

A newspaper with something for everyone August 2022 Volume 45 #08

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AgRobotics demo day at Holland Marsh

The history of the Pontypool Grain Elevator

> New series 'Meet the Farmer'

Catch the Barrie Fair and the Sunderland Fall Fair!

Photos from the Kawartha Antique Power Heritage Show and the EastGen Challenge Markham



### Mid summer update for the North Simcoe GRAIN Project



In the photo above Roger Spence demonstrates the height of the corn in July.

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Farmers have many ways to mark times, seasons and progress. Farmers are usually hoping their corn will be "knee-high by the first of July." As you can see by the photo, either Roger Spence has shrunk or the corn hit waist high by the first of July this year for the North Simcoe GRAIN Project. It was a wet start to the spring season, but we were given a glorious break of summer weather mid-May which allowed us to plant record acres in great conditions. At the writing of this article, crops are dry and need rain, but I'm sure by the time you read this we will be wishing for sunshine again. The North Simcoe GRAIN Project is a group of local farmers from Elmvale growing food for the Canadian Food Grains Bank which in turn provides food where it is needed the most around the world. Today this includes Ukraine and surrounding countries. Thank you for

your interest and support. Luke Langman (705) 716-7744.

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# 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.

### August 15th: News and Advertising Deadline

The advertising and news deadline for the September issue of Farm View is **Monday August 15th.** 

### Fairs and Farm Shows 2022

### Aug 25th - 28th: Barrie Fair

Essa Agriplex - Home of the Barrie Fair

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For details see the ad on page 6.

### Sept. 13th & 14th: Sunderland Fall Fair

Sunderland Agricultural Society

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September 13 to September 14, Fair opens at 5 p.m. on Tuesday.

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For details see the ad on page 6.

#### Sept 23rd, 24th and 25th: GNE Collingwood

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2220 Fairgrounds Rd. N, (1 km south of Hiyway 26) Clearview Twp, Simcoe County

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#### Sept 29th - Oct 1st: Bobcaygeon Fair

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### 42nd Kawartha Antique Power Heritage Show

Story and photos by Cathy Hamill-Hill

Pictured to the right is Michael Bruce, Vice-President of the Kawartha Antique Power Association and winner of the 4,000 pound Vintage Truck Class held at the 42nd Kawartha Antique Power Heritage Show held on Father's Day weekend at the Lindsay Fairgrounds. He is standing beside his own 1950 Cockshutt 30. "We did not know for a long time if we even could have a Show because of the pandemic, we are sure grateful to every-



body who came out this weekend," he said. He said that pulling vintage tractors for him is "family time. My wife, Alicia is a nurse so sometimes she has to work. Our daughter, Brooklynn, will come with me to the pulls. It is always the best time when I have my wife and daughter with me." Michael Bruce has plans to go to at least four pulls this year.



"EPSOM TRACTOR" Pictured at left is a 1945 Farmall International Harvester tractor that is still at Epsom. It was originally bought by Malcolm Bailey from Epsom. At 13 years old, Arthur Powell (standing at far right) went over to his next door neighbour for two weeks to drive this tractor that was pulling the binder to harvest 75 acres of grain. When the tractor was put

for sale, Arthur immediately bought the tractor and had it later restored. Also, Angus cattle were purchased from the same neighbour and today Arthur's son, Jim from Woodville, at far left, carries on that tradition... Jim's son, in the middle, is Michael Powell and he enjoys helping at both his Dad's and his grandparent's farms.



Pictured above is a Waterloo Steam Traction Engine made in 1916. This Engine was used for driving a sawmill then later at a tobacco farm and did not need rails to operate. Here, the Steam Engine is being used to tour the grounds at the recent Kawartha Antique Gas and Tractor Show held at the Lindsay Fairgrounds. This Engine was purchased in 2008 and restored by the Durham Region.



Despite high winds that sent dust flying across the track from nearby fields, the dedicated Tractor Pullers still kept on pulling on Saturday of the Kawartha Antique Power Heritage Show. This Massey-Harris tractor, shown at left, was operated by Harry Skuce, the tractor is owned by Ray Cavanaugh.





JD 9770 (E86670) 2011, 4WD, 360HP, 2900 ENG/2200 SEP HR, 6.9M AUG, 2SPD, PRO DR LEVEL LAND, EXT WEAR GRAIN HANDLING,, 650/65R38 85% FRONT, DUALS, 28Lx26 R2 70% REAR \$178,950.00



JD S670 (E86947) 2016, 4WD, 391HP, 1920 ENG/1525 SEP HR, 26'AUGER,, CONTOURMASTER & HI-TORQUE VARIABLE SPEED-, FEEDERHOUSE W/HYD FORE/AFT TILT, 3-RANGE HYDRO \$302,630.00

JD 612C (E86003) 2009, 12R, 30" ROW WIDTH, POLY DIVIDERS, CONTOUR-MASTER, OILBATH CHAIN DRIVE, KNIFE ROLLS, HYD ADJ DECK PLATE, SINGLE POINT HOOKUP \$67,370.00

### HAY EQUIPMENT SELL OFF



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JD 635F (E87696) 2012, 35', CONTOUR-MASTER, FULL FINGER AUGER,, STANDARD KNIFE, AUTO HEADER HEIGHT,, RIGID HEIGHT SENSORS, POLY DIVIDERS \$20,690.00

TL TL360 (E88337)

VIDUAL BALE WRAP-PER,, LIGHTS, TWIN WRAP \$37,900.00



NH RB460 (E86250) 2016, NEW HOLLAND 4x6 MAX BALE SIZE, NET WRAP, BALE PRE-CUTTER, WIDE PICKUP, BALE EJECTION RAMPS, 1000 PTO, 18L-16.1, CLEVIS HITCH, 14,000 BALES \$33,690.00

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#### FROM THE EDITOR

It has been a busy start to

summer here in the Farm

View office. McLaren Press

announced their business

closing this past spring which meant a search for a new

printing press for the Farm

View. With help and recom-

mendations from McLaren

this issue will be printed at

Master Web Inc. We are also

changing the company who

creates the mail plan for the

complimentary copies that

all farm households are



**Roslyn Watkins** Publisher/Editor Farm View Newspaper farmview@on.aibn.com

meant to receive. Please be patient while we work out any delivery kinks, but please give me a call or email if you don't receive your complimentary copy and you are reading this online or by picking up a copy at a local business or shop.

