

FARM VIEW

43rd year of publication!

January 2020

VOLUME 43 #1



**Grade 7 students
at Minesing Central School
prepare to plant acorns**

Story and pictures on pages 10 & 11

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.

January 3-9: Farmers' Week 2020

Grey Bruce Farmers' Week (#GBFW20), in its 54th year, will run from **Friday, January 3rd to Thursday, January 9th**, starting with Goat Day, and ending with Crops Day. For further information or interviews, please call Lorie Smith at 519-986-3756, or email Lorie at lorie@greyagservices.ca.

January 16: PHBF Annual Meeting

Peel Halton Beef Producers are holding the Annual Meeting on January 16 at 10:00 a.m. at the Halton Region Police Building, 217 Guelph St. in Georgetown. Lunch will be provided. Guest Speaker - Kathryn Fox, Consumer Engagement.

January 21: Annual General Meeting

All Essa & District Agricultural Society members are invited to the annual general meeting at the Essa Agriplex 7505 10th Line, Thornton. Membership renewal begins at 6:30 p.m., meeting begins at 7:00 p.m. *For full details, see the ad on page 17.*

January 21: Elmvale Fall Fair Annual Meeting

The dinner starts at 6:45 p.m. at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Elmvale. Guest Speakers will be Elmvale Minor Hockey Euro Team. Price is \$20 per person. Tickets need to be purchased by Jan. 14th and are available after Jan. 1st from Ariel at 705-322-5900 during business hours OR any FAS Director.

January 23: Simcoe County Quilters' Guild

The Simcoe County Quilters Guild monthly meeting will be held at the Simcoe County Museum on Hwy 26 in Midhurst on January 23rd at 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. *See more info on page 14.*

January 23-26: Guelph Organic Conference

Don't miss the Guelph Organic Conference from January 23 to the 26th with over 40 workshops. Free Trade Show January 25 - 26. *Go to www.guelphorganicconf.ca for full details.*

February 7: OSCIA Agricultural Summit

Save the date - Friday, February 7th at 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Mono, (venue TBD). Mark your calendar for this one-day summit on Regenerative Agriculture.

February 12: Annual Meeting

Dufferin Soil and Crop Improvement Association is holding its Annual Meeting on Wednesday, February 12th at Amaranth Township Hall. Exhibitor Space Available. For more information call Jim at 519-835-9929.

February 19 - 20: Dufferin Cattlemen's Annual Meeting

The annual meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. at the Amaranth Township Hall. Speakers will include DVM Rex Crawford and a producer panel on feeding systems including winter feeding. This event is being hosted at the Delta Hotels by Marriott Toronto Airport & Conference Centre, 655 Dixon Road, Toronto.

February 28: Central Ontario Ag Conference

Plan to attend the 2020 Central Ontario Agricultural Conference on Friday February 28th at the Sadlon Centre for Health & Wellness at the Barrie campus of Georgian College. *For conference details see the article on page 3.*

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

Check your language

By Kathleen Greidanus
Retired Priest



January is a traditional time to take stock. Personally, I've given up on dieting and exercising to become slim, svelte and toned. I am what I am and I just have to live with it. But I had an experience in mid December that greatly affected me and caused me to stop and consider something as basic as language.

How is your language? I'm not talking about your diction or grammar or your enunciation. I mean do you curse or swear? This question was arrived at after I was attempting to park my car in a crowded parking lot in Barrie. I am the first to admit that my driving skills, if I ever had any, have deteriorated over the years. I would not attempt to back into a parking space but I am very careful about checking the surroundings before driving into a space.

In this case, I saw an empty space in a prime location near my targeted store. I checked all around me before I proceeded to back up a bit to maneuver into the spot. Then I heard a loud thump at the back of the car. I immediately braked not knowing what I had hit. I hadn't hit anything - a pedestrian had chosen to take a short cut behind the car and banged loudly on the lid of the trunk to get my attention. That it did. I rolled down the window and asked if everything was all right. The reply to the question was a veritable verbal assault of profanity such as I have never heard.

I have not lived my whole life in a clerical collar and am not unfamiliar with that which might be termed "colourful" language, especially growing up in Ireland. (I have often told people that when you live on a farm "shit" is a noun not an expletive.) However, the stream of profanity that this man flung at me left me stunned with all other shoppers in the immediate area. People stopped with mouths agape, too stunned to say or do anything.

I started to apologize to him but instead commented on his profanity. That merely prompted him on to a new outburst. To be honest I started to feel frightened for my safety and after he left I didn't even go into the parking spot - I drove home. I was shaken for days after that.

It brings me back to the question of our own language. It is all too easy to use less desirable words to fit in with those around us or use words that seem to be acceptable everywhere - even on television or the radio. But what does it say about us and how we value other people when we incorporate swear words in our conversations? In Matthew 15:11 Jesus told the crowd, "It's not what goes into your mouth that defiles you; you are defiled by the words that come out of your mouth."

Next time you go to say that word, think about what using it says about you.

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



Prepare for the 2019 corn harvest!

Find us online at www.londonag.com/grain-bids/ under the Charwen location for current cash bids. Please email us at: charwengeneral@gmail.com or call **705-424-1905** to book your contracts today!

Central Ontario Ag Conference for farmers

Mark your calendar and plan to be at the 2020 Central Ontario Agricultural Conference on Friday February 28th at the Sadlon Centre for Health & Wellness at the Barrie campus of Georgian College. This year's format will be a single day event featuring presentations by more than a

dozen farmers and business specialists. For all conference details and to register go to www.centralontarioag-conference.ca. The planning committee has put together another great line up of speakers into a new, single day format featuring programs for crops, sheep, dairy, organics and

the backyard farmer. Michael Thiele will give a keynote address on New Directions in Agriculture. Certified Crop Advisors (CCAs) will again find sessions offering CEU credits. Finally, Kim Clarke will lead an intensive three-hour morning workshop for farms interested in agritourism or if

you are looking to enhance products and experiences you already offer on your farm. For over 40 years this annual event for farmers by farmers has been made possible through the generous support of our many on-going sponsors and exhibitors. This year is no exception.

Following the education sessions plan on joining fellow farmers, presenters, exhibitors, and sponsors for a complimentary mix and mingle reception to celebrate our achievements and to connect with each other. Looking forward to seeing you at the end of February at COAC!



Photo by Mary Lucky

Mike Lawler (left) with Robert's service dog Farley, Robert's sister Sarah, Robert and Stephanie McCan pose with Santa at last month's annual "Santa Paws" event at the Utopia Hall in support of the Utopia Gristmill.

Simcoe County Federation of Agriculture President's Message

Another year has passed; they seem to be going faster and faster every year. There's an old saying that life is like a roll of toilet paper - at the beginning it's slow, then as we progress it goes quicker and quicker.

The Simcoe County Federation of Agriculture (SCFA) just had their elections, and I, along with your Board of Directors, look forward to addressing your issues and working with you to resolve them. To keep up-to-date with the concerns affecting SCFA, visit the website <https://www.simcoecountyfa.org> regularly.

We live in one of the most diverse agricultural counties in Ontario, and with that we have some unique agricultural issues. We bring these issues to Simcoe County Council through our Agricultural Liaison Committee.

We help promote and educate the public about agriculture through our Keep Kids Safe and Farms Feed Families programs. We are also in contact with our area M.P.'s and M.P.P.'s to bring our agricultural concerns to their attention.

I look forward to the challenges in the upcoming year.

John Morrison
President



On the Cover

Students from Minesing Central Public School prepare to green their environment. See the story and photos on pages 10 & 11.

DEADLINE for February Farm View is January 15th

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Recent Year-End Trades...Just arrived!

JD 9410R (E83807)
\$337,940
2014, 4WD, 410ENG HP, 1040HRS, 18F/6R SPD, POWER-SHIFT, PREM CAB, AUTOTRAC READY, GS3 DISPLAY, 710/70R42 MICH R1W 90%, AXLE DUALS.

\$337,940

JD 323E (E82467)
2017, 74HP, 950 HRS, 2 SPD, CAB, 2300LB SAE RATED CAP, POWER BUCKET QUICK-TACH, 76" CONSTRUCTION BUCKET, 15" TRACK WIDTH, NEW TRACKS.

