

A newspaper with something for everyone October 2022 Volume 45 #10

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Fire Prevention Week: Fire won't wait, plan your escape

By Dennis Gannon

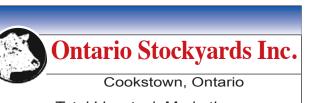
In October, starting on the 2nd Sunday, Fire Prevention Week is proclaimed across North America. Started 100 years ago by the National Fire Prevention Association in 1922, themes are created annually in hopes that families will take the time to discuss and practice fire prevention activities in advance of the longer nights and cooler weather.

The theme for the 2022 campaign is "Fire won't wait. Plan your escape."

Fire in homes today burn faster than ever. Should a fire break out you may have 2 minutes or less to safely escape from the time the smoke alarms sound. To ensure everyone gets out safely, working smoke alarms and a fire safety plan are needed by everyone.

Every home is different and therefore every home fire safety plan needs to be different. Families need to know 2 ways out of every room and to make certain that they have working smoke alarms on every level of their home and outside the sleeping areas. Doors and windows in those areas must be in good working order.

When designing a plan you must make certain that it meets the needs of all your family members including those with disabilities or sensory concerns. Every plan must have a meeting place that is a safe distance from the building where



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emergency service can be called. To assist emergency services when they need to respond to your home, have your address clearly visible. In many rural areas the municipal address is posted at the road. If it is obstructed in any way precious time can be lost so clear any long grass or tree branches away and make certain that it is upright and visible in both directions. Practicing your fire safety plan is the only way that everyone knows what to do in the event of an emergency. Practice it at least twice a year and at different times and with guests in your home as well.

Pets are also part of your family so include them in your safety plan. Place a warning sticker on your doors indicating that there is a pet inside. Free stickers are available for this purpose or check your local pet store. Keep a cell phone charged and handy and know your municipal address.

For more fire safety tips contact your local fire department. Many will be hosting events to promote fire safety during the month of October.

Worth a Chuckle... and life lessons

by Aunt Hazel

Thanksgiving humour...

"What did the turkey say to the turkey hunter on Thanksgiving Day?" "Quack, Quack!"

"Why did the farmer have to separate the chicken and the turkey?" "He sensed fowl play."

"What key has legs and can't open a door?" "A tur-key."

"Why did they let the turkey join the band?" "Because he had his own drumsticks."



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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.

October 7th & 8th: Elmvale Fall Fair

The annual Elmvale Fall Fair is an excellent opportunity to view the craft and agricultural entries for judging.

Thursday night, the event kicks off with a midway for the children, which lasts Thursday to Saturday.

Friday is packed with events sure to keep everyone entertained. The day starts with the school parade, where students from local schools march down the main street. Other events include animal shows, antique tractor pulls, and the ambassador program/variety night, to name a few.

Saturday is another full day of events! The Parade at noon and additional events such as the stock truck and tractor pull and the Pure Country Video Dance.

If you have never been to this extraordinary event, this is the year to do it. Once you visit the Elmvale Fall Fair, you will find yourself wanting to return year after year.

See the ad on page 6 for more details.

October 14th: News and Advertising Deadline

The advertising and news deadline for the **November** issue of Farm View is **Friday, October 14th.**

October 26th: SCFA Annual General Meeting

The Simcoe County Federation of Agriculture hosts the Annual General Meeting on **Wed. Oct. 26th at 7:30 pm.**

Please see the ad on page 17 for full details.

November 1st to Friday November 4th: Organics Recycling Conference

32nd Annual Organics Recycling Conference to be held virtually. **Tuesday November 1st to Friday November 4th, 2022.**

Plus in person Regional Workshops to follow throughout the month of November. See the website for more details www.compost.org



Check out the ag directory on page 21



Report, photograph by Don Beaulieu

Healthy soil workshop in Utopia

In mid-September a workshop was held in Utopia promoting and explaining how to achieve healthy soil.

Climate change and flooding are able to be mitigated by proper soil health, beyond better yields and use of fewer chemicals. Some new terms may have been introduced to the ears of the attendees, terms which will surely become more common in grower-speak. There was a lot of science involved. It was all science really, but it was explained and shown in a manner which made sense, by a variety of experts from various branches of research and practical examples.

A 46 acre field next to the Utopia Hall in Essa Township has been granted use as a teaching/learning field. This allowed a hands-on, literally in-the-field segment with participants performing a few soil tests, to further their grasp some of what had been discussed. This land has been made available by the Scott and Lynn Dobson family. This is now called the Utopia Farmland.

The morning started off with Susan Antler welcoming everyone. She introduced Essa Mayor Sandie McDonald who provided a history of Utopia, followed by Henry Sanders, councillor for ward 2 of Essa, who offered thanks to the sponsors and welcomed attendees.

Compost Council of Canada

Antler was a founding member of the Compost Council of Canada which was started about 31 years ago. In the beginning they were all about diverting materials from landfill sites. Soil health is what they concentrate on now. As she promoted recycling and blue box use, she asked us to "...fervently embrace composting as well as anaerobic digestion". She reminded us that when organics go into landfill, they emit methane gas.

Glen Munroe, manager of special projects with the CCA continued after Antler's introduction to the benefits of maintaining good soil health. His leaning was toward climate change. Graphs and charts were used including what may be the most controversial graphic in science, the "Hockey Stick" graph showing a spike in global temperature in recent

times. Many similar graphs show less of a spike, but a spike none-the-less. It also only goes back 1,000 years. Interglacial periods last about ten times that long.

Munroe promoted the attitude of "I need to make a profit. I need to manage production. I need to manage my carbon".

Many aspects were covered by Munroe, including adaptive multi-paddock grazing... smaller herds being moved around before they damage the ground cover. He explained the slake test for determining stability of soil aggregates in water. Benefits of fungus and how it grows was a major topic.

Interpreting soil test results

From A&L Laboratories Inc. of London, Ontario, Ian McLachlin, was next to address the group. His visual presentation was packed with data, backing up his talk. In short he showed how regular soil testing is simply a good agronomic business practice. The emphasis, as with all of the day's speakers was that good soil nutrition is important for consistent plant growth and high quality finished product. What confirmed that, was the background and ground-breaking science that was being disseminated by each presenter. Each building on the previous presentations.

Cycling and storing carbon in soil

One of the liveliest guest speakers was Christine Brown from the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs. Brown brought with her a few show-and-tell items which brought her points home for everyone. Brown explained how cover crops can help water get into the ground quickly and deeper, preventing surface run-off which does not get to the crops.

Root boxes (think of an ant-farm, but so we can see plant root dispersion in the soil) showed us how good soil health benefits the plants. The highlight for this obviously mature reporter was when Brown presented her soiled underwear. It's not as bad as it sounds. Several mens cotton briefs were buried in various soil types with varying populations of earthworms. After a time, they are dug up and examined. The

18 JULY 10 2001

Christine Brown, OMAFRA

deterioration of each brief gives us a good idea of the health of the soil... less brief, healthier soil.

Earthworms, microbes, carbon, nitrogen and so much more were discussed as well as greenhouse gas issues, including some clarification. On the topic of earthworms, she had a silicone mould of earthworm tunnels

Healthy soil, healthy water

Shannon Stephens from the Nottawasaga Conservation Authority was our final speaker of the day, before heading out to the Utopia Farm (next door to the hall).

She presented an enlightening history of tree planting in Simcoe County, tied to impending deserts being created by poor stewardship of the land. She also told us about programmes the NVCA has to offer farmers.

Some tools of the soil testing trade were shown and explained including a penetrometer and an infiltration ring.

One of the most profound bits Stephens cited may have been that "You're not going to solve a flood at the river level. Where you solve it is actually up in the headwaters & fields".



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GUEST EDITORIAL -

The Future of Ontario's Farmland

By Martin Straathof, Executive Director of the Ontario Farmland Trust

When I began my master's in Rural Planning and Development at the University of Guelph, I wanted to learn new ways to integrate community development and agricultural systems. My hope was to find a model of development that would reconnect people to Ontario's farmland, which provides our communities with nutritious food, stimulates local economies, and can be a key player in fighting climate change. I believed that this reconnection would ignite people's passion for local food production and raise awareness to the issue of farmland loss. In my new role as executive director with the Ontario Farmland Trust (OFT), my goal is to preserve agricultural land that is disappearing at an alarming rate.

