

46th year of publication **FARMVIEW**

January 2023
Volume 46 #01

A newspaper with something for everyone

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Mike Maye**

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Farmland
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Open House,
a Great
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The Klein-Gebbinck family were all smiles welcoming guests to the Radomere open house.

Complimentary copy for
the FARM household

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

from all of us at Farm View - your agricultural community newspaper

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.

Jan 4th and 5th: Ontario Agricultural Conference

Registration is open for the virtual Ontario Agricultural Conference, Embracing Change, taking place January 4th and 5th, 2022.

For more information, check the website www.ontarioagconference.ca or call 519-674-1500 x 63596

Jan 4th - 10th: 2023 GBFW Conference and Trade Show

The 57th annual event features trade show exhibits and an excellent line up of guest speakers. More info, turn to page 22 or check the website www.greybrucefarmersweek.ca.

The conference will be held January 4th to the 10th, 2022.

Jan 15th: News and Advertising Deadline

The advertising and news deadline for the February issue of Farm View is **Saturday, January 14th.**

January 17th: Essa & District Ag. Society AGM

Join us! Annual General Meeting for the Essa & District Agricultural Society. Apply by January 10th for board of directors and volunteers. More details in the ad on page 14.

April, May, June: Spring Auctions

Thinking of a spring or on-line auction?

Turn to page 23 to see some upcoming sale dates or to book an auctioneer for your sale.

February 6th: NVCA Artwork Deadline

Win the opportunity to have your artwork displayed and used on NVCA conservation area merchandise. Artists are welcome to submit their artwork to events@nvca.on.ca until February 6, 2023. The winning artwork will be chosen on/by February 13, 2023. Please see the article on page 15. For full submission rules, visit <https://www.nvca.on.ca/about/careers-volunteers>.

March 31st: Manage Resistance Now Contest deadline

Canadian field crop growers are being asked to share their resistance management tips, tricks and success stories in a new first-of-its-kind online contest in Canada – Pest Management Challenge: How do you outsmart resistance on your farm?

Please see the article on page 15 for full details.



Banting Memorial

We need YOU!

to help us continue to record the history of Essa Township and expand our knowledge of pioneer families.

Call John at 705-726-5308
ESSA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

South Simcoe 4-H members at the Lisle Parade



North Simcoe Veterinary Services & Midland Veterinary Service are pleased to announce that Dr. Emily Young-On has joined our veterinary practices as a mixed animal practitioner.

Dr. Emily began her veterinary career as a volunteer at North Simcoe Veterinary Services before becoming an employee as a veterinary assistant. Dr. Emily graduated from the University of Guelph before completing her MVB at the College of Veterinary Medicine in Dublin, Ireland.



We are excited to welcome Dr. Emily to our veterinary team:

Dr. Joel Rumney - Large animal practitioner
Dr. Edith (Haberfellner) Rumney - Small animal practitioner
Dr. Rose Rumney Mixed animal practitioner
Dr. Shauna O'Brien - Mixed animal practitioner
Dr. Elri Oosthuizen - Large animal practitioner
Dr. Ashley Mann - Small animal practitioner
Dr. Suzanne Abray - Small animal surgeon

We are also pleased to announce that with the addition of Dr. Young-On, **we are now able to welcome new farm animal clients to our practice.**

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More than 50,000 Ontarians sign on to Home Grown to show support for farmland preservation

With a growing concern for the fate of Ontario's fertile farmland, more than 50,000 people have signed on to show support for the Ontario Federation of Agriculture's (OFA) Home Grown campaign.

The campaign, a public awareness initiative showcasing the threat to rural lands from urban sprawl and development, reached the milestone number over this past weekend. It shows strong support for smart urban planning policies that encourage development within existing urban areas while preserving the farmland that provides Ontario — and the world — with food, fuel, fibre and flowers.

"We are losing productive farmland at an alarming rate in Ontario," says OFA President Peggy Brekveld. "The path we are currently on is not sustainable. We cannot continue to sacrifice the lands where we grow and raise our food in the name of growth. It may take some effort and creative thinking, but we can continue to develop Ontario without paving over our most precious natural resource — fertile farmland."

According to the 2021 Census of Agriculture released earlier this year, Ontario is losing an average of 319 acres of productive farmland every day. Since 1996, Ontario has lost 1.5 million acres of productive farmland — an area roughly the size of Toronto, Peel Region, Halton Region, Waterloo Region, Hamilton and Niagara Region combined.