\$64,900

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AGRICULTURE - TRACTORS - JOHN DEERE ROW CROP & 4WD TRACTORS

JD 4955 (E83792) 1989: MFWD, 200PTO HP, 5500HRS, POWERSHIFT, CAB, 3 REMOTES, 1000RPM-1 3/4 PTO, CAT 3-3PT HITCH, 16.9R30, 20.8R42, AXLE DUALS, BAR AXLE **\$61,060**

JD 8260R (E83823) 2013: MFWD 1500 SER, 260ENG HP, 3175 HRS, 16F/4R SPD, POWERSHIFT-42K, PREMIUM CAB, 420/85R34 R1W FS 65%, 480/80R50 FS R1W 70% **\$206,220**

AGRICULTURE - TRACTORS - JOHN DEERE UTILITY TRACTORS

JD 5125R/LDR (E83682) 2018: MFWD, 125ENG HP, 300HRS, 32/16 SPD, PPS, PREM.CAB, CAB SUSPENSION, JD 540R SL LDR, LH REV, FLANGE AXLE, 340/85R24 NEW, 460/85R34 NEW, NO DUALS **\$135,790**

JD 6115R (E83539) 2014: MFWD, 115ENG HP, 1550HRS, AUTO-QUAD+ECO, PREMIUM CAB, 3 ELECTRONIC REMOTES, FLANGE AXLE, ALLIANCE MULTI-USE 550-400/80R24-75% ... **\$107,790**

JD 6125R/LDR (E83856) 2014: MFWD, 125ENG HP, 2770 HRS, 24x24 SPD, AQ, CAB, H340 MSL LOADER, AUTOTRAC READY,

LH REVERSER, 420/70R24 65%, 420/85R38 50%, R&P AXLE W/CAST CNTR **\$121,060**

CONSTRUCTION - COMPACT CONSTRUCTION - SKID STEERS & TRACK LOADERS

JD 326E (E81488) 2014: 74HP, 1925HR, 2-SPD, 2690LB SAE RATED CAP, CAB HEAT & A/C, RADIO, ISO & H-PATT CONTROLS, HIGH FLOW - AUX HYD, 76" CONSTRUCTION BUCKET **\$33,990**

JD 328E (E82216) 2015: 84HP, 4450HR, 2-SPD, 2800LB SAE RATED CAP, CAB HEAT & A/C, POWER BKT QUICK-TACH, AIR SEAT, STD FLOW - AUX HYD, EH-ISO CONTROLS, LESS BUCKET **\$34,950**

JD 333E (E83873) 2017: 97HP, 1300HRS, 2SPD, CAB, HEAT, A/C, 3300LB SAE RATEDCAP, EH-ISO CONTROLS, 84" HYD BKT QUICK TACH BUCKET, 18" TRACK, 90% **\$67,370**

CONSTRUCTION - COMPACT CONSTRUCTION - WHEEL LOADERS

JD 324J (E83873A) 2014: 4WD, 75HP, 1400HRS, 2 SPD, CAB, HEAT, A/C, 4800LB SAE ROC, AIR SEAT, DIESEL, 244J BKT CARRIER, 85" CONSTRUCTION BUCKET, ELEC JOYSTICK CONTROL **\$95,790**

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EDITORIAL

Farm transition on the minds of OFA members

A recent survey of Ontario Federation of Agriculture (OFA) members showed that 91% of respondents are having conversations about the future of their family farms. But none of them have a written transition plan to safeguard their farm and family. The results are startling, but align with the 2016 Census of Agriculture that indicated less than 10% of Canadian farms felt they had a written plan for their farm.

The good news is Ontario's agricultural industry recognizes the challenges that come with farm succession and conversations around transition. A recent Farm Credit Canada Ignite event focused on farm transition and how to work with young farmers interested in entering agriculture and starting their own farms. OFA was overwhelmed with the success of a series of transition planning workshops and webinars hosted earlier in 2019. And based on an OFA member survey – and conversations directors and field staff regularly have with members – we know there is a need and willingness for farm families to have these often-challenging conversations and begin making plans for future succession.

To help get succession conversations started, OFA is continuing to partner with Farm Life and Scotiabank to offer a series of farm transition planning workshops across the province. These workshops will be hosted over the winter months and into the spring of 2020. OFA will also be offering a farm transition webinar in partnership with Farm Life in January 2020. Watch ofa.on.ca for event details.

OFA members can also access farm transition planning services with Farm Life through the Benefit Program for a team of professional experts to help build a succession plan for Ontario family farms. Through the transition planning process, Farm Life provides financial assessment, business planning, financial sustainability and a succession plan that protects both the family harmony and the legacy of the farm.

It takes a lot of work and tough conversations to build a successful farm transition plan. We recognize the difficulty of these conversations and understand every farm family and farm business is different, but the important aspect to remember is that it's never too early to start thinking about this process. Even if it means starting and restarting the process multiple times. Keeping the conversation going among farm family members is what's most important. OFA will continue to provide resources and tools for members to help Ontario farm families maintain their legacy and rural roots.

By Teresa Van Raay, Director, OFA



Keith Robinson of Essa Township is shown here plowing at the International Plowing Match in Verner, West Nipissing last fall.

GUEST COLUMN

Encouraged by Provincial Government action

In Deuteronomy 8:28 it says, "The Lord will send a blessing on your barns and on everything you put your hand to. The Lord will bless you in the land He is giving you." Farming is constantly putting oneself in a position to trust God. Our profession requires the knowledge that God is in control whether we are standing under blue skies or rain clouds.

This year, farmers have faced delays in planting due to unrelenting spring rains, a late fall harvest and a shaky set of circumstances involving rising costs, unresolved trade disputes, and low commodity prices.

Some people wonder why farmers keep going in a profession with so much uncertainty and risk. Farmers keep going because to them, it's more than a job; it's a way of life. We work the fields our fathers, grandfathers and even great-grandfathers worked. Farmers keep going because we feel the call and duty to care for all that God has given us to steward. We keep going because to us, dirt is more than dirt; it's potential and life.

At Christian Farmers, we have seen the care our farmers show, and we seek to help them protect and maintain their farms at a political level. Looking back on this past year, we are pleased and encouraged by all that has been accomplished.

Economically, we have seen much progress

in the removal of red tape that has hindered Canadian farmers from competing in the global markets, and we look forward to more progress in the coming year.

We are also encouraged that our provincial government has taken concern with the amount of trespassing happening on farms and has moved forward with steps to help protect agricultural residence. Alongside the new trespassing act a new animal welfare act has been set in place, which seeks to maintain the high quality of livestock care we have come to expect in Canada.

On the farm, we live where we work and we work where we live, carrying a special burden for the life and love we nurture on the fields and in the barns. So, today we pray for every farmer who works the land and cares for livestock, to know that God truly is in control and that He has called us to farm. This blessed calling; a place where we grow more than crops and raise livestock, but where we also grow in faith and a hope for the year to come.

Clarence Nywening is President of the Christian Farmers Federation of Ontario. The CFFO Commentary represents the opinions of the writer and does not necessarily represent CFFO policy.

CFFO REPORT

By Clarence Nywening



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A forum for the Agricultural and Rural Community

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**In memory of
Jill Beischer
owner and co-publisher
Farm View**

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

2019 Executive – Simcoe County

President: Jim H. Partridge 705-730-8864
Vice President: John Morrison 705-435-7598
PAC Members: John Morrison 705-435-7598, Dave Ritchie 705-534-4017
SCFA Phone: 726-9300 ext 1224
(from Beeton & area dial 729-2294)

2018 Executive – York Region

President: Jakab Schneider 905-859-1104
PAC Member: Paul Ressor 905-294-1485

2018 Executive – Dufferin County

President: Bill McCutcheon 519-928-9626
1st Vice: Gail Little 519-925-2983
2nd Vice/Treas. George Van Kampen 519-940-2202

2018 Executive – Peel County

President: Ryan Wright 416-559-3276
1st Vice: Tom Dolson 416-727-7066
PAC Member: Philip Armstrong 905-838-4108
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STK#109050

JD 5085E 2018 ... \$85,995
CAB, 24/12 PR, MFWD, 540M LDR,
19.5L25 R4, 2 REMOTES, 54 HRS



STK#98463

JD 5100GN 2017 ... \$88,595
NARROW, PREM CAB, 24F/12R PR, MFWD,
280/28, 4 REMOTES, 399 HRS



STK#106410

JD 6130R 2016 ... \$141,900
STD CAB, AQ 24F/24R, MFWD, 640 LDR,
460/38 SGL, 3 REMOTES, 511 HRS



STK#108638

JD 7730 2007 ... \$123,995
DLX CAB, MFWD, IVT 40K, 380/50 DUALS,
4 REMOTES, 5695 HRS



STK#111533

CIH MAG180 2013 ... \$149,995
LUXURY CAB, CVT, 4 REMOTES, LOADER
WITH ELECTRONIC JOYSTICK, 2554 HRS



STK#107464

CIH MAG190 2011 ... \$117,995
CAB, 16F/6R PS, MFWD, 480/46 SGL, 4
REMOTES, 2688 HRS



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CIH MAG260 2014 ... \$189,995
CAB SUSP, CVT 42K, MFWD W/ SUSP, FRNT
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NH T8275 2012 ... \$152,995
CAB, 18F/6R PS, MFWD, 520/46 DLS, 3
REMOTES, 2024 HRS



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JANUARY 1 - FEBRUARY 28



John Morrison declared SCFA president for 2020

Notes from the Simcoe County Federation of Agriculture Board of Director's Meeting, Thursday, December 5th at Jim and Nancy Partridge's Farm Office, 192 Line 4 North, at Guthrie.