The latest Census of Agriculture shows us that we are losing 116,478 acres of farmland annually, which is nearly 320 acres every day. That's nearly double the rate of loss since the 2016 census. Whether the land is being lost to aggregate operations or urban development, this rate of loss is unsustainable.

In the 1980s, Ontario had over 15 million acres of farmland. Today, Ontario is currently farming 11.7 million acres, and at the current rate of farmland loss, we may only have 100 years before it's all gone. Knowing that, perhaps our conversations should refer to farmland as an endangered resource in this province. It is also important to keep in mind that southern Ontario contains half of all prime agricultural land in the whole of Canada. We urgently need to find solutions to protect this critical resource.

The Greenbelt Plan is one effective tool for farmland protection. It was created in 2005 and remains one of the world's largest Greenbelts, where agriculture is the predominant land use with it being home to approximately 750,000 acres of farmland. Since its creation, only a few hundred acres of prime agricultural land have been converted to other uses, making the Greenbelt highly effective in protecting farmland.

Another tool that my organization uses is the Conservation Land Act. It enables the OFT to use Farmland Conservation Easement Agreements to protect individual farms. Using these easements, OFT has protected 20 farm properties and over 2,300 acres of farmland across southern and central Ontario.

A conservation easement is a legal agreement between a landowner and a conservation body. The easement is registered with the title of the land and, therefore, remains in effect even when the property is sold. The agreement may include restrictions and allowances designed to protect both the agricultural and natural lands on a property perpetuity, giving landowners the assurance that their land will never be developed. Easements have allowed us to protect farms like the Brechin Brae Farm in Simcoe County. This 98acre property has rich, fertile soil producing various row crops, beef cattle, and hav. It is also home to multiple species at risk and is a wildlife corridor that is used by bears, deer, coyotes, and even moose. The landowners are dedicated stewards to the natural spaces and actively engage in restoration activities, such as tree planting on their property.

Witnessing the dedication of landowners pursuing farmland conservation gives us hope that we can protect farmland for today's and future generations. To be successful, we must continue using a variety of tools. Strong land use planning policies that limit urban boundary expansion and protect farmland and natural habitat like the Greenbelt should be expanded, and other tools like Farmland Easement Agreements should be used in tandem to support these poli-

If one thing is for sure – it is that we can no longer maintain the status quo or we risk losing our communities' resilience, food supply and rural cultures.

On the cover are Trenton and Harry Watkins of Anten Mills. They enjoyed many of the rides at the recent Barrie Fair including the 'Freak out.' -Photo credit: John Beischer

South Simcoe Loaves & Fishes Growing Project 25th Anniversary Harvest Dinner

By Dr. Peter VanderZaag

It was a great evening to see everyone who attended the Harvest dinner on Sept. 17th and to share stories of the past 25 years as well. Truly the Loaves and Fishes Growing Project has lived up to its name!! Around \$3,000,000 raised here in South Simcoe by many people working together and multiplying small amounts of inputs into excellent crops that have gone far and wide to feed people in need around our globe.

God has blessed us as a group and may that continue as we seek to bless those who are in need. As Musu Taylor-Lewis of the Canadian Foodgrains Bank, CFGB, indicated, today the world produces enough food for everyone. The problem is affordability and getting the food to those in need.

To think that since 1960 the world population has tripled from 3 Billion to now almost 9 Billion and we are now producing more than enough food for everyone in contrast to what was the situation in the 1960s. Science and farmers are making that difference!!



Pictured above from left to right are Kevin Eisses, Loaves & Fishes Chair, Dr. Peter Vanderzaag, former Loaves & Fishes Chair and Musu Taylor-Lewis, CFGB Director, Resources - Photo by Roslyn Watkins

Pulling Team Larry and Toby patiently wait their turn at the 172nd Orillia Fair

The grandstand packed at the 172nd Orillia Fair for the Horse Pull. At right are horse pulling team Larry and Toby waiting their turn. Beside the horses is Ed Cleaveley who has retired from horse pulling however, he was on hand to help at the event. More coverage of local Farm Shows and Fairs on pages 10-15. Story and photo by Cathy Hamill-Hill



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

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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

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October 7th & 8th, 2022

Kick off Thanksgiving Weekend

The 160th celebration of the Elmvale Fall Fair is happening at the Elmvale Community Arena, 14 George Street.

Enjoy the perfect weekend with fun for the entire familty!

Parades

Farm Animals

Homecraft

Truck and Tractor Pull

Heavy Horse Show

Midway

Baked Goods

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Admission:

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Soul Sisters Celebrations Spiritual Energy

We all have a little spot in the universe and how we view it can impact our day to day. Spiritual vibrations are a way of how we view everything as connected. It is a concept that everything in the universe is energy that vibrates. Us along with everything around us is vibrating at different frequencies. This includes people, pets and material possessions. Have you heard someone refer to raising their vibration or feeling good vibes? These are statements aligned with spiritual vibration theory. We can't control other peoples' actions, but we can control how we respond to them.

When referring to this energy in spiritual vibrations, it is said these frequencies range from low to high. Low vibrations are heavy and generated by what we would consider negative emotions. These weigh us down. Higher vibrations that are light and lift us are produced through positive emotions and reactions. It is thought that higher frequencies have more power than low, which means we all have an opportunity to raise our vibration. There are many suggestions about how to do this through gratitude, spending time in nature, play and have fun, remove yourself from negative people, use positive language and by practising mindfulness on how you react and respond to things internally and externally. This practise and mindset isn't easy, but it is achievable. How we interact with all the experiences and energy around us impacts our spiritual vibration. When aiming for a high frequency, not giving power to the negative energy is part of a spiritual journey.

Below is a story called the **Law of the Garbage Truck** by David J. Pollay that helps reinforce this idea.

One day I hopped in a taxi and we took off for the airport. We were driving in the right lane when suddenly a black car jumped out of a parking space right in front of us. My taxi driver slammed on his brakes, skidded, and missed the other car by just inches! The driver of the other car whipped his head around and started yelling at us. My taxi driver just smiled and waved at the guy. And I mean, he was really friendly. So I asked, "Why did you just do that? This guy almost ruined your car and sent us to the hospital!" This is when my taxi driver taught me what I now call; "The Law of the Garbage Truck." He explained that many people are like garbage trucks. They run around full of garbage, full of frustration, full of anger, and full of disappointment. As their garbage piles up, they need a place to dump it and sometimes they'll dump it on you. Don't take it personally. Just smile, wave, wish them well, and move on. Don't take their garbage and spread it to other people at work, at home, or on the streets. How you treat people is a reflection on you, no one else. Treat everyone with the respect you would like to see from them, and you will be a better person for it. The bottom line is that successful people do not let garbage trucks take over their day. Life's too short to wake up in the morning with regrets, so ...

Love the people who treat you right.

Pray for the ones who don't.

Life is ten percent what you make it and ninety percent how you take it! Be kind to yourself and don't take on other's people garbage.

Wishing you all a wonderful Thanksgiving with positive vibes.

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





Since 1982

Ontario Meat Goat Symposium: Feeding goats in high feed price times

Story by Cathy Hamill-Hill

Dale Darroch, Jones Feed Mills Ltd. Ruminant Sales Consultant led a discussion at the Ontario Meat Goat Symposium held at the Lindsay Fairgrounds recently about a timely topic, Feeding Goats in High Feed Price times.

All grain prices now are high. Darroch explained why the prices are so high, firstly in the global picture. He said that the "current situation with Russia and Ukraine is very tragic and it is hard to predict their future export ability." Now with the pandemic lessening, people are back to travelling pushing up the cost of corn. Corn is used for ethanol production which is an important segment of fuel. The increased fuel costs also influence the cost of freighting grains. "The freight for boats and trains are both up considerably and it does not matter what they haul," he said adding that the cost of moving that grain all adds to the purchase price paid by the farmer. In the provincial picture, Ontario has had some serious droughts this yearand so has the US especially in Texas. According to Darroch, Texan farmers, after wheat harvest, had low or in some cases, no crop yields at all. Western Ontario's "breadbasket" has been slammed with drought damaging yields in soybeans, grain corn and corn silage. The one bright light is the local wheat harvest. He said it, "has been extremely good with record crops and quality.'