Further to my comments last month on farmland preservation, there is a petition going aiming to collect 40,000 signatures. After a quick google search I discovered there are 11,602,992 (give or take) people over the age of 19 living in Ontario. Therefore it makes sense to me that there should be 11,602,992 signatures on that petition. Have a look here https://homegrown.ofa.on.ca/take-action/ and add your support to this very important topic. At 45,000 signatures this becomes one of the biggest local movements in Ontario. Right now it is sitting at 40.052.

While most of us are enjoying the sunshine, especially for vacation time booked or camping trips, the rain as we know plays a vital role for our farmers. When I stepped out of the house the other morning, my lovely neighbour was enjoying her coffee on her front porch and said "I'm listening to the sound of liquid gold falling from the sky." I thought, there isn't a more beautiful way to describe and enjoy a much needed rainfall. Thank you Roberta, I will remember your words every time it rains and appreciate it more than before.

I hope everyone enjoys this issue, it has many articles about our history and photos showcasing the history of farm equipment. One topic of interest is the Pontypool Grain Elevator. I've included a couple photos of interest on this page but please read Cathy Hamill-Hill's article on page 7, I'm certain you will enjoy it.

I wish everyone a successful grain harvest.

Take care of yourselves and one another, Roslyn Watkins

#### Kawartha Antique Power Heritage Show



Paul Frampton from Keswick pictured to the right and Russell MacLean from Markham, at left, both enjoyed the Kawartha Antique Power Heritage Show. Paul says his Grandpa introduced him to steam engines- and he kept going with the interest with a career as a machinist. Today, he is also a certified Steam Traction Engine Operator. Russell is working on becoming a certified Operator too and on this day at the Kawartha Antique Power Heritage Show was getting in some of the mandatory 160 hours as a trainee on a steam traction engine. See page 3 for more photos of this event. - Photo and write up by Cathy Hamill-Hill

#### Photos celebrating the history of Pontypool's historic grain elevator Story and photos by Cathy Hamill-Hill



MANVERS TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2008 16 MONTH CALENDAR

In 1847, Daniel Massey established Massey Mfg. Co. in Newcastle, Ontario. Alanson Harris established A. Harris, Son & Co. in 1857. The two companies merged to form the Massey- Harris Co. Massey Harris built reapers in Newcastle, Ontario. This is a picture of a shipment of reapers that was going to be put on the train that stopped at the Pontypool Grain Elevator.



At left, is Manvers Township Historical Society (MTHS) President Kathy Morton along with Past Secretary and current Director of MTHS in front of the Pontypool Grain Elevator. Kathy is pointing at the plaque given to the old wooden Grain Elevator as a heritage site.

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#### FARM VIEW is published monthly by: **Roslyn Watkins** The 5 N's Publishing House

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Visit us on the web: www.farmviewonline.com

A forum for the Agricultural and Rural Community The farm newspaper that covers Simcoe and Dufferin County, York, Peel and Muskoka Regions, keeping farmers and rural home owners informed about local and national news that affects their farm business, family and rural lifestyle.

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

OFA Zone Director for Peel, Simcoe and York: Paul Maurice: 705-444-1398 email: paul.maurice@ofa.on.ca

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**JD 9670 STS 2010 ... \$162,995** PRWD, CNTR, EXT WEAR BAR, 26' AUG, 520/42 DLS, 2801 ENG/1990 SEP HRS



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JD S670 2013 ... **\$279,900** PRO DRIVE, PRWD, CSTM CUT, 520/42 DLS, 22.5' AUG, 2144 ENG/1305 SEP HRS



JD 5780 2018 ... \$465,995 PRO DRIVE, PRWD, CSTM CUT PKG, 26' AUG, 520/42 DLS, 1448 ENG/891 SEP HRS



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### **Applications accepted for On-Farm Climate Action Plan program**



By Leah Emms OFA Member Services Rep. 1-866-660-5511 Leah.Emms@ofa.on.ca www.ofa.on.ca

Program alert! Time sensitive application window. The On-Farm Climate Action Plan is administrated by the Ontario Soil & Crop Improvement Association. There are three categories. Cover Crops, Nitrogen Management, & Rotational Grazing Systems. The catch to access this funding is that you must demonstrate that these are new practices on your farm. Applications are being accepted from August 3rd to the 17th. The cost-share funding is 65%.

Eligibility for the three program steams require that you have a Farm Business Registration Number or an exemption certificate, or documentation such as tax bill or MPAC property assessment. A valid Premise ID. Ontario Provincial Registry contact information if you require a number is Ontario opid.com or 1-888-247-4999.

Each program steam requires that you hire a third-party consultant to prepare a written management plan specific for each category and your farm. Certified Crop Advisors or P. Ag designations are acceptable consultants. The costs incurred to hire a consultant are covered in this program. Each written plan must meet the program minimum requirements.

Eligible costs for Cover Cropping may include seed & planting, custom planting costs or equipment to plant cover crops such as inter-seeding equipment, broadcast & air seeders, No-till seeders & components for autonomous seeding.

Eligible costs for Nitrogen Management may include soil sampling, analysis & mapping. Plant Tissue sampling, analysis & mapping. Manure sampling & analysis. Nitrogen stabilizers, field-based biological inoculants to enhance nitrogen fixation, costs of split nitrogen fertilizer applications, the use of manure, compost or digestate including material & custom application costs. Fertilizer application equipment or modifications for banding, side-dressing, in-crop or subsurface application including variable rate monitors & controllers, manure injections equipment including variable rate monitors & drag line systems.

Eligible costs for Rotational Grazing Systems may include fencing materials for temporary and permanent fencing, watering systems & installation. Solar, wind, & motorized pumps, water lines, water hydrants & water troughs, storage tanks water aerations systems for existing ponds, purchase & installation of solar powered systems for electric fencing, portable shade systems, establishing stream crossing. A onetime pasture species improvement which would include seed costs & custom planting.

Please reach out to your Ontario Soil & Crop Improvement Association Regional Program Lead for more details. In Simcoe, Dufferin & Grey- Lois Sinclair 519-955-3139. In Peel, York, Durham, Victoria, Haliburton contact Robin Brown 705-718-4859.