SCFA President, Jim Partridge called the meeting to order at 7:40 pm.

Jim welcomed Josephine Martenson-Hemsted, representative from the Sheep Producers as a new Director to the Board.

Minutes: Moved by Paul Maurice, seconded by Dorothy Lange that the minutes of the SCFA October 3, 2019 Board of Director's meeting be accepted as circulated. Carried.

Financial Report: Moved by Bonney Smith, seconded by John Elder that the financial statements be accepted as presented. Carried.

Correspondence:

- OFA thank you for Silent Auction item at the OFA's AGM; \$8,600 was raised.
- Thank you from Barrie Fair for our participation in "Meet a Farmer Breakfast".
- Farm and Food Care request for sponsorship – requested approved.
- AgScape (Ontario Agri-Food Education Inc) request for sponsorship. – request approved.

REPORTS:

OFA Field Staff: Leah Emms reported on the following:

- Results of Organizational Survey – 8 submissions

POSITIVES

- Consider alternatives before decisions are made
- Workload attempted is realistic with time available
- Directors complete activities in which they

are involved

- Work is coordinated through committee or chairperson
 - Directors work together on problems that arise
- NEED TO WORK ON**

- Executive and chair positions evaluated regularly
- Meetings evaluated regularly
- Active recruitment and sense of belonging
- Directors know methods of planning and problem solving
- Mark's Work Wearhouse discount cards were distributed
- Concerns about the Tree Cutting Conservation Bylaw administered by Simcoe County
- Issues in Caledon that we should be aware of:
 - Climate Change Plans
 - Official Plan changes concerning cannabis cropping and parked trucks and equipment

NVCA Ag Liaison Committee: Colin Elliot

- Dec 2, 2019 meeting issues:
 - Planting trees on agricultural land
 - Clearing trees
 - Changes to the Conservation Authority Act –to return to original mandate concerned with streams, rivers and flood control
- Next meeting Jan 26, 2020 – discussion on hedge rows and watershed management services

WI: Nancy Partridge

- Guthrie WI held a very successful Bake Sale on Nov 30.

4-H: Dorothy Lange

- All the local banquets are completed with the Annual meeting in February 2020



John Morrison, SCFA President.

Grain Farmers of Ontario, District 11: Colin Elliot

- Annual meeting is on Jan. 13, 2020 at St. John's United Church in Alliston at 10 a.m.

OFA 2019 Convention:

- Nancy Partridge, John Morrison, Bonney Smith and Dorothy Lange commented on various segments of the convention held in Hamilton on Nov. 18 & 19, 2019.
- Keith Currie was re-elected

as President.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Farms Feed Families: Bonney Smith

- Agriplex is booked for June 2020; the program is nearly full

SCFA Elections:

The President, Jim Partridge, turned the meeting over to Leah Emms to conduct the elections.

All positions were declared vacant. A Nominations Report was presented.

President: John Morrison was declared SCFA President for 2019-2020.

First Vice-President: Dave Ritchie was acclaimed as First Vice-President for 2019-2020.

Second Vice-President: Danny deBoer was acclaimed as Second Vice-President for 2019-2020.

Executive: Nancy Partridge, David Lucas, John Elder and Shawn MacDonald were acclaimed as the 4 additional Executive members.

Simcoe County Agricultural Liaison Com-

mittee: (3) Jim Partridge, Paul Maurice and Dave Ritchie were declared as representatives to the committee.

- John Morrison, Danny deBoer and Colin Elliot were declared as the alternates to the committee.

Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority Ag Liaison Committee: (3) Jim Partridge, John Morrison and Danny deBoer were declared as representatives to the committee.

Springwater Township Agricultural Advisory Committee: (1) Bonney Smith was declared as representative to the committee.

Simcoe County Agricultural Hall of Fame: (1) Colin Elliot will continue as the representative from SCFA.

Leah turned the meeting over to John Morrison who thanked her for conducting the elections.

John thanked Jim for his work and dedication as President for the past 5 years.

NEW BUSINESS:

Severn Sound Environmental Association Agricultural Advisory Committee (SSEA Ag Adv. Com): Colin Elliot, Dave Ritchie and Paul Maurice were acclaimed as representatives to the committee.

Motion: moved by Jim Partridge, seconded by Shawn MacDonald, that the January meeting be moved to January 9, 2020. Carried.

John Morrison presented a draft budget, prepared by the Finance Committee and reviewed by the Executive, detailing each item. The budget is to be presented to the Executive for review for presentation at the January Board Meeting.

Adjournment: On motion by Ron Hewitt, the meeting adjourned at 10:50 p.m.

2020

NEW DECADE
NEW LINEUP
NEW TIME

SAME GREAT CATTLE

AT THE
ANNUAL

HIGH POINT CHAROLAIS BREEDERS BULL SALE

SATURDAY MARCH 28 2020
SALE STARTS AT NOON
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In Search of the Taverner General Store, Lewisham

James Edward ('Ted') Taverner's arrival in the frontier region of Muskoka had been inauspicious. He arrived in a wagon holding the entirety of his worldly possessions. While driving along the rutted road, little more than a woodland trail really, the grey skies overhead suddenly opened up and a cold rain fell. Taverner's three-year old son, Harold, sleeping fitfully in the wagon's bed, began to wail in discomfort. Taverner reached back and pulled a tarp over the shivering toddler, who quickly dozed again as the wagon continued to bump along over the rocks.

Taverner's mood was as downcast as the weather. He just wanted to farm the land and make a home for his young family in the harsh wilderness, and silently prayed his decision to move north from Toronto was a wise one. He never dreamt that one day he would become the most prominent citizen in the hamlet of Lewisham as its merchant and postmaster.

The epitome of a backwoods hamlet, Lewisham was always poor and somewhat primitive. The soil here is so poor that farmers could barely grow enough to sustain their families and were supported almost entirely by employment with logging companies working in the area. When the harvestable trees were denuded in the early 20th century, families literally abandoned their farms and fled. As a result of the early date at which Lewisham was abandoned, and its small size and relative obscurity, little is confidently known about the community and its families. Even details of its most prominent building—the general store—and its proprietor are scant.

I set about to fill in the gaps, to research the life and times of James Edward Taverner, and tell the full story of the Lewisham general store for the first time. I hoped that, in so doing, a fragment of this faded village could be brought back to life—if only on paper.

The store Taverner would one day inherit was opened in 1882—less than a decade after the first settlers took up lots in this remote corner of Muskoka—by John Taylor, who named the young community after his hometown in England. As in any rural community, the store quickly emerged as the heart of Lewisham, its social as well as commercial core. After Taylor sold out in 1888, the business passed through a number of hands until Taverner took possession in 1911. Even though the village was already past its prime by the time Taverner arrived he would prove to be the community's longest-serving storekeeper and postmaster.

The store was a big frame house, the largest one in Lewisham. Besides the store itself, the building had eight

rooms upstairs and three downstairs: "They needed every one of them with 14 kids in the family" laughs Keith Taverner, J.E.'s grandson and a current resident of nearby Barkway.

Settlers and lumbermen would gather at the store two or three times a week to await the mail coach and purchase supplies. Lewisham was poor at the best of times, so few people had much money. Instead—as was common throughout rural northern Ontario until as late as the 1940s—people



paid 'in kind', bartering farm goods for store-bought items. If a man suddenly developed a thirst while visiting the store, a little something could be provided from under the counter for his refreshment. Oftentimes, after picking up the mail and supplies, people would go across the road to Isaac Loshaw's house for an impromptu dance, since his was one of the few homes in the area with a hardwood floor.