The fact is grain prices are going to be high for this year. There are ways to make the best use of the grain dollar spent. One way, according to this expert, is to "not over-

feed grain to does" and "feeding the appropriate amounts at the right stages of production." This means not feeding open does that are not feeding kids like bred does. Another way is to plan kidding dates around higher markets looking carefully at it. Goat prices have huge price swings with top markets for specific ethnic holidays and Christmas. Culling is essential and must be done carefully, Darroch stresses, "Only feed the does that are paying the bills." A side market, he says, can be selling breeding stock choosing from the replacement stock kept. The herd performance needs to be assessed including number of kids per doe and the number of kids getting to market.

A big ticket item today is milk replacer. "Milk replacer quality is an especially important aspect to look at," Darroch said adding, "price may not mean performance, look at the research. He added that kids do not need to be on milk replacer for a long time. "Are you weaning based on age or size? Weaning at 25 pounds is a good stage (size)." Forage tests are a "no-brainer with high feed costs" because testing of forages gives the farmer an idea where the herd is, nutritionally," he said. He added another level that can be used is "work with a nutritionist" that knows goats. He said there are products out there that can be added to feed such as thiamine to aid in polio prevention and garlic in minerals for fly control.



The Model Cow Competition

Story and photos by Dr. Tim Henshaw

One of the goals of the Simcoe County Holstein Club is to promote the Holstein breed and to provide educational opportunities for young people to learn modern practices of animal husbandry and care, marketing, and exhibition skills. In 1986, the club decided to have an in-county education and

competition program. At one time, the competition was reserved for older 4-H members but now is open to all 4-H members with Holstein calves. At the onset, the competition was to encourage young people to exhibit their 4-H projects at the County Show. Model

Cow Competition consists of 4 sections over 2 days. A committee of club directors plan and run the event.

Day one is education day. Participants judge a class of cows and then give oral reasons on their placings. They would also have a educational speaker. This year, Brian Llewellyn of Grand Valley Fortifiers gave a talk on Bovine Nutrition. Next, they write a quiz based on the 4-H manual, general livestock knowledge and current dairy industry

events.

On Day two, 4-H members compete in a showmanship competition. Showmanship is the art of presenting an animal to maximize the animal strengths and minimize any conformation weaknesses of the animal. Weeks and months of training are put into this skill.

During the County Show, 4-H members show their project calves in their respective classes.

In each of the 4 categories, participants receive a score out of 250 points. 250 for judging and reasons, 250 for quiz, 250 for showmanship and 250 for conformation. There are 4 divisions in the competition based on the age of the par-



The division winners left to right are Brian Llewellyn, educational speaker, Don McLean presenting trophy, Emily Vaughan, top Novice, Megan Ford, top Senior, overall Grand Champion and winner of the Model Cow, Larissa Walker, top Junior and Connor Walker, top Intermediate.

ticipants.

This year's winners are: Novice: Emily Vaughan Junior: Larissa Walker Intermediate: Connor Walker Senior: Megan Ford

Megan Ford was the overall champion and received a True Type Model Cow and the Donald and Connie McLean trophy which has been awarded annually since 1988. Congratulations everyone!!

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Agriculture Matters – A Guide for Municipal Councillors & Staff



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

Our municipal elections are approaching quickly, October 24th will be here before we know it. Candidates are hard at work canvassing, attending debates, and other meetings to introduce themselves to their potential constituents. If you have the time, be sure to speak with them and share your thoughts on your community and agriculture.

The real work begins when the election is over, and the winners declared. OFA encourages our members to introduce yourself to

your councillor and offer to be a resource for them when agricultural issues arise.

Your County Federations are actively building and maintaining relationships with councils and staff, but they also need the support of local OFA members to bring concerns and issues forward. We appreciate that not everyone is interested in local politics, but local politics affects all of us in one way or another. Browsing the council agenda can be revealing. If you see an item that needs input from the agricultural sector. Contact your councillor to provide them with your perspective. Your local County Federation or I are available to help too. We are fortunate to have access to the OFA Farm Policy Research team to assist us with the analysis of municipal and provincial policy.

OFA recently updated and refreshed a fantastic resource we developed called Agriculture Matters – A Guide for Municipal Councillors & Staff. It is a forty-page document that highlights issues and concerns that impact the agricultural community. We have all had instances where a by-law or policy has inadvertently had a negative affect on our farming operations. This handy resource guide explains why each issue listed matters to farmers. It also provides links to resources from OFA, OMAFRA and other sources to assist them in the decision-making process.

OFA was pleased to attend the Association of Municipalities of Ontario Conference in mid August hosted by the City of Ottawa. At the tradeshow booth, OFA staff and board members greeted municipal Mayors, Councillors, and staff.

We provided a one-page information resource with statistics on agriculture in Ontario and its economic impact in the province. This handout also had a handy QR code linking the reader easily to our Agriculture Matters Guide.

This resource is available on our website under the Resources tab along with our recent submission on the Federal Fertilizer Emissions Reduction Target and a Frequently Asked Questions factsheet.

As farmers are an increasingly smaller segment of the population, we all need to continually try to build connections with our local council representatives. Municipal elections are an opportunity to inform potential council members of our unique issues and concerns.

October 3rd-9th is Ontario Agricultural Week. Do not forget to celebrate you! Loud and Proud. Farms & Food Forever!

Wishing everyone a bountiful, safe harvest and Happy Thanksgiving.

Spectral South Simcoe Theatre



by Andrew Hind

Community spirit – in every sense of the word - takes center stage at South Simcoe Theatre in Cookstown. Generations of cast and crew have been putting on performances since

1966, in the process not only delighting lovers of live theatre but also creating new generations of theatre patrons.

Do some cast and crew feel so strongly about the arts that they are drawn to the theatre even after death? Do spirits try to carry out a semblance of their former lives, even though their memories are fragmentary and their forms are insubstantial? It's one possible explanation for the countless eerie accounts that have emerged from the historic building over the years.

The South Simcoe Theatre began with the passion of Joan Mc-Graw, who arrived from Ireland in the early 1960s with a love of live theatre and a dream of creating a community theatre here. McGraw attracted other like-minded individuals and by the autumn of 1966 the South Simcoe Theatre had been formed. It was-and remains today-a non-profit com-

munity-based theatre dedicated to staging professional-quality productions. From the very beginning, the all-volunteer cast and crew have been motivated by a love of theatre and the joys that it brings.

Originally, the theatre staged shows out of Banting Memorial High School in Alliston, but in September of 1983 the theatre moved to the Cookstown Town Hall, which the Township of Innisfil agreed to rent out for a very modest amount to support the arts.

"I love this old building. It's a great venue and it has tons of character and history," said Kathy Simpson, a one-time president of the South Simcoe Theatre who I chatted with in

the building has been used as a Temperance Hall, Presbyterian Church, a meeting hall for the Lodge of Good Templars, and, after 1905, the Town Hall.

"You can feel a sense of history in the building," Simpson

Many also claim to sense more than merely the weight of the ages, but rather spirits of those who have come before them. Actors and stagehands have had their spines shivered after seeing orbs flittered through darkened areas or witnessed all manner of poltergeist activity. Strange sounds, ranging from disembodied voices to phantom footsteps thudding up and down the stairs, have frequently been heard. During an paranormal investigation, a tape recorder picked up the distinct sound of a piano being played, yet there was no piano in the building.

Once, during a performance, an actress forgot her line.

Masking a rising well of panic, she stumbled for her words for a second or two. Then, the missing line was whispered in her ear, and she was able to carry one without anyone being the wiser. Moments after the recovery, the actress glanced over her shoulder to see who had saved her and was stunned to find no one standing there. She was left to conclude that the resident spirit had come

to her rescue. The resident spirit is generally benevolent, but Kathy remembers one time when it was clearly upset and acted out in a series of spectral tantrums. At the time, the theatre was showing a comedy called Lucky Stiff, which centered around a deceased man. The spirit apparently took offense and showed displeasure by turning lights on and off, slamming doors, knocking objects off tables, making loud noises, and playing with the settings on the lighting and sound board at

Some people have been startled by the sudden appearance of a spectral woman gliding across the stage or prowling backstage. Who she is one can only guess.

inconvenient moments.