OFA Regional Meetings are around the corner. These meetings are held in conjunction with County Federation board meetings. Regional meetings are an opportunity for members to elect delegates to attend the OFA Annual General Meeting and Convention taking place in November. We also elect the OFA Policy Advisory Council members representing each local county. Simcoe County Regional Meeting will take place on September 8th via Zoom. York Regional Meeting will be held October 4th, and the Peel Regional Meeting will take place on October 5th. If you would like to attend, please email me at leah.emms@ofa.on.ca

As it is grain harvest season, please give some consideration to the preparation of an emergency plan in case of fire or injury. Safety should always be job one.

Take care and be safe!



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Check out the ag directory on page 21

# Join us for the return of the **Sunderland Fall Fair!**

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Tuesday September 13th, 4:00 p.m. to dusk Wednesday September 14th, 10:00 a.m. to dusk



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Beer Tent & Entertainment 6pm Tuesday. Demolition Derby 7pm Wednesday.

www.agfair.ca · sunderlandfallfair@gmail.com Fair Theme for 2022: Butterflies - Spread your Wings

**Can't wait to see you there!** 



### Pontypool Grain Elevator has proud farming history

Story and photo by Cathy Hamill-Hill

Pontypool is a typical small place in the City of Kawartha Lakes- until one is around the corner on route to Highway 115 and it seems like one has been transported out to the Canadian Prairies. Standing alone, next to the train tracks is a 65 foot tall wood Grain Elevator, the only Prairie style grain elevator left in Ontario and one of 9 traditional wood Grain Elevators remaining in Canada.

The Pontypool Grain Elevator is here in fine condition because of the dedication of the Manvers Township Historical Society (MTHS) and support from the local and farm community along with the City of Kawartha Lakes. The old structure has been rescued- and it has a safe future.

History here begins in 1894. Lightning struck and a resulting fire in April 1918 took out the two original grain elevators that were built in 1894 in this location by the Canadian Pacific Railway (CPR) tracks. These grain elevators had to be replaced- fast, says Kathleen (Kathy) Morton, local historian, owner of Aunt Laura's tearoom near Bethany, retired teacher and longtime President of the MTHS.

"The farmers had to have a place to ship their grain from. The grain elevator had to be ready by harvest time," she says adding that the current Pontypool Grain Elevator was finished and ready for operation by early fall 1918. The Elevator was built by the Good Grain Company of Toronto. It was built to have five grain bins inside and an elevator to transport the grain to and from the bins. She says, "there are 500 bushel bins and there are five of them so 2,500 bushels can be stored. Grain would be sent out to rail cars along the back, it was set up that a (wooden) auger would fill up a rail car that would pull up."

In the early 1940's, Henry Neals took over the grain Elevator and set up a livestock feed business under the "Shurgain" banner. This business brought the first hydro to Pontypool as it was needed to operate machines and electric lights. The business had become a destination for farmers for many miles around as grain could be ground here into "chop" for livestock feed, grain was sold here and livestock feed purchased often causing line-ups of a quarter of a mile long waiting for service. A trip to "Neals" caused huge economic benefits to the area as other services and goods were purchased in this time away from the busy farm. Eventually the son, Bernard Neals took over the business.

Crops of wheat, oats and barley were taken to the Grain Elevator. The wagons would drive over the "Gurney" scales and farmers would be paid based on what those scales re-

ported. The original Gurney scales are still at the Grain Elevator today.

Pontypool is the first community past today's Greater Toronto Area. Decades ago, it was a welcoming summer destination for thousands of the Jewish community of Toronto. "The Jewish people came here to stay all summer. We welcomed them and they were so good for our area," says Kathy Morton adding, "the Jewish brought prosperity as they were very business minded. Sam Manatta brought the Christmas Tree business to the area, for example." Young Kathy, who grew up and still lives in the Bethany area remembers.

She explains the "sandy soil" of Pontypool was prime for growing Christmas trees. "We sold millions of them from here. They were shipped to Toronto from the CPR train that stopped at the Elevator."

The Bernard Neals business expanded and also sold furnace oil and coal to local residents. In 1945, the elevator was hit by lighting but this time it didn't burst into flames. Lightning rods were installed after as the elevator is the highest building in the area. The owner's illness forced the thriving business and accompanying Grain Elevator to close.

The important building that was the centre of the area sat empty and unused until the mid 1980's when someone leased it from CPR. The lease owner had plans for the building but those plans never came together. The only real occupants of the Elevator were a large flock of messy pigeons. Vandalism knocked out most of the windows. The old building was a mess of broken glass and mounds of pigeon droppings inside. The sight of one of the most important buildings in Pontypool history falling to such a disrespectful, sad state led the MTHS into action. Led by President Morton, it was found out that there was a road allowance issue involved with CPR. She approached the City of Kawartha Lakes and found support, the City would purchase the building and deal with the road allowance- and then lease the building back to MTHS.

The MTHS was active before and the Pontypool Grain Elevator restoration meant even more interest. The community was happy to see the old landmark being saved. Local master electrician of Pontypool, Wayne Hogan stepped up and volunteered to do all the electrical work- for free and he included all the materials needed as well. Young's Aggregates of Pontypool did all the excavating needed- for free. Morton says that "all the support we got was unbelievable. It made me cry as it meant so much." She explained Farm organizations stepped up too with donations to help restore the Grain Elevator.

Wendy Fallis, past Secretary and current Director of MTHS lives within watching distance of the Grain Elevator. She was one of the first that spotted the horrible act of vandalism that struck overnight after all the work was done to get the building back to good condition. "There was huge graffiti all over the Elevator on the outside. People soon gathered around shocked at such damage after all the work was done here. The City arranged to have the graffiti removed and we are grateful for that. We learned that graffiti is often done with a stencil and it can be done in minutes. We then had an outside light installed so we can watch it all the timeday and night."

The MTHS was the driving force to have the City designate the building as an historical site. This is an important achievement as the site is next door to busy train tracks. Today, two freight trains a day mostly hauling boxcars full of either corn for the ethanol plant in Havelock or product from the Mine in Madoc come by the tracks next to the old Grain Elevator. This railway line is included in the high frequency VIA Rail proposal for the Toronto to Quebec City corridor plan. This could include building dedicated passenger rail tracks so VIA would not be sharing with freight train traffic.

