrup with her oatmeal in the morning. At the Harder farm, Paul says he likes it best "with a spoon" enjoying it straight from the container though it's also good over cherry ice cream while his wife likes to cook with maple syrup using it for cookies and her specialty, Maple Syrup Pie. She adds that Harlaine sponsors a class at the Sunderland Agricultural Fall Fair for this type of pie.

Each of the four producers now have maple syrup from their own farm operations for sale.



Pictured here Paul Harder of Harlaine Maple Products from Sunderland at work educating about maple syrup at a past Sunderland Maple Syrup Festival. One of the key parts of the Festival, since its beginning 24 years ago, were visits to the Harlaine sugarbush and farm store. Paul is well known in Sunderland because he is also a dedicated historian of antique farm machinery and hosts Harlaine Heritage Day that is scheduled, pending the status of the COVID-19, for August this year.

Sourcing out Maple Syrup

In the Uxbridge area call-ahead orders with cash/credit card/debit payment options by contacting:

ASHTON VIEW MAPLE PRODUCTS
Robert Ashton
905-852-2388
robashon4h@gmail.com

In the Coldwater area phone orders with payment by etransfer for:

BACKWOODS MAPLE SYRUP
Corey Vandergeest
705-790-6509
backwoods.syrup@gmail.com

In the Sunderland area call-ahead orders with payment by cash and etransfer options for:

HARLAINE MAPLE PRODUCTS
Paul and Betty Ann Harder
705-328-8093
harlaine@gmail.com

In the Alliston area online orders by using the "shop" button on the farm website (www.breedonsmaplesyrup.com) orders will be confirmed and details given for pick-up times in the farm's parking lot.

BREEDON'S MAPLE SYRUP
Kent Breedon
705-435-5269
info@breedonsmaplesyrup.com



Betty Ann Harder is seen smiling happily at a past Sunderland Maple Syrup Festival selling product from her Harlaine Maple Products vendor space. Due to COVID-19, the Festival was cancelled this year. Betty Ann is well known in Sunderland also for her work at the Sunderland Agricultural Fall Fair where she serves as its 1st Vice-President.

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Call Dan Seifried, Harriston 519-338-2688

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FREE CLASSIFIED ads must be mailed or emailed.

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Update from Georgian Triangle Humane Society

ADOPTIONS
 Adoptions will continue to take place Monday through Friday using an appointment model that respects social distancing. Potential adopters are asked to visit www.gths.ca/animals-for-adoption and follow the instructions.

COMMUNITY CATS
 We are putting a hold on our Community Cats Program until we are able to restore all of our resources.

EMERGENCY BOARDING:
 We will continue to provide emergency pet boarding to those in need as our resources allow. Please call (705) 445-5204 ext. 0 if you require this service.

EVENTS
 We regret to inform you that we are "PAWs-ing" all scheduled GTHS Events (including the 18th Annual Furball Gala and the 8th Annual Walkathon). It is our hope that we will be able to reschedule our essential fundraisers at a later date.

INTAKES
 We will be accepting animals into our program on an emergency basis. Animals that are injured, abandoned or at risk will be prioritized. Please call (705) 445-5204 ext. 0 if an animal needs help.

PET PANTRY
 Our pet pantry service will be available to pet owners struggling with supplies for their pet. The GTHS will facilitate a home delivery service supported by our incredible volunteers. Please call (705) 445-5204 ext. 0 if you are in need.

RETAIL SALES
 We will continue selling items from our retail store Monday thru Friday (food, litter, toys, leashes, etc.). Retail purchases will be conducted over the phone with purchases being set outside for pick up by the public. Please call (705) 445-5204 ext. 0 to arrange a purchase. Only debit and credit cards will be accepted at this time.

TREASURE TAILS:
 Treasure Tails will remain closed to the public until further notice.