"Strange activity is commonplace," says Simpson. "It's



Agricultural Anecdotes from Farmer Tim



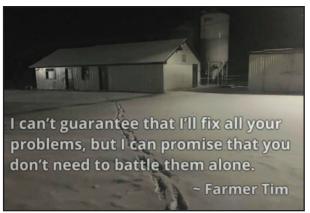
- "It could always be worse."
- "Snap out of it."
- "Cheer up."
- "Pull yourself together."
- "It's all in your head."
- "You are bringing everyone else down."
- "This too shall pass."
- "Get over it."
- "It's all about you."
- "Think positive."
- "I know how you feel."
- "You don't look depressed."

Unless you are depressed or have known depression you have no idea how phrases like these can hurt even if they are well intended.

Eight years ago, I found myself in a dark place surrounded by family and friends yet very alone. Extreme fatigue, pain, digestive issues, anxiety and worry were slowly taking me over. Visits to the doctor found nothing. I googled my symptoms and found a whole host of things that could be wrong with me, making me more anxious. I didn't want to get out of bed to do chores but I had to there was no one else. My family suffered because I did. There was no more playing in the snow with the kids or date nights with my wife. Sleeping pills were my friend. They took me away from reality until I forced myself to wake up and care for my animals. I came to accept that I must be deeply depressed and fought hard to overcome it. Visits to a therapist surprisingly concluded that I was only mildly depressed and she believed that my fatigue and aches and pains were not "all in my head." My doctor ordered a sleep test that resulted in a diagnosis of moderate/severe sleep apnea. My body and mind had been starved of oxygen and those sleeping pills were making it worse. Those pills almost took me. I thought I was going to die and felt there was no hope. I didn't want to live my life feeling like I did. Thankfully a couple of weeks of CPAP therapy for my sleep apnea brought me back to the light but I admit that some days are still a struggle. At least I know that it's usually because I had a bad sleep. Sleep is everything.

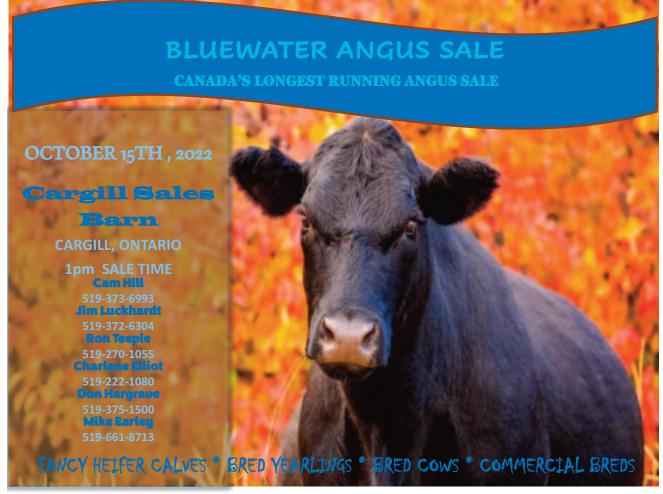
For a while, I had a glimpse into the life of people with chronic pain and depression. You can't just snap out of it even if you want to. You look like the same person on the outside but inside you are someone else.

Every time I share my story or the story of someone else, I get overwhelmed by messages from people sharing their own stories with me. I'm here to listen but it's not me with whom you need to share those stories. It's the people out there who want to know that they are not alone. They need to know that they can be helped. There is a huge stigma surrounding mental health. The only way that we can change it is by talking about it and listening. If you have a story about your struggles or if you need help, please be brave and reach out. Maybe we can help each other.



Farmer Tim farms in Southern Ontario and has been sharing his stories through social media for many years.

Tim is quoted saying "All farmers need to get their stories out there and have fun while they do it!"



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The history of the Plowing Match

Story and photos by Dr. Tim Henshaw

The Plowing match was first held in 1913 in York County. One of the goals of the plowing match is to advance the interest of agriculture by emphasizing the importance of proper cultivation and to encourage modern soil and water con-servation practices. The provincial event, the IPM, International Plowing Match and Rural Expo has been held in Simcoe County 6 times, the most recent being 2014. Local Plowmen and women qualify for the IPM

through local events.
The 2022 Simcoe County
Plowing Match was held Saturday, August 20 at the farm of Bart Claasse on the 6th concession of Flos, Springwater township. Many aspects go into the judging

of plowing including straightness of furrow, cut and uniformity and burying of grass and stubble. I particularly enjoyed the antique tractor classes and the horse and mule classes. It was an opportunity to connect with many area farmers.

Keith Robinson of Cookstown was in the competition. He has been Ontario Champion Plowman 5 times and represented Canada at the World Plowing Championship in Norway in 1993. This year, Keith competed with 3 of his sons and a grandson.

The International Plowing Match and Rural Expo was held in Eastern Ontario in the Kemptville area from September 20-24.





Photographed above are a team of Belgian horses with plow in the Horse and Mule division.



Ivy Orange Lodge presents Annual Family Day

Story and photo by John Beischer

Last month the Ivy Orange Lodge presented their annual Family Day and visitors came from both the local hamlet and many communities throughout County. The festivities began at 9 am at the Orange Hall and nearby Victoria Park.

The two local Churches operated both a garage sale and a bake sale as a fundraiser. There was an antique car and farm machinery display that was enjoyed by young and old alike. The Essa fire department was on hand to demonstrate equipment and teach safety to the children who came to see and



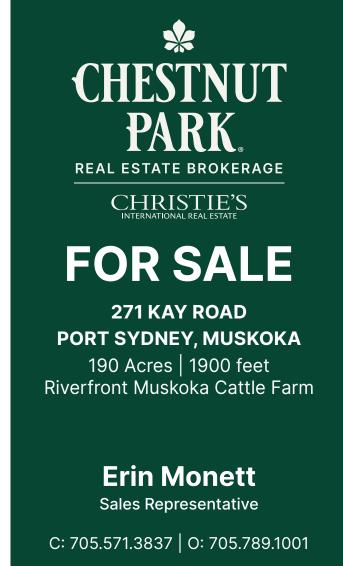
David Walsh [pictured above at left] of Utopia accepted the Great [Sick Kids] Cycle Challenge to 'ride to end childhood cancer and save little lives.' He organized a team and rode as part of the national campaign, however he is also riding in memory of his friend Dr. Bill Ives. To date he has raised \$10,733.39. The Ivy Orange Lodge was pleased to donate \$500 to help support David's efforts. Lodge member Scott Guy [pictured above at right] presented the cheque at the recent Family Day event.

hear the trucks. The jumping castle set up on the lawn attracted dozens of kids, while anxious parents waited at the tunnel exit for them to tumble out safely. Volunteers organized old fashioned races and games and awarded prizes to many of the competitors. Local vendors offered and sold specialty items to create awareness for their products and services.

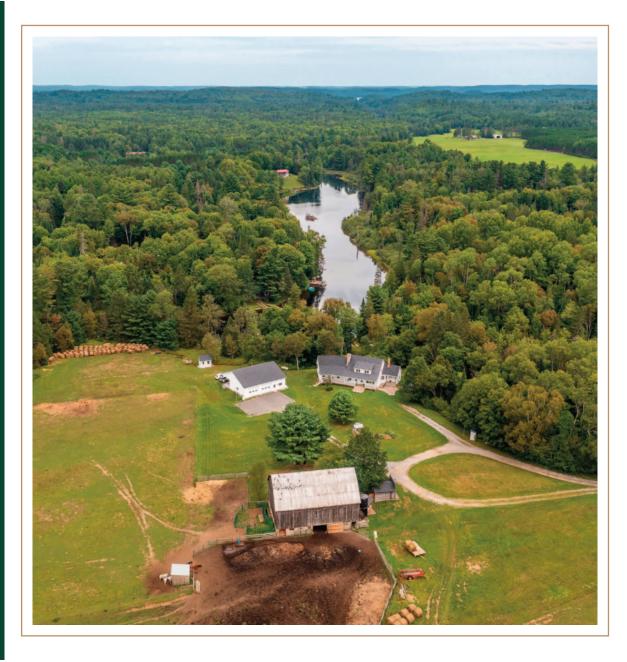
The always popular BBQ began at 11 am and hundreds were fed before the food supplies were exhausted in the afternoon. Raffle tickets were sold to support local projects. Organizers were grateful for the excellent weather and look forward to planing next year's event.



John Robinson is pictured above with a 1943 Massey Harris tractor and 2 furrow plow.