The huge spring storm that sliced through parts of southern Ontario and was confirmed to be a tornado caused the picture board to collapse outside however, no other damage was caused to the Pontypool Grain Elevator. Morton says that the people watching the Grain Elevator kept reporting back to her all through the storm. "We were so afraid for "our baby" but the storm spared it, thankfully."

The MTHS now has plans to do interior restoration work and make the Pontypool Grain Elevator known across the world, via a virtual tour, to showcase its place in farming history.



The Pontypool Grain Elevator stands tall and proud.



# **AgRobotics demonstration day at Holland Marsh**

Several people in the agriculture industry saw a Dino and a Goat in the fields near the Ontario Crops Research Centre near Bradford, recently. Although a Goat may not seem too odd to see in farming, this one was in a field of onions. The Dino was in a field of carrots. Each was allowed to run in the fields on their own as reporters and farmers recorded the events.

### Nexus' The Goat

To explain: The Goat is a robotic weeding machine designed in Halifax, Nova Scotia. The unit demonstrated in an onion field in the Marsh was a prototype. The unit is autonomous and moves up and down the rows on its own. Although electric, there is an on board diesel generator to recharge its batteries on the fly. Currently units are not for sale but can be rented.



GPS and cameras keep The Goat on track with four-wheel steering. It is constantly making small steering changes, sort of "crabbing" along as it makes its slow progress down the row. The Goat is designed to detect weeds and mechanically up-root them. Rather than training the robot to recognize all weeds, it is "told" what the crop looks like and instructed to pull



Above are the grabbers that pull weeds out by pinching them at the base of their stem.

Dino, from Naïo Technologies in France cultivating

up anything that isn't the crop.

Currently, as with other weeding robots, it drops the weed on the ground. Eventually, these units may facilitate taking the weeds out of the field entirely, as manual weeding generally does.

The mechanics of the weed grabbers is basic, but it is the technology to get them to recognize and pinpoint the weeds that has proven to be the hardest part. The Goat has three articulated weed pulling arms guided by an artificial intellgence crop identification feature in which RGB (colour) cameras and 3D imaging are used to distinguish crop and weed plants.

During the demonstration, some tweaking needed to be performed. A few weeds were missed and a few onions were damaged. To be fair, the unit is meant to be employed with the working area under it to be totally artificially lit. On this day, a side panel was taken off so the inner workings could be seen. Controlled lighting is critical to its function. Aprons hang from all sides to keep natural light out as much as possible without damaging the crop.

Different crops and soil types all require unique settings and that fine-tuning is still being worked out and the unit keeps getting more efficient. Crop size and weed size is not an issue.

#### Naïo's Dino

Another autonomous weeding machine was demonstrated in a field of carrots. This one, from France, was Naïo Technologies' Dino. This unit is completely electric powered. The Dino is on the market and is currently employed around the globe.

This unit navigates autonomously citing a 2 centimetre precision range. Dino has a guidance system that combines the information from RTK GPS (A Global Positioning Satellite receiver capable of Real Time Kinematics takes the signals from the Global Navigation Satellite Systems along with a correction stream to achieve up to 1 centimetre accuracy) and



Here we see the finger hoes doing their job on the Dino. A variety of tools allow for flexibility of use.

other sensors. Dino detects crop rows, adjusting its tools, enabling it to weed as close to the plants as possible. This unit can be ad-

justed to accommodate lettuce, onions, carrots, parsnips, cabbage, leeks, cauliflower, various herbs and more. Depending on conditions, Dino can operate from 8 to 10 hours between charging and can cultivate up to 10 acres a day. Multiple units may be programmed to work in tandem. In terms of tools and accessories, the ma-

chine can be equipped with inter-row ploughshares, spring harrows, comb harrows and specific shares for in-row weeding.

The future continues to be upon us.



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### Soul Sisters Celebrations Kindness and Service

Spirituality is where our souls find peace and is a personal experience that looks different for everyone. It is about having beliefs that stand for something greater in life than the physical realm and consumption of material things by connecting with something that is greater than ourselves. Sometimes it is related to a formalized religion and God of your understanding and for others it can be an experience external to organized religion such as connecting with nature, meditation, and people. All these experiences can present a variety of practices. After a conversation with an aunt, who is a role model for our discussion on kindness and service to others, it was decided this was a good topic to write about for this issue. The importance of helping others is a theme commonly found in religious doctrines and spiritual well being. It is because people experience peace when they serve others. It is often referred to as Service Spirituality. There are several ways that this can be grown, but the foundation or core of it from a spiritual perspective is serving with zero expectations in return. Helping someone for no other reason then helping them is a common way for people to get in touch with their spiritual selves. I am sure you have heard the saying, "It's better to give than to receive." Although the intention is to help others without expecting anything in return, we do gain something through being kind and helping other people. We gain joy and humility; it allows for growth and discovery in core values and strengthens our spiritual wellness.

Service changes people as it can give a finer perspective on life when we are looking outward and considering others needs ahead of our own. What is the relationship between service and spirituality? Service helps us establish our true values and our priorities by helping us realize the worth of the things that are not material. The things that really matter at the end of our life; friendship, community, making a difference, our legacy. It helps us forget our self and find a bigger purpose. Kindness and service helps us get to know people and the humbling realization that everyone can have circumstances that requires help sometimes. It is a blessing for us to be able to help others and witness others helping. When we are blessed by the Universe that we can practice the spiritual discipline of helping others and show kindness, this shows strength and gratitude. Service is the primary way of showing gratitude for everything that we have. When we fill ourselves up with gratitude our realization of how lucky we are can overflow.

We see the efforts put forth in our school systems because of the linkage between service and social justice to engage students in their community service experiences to help grow morally and spiritually in settings that they may not be accustomed to. Helping others through a lens of compassion and love with the desire to be of service to others can offer hope, empowerment, and support for our journey. Good deeds are contagious. When you spread kindness and joy, it continues to be spread. How can you help be a blessing to someone else? Helping another's light shine bright can be a simple gesture that can change someone's life path and journey. It is a beautiful thing when kindness is shown to others.