Taverner was a man of many parts. In addition to being storekeeper and postmaster, he operated a steam-powered sawmill that employed a number of local men and had a farm where he grew peas, potatoes and wheat. As a demonstration of his relative wealth Taverner boasted a herd of 50 head of beef cattle, this in a community where having a chicken on the dinner table was a luxury.

While Taverner did quite well for himself, for most in Lewisham it was a hardscrabble existence. When the lumber companies left in the early part of the 20th century most families gave up the bush farms from which they had scratched out an existence and moved on to greener pastures. On September 30, 1927, by which time there were only a handful of people remaining in Lewisham, the Federal government decided to revoke Taverner's lucrative post office contract. It was a shattering blow; there simply weren't enough customers to keep the business afloat without the

revenue generated from the post office. J.E. Taverner made the torturous decision to close the store. He held an auction to sell of the remainder of the stock, and then went into contented retirement.

What befell the once-impressive store? There's a lot of mystery surrounding its fate, but before he passed Jim Taverner, Keith's elder brother, shared with me that the building had been torn down around 1945 or 46, the valuable lumber needed elsewhere. The only reminder of its existence lies in the hands of the Muskoka Pioneer Power Association: an early 20th century Commercial Calculator, a book which helped a storekeeper to determine the dollar value of farm produce, make rapid calculations in the absence of a register,



Jame Edward Taverner (middle, bottom row).

and other administrative tasks. Taverner obviously valued it highly enough to hold on to even after auctioning off else from the store.

There's no sign left of the Taverner general store in the forest clearing that was once Lewisham. Indeed, the only readily visible remnant of the community is the former schoolhouse, now a hunt club, and beside it a cemetery with but a few headstones still standing upright and above ground.

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Guelph Organic Conference features maple syrup production

Q & A with speaker and maple syrup producer Terry Hoover

Terry Hoover, along with Kevin Snyder, will be presenting "Organic Maple Syrup Production 202 – Cor-

recting the First Year Mistakes" on Sunday January 26, 2020 at the conference. To find out more about this workshop visit guelphorganicconf.ca/workshops.

You can also visit their

booth in the Trade Show located on the Main Floor in the 'Daily Grind' section, noted as G2.

Q: Tell us a little about your maple syrup operation....

A: We are located just south of Listowel on line 78. We have a 100 acre certified organic farm, 50 acres of predominantly hard sugar maple with a mixture of ash, black cherry, beech, soft maple, poplar and oak.

Q: Why did you decide to start making maple syrup?

A: It all started when my Mom and Dad took me to a maple syrup operation and I was hooked. We tapped a single maple tree the next day and this began a life long love of making maple syrup.

Q: Why did you decide to make maple syrup to be sold?

A: I enjoy making maple syrup and maple syrup is the first crop of the year. It made good sense to keep expanding my operation, build my market and continue to meet the demands of my existing and new customers.

Since the equipment used in the production of maple syrup is primarily stainless steel, there is an upfront start up cost. That initial investment from a cost perspective almost forces you to expand. Plus I just love it so much.

Q: Why did you decide to become certified organic?

A: We want to be sustainable and keep our earth safe.

We also recognized that we were already following the rules for making organic maple syrup so the next logical step was to get certified so that we could add "certified organic" to our labels.

Being certified organic also opened up new avenues for distribution (e.g. health



food stores).

Q: What are a couple of the important qualities of being certified organic?

A: To me, two important qualities are:

1. Traceability – everything is documented
2. Annual inspection by a third party

Q: When you first started out what were 1-2 typical challenges you faced and how did you resolve them?

A: The first challenge was the ability to balance a full time 'off farm' job and the extra hours required during syrup season. The sap always seems to run when you are scheduled to work.

The second – not to expand too fast. Establish your market and as it grows, so should your operation.

Q: Now as an experienced operator, what challenges are you working on?

A: The primary challenge is still having to balance a full time off farm job during the syrup season. I've managed to partially resolve this by integrating technology into my operation and also using more sophisticated, re-

liable equipment.

Finding good, reliable help is also a challenge, and one I continue to work on.

It's always important to be prepared for the unexpected. I mitigate this by checking my equipment, check and double check.

Q: What is your favourite way to enjoy maple syrup? (on pancakes, french toast? other?)

A: Maple syrup is no longer just a topping. It is an ingredient that can be incorporated into a variety of dishes – appetizers, main course, desserts.

Personally I enjoy maple syrup on my waffles. My wife puts it in her morning coffee as a treat to start her day.

Q: Why should people attend your workshop?

A: It will be one of the most entertaining and educational hours a person will spend at the conference.

It's an opportunity to embrace a Canadian tradition for yourself. There is nothing more Canadian than maple syrup.

Excerpts from Grain Farmers of Ontario's e-newsletter GrainTALK

Annual District Meetings of Grain Farmers of Ontario are being held this January. In Farm View territory this means:

District 11

Dufferin, Simcoe, Halton, Peel and York will meet on **January 13th** at 10 a.m. Location is St. John's United Church, 56 Victoria Street, Alliston.

District 10

Grey, Bruce, and Wellington will meet on **January 17th** at 9:30 a.m. at the Clifford Community Hall at 2 William Street, Clifford. **Lunch will be provided.**

All current Grain Farmers of Ontario farmer-members that attend their District Meeting will receive a 2020 Grain Farmers of Ontario 10-year anniversary calendar and have a chance to win one of three getaways:

Grand Prize: Trip for two to the Commodity Classic in San Antonio, Texas.

1st Runner up: Weekend for two at Deerhurst in Huntsville.

2nd Runner up: Weekend for two at Hockley Valley Resort near Orangeville.

Three people from each January District Meeting will

be drawn as finalists and entered into the draw for the getaways. All finalists will receive a Grain Farmers of Ontario prize pack.

AgriHR Toolkit

Grain Farmers of Ontario has recently partnered with the Canadian Agricultural Human Resource Council. The Canadian Agricultural Human Resource Council (CAHRC) is a national, non-profit organization focused on addressing human resource issues facing agricultural businesses across Canada.

Our members will have access to resources that will help manage the people side of their farm businesses. One of these resources is a one-year free access to the AgriHR toolkit.

This toolkit offers everything you need to improve your people-management skills and develop key resources to help you find, retain, and support your employees. Watch this video to learn more about how it can help your farm business.

If you are a Grain Farmers of Ontario member and are interested in access to the



AgriHR Toolkit free for one year, email HR@gfo.ca to receive a promo code and link to the toolkit.

CUSMA signing

Grain Farmers of Ontario has offered congratulations to Deputy Prime Minister Chrystia Freeland and Prime Minister Justin Trudeau for signing the Canada-U.S.-Mexico Agreement (CUSMA). The agreement updates the former North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). The agreement will now be tabled in the House of Commons for ratification, although no timing has been announced. Grain Farmers of Ontario urges the government to avoid delays and bring the agreement to the house before the holiday break and urges the opposition parties to also support this, so as not to jeopardize the agreement.

Worth a Chuckle... and life lessons

by Aunt Hazel

Grandpa, what is couple sex?

All you Grandpas and Grandmas, this was too funny. We are all reaching that stage where we need to keep the wax out of our ears and keep the hearing aids tuned up. Enjoy!

An 8-year-old girl went to her grandfather, who was working in the yard and asked him, "Grampa, what is a couple sex?"

The grandfather was surprised that she would ask such a question, but decided that if she's old enough to know to ask the question then she's old enough to get a straight answer.

Steeling himself to leave nothing out, he proceeded to tell her all about human reproduction and the joys and responsibilities that go along with it.

When he finished explaining, the little girl was looking at him with her mouth hanging open, eyes wide in amazement. Seeing the look on her face, the grandfather asked her, "Why did you ask this question, honey?"

The little girl replied, "Well, Grandma says to tell you that dinner will be ready in just a couple secs."

Healthy Waters Program

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Happy new decade

Happy New year and Happy New Decade! 2020 has arrived. I wish you all the very best in the new year ahead.

This past fall session at Queens Park was a busy one for OFA. Your OFA Board of Director's and staff have logged in many hours, let alone hundreds of km's of travel advocating for agriculture.