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Simcoe County Holstein Show brings friends together old and new

Story by Dr. Tim Henshaw

The Simcoe County Holstein Show was first held in 1950. Prior to that, an annual Black and White show was held since the early 1930s. Livestock shows encourage breed improvement and are one tool that breeders have to market their cattle. The County Show was originally held at Beeton Fair. In 1975, the show moved to Barrie. In the late 90s, the show moved to the Collingwood Fair Grounds but still held at the traditional time of late August. When the new, state of the art, Essa Agriplex opened, the County Show

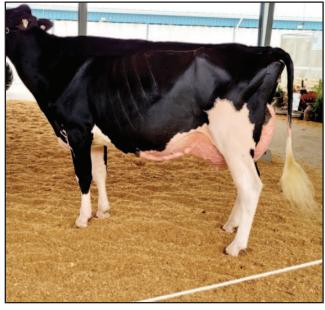
moved and is held during the annual Barrie Fair. This year's event was on Thursday August 25 and an impressive 124 head were paraded for Judge Josh McKay of Woodstock.

The Grand Champion cow was the winning Senior 3 year old "Altona Lea Unix Herminie" exhibited by Dalton J Faris of Farisview Farms. The Reserve Champion hailed from the same farm.

The Winning Breeder's Herd was the entry of Harvdale Holsteins of Stayner. The Harvey family, Kevin, Cheryel,

Ashley and Ryan of Harvdale Holsteins were also the winners of both the Premier Breeder and Premier Exhibitor banners.

A great ringside was present for the show. Of particular interest was the pre 4-H class with over 20 young participants. The Simcoe County Holstein Club Model Cow Competition was also held at this time. Look for the report on the Model Cow Competition elsewhere in this edition of Farm View. Thank you to all the exhibitors, the directors and others who facilitated the show and all of the sponsors.



The Grand Champion of the Simcoe County Holstein Show. This is Altona Lea Unix Herminie, the winning Senior 3 year old. Owned by Dalton J. Faris, Farisview farms, Bradford. —Photo credit Dr. Tim Henshaw



4-H friends are forever. Pictured above are some members of the King/Woodridge 4-H Dairy Club from the late 60s and early 70s. Left to right are Dr. Tim Henshaw, John McCallum, one of the 4-H leaders, Doug Savage, David Schwartz, Larry Sheardown, and Don Schwartz.

-Photo credit Stephanie Lee Photography



Harvdale Holsteins with the winning Breeder's herd at the Simcoe County Holstein Show. Harvdale also won the Premier Breeder and Premier Exhibitor banners. Shown above from left to right are Cheryel Harvey, Kevin Harvey, Ashley Harvey, Ryan Harvey and Collin Allardyce, fitter. —Photo credit Dr. Tim Henshaw

An exciting day at the Barrie Fair Miniature Horse Show

Story and photos by Tracy Bishop

On Saturday, August 27, 2022, the Barrie Fair Open Miniature Horse Show returned for its 5th year after a 2 year break due to Covid-19. It was exciting to see people from every age group and skill level participate in classes ranging from costume, showmanship, halter, jumping and driving, as well as fun classes such as ball and pylon, barrels, and obstacles. There were 20 classes in total to choose from. Thank you to Lindy Hallman, our judge, who took time out of her busy schedule to come our local show. It was a superb day with perfect weather and a great turn out of participants.

This show is great for those that are wanting to get into showing as well as those that have been showing for several years. The miniature horses aren't required to be registered, but they cannot be more than 38" tall.

We are always looking for sponsors to support the show. This year we had donations from local small businesses as well as families generously supporting us with prizes. If anyone is interested in showcasing their business for next year, please contact Tracy Bishop at tbishop@bell.net.







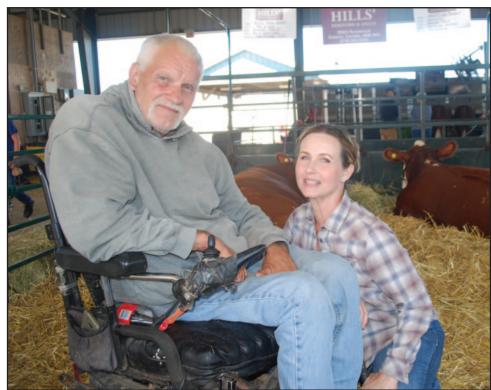


The 169th Barrie Fair; fun for everyone of all ages!

Story and photos by Cathy Hamill-Hill



Fifty years in love... pictured above, a local couple that live close to the Barrie Fairgrounds. Garry and Sharon Sawyer have been farming together for close to 50 years. Sharon was a Toronto girl when she met Garry, "I fell in love with the farmer- and the country life," she said adding her favourite part of the farm is the livestock and she has fond memories of raising sheep and cattle. Garry prefers time on the tractor. Garry said there is nothing like turning over a field with the plow, "I like driving the tractor and seeing the work all done at the end of my day," he said.



Determined... In 1993, Greg Hill had a car accident. In 1995, he decided he wanted to own cattle and was determined to make it happen. "The cattle are what keep me going," he said, explaining he can do most everything for his small herd of purebred Hereford cattle at home. His partner, Lisa Bilinski, pictured above with Greg, does the actual showing in the ring and together, the two are on the show circuit concluding with the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair in November.



In the Kid's Zone at the Barrie Fair, a favourite of many parents, pre schoolers could enjoy numerous activities such as the pig race as shown above. —*Photo credit John Beischer*

Shown at right is Amanda Scott at the extremely popular Education Centre for Agriculture at the Barrie Fair. Amanda is seen here beside an "observation hive" to educate people on what honeybees do in the hive. Amanda works for Innisfil Creek Honey that has about 850 hives and is owned by one of her family members. There were also products for sale made from homegrown honey including honey soap and beeswax candles.





In the photo above are purebred Miniature horses that came to the Barrie Fair for a public demonstration on all these little horses can do. Pictured at the left is Marissa Davy with horse, Joe and with her is Emily Switzer with Razzle Dazzle. These horses often go out to make people happy in Longterm Care visitations. Marissa and Emily, and their mini horses, travelled from the Stayner area.



Tractor Pulls are a popular sport in Ontario. Pictured above is Glenn Lundy driving at the Tractor pull on the pull track at the 169th edition of the Barrie Fair.

Many interactive displays and demonstrations at the 150th Kinmount Fair

Story and photos by Cathy Hamill-Hill

Forever young. These two ladies, Trish Miller of Soyers Lake, standing and Ruth MacBrien of Kinmount are both members of the Hal-Highlands iburton Quilt Guild and were working in the Pioneer Building at the 150th edition of the Kinmount Fall Fair. "We are here showing the old skills of the pioneers," Trish explained, adding she was quilting. Ruth said she was tatting. Ruth is 96 years young, she wears no glasses and takes no



prescription medications explaining, "God takes good care of me." Ruth was one of the founding members to set up the Pioneer Building. She spent all 3 days of the Kinmount Fair in the Pioneer building- except for Sunday morning when she went to Church.

One of the many features of the fair is Dalrymple Rabbitry, an interactive hands-on Display where people can actually come and sit down with a live rabbit and ask questions from their knowledgeable, friendly owners. Tom and Carolynne Phillips. This was a very popular attraction of the 150th edition of the Kinmount Fair with line-ups most



of Sunday to visit the quiet rabbits. Dalrymple Rabbitry began showing rabbits about 25 years ago but now works exclusively with displays. This innovative agri-education Display came to the Fair, per usual, by Tom's trusty truck that is a bit of legend itself, it has reached its 43 year of operation. "It still runs good," Tom says of his 1979 F-150 truck.



This is Sky River Meadows Leia, a 7 year old Nigerian Dwarf goat owned by Kelly Bidan of Port Sydney. Leia won Grand Champion Nigerian Dwarf at the 150th edition of the Kinmount Fair- and then went on to win Best in Show over all 99 goats in the show.



Pictured above is Brooklynn Murchison from Bancroft at her first ever Miniature Horse show at the 150th edition of the Kinmount Fair with her horse, "Little Bit". Brooklynn was encouraged by good-natured Gerard Pearson, seen here, from Kinmount, one of the hundreds of volunteers that helped out to make the Fair happen.



Shown in the photo above is 11 year old Layla Drinkwalter from Ottawa. She has been showing Miniature horses for six years. She is seen here with her pinto Miniature horse, Rose.