In Gratitude, The Soul Sisters Reverend Erin Wilson and Reverend Kelly Blakely Soulsisterscelebrations@gmail.com



### EastGen Challenge Markham

Story and photos by Dr. Tim Henshaw

Almost 100 young people from across central Ontario came together for the East-Gen Challenge Markham, a two day education and skill building event. Day 1 was dedicated to preparation and education. The education session featured a showmanship clinic lead by Holstein Canada official judge Steph Warner of Hastings, Ontario. EastGen Regional Sales Representative Allison



Shown in the above photo is the team from South Simcoe.



Pictured above is Emi Lange of Utopia with her calf, Quality Sidekick Lilypad. Reserve Champion Overall, Champion Showperson and Reserve Champion Conformation.

Spence of Elmvale talked about the "whys" of conformation, highlighting traits for production, reproduction and longevity. Day 2 was show day. Local competitor Emi Lange of Utopia was Grand Champion in Showmanship and also showed the Reserve Champion calf, Quality Sidekick Lilypad. Emi Lange was also reserve overall champion of the show. Congratulations to all competitors.



In the photo above is the team from North Simcoe.



Shown above is the team from York Region.

Agricultural Anecdotes from Farmer Tim will return next month.



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### Meet the Farmer: Bradbury Small Family Farm

Story and photo submitted by Sharlene Dinsmore as told by Jeanette Bradbury

We, the Bradbury Family, started a small hobby farm at 4043 2nd Line Cookstown ON, producing humanely raised, high quality food for our table in 2009. We also wanted to teach our young children about the farming lifestyle that we grew up in. (Tom is from Oro where he grew up in the farming community learning everything he knows about traditional family farming

and hard work.)

Our farm focuses on traditional farming like my family did in the past - small, family run and diverse. All of our animals are humanely raised in small groups on a bed of straw, in secure locations with room to roam, sunlight and fresh air all while being provided the best quality feed available. Our children are a huge part of the daily farming activities with each having their animals to tend to daily. In 2017 our son Earl started raising his own small flock of sheep and has been

speak to the high quality and results this feed provides. Tom has over 15 years of experience in the feed industry so transitioning into a small business seemed like an easy and logical move.

Growing a small family business in the middle of a pandemic was not our original plan and while life threw us a

Our young and growing family moved to Cookstown in

June of 2006 after my (Jeanette's) Grandmother Murial Cor-

rigan passed away. We were grateful to have the opportunity

to purchase a piece of our family history that has been in my

family since the early 1940's. My Great Grandparents (John

& Hattie Corrigan) moved to Cookstown in 1919 to the farm

right next door to where we live today. I grew up on the original farm that was run by my family for 3 generations.

We are happy to be back home raising a family on this beau-

curveball, opportunities lined up for Tom to move in the direction he has spent so much of his life working in. Covid has had challenges, its however, but it put the focus on small business, local and farm raised food. It provided us with the opportunity to connect with people we may not have connected with otherwise while building relationships with so many people over the past few years.

tiful property in a community that is still small with lots of family history. In 1940 my Grandfather Herman Corrigan married Murial (Reed of Essa) and took over the original family farm. Within a few years they purchased the 50 acres where our home now stands. Our house was built in 1971 as their retirement home and was severed into a smaller property in 2002. Today we make the most of the space and buildings we have access to, as we make things work for our growing family venture.

Our success to date is due to fabulous neighbours, friends, family and our supportive community. They are also the ones that will have the biggest impact on our continued success and growth as we move forward into the future. Today we are working on expanding our meat production while increasing our customer base for Birdseed and Feed. Word of mouth and social media has played a huge role as we have increased our customer base over this past year. The best part about a small family business is the people we meet. Today we are lucky to call so many customers friends. We are excited for the future and are open to all opportunities our small farm business might provide for us moving forward.

Bradbury Small Family Farm Inc. is 100% family owned & operated and supplies the following items to you at our farm.

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- Birdseed several varieties & blends
- Hand crafted bird feeders
- Hand Crafted Bird Feeders
- Jones Feed Mill Ltd.
- Livestock Feeds
- Minerals
- Salt
- Local Honey & local maple syrup

Follow this business on their Facebook page - Bradburysmall family farm – or call them at 705-816-5610.



Shown above from left to right are Tom, Earl, Jeanette, and Elizabeth.

growing his flock every year since. A few years later our daughter Elizabeth started caring for a flock of hens. They are learning responsibility, animal welfare, and how hard work has rewards that are both large & small. This lifestyle provides lessons that will last them a lifetime.

January 2021 we expanded into Bradbury Small Family Farm Inc. introducing high quality Bird Seed and Livestock Feed. We also became a proud dealer for Jones Feed Mill Ltd. because we use this feed right here on our farm and can



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### Gamble's Inn

When Nathaniel Gamble opened a roadside hotel that bore his name, he wrote himself into the history books. Gambles Inn was the first hotel in modern-day Newmarket, and one of the first anywhere north of Toronto.

Nathaniel Gamble was born in 1756 to a staunchly religious Quaker family. He was still a bachelor 46 years later when he came to Upper Canada with other Quaker migrants in 1802 under the leadership of Timothy Rogers. The winter of 1802 saw these land hungry individuals, Gamble among them, heading north from Toronto by foot, trudging through "the foulest weather imaginable" to reach their new homes.

Gamble settled along

the west side of Yonge Street and on the south side of what would later be called Mulock Drive. This was the core of the village of Armitage, the first community in King Township and today fully

engulfed by the city of Newmarket. Here he established a farm, built a hotel called Gamble's Inn, married Susannah Mercer in 1803, and raised eight children. Life was good.

Gamble's Inn was a two-storey, planksiding building with perhaps half a dozen rooms and a large barroom. It was the only licensed hotel in King Township between 1800 & 1811, and therefore lacking competition of any kind became an extremely popular watering hole. Weary travelers heading north to the Lake Simcoe port of Holland Landing would often stop here, and it was a frequent stop for stagecoaches once they began to appear in the late 1820s. It's also rumored that Sir John Franklin, the great but ill-fated Arctic explorer, may have sought respite here on the initial stages of one of his journeys of discovery.

Gamble's Inn was also the social heart of the village of Armitage, and indeed of King Township as a whole. The first public meeting of the Township of King was held at the hotel on March 6, 1809. They would continue to be held here exclusively until 1839. It was also the location for the first Masonic Lodge meeting north of Toronto, held in 1817.