One Particular Bill I want to draw your attention to is Bill 132; Better for People, Smarter for Business Act 2019. It received Royal Assent on Dec 10th. This was a large Bill covering many subjects. When this Bill was initially posted for comments on the Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO) it contained a Schedule 2. It was a recommendation that the Line Fences Act be repealed.

OFA responded by submitting comments to the ERO on the proposed elimination of the Line Fences Act and several other proposed changes to various Acts. Such as opposing amendments to the Aggregate Resources Act. The amendment under Schedule 16 would direct the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal to "disregard" road degradation from truck traffic to and from an aggregate site. OFA demanded that road degradation be fully considered. Unfortunately, Schedule 16 was passed with no changes to the original wording. OFA used strong language in our opposition to the suggested repealing of the Line Fences Act. We laid out many reasons why this Act has worked and continues to work for property owners. It actually already reduces red tape, due in part to the mechanism that was added in the 1990s to assist when fence viewers decisions had to be appealed through small claims court. That mechanism was the implementation of a Line Fences Referee system to ensure consistent decisions as the court system simply was not providing that. We do not want to be stepping backwards and incurring costly and time-consuming court proceedings. As proposed in Schedule 2 of Bill 132, municipalities would have been responsible for creating and implementing boundary fence by-laws. Having consistently worded by-laws across the province would be very unlikely and would definitely ensure many more appeals. I am happy to report that the government listened to our voice of reason and have left the Line Fences Act intact.

This brings me to another important Bill that OFA and other agricultural organizations are asking for support on from the entire agricultural community. Bill 156; Security from Trespass & Protecting Food Safety Act.

Our farms have become targets for activists whom feel justified to illegally enter our farm properties. Our farms are also our homes. Unwanted visitors are threatening the health and safety of not only livestock and crops but also the farmer, their families and their employees. Special interest groups are voicing their displeasure with Bill 156.

I am asking you the reader to support Bill 156. This Bill would, substantially increase fines to trespassers and better enable police to lay charges against those who disrupt our family farms and seemed to never incur legal repercussions. Please take 30 seconds out of your busy day and visit actnow.ofa.on.ca and send a letter to your MPP in support of Bill 156. We need to demonstrate to the government that this piece of legislation is needed now, more than ever! This Bill is currently in second reading. It needs our support as it enters into the Standing Committee hearings.

For further information on this and all OFA submissions and correspondence to government please visit the OFA website and click on the header tab called Resources ofa.on.ca



By Leah Emms
OFA Member Services Rep.
705-722-5511
Leah.Emms@ofa.on.ca
www.ofa.on.ca



Zachary of Severn Township, enjoys his new John Deere tractor which he received from Grandpa Rob Healey at Christmas last month.

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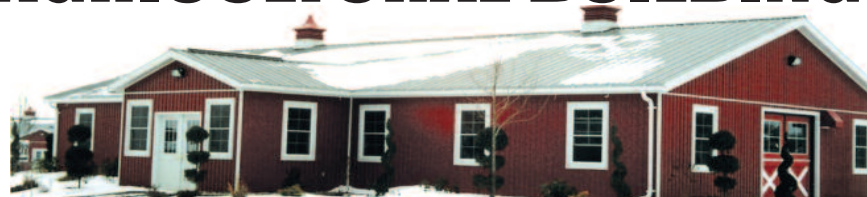
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Minesing Central grade 7s work hard

By Maryn Waterman Holmes
Grade Seven Student

On November 25, 2019, John Quick, a tree expert, arrived at Minesing Central Public School with tools and acorns in hand, ready to help us become a greener school. He visited the grade seven students with 1700 acorns that were ready to plant. We planted the acorns in hopes of growing oak trees to create more green in our school environment. He taught us about the acorns and how to identify healthy ones. For example, if we saw a hole in the acorn and then cut it open, we would see the rotten insides that were eaten by an acorn weevil larva.

After we learned about the acorns, Mr. Quick demonstrated a simple method for determining if the acorns we have are good or bad. Place the acorns in water, and the ones that sink are good while the ones that float are considered bad. As we went outside to plant the acorns we divided them into two groups, sinkers, which means they are in the best shape and have a 97% success rate, as stated by Mr. Quick. Floaters, which means that the acorns have a much less chance (33% Success) of developing into saplings. After Mr. Quick explained how to plant the acorns, the first class would get into partner groups, and then work together and plant them in plots that can hold up to about 42 acorns.

The acorns are planted in a raised prepared bed, and



John Quick, tree expert with 45 years experience in arboriculture is shown here at a recent tree removal project.

placed 8-10 cm apart. The pointed end of the acorn is pushed 1 cm into the soil, followed by a layer of soil and wood chips.

At both recesses after all the acorns were planted, Mr. Quick, Mr. Franckom and a couple of students covered the plots in mulch and chicken wire to protect the acorns from animals. After the second class used the rest of the plots, the whole thing got covered with a mesh like cover for the winter.

About the Growing process:

In the first year, the cap

will grow, and the second year, the bottom will sprout up to three times as long as the rest of it! We are still figuring out what we are going to with the acorns once they grow, but some trees are getting cut down in our forest, so we are hoping to plant some oak trees in their place, in hopes they will grow better.

This is one of the grade sevens many initiatives that we are hoping to put into place. We are hard at work at other projects that will benefit the school, and make the Earth more green.



for the environment



The photos on these 2 pages, as well as on the front cover, were provided to Farm View by Regan Frankcom, a teacher at Minesing Central Public School. These photos illustrate the work the students did to prepare and plant 1,700 acorns in hopes of growing oak trees to create more green in their school environment.

Pictured on the cover are (left to right) Owen P., John Quick, Ryan V., Ross C., Andrew P., Ella G., Abigail M., and Bryn S.



Buried alive!

By Max Moggy
Student Reporter



Today I was buried alive. It was cold, dark, wet and felt like home. My story began when I was told it was time for me to go off into the world and plant my own roots. So, I said goodbye to my parents, The mighty oak and along with my siblings descended to the ground and fell flat on my face. I almost forgot to mention, I am an acorn and this is my story.

After my big fall, I laid on the ground for a while. The grass I was laying in was tickling me and I felt very comfortable. The big ball of light in the sky dipped down and disappeared. I started to feel wet and cold. When the ball of light appeared again a two-legged creature scooped me and my siblings out of our comfortable grass. We were all shoved into a dark and cramped bag. We didn't know what was happening, but I never doubted we would stay safe. The two-legged creature seemed very gentle and kind. I later found out he is a teacher named Mr. Frankcom.

It had already taken me two years to become an acorn! There was so much to worry about now. Did Mr. Frankcom know how to prepare the ground to grow an oak tree? Did he know to plant me 1 cm into the ground with my pointy side down? I wondered if he knew we have a tap root that grows straight into the ground?

These thoughts did not

last very long because I heard a whole gaggle of kids. They scooped me and a bunch of my siblings up put us into a bowl. I was on the top of the pile so I was able to see the kids, and they did know how to prepare the soil! They took mini shovels and sifted the soil to remove roots and rocks and they made the ground nice and airy. A kid named Max chose me. Out of everyone in the bowl he chose me. I bet it was because I looked so circular with such a nice pointy end. My cap had already been removed by Mr. Frankcom, but before he took it off it was big and strong. I was always very proud of my cap. Max placed me in the perfect spot in the ground and used his thumb to push me 1 cm down. I was covered with Peat moss and soil mixed together. Mulch was put on top to make it nice and dark and so the mean squirrel's can't steal me away. That is when I was buried alive

I hope Mr. Frankcom and his students know to come back every 5-7 years, which is when I will have a heavy crop of acorns.

It is my plan to become as big and strong as my family tree.

Worth a Chuckle... and life lessons

by Aunt Hazel

The new high school teacher

After retiring, a former Canadian Forces Major took a new job as a high school teacher.

Just before the school year started, he injured his back. He was required to wear a light plaster cast around the upper part of his body.

Fortunately, the cast fit under his shirt and wasn't noticeable when he wore his suit coat.

On the first day of class, he found himself assigned to the toughest students in the school.

The smart-aleck punks, having already heard the new teacher was a former Forces officer, were leery of him and he knew they would be testing his discipline in the classroom.

Walking confidently into the rowdy classroom, the new teacher opened the window wide and sat down at his desk.

With a strong breeze blowing, it made his tie flap around. He picked up a stapler and stapled the tie to his chest.

Dead silence.

The rest of the year went smoothly.