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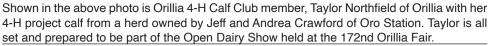
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172nd Orillia Fair brings animal lovers of all kinds out to see the shows

Story and photos by Cathy Hamill-Hill







Pictured above is Mark Carrier, owner of this team, Larry and Toby. Mark admits he finds horse pulling to be "addictive." He started horse pulling in 1988. Mark is certainly at the top of his sport these days, he was the top winner in his class at the 172nd Orillia Fair.



Shown above at left is Kevin Moore from East Oro with his first prize July born Holstein/Ayrshire calf named Ruby in the Open Dairy Show at the Orillia Fair.

Kevin was also the volunteer in charge of the Dairy Show. Pictured to the right of Kevin is Dairy Judge, Grant Armstrong of Millbrook.



Pictured above is Stephanie Martin from Trent Lakes after getting her Blue Laced Red Wyandotte pullet ready for show at the 172nd edition of the Orillia Fair.

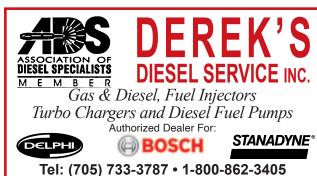


In the photo above is Bill Hobson of Orillia with a rabbit he met at the 172nd Orillia Fair. Bill is a retired structural engineer and one of his projects was the Coldwater bridge. Bill said he "loves all animals" so he was happy to hold this Netherland dwarf rabbit named Valentino that is owned by 11 year old Sophie Dollemont of Nogie's Creek.



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"Butterflies: Spread your Wings" celebrating the 171st Sunderland Fall Fair

Story and photos by Cathy Hamill-Hill



Queen Elizabeth's Christmas message meant silence in the house as the whole family had to listen, remembers Dorothy Shier of Wilfrid. The death of Queen Elizabeth had great meaning to Dorothy because her Dad immigrated to Canada from England. Dorothy called on neighbours and friends for some help in gathering items in this display she set up at the Sunderland Fair- and she was pleasantly shocked that

there was so much interest. She said one person pulled down the flag right off the flagpole at home so it could be part of this display. Queen Elizabeth passed away at 96 years old and was the reigning Monarch for 70 years.



Butterflies: Spread your Wings was the theme for the 171st Sunderland Fall Fair. After the Fair parade, Fair visitors were offered the rare opportunity to hold and set a provided live Monarch butterfly to flight.



Pictured above is Rodney Stickwood, President of the 2022 171st Sunderland Fall Fair. "Sunderland Fair is a small midweek Fair that has a big focus on agriculture," he said on his afternoon tour of the Fair, checking in with his large team of volunteers. He reported that the Tuesday night attendance was over double more then usual and the Horse Pull had an incredible eight teams in competition. The President started his Fair day, with two helpers, hauling gates and picnic tables for setting up the Fair and concluded his long day working on the organizing team for the demolition derby in the evening.



Eric Rinckner of Sunderland is pictured at left showing his purebred Angus bull calf at the 171st Sunderland Fair. This bull calf went on to be Grand Champion Bull of the Show. Eric shows his cattle across Ontario including at the Royal Winter Fair. He is the Chair of the Sunderland Fair Beef Show committee.

Pictured to the right is Hannah Cameron from Woodville with her calf, "Clown Car" at the 171st Sunderland Fair. At the Sunderland Fair the beef cattle are shown in a park-like setting, in a quiet area under trees



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Communities come together to provide quilts of kindness and comfort

Story and photos by Kim Maticiw

When the Georgian Bay Quilters Guild made the decision to make quilts for Ukrainian newcomers, they didn't expect the generous donations of over 50 quilts from the Tiny, Penetanguishene, Barrie, Simcoe and Georgian Bay Area quilters.

Through local papers, families in Collingwood, Orillia, Brechin and Toronto, have been located and gifted many of the quilts. Recently a family in Guelph were paid a visit.

Pavlo Illichov, his wife, 2 sons and their small dog, maneuvered through Europe for 6 months after fleeing the war in Ukraine. His sons recent diabetes diagnosis made the journey that more challenging as they needed to find insulin. While travelling, with Greece's generosity, they found the much needed insulin.

They weighed options of where to live and the decision to move to Canada was made because of the numerous options they were given here.

Illichov, an Olympic medalist whose discipline was swimming, received a job offer from the Guelph Marlins Aquatic Club to coach. The Club has been instrumental in assisting Illichov and his family in many ways including furnishings for the home they live in.

One challenge he explained was securing a place to live. Without a credit rating, many owners of rentals wouldn't consider them but on owner of Egyptian background was empathetic to their situation and said he'd like to help.

The family has been overwhelmed by the generosity of Canada, their community and neighbours. He said everyone had been very helpful and kind.

The Georgian Bay Quilters Guild meet every fourth Wednesday of the month (except over the summer). Check the website www.gbqg.ca for location and details.



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Simcoe County Federation of Agriculture

Annual General Meeting Wednesday, October 26th, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.

All OFA members in good standing in the Simcoe County area are invited to attend

To present:

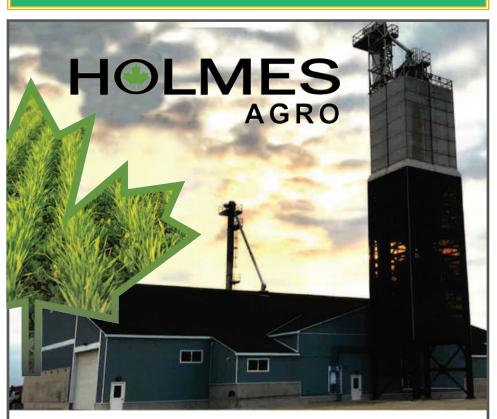
Board member elections · Finance approval
 · 2021 AGM minutes approval · Updates
 · Open Discussion

If you are interested in becoming a board member for the up coming 2022-2023 fiscal year, please provide your intent to be elected by October 21st 2022.

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A picture says a thousand words The triangle of the property of the property



This early summer sunrise was taken on the Adjala/New Tecumseth townline approx. 1km North of County Rd 14. -Photo credit Paul Kearney





"It was a beautiful start to the morning on the farm. The gals were enjoying their hay in the mist." Our farm is Sunset Simmental Farm. We raise full blood Simmentals. We raise our cattle for Genetics to sell our bulls to commercial breeders who raise the beef that sells in the stores -Photo credit Shawn Horner



Bessey Livestock is a third-generation family farm located near Fergus, Ontario. The Bessey Farm was purchased by Ron and Gail Bessey in 1988. Ron and his son Scott and grandson Cole farm together on the family farm. Up until recently, the farm consisted of a limousin cross cow/ calf operation that take their cattle right through to finish. With the next generation wanting to get involved on the farm, we have recently expanded our operation to include sheep and chickens also. We have a wonderful flock of sheep consisting of some pure-bred Tunis and the rest of the flock is mainly Dorset and Suffolk. On the side the family does small batches of freerange chickens that are raised on grass in a chicken tractor. This is done through the spring, summer and fall months. Bessey Livestock is passionate about agriculture and is proud to provide a homegrown, high-quality product that they can



The photo above is from the Educational Portion of the Model Cow competition, which is held the day before the Holstein Show. The participants are Simcoe County 4-H Members. The second day of the Model Cow competition is a showmanship competition, held right before our county show. Brian Llewellyn, (5th from left) of feed company Grand Valley Fortifiers, gave various tidbits of education - which would later be put to use for their quiz. The quiz counts towards their overall points along their showmanship.

About the photographer - Born and raised in Nobleton, Ontario, Canada. Stephanie married a 3rd Generation Dairy Farmer and together in Simcoe County, they are raising up thier two babies. Stephanie counts herself lucky to live this life in wide open spaces and doesn't ever take that for granted. Braiding her corporate career as a Marketing Director in agriculture by day, with family life on the farm and in the dairy community and her photography - sets Stephanie's soul on fire.