Gamble's Inn is perhaps best known for a dramatic episode that played out here during the 1837 Rebellion.

Revolutionary William Lyon Mackenzie had expected to ride down Yonge Street like a conquering hero, leading his army of farmers and craftsmen to victory. Instead, after the disastrous Battle of Montgomery's Tavern, he found himself a fugitive on the run, spending nights hidden in dark attics or shivering in barns.

A few weeks after the rebellion had been crushed, Mackenzie took shelter on a particularly cold night with a family in the vil-

Village stories by Andrew Hind lage of Armitage. An observant neighbor had noticed the strange comings and goings and tipped off the loyalist militia, who converged on the farmhouse to apprehend the fugitive. Mackenzie's luck held, however. Alerted just

in time of the approaching soldiers, he raced from the home, vaulted atop a horse, and kicked the animal into a gallop. The militiamen opened fire and jumped onto their own horses to give chase, racing north along mudcaked Yonge Street

Mackenzie guided his horse directly towards Gambles Inn. Desperate to escape his pursuers, he rode right through the front door and into the barroom, scattering startled patrons and tables. Nathaniel Gamble, leaning upon the bar, could only watch in stunned silence as Mackenzie rode past at full speed, right through the building and out its rear door.

The desperate move had bought Mackenzie a few vital seconds, enough at least to make his escape into the nearby woods. In the coming weeks, he made his way towards the United States and temporary exile.

This piece of local lore is all that remains of Gamble's Inn. Like the village of Armitage, the hotel has long disappeared, subsumed by the Newmarket.



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### After The Chores: Missing My Dad Season

By Cathy Hamill-Hill



I miss my Dad so much at having season as memories sweep over me like clouds of chaff.

Haying season this year was the exact opposite of what haying was like with my Dad years ago. This year, Neighbour pulled in his big shiny John Deere duo of tractor and haybine and dropped the hay onto the ground in big windrows. The online weather network, that is just about 100% accurate to the hour here, reported no chance of rain for six straight days. Neighbour came by next with a machine and zipped the hay into huge fluffy rows for his big round baler that came in later. Sweetie fetched all the bales, one at a time, with his little Kubota and put them safe in our steel hay shed. My Dad so much would have liked to see this shed full of clean green hay this early in July.

Haying with Dad lasted all summer. The weather forecast faithfully followed was Dave Devall on Channel 9 tv, based out of Toronto. The forecast for our family farm was wrong 9 times out of 10. We were always shocked when it rained when it should not have. Weatherman Dave believed so strongly in all his forecasts that we believed in them too.

My Dad watched the western sky constantly all hay summer. The west was where the rain came from. Even a few puffy clouds got him nervous. Hay was serious businessthere were no "we will just buy it this year" options. The hay fed the beef cattle herd and that beef cattle herd was the main income generator for all five of us.

The worst part of haying season was when the equipment failed. There are few things worse then the "baler that won't tie" in a wet year. It was really amazing how the baler could scoop up the raked hay, gobble it up and then spit it out in uniform small square bales tied tightly with bright new baler twine. But it's not one bit amazing when the baler spits out the bales that are NOT tied. Dad often could manually tie the bale in the baler- but if he missed seeing it, then the bale would spill itself all over the baler causing a "chaff" hay cloud. Chaff is tiny bits of hay and it sticks like Velcro on skin. Handling part of one untied bale sent chaff into one's eyes and nose and all over exposed skin- mix it with sweat and it feels like an itchy prickly blanket.

One year the baler would not tie all the time. Now, there is a local mechanic guy named Brian that is a baler genius, basically if you can break a small baler, Brian can fix it. He does field calls and often rides out to them on his motorcycle. He is responsible for a lot of old balers still in operation around here and farmers that are not covered in chaff but instead are smiling in hay season. "Baler Brian" as he's known was sure needed that no-tie year. My Dad's moody baler would be "fixed" for ten or so bales then it would not tie for the next six bales- and then it would tie again. It took forever until it was finally fully fixed and what a year that was for my Dad. The only way to effectively deal with an untied bale was to re-feed it into the baler and get it tied right. This meant stopping the baler, and my Dad jumping off the wagon and then hauling the loose bale back to the baler in clouds of chaff. The baler didn't like to repeat its work as the hay was bundled close so it sort of gagged and thumped in protest.

When the western sky got dark, we knew exactly what was coming next- rain. Wet hay meant mouldy hay which was dangerous to feed the cattle so getting in the hay dry was critical. My Dad was a small guy, 5'9 and he was a slim build all his life despite the fact he thought chocolate was a main food group. He was a dedicated farmer and storm clouds pushed him into a whole new level of strength. His hay loads could have up to three more rows way above him to "finish up the field." It was faster to just keep going with the same wagon. He would toss the bales up way over his head and somehow they mostly stayed put. Finally, the last bale was on- and then he was off with the wagon in a running jump to pull the pin to get me unhitched and moved out of the way. He was off racing across the field to get the Massy Harris tractor to get the load to the barn. By the time, he was back with the Massey I had the hay wagon's "tongue" as we

called the hitch in my hands and my Dad backed up the Massey to hook up. I would drop in the pin and hop on to the Massey beside Dad without a second lost.

Now, in the barn, the rain just poured down on this day that weatherman Dave had promised would be all sunshine. My brothers, our Dad and I stood in the barn doors watching outside as the rain poured down in straight pounding torrents. This heavy rain would have destroyed the hay. Flashes of lightning and crashes of thunder made the lashing rain against the steel roof even louder. The field was now finished and the hay was all here in the barn, safe and dry. My Dad's happiness radiated from him and we all shared in his feeling of accomplishment.

I sure miss you, Dad.