OFA takes agri-food to Queen's Park

By Peggy Brekveld,
Vice President, OFA

Ontario's agri-food industry is a powerhouse for the province and we've got room to grow – that's the message the Ontario Federation of Agriculture (OFA) took to the halls and offices of Queen's Park on December 9, 2019.

OFA, together with the Ontario Agri Business Association (OABA) and Food and Beverage Ontario (FBO) presented the state of the agri-food industry in Ontario. This presentation was delivered both to media in attendance and broadcasted throughout Queen's Park. The overview set the stage for one-on-one meetings with OFA directors, representatives and MPPs to discuss the needs and opportunities for the agri-food sector.

The overview included key economic indicators. From farm-level production to value-added food processing, Ontario's agri-food

industry supports \$8.1 billion in annual wages and salaries. We also generate more than 837,000 jobs for Ontarians and contribute more than \$47 billion to Ontario's annual GDP.

For those of us on the ground, it's been a tough year in the agri-food industry – there have been market disruptions, trade issues, weather and labour disputes. Despite the challenges of the 2019 season, OFA highlighted ongoing progress on select agricultural files that the provincial government has taken action on this year – we've seen progress in red tape reduction, natural gas expansion and broadband across the province, and more recently the Provincial Animal Welfare Services Act and the Security from Trespass and Protecting Food Safety Act.

These are all long-standing issues OFA has been addressing with government, and while there's still plenty of work to do to finalize details and deliver on promises made, OFA is encouraged by the progress made this year.

We also have four key priorities for 2020 that need focus from the provincial

for rural and northern communities, support for a strong rural school network, and the need for investments to support better infrastructure such as roads and bridges throughout rural Ontario.

Open and ongoing dialogue with the provincial government, staff and policymakers is important to OFA as we look ahead to 2020. It's another reason our organization travels to Queen's Park regularly to host events and meetings like these. It's our job to speak on behalf of our 38,000 farm business members. We bring your issues and concerns to elected officials and ensure Ontario's agri-food industry – our strength and our numbers – remain strong and top of mind with government. OFA's December Queen's Park event was a success, with positive, productive conversations and agreements to continue the dialogue.

government. These aren't new priorities, but like many other issues OFA advocates for, we'll continue bringing them to the table until the needs of our members are met. OFA's priorities for the provincial government include: the continued call for natural gas across Ontario, reliable high-speed internet access

OFA Ontario Federation of Agriculture YEAR END REPORT

VINTAGE EQUIPMENT CONTEST

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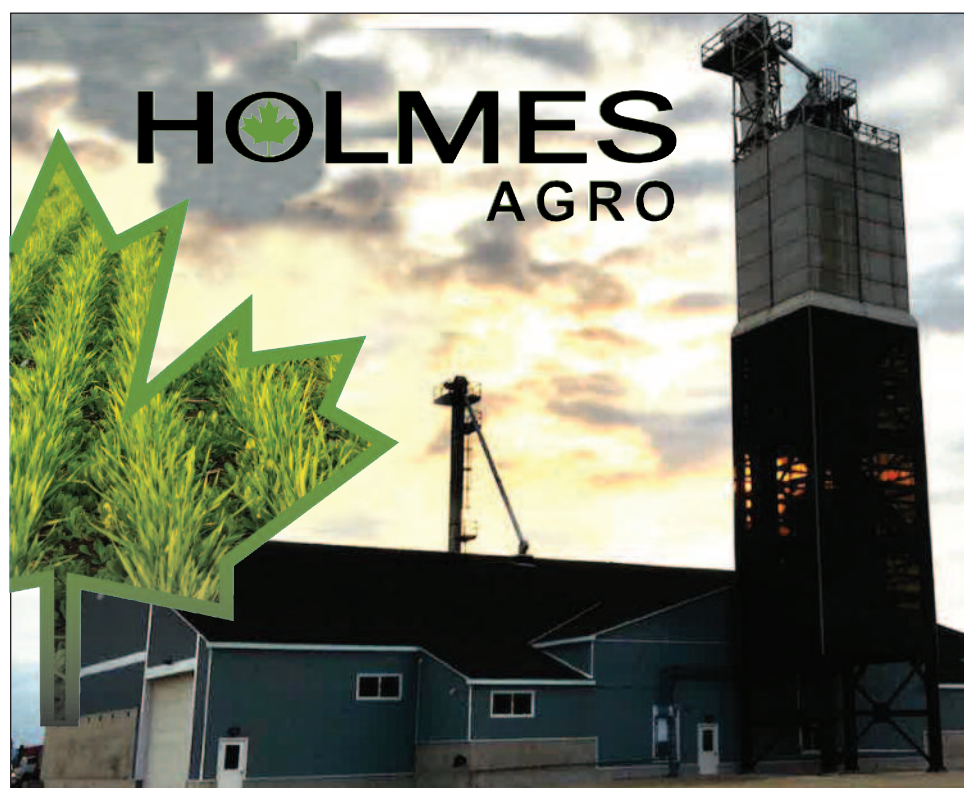
Effective January 1st 2020 Ross and Dorothy Lange will no longer be operating R.H. Lange Equipment.

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JFAO and Governance Solutions Inc. announce online board governance certificate program

The Junior Farmers' Association of Ontario, located in Guelph, Ontario, working in collaboration with Governance Solutions Inc. of Halton Hills, Ontario – and with government support through the Canadian Agricultural Partnership – is thrilled to launch the first, online board governance certificate program created specifically for rural leaders, directors and prospective directors working on corporate or not

for profit boards.

“Canada’s youth play a critical role in the continued growth and prosperity of the agriculture sector,” said the Honourable Marie-Claude Bibeau, federal Agriculture and Agri-Food Minister. “Our Government is proud to support projects such as this certificate program that provide young farmers with the tools and knowledge they need to succeed

as effective leaders.”

“Our government is committed to removing barriers for our agri-food sector so it can grow and be more competitive in the global marketplace,” said Ernie Hardeman, Ontario’s Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs.

“Through the Canadian Agricultural Partnership, we’re pleased to support industry efforts like this, which are developing the agriculture sector leaders of today and tomorrow.”

This comprehensive, eight level program known as the Professional Director Education and Certification Program for Rural Leaders®, earns successful participants their PRO.DIR.RL designation. This certificate program provides comprehensive governance training and serves to build capacity and strengthen the quality and effectiveness of current and prospective rural leaders and directors. With an emphasis on governance essentials, it moves beyond the basics of governance structure to address the behavioural and cultural aspects of boardroom dynamics.

This certification program has been developed with support provided through the Canadian Agricultural Partnership, a five year, federal-provincial-territorial initiative, as well as corporate support from the Ontario Federation of Agriculture and Shawn LaPalm Insurance Agency with the support of The Co-operators Advisor Community Fund.

Delivered completely online, this multi-level program can be accessed 24/7 and is taken at the student’s own convenience and pace. Visit www.professionaldirector/rural-leadership and use the code JFAO when registering.

Governance Solutions Inc. has been trusted for over 28 years by organizations around the globe to provide superior governance solutions. The Junior Farmers Association of Ontario has been a not for profit association building young leaders across rural Ontario since 1944.



A business opportunity for your consideration



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If you are a publisher that would like to add another successful publication to your masthead, or an agricultural household that would like to expand your family business on a new path, this venture will be of interest to you.

Farm View is an agricultural monthly newspaper that has been in publication for 42 years (1977 - 2019). Since 1995 it has been owned and operated by John Beischer, as a sole proprietorship. Prior to 1995, John was involved in the paper since 1977. However, at 70 years of age, he is looking at retirement.

Farm View is a ‘community’ newspaper that provides advertising opportunities to hundreds of ag businesses every month. While many daily and weekly newspapers have closed their doors in recent years, a great number of ‘niche’ market publications like Farm View are thriving.

The reason is simple; chain newspapers have traditionally relied on paid classified advertising for as much as 1/3 of their revenue. For more than a decade, this revenue stream has all but disappeared as social media sites (Kijiji, Google, etc.) have offered free classified advertising.

Farm View has always offered free classified word ads, so this potential revenue hasn’t been lost, it never existed.

What you would be buying:

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For financial information and selling price, or an appointment to meet with the publisher, contact Carol Benedetti at the Canadian Development Corp.

Phone: 705-325-4903 ext. 103

Email: cbenedetti@orilliacdc.com

or go to the website at www.orilliacdc.com

Yours truly,

John Beischer, Publisher

NEWSPAPER FOR SALE!