Happy 13th Birthday Trenton!
 Welcome to the teenage years!
 Lots of Love from Mom, Dad, Lily, Harry, Grandpa, Dee Dee and Grandpie.
 (also from Sawyer, Temari, Rocky, Moose, Princess and the fish)

Free Classifieds

Free classified word ads (maximum of 40 words) are for non-profit individuals and farm groups. Ads can be mailed or emailed. They must reach us by the 15th of the month before the next month's issue. Telephone orders are invoiced at \$15 for the first 25 words. Word ads run in one issue only and must be re-submitted each month to repeat. For mail-in ads, use the space below to neatly print out your FREE classified word advertisement.

Email: Farmview@on.aibn.com
Telephone: 705-722-0138

Mail: Farm View 5266 30th Sideroad, Utopia, Ontario L0M 1T0

We're working on our next issue...
Do you have a story idea for us?
 See contact information on bottom of page 4.



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FOR SALE

 \$125 6 foot heavy duty scraper blade for 3 pt. hitch Call John anytime 705-726-5308	 \$88 6 foot Ferguson front mount snow blade suitable for Ford 8N/9N or similar. operates off rear pto. \$88.	 \$99 1977 MotoSki, rough shape, but everything is there to start a 'summer project' for completion next winter. \$99.	<p>ITEMS ALSO AVAILABLE</p> <p>Cargo rack for 2 inch hitch mount, aluminum, add extra storage space to your van or SUV. \$66.</p> <p>Motor bike carrier, also suitable for dirt or electric bikes. 2 inch hitch mount. \$99.</p> <p>Gibson Tractor, 1940's garden tractor made for Market gardening in Marsh etc., rough shape, needs tires all round. Buy it now and get it ready for the Cookstown Georgian Bay Steam Show this summer. Open to offers</p>
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PRICE FIGHTERS

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			GR2020G3-48 For only \$9,350* Upgrade to diesel and 54" deck for \$1,200 All-Wheel-Drive Shaft Driven Powertrain

Some restrictions apply, see dealer for full details

May 8th Open House Cancelled
 For the safety of our customers and staff we will be cancelling our open house. We hope everyone is staying happy and healthy.

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New Holland BR7060: 4x5 baler, twine only, **\$12,000**



Toro Workman MDE: 2009, Batteries recently replaced, 1000lbs payload, 48 volt sys., charger inc., ready for the cottage or golf course. **\$4,999**



Kubota BX25D

2015, 417 hrs, loader and backhoe, serviced and ready, turf tires, includes pallet forks **\$18,500**



David Brown 990 Tractor: 2wd., loader.....reduced **\$4,500**



Kubota F3680: 4wd, ROPS, 1,644 hrs, RCK60R 60" rear discharge with mower deck **\$13,500**



Kubota L4310: 4wd, turf tires **\$6,200**



Deere 323D: Track Skid Steer, hydraulic coupler, auxiliary hydraulics, 1970 hrs, fully serviced and ready for work . . . **\$32,000**



John Deere Gator: 2006, 350 hrs., gas, electric bed, **\$8,400**



Kubota F3680: 2006. 3300 hours, heated Curtis cab, 4WD **\$10,900**



Kioti RX6010: 4wd tractor, KL601 loader, 2012, 2,800 hrs. **\$26,000**



Kubota L3400: LA463 Loader, Rear Hydraulic Remotes, Gear Drive, Industrial R4 Tires, 2100hrs. . . **\$12,500**



2006 International 7500: Roll off deck CERTIFIED...reduced **\$27,000**



Kubota F2560: 4 wd, diesel, RC72 mower deck, 2001, 2,444 hrs. **\$8,400**



Walker MDPGHS: 2005, 1,265 hrs., 48" collection deck, diesel **\$10,000**



Kubota B2620

2014, 26 hrs., 4x4, ind. tires, 54" mid mount mower **\$14,500**



Kubota M7-151S: 2017, low hours, 150HP, LM2605 Loader. **\$119,000**

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