Photo credit Stephanie Lee Photography

At Innisfree Station in Eldorado ON we are lucky to be the only Canadian Breeder of the Rare Scottish Highland Pony. The same ones as the Queen Elizabeth II raised and loved and rode at her Estate Balmoral Castle in Scotland. One of the last ponies The Queen spent time with before her passing was Balmoral Melody a beautiful mare which has produced many foals for the Estate. As stated I am lucky to have my Stallion Ceol Baeg Colonsay (Farm Name Fergie.) He is presently in with two mares Reign and Ocair and hopefully next Summer they will have two beautiful foals. There are also two White Scottish Highland Geldings and a 2 yr filly Alaine product of Fergie and Reign. The hope for the future at Innisfree Station is to have people coming to the Farm to meet all the Interesting and rare animals, and to offer camping and a safe place for PTSD sufferers from our first responders, firemen, police, Veterans and woman and children and their families. In the photo at left are Fergie and Chris. -Photo provided by Chris Eaves



Pictured above is the harvest of red transplant onions in the Holland Marsh, King Township, York Region. Bill Eek is a 3rd generation Holland Marsh Farmer. His great uncle, William Valenteyn, was one of the first settlers in the Hamlet of Ansnorveldt in 1934. Bill and Avia Eek have been operating Eek Farms since 1988, and have been fortunate (and worked very hard, both on and off-farm) to have more than doubled the operation after taking it over from Bill's parents.

-Photo credit Avia Eek

After The Chores: Favourite season is here

By Cathy Hamill-Hill



She is at a Fair. I love Fairs. I always loved Fairs.

I like Fairs as a spectator, as a livestock exhibitor, as a photographer, as a guest, and even, at least most of the time, as a Fair Secretary.

The Fair Secretary, at best, gets an honourium of money that covers about three days of work for the weeks they give over, willingly, to pull that Fair together. I was quite taken back when as a Fair Secretary it was my job to order and then give directions on where to place the porta-potties on the Fairgrounds. And how many ribbons does one horse show need I found out as I had boxes and more boxes of rosette ribbons arrive at the door. I thought for sure this experience would get me tired of Fairs- but it did not work. I just loved Fairs more with new appreciation. Fairs are a collection of "good." The host community puts thousands of hours collectively into putting a Fair together for the community and its guests. There are no awards or big glory coming for the quiet volunteer who sets up the quilts at the Homecraft section of the Fair- but this position is essential to make the section ready for public viewing. The Fair is much like a big ship, it takes all hands on deck to make it sail and every set of hands is important.

With all things this side of the sky, all my Fair experiences have not all been good. I was scared when I was changing my clothes to the mandatory white pants and white top for show in an old style Port-a-pottie at a spring Fair years ago. I was in the midst of the change, when a very loud, gruff, male voice growled, "Is this empty?" and grabbed the door and shook it. My squeak of "No, I'm here!" was likely not heard in all the shaking. Thankfully, the door held. I have a friend with an extremely kind and caring heart but she cannot stand stupid people and she knows many strong words. We were at a late fall Fair when a young, well dressed woman said, "I like your little cows" pointing at a pen of black Alpine dairy goats. My friend was quite polite the first time and explained they were dairy goats not beef cattle. The woman argued they were not pointing to the Angus cattle in the next aisle saying the goats were obviously the "cows' babies." The fact that she was actually pointing at an Angus bull for her comparison set my friend right off. "Now, listen here, you stupid bi..." was as far as my Friend got as I quickly shooed her out a door. Getting to the Fair itself has been one aggravating experience; one time there was the Fair that was two hours away so we follow the directions. Sweetie was driving so we were doing this all right and we came to our destinationright to the Fair Executive that made the Fair book's personal house. It took three extra stops to ask for directions including approaching somebody walking their dog, the local garage attendant and the person at the local store to finally get us to the right location half an hour late.

There are so many excellent experiences from the Fair. There is nothing like being given a Grand Champion ribbon for a homegrown animal. The "best in show" award is the greatest feeling of all- and those rare three times, at Lakefield Fair for two different years and at Coldwater Fair is memories

that will never leave. And the Royal experience of only once being awarded a Grand Champion: walking back to the pen with a goat wearing a rosette on her collar amidst flashing phones and "congratulations!" is a memory to cherish. There are emotional memories too, of the young guy that asked if his neighbor could pet my goat. His neighbor was a young girl that was non-verbal, had gnarled hands and was secured in a chair. My goat didn't twitch an ear standing patiently as that young girl had a private "chat" with the goat. The young girl asked her neighbor to come back the second time to visit the goat. My only regret for that day is that I had no camera with me. One time we decided to take our good natured Labrador Retriever along with a few rabbits and 10 goats to a small country Fair. We had an old truck and it pulled a small trailer with an old truck cap as its cover making us look like a scene out of the Beverley Hillbillies classic tv show. The dog was the big winner and we still have the stained glass award from that day, the memory shines bright in the win-

Meeting odd people is part of the Fair experience. One odd one was a male, that was likely close to retirement age, coming up to me and jabbing his finger on my camera and proceeded to insult it. He then showed off his apparently two new cameras like he invented both cameras all by himself. I have been approached many times to ask "can I pet?" something but this was the first to hear someone insult something I owned- and he didn't ask permission. Another odd person was, back in goat showing days, a female that declared herself an "animal lover." She demanded that ALL the water buckets in the goat barn be filled up, this female was not to be reasoned with so, to shut her up, we all went and filled water buckets. After about ten minutes, it was time to go home so we dumped out all the water.

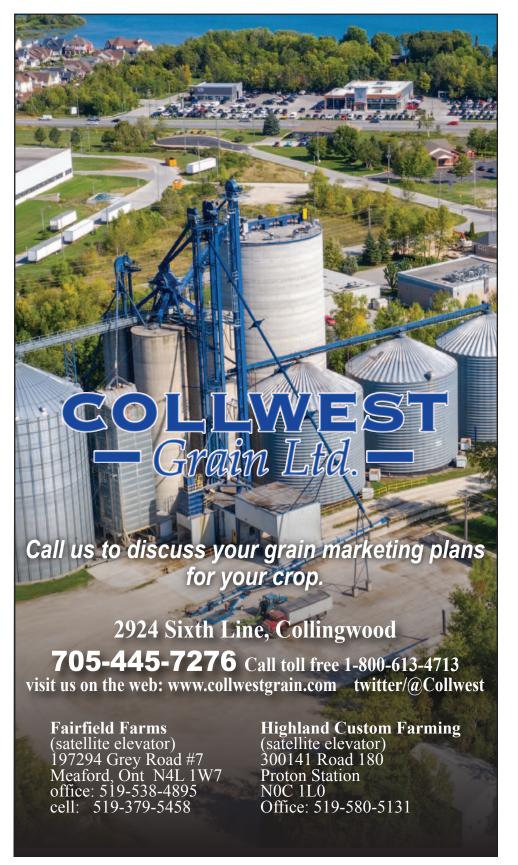
As I write this, I have 3 Fair days coming in the next 7 days and I went to a Fair yesterday. I still love Fair season.

What is it?

If you think you know what this is, send Farm View your guess by mail or email. Addresses can be found on page 4. The total overall height is approx 13".







South Simcoe 4-H Achievement Days a great success!

Cookstown 4-H Horse and Pony Club Report

By Morgan Gilpin

This year we had a small but mighty club of members. We ended up with 4 members finishing. Our meetings this year consisted of choosing our horse project to use for the year, we did a meeting on showmanship, we also learned about first aid kits for both members and our equine friends. We focus a meeting on different things to judge in preparation for the County judging competition. We also had a black smith join us to show us what a day in a farrier's life is like.

Our club's achievement day was held on August 14 at the Gilpin's Farm. We conjoined this meeting with the 4-H Beef and Plowing clubs. We had a wonderful afternoon and BBQ. It was nice to have the support of the members and parents from the Beef and Plowing clubs to cheer on the hard work and dedication of the 4-H Horse members.

Our clubs results were:

Senior showmanship: 1st Paige Moore and 2nd Emily Young

Junior showmanship: Tied for 1st place Morgan Gilpin and Mackenna Grant

Champion was: Paige Moore Reserve Champion was: Emily Young

South Simcoe 4-H Mini Horse Club

By Madeleine and Isabella Cullen

We held our clubs Achievement Day on Friday, August 26th at the Essa Agri-plex home of the Barrie Fair. We arrived early in the morning and groomed final touch ups on our mini horses. We had washed and blew dry the minis the night before.

We started with the showmanship classes which were novice, junior, intermediate and senior. You dress your best and groom your mini to perfection and than enter the show ring and lead your mini to the judge's commands. A champion and Grand Champion show person were selected. Danya Orr was the Grand Champion Show Person and Danica Kirby was Reserve Champion Show Person.