A message from the publisher

Dear readers and advertisers:

As you are aware, Farm View newspaper is being offered for sale. Since I announced my intention to retire in 2020, we have received numerous inquiries from interested publishers and several farm businesses.

In a future issue of Farm View, we will announce who the new owner(s) are and when the sale will be completed. We appreciate your patience and understanding as we evaluate each offer to purchase, to insure that your agricultural “community” newspaper continues to thrive and expand in the months and years ahead.

Kindest Regards,

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Quilting organization—piece by piece!

By Julie Pirtie

Quilters all have one thing in common—the need to create with texture, patterns and colours that excite the eye and feed the artistic soul. If you are a quilter and are fortunate enough to have a space to create your art, chances are it is brimming over with tools, supplies and, most of all, fabric.

Having too much of a good thing can stunt the creative process and cost you money in the long run. (Remember when you couldn't find your rotary cutter and had to go buy another one? Then the following week you found it plus another one that was hiding out. Yep. It happens!) It's not difficult to get your creative space in order. Let's get to it!

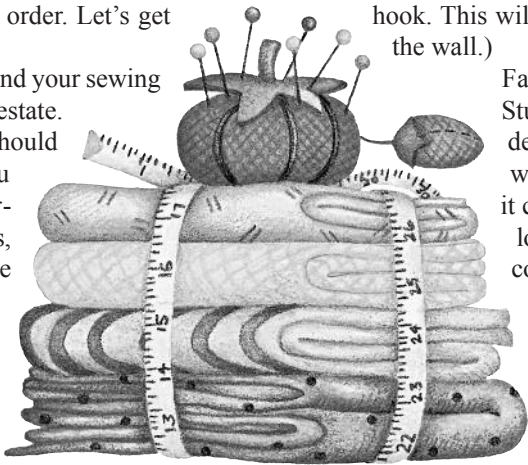
Take a good look at the area around your sewing machine. This is your prime real estate. The only items around this space should be the tools that you use while you are actually sewing. Fill the surrounding drawers with your scissors, pins, spare needles, sewing machine feet, etc. Organize your bobbins in cases. Set up a mini iron and ironing pad close by to make it easier to press when needed. Store thread by colour in tabletop drawer cubes or tackle boxes or use a wall mounted thread organizer for easy access. (Some of the wall-mounted organizers even have a spot to store the matching threaded bobbin.)

Patterns can be a problem to keep together, especially once they have been used. Using appropriate sized zip top storage bags to put the parts and pieces in will help you avoid searching for parts and pieces later. Sort patterns by subject (i.e. type of quilt pattern, wall hanging, purses/accessories, etc.) and place them unright in plastic storage bins (shoe box size or larger). These can then be stored on a book shelf for easy flip through reference. (Note: Store the plastic lid under the container in case you need it for future use.)

Do you have stacks of quilting magazines that you are saving because each one has an inspiring quilt or pattern

that you want to try? Just say NO to magazine clutter! Cut those pages out of the magazine and file them in clear view pages in a three-ring binder. Use the same binder to corral instruction sheets and pattern piecing ideas. Again, organize by subject!

Quilting rulers come in a variety of shapes and sizes making it difficult to find one place they can all fit together. However, most every one of them has a hole drilled into it. Use these holes to hook the rulers onto heavy-duty metal-hinged snap rings. These rings can then be hung on a decorative wall mounted coat rack. (Tip: Hook a smaller ring onto the ring holding the rulers and use it to hang on the coat hook. This will allow the rulers to hang flat against the wall.)



Fabric storage is always a challenge. Stuffing it into bags and then into closets defeats the whole purpose for which it was purchased. You bought it because it called to you and makes you happy to look at it. So, do just that! Display those colours until it is their time to become art. Simply folding them and arranging by colour works well. However, folding that fabric onto comic book backer boards makes everything more uniform. These boards can be ordered online and are inexpensive

and convenient. The internet has many tutorials that show how to fold different size cuts of fabric on the boards. (Picture mini bolts of fabric!) These “bolt boards” can then be stored on bookcase or cube shelves allowing you to enjoy your private rainbow. Place fat quarters and charm packs on end in plastic bins or drawers.

Most artists have more than one project going at a time and quilters are no exception! For those projects that are in progress, use a rolling storage cart that has slots for snap top 12x12 paper storage containers. Label each container for easy reference. These bins are great, especially if you take classes outside the home. Everything you need for the project can be kept in one place and you can grab and go when it is time to travel. If you have purchased fabric for bigger projects, use clear view sweater or blanket zipper storage bags to keep your project materials together. These can be stored in a closet for future use.

Remember this: Just because your quilt is in pieces doesn't mean your creative space has to be in pieces as well! You've got this. I know you can piece it all together! Ok, already—enough of the pieces! (I just couldn't help myself.) Happy quilting!

Julie Pirtie is a professional Organizer and Owner/Operator of Clutter Happens in Mesa, AZ

Quilters' Guild Meeting

The Simcoe County Quilters Guild monthly meeting will be held at the Simcoe County Museum, Hwy 26, Midhurst on January 23, at 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Our guest presenter will be Nancy Johnston with a demonstration of how to marble fabrics. Nancy will offer some marbled fabrics for sale.

New members and visitors (\$5.00 fee) are welcome.



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Did you know?

The following is a list of quilt guilds in this area, so if you think you might be a quilter (or are just interested in learning more), plan to attend at least one meeting in your area to learn more. *Check their web-pages for meeting times & place.*

- Quilting Corners Guild in Alliston
- Region of York Quilters in Newmarket
- Orillia Quilter's Guild in Orillia
- Simcoe County Quilter's Guild in Barrie
- Kempenfelt Quilter's Guild in Barrie
- Georgian Bay Quilter's Guild in Midland

Heritage barn burns down



Brooks Farms had a tragic loss last month when they lost their Heritage Barn and suffered damage to the popular Playland and surrounding structures. They also lost some of their famed pumpkin canons but local Fire Services were able to save the home and Market.



"We are just so grateful"

Flames tore through a barn at a popular family farm in Mount Albert last month, destroying the century old structure.

But Brooks Farms, which offers activities and events year-round for families remains open for business.

"It was an awful night for us at the farm," reads a message posted on the Brooks Farms Facebook page. "We've lost our heritage barn, part of the playland and there is damage to our surrounding buildings."

"We're just so grateful for the Mount Albert and Uxbridge fire departments (and a few others) for their help preventing us from losing our family home," the message read. "No one was injured—we are heartbroken but all safe."

Brooks Farms owner Paul Brooks told CP24 he was cooking dinner in the farmhouse for his kids—the sixth generation of Brooks to grow up on the working farm—when a power outage alerted him to the barn fire around 5:45 p.m.

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A look back at Ontario agriculture in 2019

By Mark Reusser, Vice President, OFA

As we begin a new year, it is good to recap how the past 12 months have had an impact on Ontario's agri-food sector, our farms and our families. No one can argue that it hasn't been a tough year in the agri-food industry with market disruptions, trade issues, weather and labour disputes. And yet, we've seen progress on key issues that impact the sustainability and competitiveness of our farm businesses. Here's a recap of 2019 advocacy and government relations activities from the Ontario Federation of Agriculture's (OFA) perspective.

One of the biggest wins for Ontario agriculture came early in the year with the provincial government's decision to remove Schedule 10 from the proposed Bill 66, Restoring Ontario's Competitiveness Act, 2018. The proposed amendment to the provincial Planning Act would have given municipalities the ability to pass bylaw changes that would have allowed the use of prime farmland for any type of development. OFA objected to Schedule 10 and had serious concerns about the impact the proposed legislative changes would have had on Ontario's agri-food sector.

Reducing farm property tax ratios is always on the agenda for OFA as we continue to work alongside county and regional federations to advocate for change with local government. Through one-on-one meetings across the province, we have had 18 county and single-tier municipal governments (to date) agree to lower the farm tax ratio (below 0.25) to help offset the impact of soaring farm property assessments.

This year, OFA ran two road safety campaigns to increase awareness and educate urban motorists about slow moving vehicles and sharing the road with farm equipment. We understand the hazards of operating tractors and large farm equipment on roadways and will continue to engage with non-farming audiences through social media and other communication platforms in an effort to keep everyone safe on our roadways.

Reducing red tape was on the 2019 lobby agenda again for OFA. We appreciate the provincial government's action taken this year that saw the removal of the Line Fences Repeal Act, 2019.