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### It's a wrap! South Simcoe 4-H Animal Club

#### Report and photo provided by Carla Westlake -Williams

The Animal Friends club has had a very successful 4-H year that wrapped up on Saturday, June 25. Our first meeting gave the 10 members a chance to get to know each other and talk about what their dream pet would be and why. We also elected Nathan as President, Emily as Vice-President, Isys as Secretary and Gigi as News Recorder. We had a visit from the farrier, Duncan, during our second meeting on grooming and handling. He was very informative and was able to do hoof trimming on the two mini horses at Cattle Corner Farm. Flicka and Cricket were very patient as Duncan answered the many great questions that the members had. It was very obvious that Duncan had a real passion about his job. Our third meeting was centered around housing for our pets and practicing for the Judging Competition. Anna Lisa found a great DIY project for the kids since they all have a

cat; homemade cat houses made from hangers and t-shirts. Our fourth meeting welcomed Paige as our guest. She spoke about fostering dogs through Finding Them Homes. The members also set up an obstacle course for the mini horses and the 2 dogs to have fun with. For our Achievement Day, we were welcomed with open arms by the residents at Bradford Valley Care Community. We took the two mini horses, Tigger and Lucy (rabbits) and Tucker (dog) to go and visit the staff and residents. It was a beautiful day out in their courtyard and the members enjoyed showing and telling the residents all about their pets. Some members worked hard to create collages about their dream pets and those were on display for everyone to enjoy as well. Thank you to our 10 members who made this another great year for our club!



Pictured above are members of the South Simcoe 4-H Animal Club.



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### South Simcoe 4-H shares their recent activities

### South Simcoe County 4-H Judging Night

#### By Madeleine Cullen

The South Simcoe 4-H Judging Competition was held Friday June 10th at Harvdale Holsteins. The 4-H members judged classes of beef, dairy, sheep, lunches, lawn mowers, grain corn, hosta foliage and saddles. Reasons were given on four of those classes. Official placements and reasons were given after everyone had finished judging and giving their reasons. Yummy donuts and delicious cold milk was consumed by the members. Congratulations to all members who competed at this event. Lots of critical thinking and public speaking skills were used at this event. Thank you to Harvdale Holsteins, 4-H volunteers, leaders, livestock committee, parents and everyone who was involved in making this traditional 4-H County event happen.



Pictured above members pause for a photo during the South Simcoe 4-H Judging night. — Photo credit South Simcoe 4-H

### South Simcoe 4-H Farmers' Market Club

Report and photo provided by Tamara Fisher-Cullen

Farmer's Market Club is off to another great season of growing and learning. For our second meeting, we had a very interesting (and impromptu) meeting with Kari Madden, coowner along with husband Mike of Thorganic Farms on the 11th line of Essa. She shared with us how they prepare for the market including a tour of the trailers they take to two markets on Saturdays. As well, she gave us a tour of their store, and shared with us how their business has progressed from Farmer's Markets to a store front. Kari was very gracious to host us and to share her knowledge and passion with us.

For our third meeting, we met at the Creemore Farmer's market. The market was booming with activity with vendors selling all sorts of items from honey to pies, jewelry to samosas. Once we finished the pledge, members walked around in teams and spoke with each vendor to learn more about their entrepreneurial journey. Multiple vendors worked in other professions, but have quit their jobs to pursue their passions full-time. It was very interesting to get to know the people and the story of bringing their product to market. Once we finished our interviews, we discussed what we would need to bring for our market stand. Members are planning on bringing Azure blue eggs, raspberries, garden produce, and succulent planters to sell at the Creemore Farmer's Market on August 13th. We look forward to seeing you there! Don't forget to follow us on Instagram - @southsimcoe4h

### South Simcoe 4-H Crops Club

#### By Rachel Dykstra

The South Simcoe 4-H Crop Club has had two fun-filled meetings. On May 21, we had our first meeting at the Patton's farm. We scouted a winter wheat field and learned how to look for diseases. For the final project, we each had to pick a field and scout it throughout the duration of the club. We learned about Field View which is an app that allows us to track the progress of our field. The next meeting that occurred on June 21st was at Huron Tractor near Stayner. The

South Simcoe 4-H Sheep Club News Report

#### By Isabella Cullen

The third South Simcoe 4-H Sheep Club meeting was on June 20th at the Ontario Stockyards Inc located near Cookstown. Ab Carroll gave us a great tour of the facility with lots of terrific answers to our questions. Ab also let us learn how to become an auctioneer. Can you say "Betty Batta bought some butter, but she said this butter's bitter if I put it in my batter it will make the batter bitter. So she bought some better butter, better than the bitter butter put it in the batter and the batter tasted better?" If you can, you maybe would like to be on your way to auctioneer school. We had a great time sitting up in the ring taking turns auctioneering, beclub was able to get a tour of Huron Tractor and learn about the various machinery that they use, sell and repair. After the tour, we scouted a corn field and learned how to measure how many plants are in an acre. At the end of each meeting, we enjoyed snacks and talking to each other. It has been so interesting to learn new things at these meetings and I can't wait to see what is to come in the next meetings!!

ing a ring master and bidding. Ashley Ferraro gave us a tour of the office and how to balance the books. If you are great with numbers and a computer you might want to be on your way to accounting school. The meeting closed with donuts and pop three hours later. Special thanks to Ab Carroll and Ashley Ferraro for taking time out of their busy schedule and sharing their business with us. This was one of the best 4-H meetings I have been too. There was so much to learn about all the different careers that are involved with selling and buying animals in a safe and healthy facility.



Shown above are members from the South Simcoe 4-H Farmers' Market Club. Visit them at the Creemore Farmers' Market on August 13th.

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#### Sun, Shades and Shorthorns, the Canadian National **Junior Shorthorn Show** Story and photos by Dr. Tim Henshaw



Sun, Shades and Shorthorns, the Canadian National Junior Shorthorn Show was held at Collingwood Fair Grounds July 14-17. Over 70 enthusiastic young people came together from across the country to compete, learn and develop skills. The 4 day event including fitting com-

petition, quiz bowl, showmanship and conformation. A number of area young people participated and competed. Grand Champion in Showmanship was Blair McGlashan of Little Rebel Cattle Company in Udora.

Congratulations to the organizers and all the participants.





Pictured above is Grand Champion Showmanship winner Blair McGlashan of Udora, Ontario.

In the photo to the left are a number of local young people participating in the Canadian National Junior Show.

Also in the picture at far right is Kevin Moore, long time 4-H leader of the Orillia calf club. Kevin came to encourage the members of his club.

Why did the Secret Service surround the prime minister with dozens of cows? They were trying to beef up security.

What happens when a cow laughs? Milk comes out of its nose.



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**Quilting Corners Guild Celebrates Christmas in July** 

Story and photos provided by Senora Baldry



1 of the 28 quilts presented to Taylor for the residents of Simcoe Manor.