Members then changed into more comfortable footwear for the agility confirmation classes. Running shoes always work better than show boots for this class. For those that aren't aware of what agility confirmation class is; the judge is looking to see if your mini horse has the ability to back up, jump and show balance over bridges and jumps etc. Time faults are added to your time for any errors or lack of training with the course obstacles. In the obstacle agility confirmation class Nathan Dykstra was placed first and Rachel Dykstra was second.

In the ball and pylon agility confirmation class the judge is looking for stride, gait, speed and endurance as you round pylons with your mini and place a ball with precision.

In the ball and pylon agility confirmation class Danica Kirby placed first and Nathan Dykstra was second.

Eleven members participated at our Achievement Day with their eleven mini horses. Our club would like to thank the Barrie Fair Organizers that hosted and supplied beautiful rosette ribbons from first to fifth place for all classes and the monetary gift to all of the participants. Thank you to Trish Spong who worked and organized the event. We would like to thank the Cookstown Fair Board for supplying ribbons for our show and inviting our club members to the Cookstown 4-H banquet in November. Thanks to Peter and Carol Vanderpost for supplying mini horses for members to use and for transporting the mini horses there safely and back home. Thanks to Angie Trumpler who was our official judge. Thanks to our leaders Tracy Bishop, Lisa van Kolfschoten and Scott Cullen. Thank you to all the helpers, spectators and parents that made this event special for the members of the 4-H Cookstown Mini Horse Club.



Cookstown 4-H Plowing Club Report

By The Plow Club

Our 3rd meeting was held on zoom June 15 2022. We did a definition match up game we prepared. We also discussed how members thought they did at the County Judging Competition. We also asked our members from Wellington County what they judge at their judging competition which we learned they judge different classes than what we did in Simcoe County.

Our 4th meeting was held at the Gilpin Farm on July 20 2022. It

was a stormy night but thanks to all who joined us for our 1st in person meeting. We had a well known plowman who has competed at the world's, Canadian matches and many IPM's guest speaker Barry Degeer. He gave us an in depth talk about his competition plow. How he has made many changes to it to help him do better, like plastic moldboards.

Our final meeting was Aug 14 2022 at the Gilpin Farm held in conjunction with the 4-H Horse achievement day and Beef club. We got to see a horse show, a clipping demonstration and a wee plowing demonstration. We also got a sneak peak at how to show a sheep by 1 member who is involved in all the clubs in attendance that day. Finally we enjoyed a good potluck BBQ with all members and parents. What a great day everyone had.

Our Achievement Day was Held on Wednesday Aug 17 2022 held at the farm of Barry Degeer. The members took part in a day of events starting at 11:00 am staking out all



the plow lots needed for that day. Barry then gave them a demonstration of how to plow and what to look for. The members then got to pick their lands and begin to plow. All members took turns using the equipment provided. They then broke for lunch provided by the leaders. Then went back to finish. All wrapped up by 4pm. We had tractors of all makes and models, a garden tractor and a team of horses. It was nice to see members show interest in the horse team and take a turn at plowing.

A big thank you goes out to the leaders for making this all possible and coming up with all the equipment, hauling it all to our match site and having a trailer where we were out of the sun and providing us with our fantastic lunch including the wonderful butter tarts.

Without the help of Barry Degeer this day would not have happened. Thanks so much to you for helping us on this day and providing us with the land to plow.

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Cookstown Agricultural Society Bursary 2022



The Cookstown Agricultural Society presented five well deserving students with bursaries to help with their studies at the university level. In the photo above from left to right are: David Patton, Griffen Marling, Madeleine Cullen, Emily Lange and Cookstown Ag reps Mike Elines and Dorothy Lange. Missing from the photo is Owen Williams who also received a bursary. Congratulations on this well deserved honour! -Photo credit Tamara Fisher-Cullen

The Simcoe County Federation of Agricultural presented Emi Lange and Devyn Elliott with scholarships. Emi Lange will be attending Guelph University for a Bachelor Degree in Agricultural Sciences and Devyn Elliott will be attending the Veterinary Technician program at Georgian College.





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Cookstown 4-H Achievement Day Results



Emi Lange, at right, and Jack Lange pose for a picture.

—Photo by Dorothy Lange

Cookstown 4-H Dairy

Champion Showman Jack Lange Reserve Emi Lange Honourable Mention Rachael Lange Champion Calf Grace Finch Reserve Riley Broad

Cookstown 4-H Beef

Champion Showman Layne Chantler Reserve Ben Gilpin Champion Calf Kylee Chanter Reserve Layne Chanter

Cookstown 4-H Horse and Pony Champion Showman Paige Moore

Reserve Emily Younge

Ontario Meat Goat Symposium: Parasites

Story by Cathy Hamill-Hill

Nematode, or roundworm parasites are serious concerns to the goatkeeper.

According to Dr. Emma Borkawoski of the University of Guelph there are three "particularly important" Nematodes, with the common names of "barberpole worm," "black scour worm" and "brown stomach worm." All of these worms have the same life cycle that starts with the worm in its first stage called "larvae" being in pasture grass. The goat eats this larvae and then becomes infected. Worms prefer the hot, humid summers. "Warm, wet summers equals high parasite loads while cold or dry summers, burdens are lower," Dr. Borkawoski explained.

There are two peak times in Ontario for goats to get infected with worms, late July-early August and for mature does, at kidding time. Worms cannot survive on pasture in Ontario, Dr. Borkawoski stressed. She noted that even at the high risk of a hot, humid summer, every single animal will likely not get infected. "The parasites live in a minority of the herd- 70% of the parasites are in only 30% of the goats in the herd," she clarified.

The barperpole worm is about 3 cm long and it lives on the animal's blood- and is horrible. This hateful intruder causes anemia and protein loss for the host animal. Light infection causes weight loss and poor milk yield. Heavier infection causes pale skin as in white gums and tongue, weakness and a swelling under the jaw called "bottle jaw." "Sudden death with no signs" can also happen with very heavy infections, Dr. Borkawoski explained.

Worm infections are hard to control. Dr. Borkawoski said that dairy herds have an especially challenging time for worm control because of the "lack of licensed drugs for goats in Canada especially a problem for dairy because of milk withdrawals." This means that when the goat is given the worm medicine, the milk cannot be used for human consumption for a specific time set out by the manufacturer of the medication. Further, according to this Vet, "Goats, unlike sheep, do not develop robust immunity to many parasites. Adults need repeated treatments." Another problem, she said is, "Drench resistance is increasingly common." Drench means products that are given via a syringe in the mouth. Drench is the preferred method of administering worm medicine, followed by injecting via a needle. She stressed that, "worm medication should never be added in feed."

There are ways to manage parasite infection. "Reducing stock density" is one way, this means put less goats on a pasture so there is more space and less goats. Rotational grazing can help especially if the herd is moved to another pasture every five to seven days "before the larvae becomes infective," she said.

Treating the herd for parasite infection starts with using the right product at the right dosage- for goats. It is best to consult one's local veterinarian to get this correct information as few products are on-label for goats.

Treating every single goat in the herd is not recommended by Dr. Borkowoski, "The goal is to treat 70% only when

needed, and only those animals that need it because remember, 30% of the goats carry 70 of the parasites. Leaving some of the group untreated preserves susceptible parasites to dilute resistant ones," she explained. One way to monitor is with fecal testing. She advised that collecting fresh "directly" from the goat, before it hits the ground is ideal and old from the ground is no good at all. Test samples should be refrigerated, never frozen. Does should be monitored around kidding- and in early to mid-July. If the counts are high, Dr. Borkawoski advised, "check every two weeks for high counts and 3-4 weeks for low counts." She added, monitoring is less critical and there is no need to monitor in the winter."

After medication, the monitoring should show a 95% or more decrease in egg counts in the test samples. If this number is not reached, there is one of three issues happening. The first is that the wrong medication is being used. A second issue is "improper dosage" as in using an expired product or the dosage is wrong. The third issue- and it is not that rareis that the parasite in the herd is drug resistant and it is time to switch drugs.

New animals to the herd possibly can introduce a chance to bring in new more resistant parasites to the herd. All new animals should go to quarantine, off pasture. The new animal should be, in that quarantine time, be treated for parasites and then wait for 5 days, she recommended.



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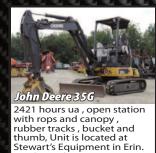
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