We've also seen encouraging progress on natural gas ex-

pansion and access to reliable broadband across the province with announcements and programs to connect communities in rural and northern Ontario.

This year also marked the 10-year review of the Endangered Species Act, 2007. OFA participated by sending a formal submission to the government to address areas of the legislation that were subject to changes, including assessing species at risk, implementing habitat protection, issuing permits, developing exemptions and the enforcement of the act.

Land use planning policies have been, and continue to be, a core issue for OFA and Ontario farmers. In 2019, OFA provided a submission to the Provincial Policy Statement review, outlining key recommendations on the proposed revised land use planning policies within the statement. OFA believes the preservation of productive agricultural land to produce food, fibre and fuel is in Ontario's long-term environmental and economic interest.

The latter half of 2019 has presented challenges for our provincial food value-chain. The beef sector has been particularly hard-hit by the closing of Ryding-Regency Meat Packers and ongoing depressed market prices, trade and market access barriers, and a shortage of processing capacity. OFA will continue to work with our commodity partners and support our members through this challenging time.

This year has also been marked with growing threats from animal activists, trespassing on farms and a legal system reluctant to prosecute individuals involved in these activities. OFA is encouraged by the proposed new legislation Security from Trespass and Protecting Food Safety Act, 2019 that would increase the protection of our farms, families and food supply. We also saw a significant change in our provincial animal welfare enforcement in 2019 with the withdrawal of the Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and the introduction of Bill 136, the Provincial Animal Welfare Services Act, 2019.

It's been a busy year for OFA and all of our members. We'll certainly remember 2019 as a year of extreme challenges, but also of opportunities that have brought out some of the best qualities of our farming members – optimism, resilience, perseverance and ingenuity.



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Changing excess soil into a resource: CFFO

By Paul Bootsma

Last month, the third annual Excess Soil Symposium, hosted by the Canadian Urban Institute, was held in Ajax. Many from the construction industry spent the day talking about Ontario's excess soil—leftover dirt from development sites. Each year in Ontario, excess soil from these sites totals enough to fill the Roger's Centre 16 times over. This soil is often considered to be waste, the “problem part” of developments.

Jeff Yurek, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) spoke at the conference. Minister Yurek announced new regulations to manage excess soil, to what appeared to be almost everyone's delight.

These regulations change the perception of excess soil into an asset, something that can now be used in positive ways to enhance development, while still preventing contamination.

As Minister Yurek explained, the new regulations, posted on the Environmental Registry, promise to:

- recognize excess soil as a resource
- set clear rules to increase reuse opportunities and reduce soil relocation costs
- reduce clean excess soil going to landfill as waste
- lower greenhouse gas emissions associated with excess soil movement
- protect human health and the environment;

For agriculture, the concern is that contaminated soils can be placed on land intended for food production. However, Minister Yurek specifically stated that the new regulations are meant to prevent this.

One of the biggest changes these new regulations made is that the onus or responsibility for the excess soil is on the owner, often the developers. They will have to take responsibility to relocate this soil as part of their plans for the development. A number of the presenters suggested that there are cost savings to be had if planning is done well before

development begins.

One of the symposium presenters manages an NGO in the UK that supports land use remediation. He was very encouraged by the new regulations, suggesting that Ontario has all the conditions in place to manage excess soil well.

CFFO has expressed support for the development of brownfield sites but has also voiced concern over the possibility of contaminated material coming onto farmland from excess soil. Regulations will require proper testing and tracking of excess soil on “larger and riskier sites,” though definitions are not yet clear. What is clear, is that many in the construction sector seem encouraged by these changes. We see some hope that these changes will be good for farming, too.

Paul Bootsma is Field Services Manager for the Christian Farmers Federation of Ontario. The CFFO Commentary represents the opinions of the writer and does not necessarily represent CFFO policy.



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Attention: Essa & District Agricultural Society Members

Board of Directors (BOD) Recruitment

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Membership renewal begins at 6:30pm

AGM begins at 7:00pm

***In the case of inclement weather, please contact the office**

The EDAS is currently accepting applications to fill vacancies on the Board of Directors. Board Members play an integral role in building agricultural awareness in the local community, highlighting current and future issues impacting the role of agriculture in the economic development of Ontario.

We encourage all members planning to attend to RSVP via phone or email.
705-726-1200 | admin@essaagriplex.ca

The Essa and District Agricultural Society is seeking Skilled Professionals willing to serve a minimum three (3) year term as a Board Member.

A Brief History:

The Essa & District Agricultural Society (EDAS) - originally known as the Barrie Agricultural Society; was established in 1853, with the intention of being the host of the annual Barrie Fair. The EDAS is a registered charity and non-profit organization located in the Township of Essa. Our mission remains the same: To educate, promote and display agriculture to the local and surrounding community. Our multi-purpose facility is host to the Barrie Fair, the Essa National Draft Horse Show, as well as a variety of other events.

Our Vision:

Connecting communities through farming, food production and agribusiness.

The Role:

- Attend monthly BOD meetings.
- Govern and oversee the operations of the EDAS.
- Serve as an ambassador to raise the profile of the EDAS in the community.
- Work with membership to further the advancement of agricultural awareness and education in Simcoe County.
- Provide the EDAS with direct technical and professional input, advice and guidance on projects current and future.
- Build relationships with private and public stakeholders, actively seeking new partners.

Qualifications:

- Previous BOD experience is seen as an asset.
- An understanding of the local community and a passion for our cause.
- Skilled knowledge in an area of expertise vital to the current and future operation of the EDAS. Fields of focus include but are not limited to: Entrepreneurship, Legal Services, Planning and Design, Construction, Human Resources, Financial Investment.

How to Apply:

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John Beischer, Publisher

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One of these two has a newspaper for sale

Farm View publisher John Beischer spoke at a recent publisher's meeting when a little green heron dropped in. The Heron (named Don—Don Heron), heard that **Farm View** was for sale and was looking to get a-head. After picking Beischer's brain, Don decided that perhaps the "hunt and peck" method of typing was not going to work well and he was not willing to wing it.**Opportunity open for your consideration**This means that **YOU** have the opportunity to consider taking charge of this popular farm publication. Publishers in particular who would like to expand, or perhaps a family looking for an agriculture-related business may do well with this successful paper.**Farm View** is a monthly agricultural newspaper in publication for 43 years. Since 1995 it has been owned and operated by John Beischer, as a sole proprietorship. Prior to 1995, John was involved with the paper from its inception in 1977.**Farm View** is a community-style newspaper that provides advertising opportunities to hundreds of agricultural businesses every month. Many daily and weekly newspapers have closed their doors in recent years while a great number of niche-market publications such as **Farm View** thrive.The reason is simple: Chain newspapers have traditionally relied on paid classified advertising for as much as 1/3 of their revenue. For more than a decade, this revenue stream has all but disappeared as social media sites (Kijiji, Google et al) have offered free advertising. **Farm View** has always offered free classified word ads, so this potential revenue hasn't been lost as it never existed.**What you would be buying:**

- A well-read, well-respected newspaper that has been published continually since 1977.
- The goodwill of advertisers who use the publication to market their products and services.
- A revenue stream that will likely continue for many decades into the future.
- A home-based business that is interesting, challenging and profitable.
- An online presence that greatly increases the reader-ship advertiser opportunity.

For financial information and selling price, or an appointment to meet with the publisher, contact Carol Benedetti at the Canadian Development Corp.

'Phone: 705-325-4903 ext. 103

Email: cbenedetti@orilliacdc.comWebsite: www.orilliacdc.com

Yours truly,

John Beischer, Publisher



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and
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2008 Cub Cadet Volunteer: 4WD, EFI, Bed Lift **\$6,800**



Kubota F3680: 2006, 3,300 hrs., 4wd, Curtis cab, 60" front mower **Call for Price**



Kubota F3680: 4wd, ROPS, 1,644 hrs, RCK60R 60" rear discharge **\$13,900**



Kubota RTV900W:
2011, diesel, 4 wheel drive, canopy and windshield, hydraulic dump. **\$8,900**



New Holland 1465: mower conditioner, rubber rollers, new condition **\$9,800**



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



Kubota L6060 with loader: 2014, 1,300 hrs. **\$44,900**



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



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



Kubota B620: 2014, 26 hrs., 4x4, ind. tires, 54" mid mount mower **\$14,500**



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



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



David Brown 990 Tractor: 2wd., loader **\$5,500**



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