Christmas comes to Alliston each year when Quilting Corners Guild presents quilts to our four community partners: Quilts of Valour - Canada, Matthews House Hospice, Simcoe Manor and My Sister's Place. Since our last presentation in December 2021 our guild members have created and completed 104 Quilts of Comfort, 67 of these bright and beautiful quilts were presented last evening. The remaining quilts await distribution in the coming months.

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### Daylilies; the most versatile perennial in your garden

Story and photo by Cathy Hamill-Hill



Pictured above is Garry Patterson, a daylily expert with some of his creations from his garden.

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Daylilies are far different then the straggly orange lilies that grow in the ditch- and daylily expert, Garry M.G. Patterson explained as guest speaker at the June meeting at the Cannington Horticulture Club.

For 33 years, Patterson has been "gardening with daylilies" he told the crowd at the Cannington Baptist Church. He began gardening as a little boy of about 6 years old when he was handed a package of carrot seeds by his mother. The little boy decided to plant the seeds "under the porch so they would be safe." He grew up and entered the corporate world moving out to the Maritimes to "be a Hippy in Nova Scotia" on ten acres of land. In the late 1990's, Patterson came back to Ontario and was a founding member of the Ontario Daylily Society in 1997.

"The daylily is the most versatile perennial in your garden," he says adding that it is possible to have a daylily garden in bloom from May until November. He said his first daylily bloom this year was on May 24th.

Patterson is a daylily breeder meaning, in simplest terms, he knows how to create his own daylilies using plants from his own garden. Patterson's created daylilies are far different

then the wild varieties. He selects for the colours and the characteristics he personally likes. There are now 96,000 registered daylilies in the world, he says. Patterson adds that there are only three solid colours, blue, black and white that are not included in the registered daylilies, yet. The blooms come in several variations including the traditional classic along with others including trumpet, UFO (Spider), Double, Bearded, Giants Bagel and Mini. Some of the giant daylilies are 16.5 inches in diameter. Other options for daylilies is whether they bloom in the morning or late in the day or at night or if they have an extended bloom life.

Bloom variations are important to the gardener. "For people that work, they want to see the bloom early mornings before they leave for work. Many gardeners start their day with their coffee in the early mornings in the garden. Having their daylilies bloom late in the day is not what they want as they miss the blooms," Patterson explained. He said that daylilies will bloom for one day only and an average daylily will bloom when it is warm from the sun so getting a bloom to open at night to be open by early morning takes careful selection for that trait.

While the individual bloom only lasts 24 hours, the daylily plant may have a lot of blooms happening. The stalk on the daylily is called the "scape." One scape, according to this expert, can have 8 or 9 blooms. One daylily plant can have 30 scapes or more. Patterson had one plant have 46 scapes on it. "The daylily can be a bloom machine," he said.

The peak bloom of the average daylily is in July. An average daylily plant is about \$15.00 but daylily breeders like Patterson normally will pay \$180 for a specific variation and \$5,000 for one daylily seed has happened for specific genetics.

"Daylilies carry a lot of genetics, Colours can come out in wild patterns," he said adding that after 33 years working with the plant, he still gets lots of surprises as he continues with creating new versions.

He offered help for those that have daylilies that are not blooming. "Old clumps of daylilies have fewer blooms. Old clumps have to be "scared" back into working again. Dig around the clump and upset it....often next year it will be covered in bloom again," he said. Garry Patterson has offered his expertise for "Bee Like a Bee" Create a Daylily workshop



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for Youth. He will teach how to select parent plants and learn how to do the pollination, like a bee normally would. He will also show participants how to care for the daylily and how to harvest the seeds. Anyone interested in this, is asked to contact chsyouthprogram@gmail.com

### **College and University Students Fire Safety**

#### By Dennis Gannon

It may still be August and we are still thinking about summer fun but for those families who have someone attending college or university in the coming weeks, there is the need to find safe housing. For many, moving away from home will be a first time adventure. Searching for affordable safe housing can come with many challenges. Colleges and universities that offer student housing have working smoke alarms, fire safety plans and staff who monitor the students. Not everyone wants to live in a dorm and many seek their independence in shared accommodations or other housing facilities. When looking at options there are a number of fire safety items to consider. Are there working smoke alarms on every level and outside or inside the bedrooms? When were they last tested and how old are they? Who is responsible for the maintenance and where is the maintenance checklist? If the house or apartment has any solid fuel appliances such as a gas furnace, water heater, dryer or fireplace are there carbon monoxide detectors installed and maintained? Where are they located, outside bedroom areas? Safe exits to the outside are a must. Are they clear, have no unusual locking mechanisms and are there a minimum two ways out from each floor? Do all doors and windows open easily? If the living area is below grade, does the bedroom window meet the minimum size opening requirements? Electrical safety must not be overlooked. Are there enough outlets to power up the chargers, computers, tvs and other appliances? Extension cords and power bars should not be a primary source of electrical power and definitely must not be run under carpets. Has the building been inspected by the fire department for student housing and does it meet the requirements of the Fire Code? Ask to see a copy of the fire inspection report for yourself and note the date of the last inspection.

Once safe accommodations have been found it is important that the students consider the following basics to ensure that they live safely and enjoy their school year. Cooking is the number one cause of fires in Ontario. Watch what you cook and don't let alcohol interfere with your cooking. French fries are better coming from the oven than from an oil pot that may not be closely watched. While candles are popular, consider battery operated ones. Keep open flames to a minimum. Sometimes it may be necessary to add some auxiliary heating. If a space heater is required, keep it a minimum one metre away from anything that can burn such as bedding, furniture and curtains. Student life often includes partying as much as attending class. Minimize the number of people in attendance and watch for signs of inebriation or the overuse of recreational substances. If there are smokers in the group, have them smoke outside and don't use planters as ashtrays. The material in planters is highly combustible and a fire can spread quickly. Finally know where you are. It may seem simple enough but know the address of where you are and the municipality that it's in. When calling 9-1-1, the more details that can be provided to the call taker the quicker emergency help will get there. Have the What 3 Words app on your cell phone. Many emergency centre now use this app to locate people quickly.

Enjoy your search for accommodations and the great new challenges the students will have in the coming school year. For more information contact your local fire department or visit the Ontario Office of the Fire Marshal website.

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