These are stunning figures, especially when you consider that only five per cent of Ontario's land is considered arable. While the province is geographically large, much of the northern reaches cannot be farmed because of the Canadian Shield and climate. In the South, cities and towns cover much of the landscape.

Every 319 acres of farmland that we lose is equivalent of losing nine family farms every week. In terms of the feed we eat, 319 acres can produce more than 23.5 million apples, 1.2 million bottles of Ontario VQA wine or 37.1 million strawberries.

Agriculture and food in Ontario is a major economic driver contributing \$47 billion annually to the provincial economy and employing nearly one million Ontarians through skilled labour, trades, technology, innovation and more. The loss of thousands of acres of agricultural land has the potential to jeopardize our domestic supply chain and local food production. The impact will be felt on consumers today and for future generations.

"We've seen how supply chain shocks and delays have affected the

price and availability of everyday goods that our families rely on," says Ms. Brekveld. "These same supply chain shocks and delays have resulted in the worst inflation Ontario has seen in more than three decades. We are seeing product shortages because of weather patterns in foreign countries. Far away turmoil like the war in Ukraine affects global food security. And, if nothing else, the pandemic has emphasized the importance of local production across many sectors of our economy. Farming matters. Where we grow our food matters, too. Ontario has some of the best tastes and quality in the world."

Thank you to the more than 50,000 people who have signed on to support the Home Grown campaign and share the OFA's vision of Farms and Food Forever. Learn more about the OFA's Home Grown campaign and add your signature to the wall at homegrownofa.ca.

About the Ontario Federation of Agriculture

The Ontario Federation of Agriculture (OFA) is the largest general farm organization in Ontario, representing 38,000 farm families across the province. As a dynamic farmer-led organization based in Guelph, the OFA works to represent and champion the interests of Ontario farmers through government relations, farm policy recommendations, research, lobby efforts, community representation, media relations and more. OFA is the leading advocate for Ontario's farmers and is Ontario's voice of the farmer. For more information, visit www.ofa.on.ca.

About Home Grown

A public awareness initiative of the Ontario Federation of Agriculture, Home Grown is a campaign to advocate for the importance of Ontario farms as a source of food, fuel and fibre. Arable farmland is our most important natural resource, but Ontario is losing an average of 319 acres of farmland every day; that is the equivalent of nine family farms paved over every week. It is the objective of Home Grown to raise awareness about the importance of protecting and preserving Ontario farmland, while helping develop a workable plan to guide responsible development in Ontario that will ensure growth to provide housing and support local tax bases in a way that does not encroach on farmland.

Join the conversation on Twitter @OntarioFarms and Facebook /ontariofarms. For more information, please visit homegrownofa.ca.

On the Cover



Trevor, Bryson, Lindsay and Ellis welcomed guests to the Radomere open house.

—Photo by Don Beaulieu

DEADLINE for the February Farm View is January 14th.

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 <p>JD 1025R/LDR (E89052) 2018, 4WD, 25ENG HP, 400HR, OOS, 120R Q-TACH LDR., 53"Q-TACH BKT, MID PTO, 260B BACKHOE, 6'DIG DEPTH,, 12"HOE BKT, HYDRO, THUMB, R4 IND TIRES, HOOD GUARD, \$27,900.00</p>	 <p>JD 3025E/LDR (E88985) 2022, 4WD, 25ENG HP, 27HR, OOS, HYDRO, R3 TURF, 41x14.0-20 100%, 27x8.50-15 100%, 300E LDR., HOOD GUARD, PIN-ON BKT, 3RD HYD FUNCTION, \$32,750.00</p>	 <p>JD 3025E/LDR (E88373) 2017, 4WD, 25ENG HP, OOS, HYDRO, R4 IND, D160LDR., MID LDR VALVE, 57"QUICK-TACH BKT, LESS MID PTO., DIESEL, ONE OWNER, AS TRADED \$25,900.00</p>	 <p>JD 2305/LDR (E89354) 2009, 4WD, 24ENG HP, 290HR, HYDRO, OOS, R4 IND., MID LDR VALVE, 200CX LDR, 53"QUICK-TACH LOADER,, HOOD GUARD, QUICK-TACH BKT, W/MID PTO, 54C MWR, \$19,900.00</p>	 <p>JD 1025R/LDR (E89116) 2016, 2WD, 25ENG HP, 150HR, OOS, HYDRO, R3 TURF, FOLDING ROPS, MID LDR VALVE, 120R QUICK-TACH LDR., HOOD GUARD, W/MID PTO, 54D MWR, AUTOCONNECT PTO, \$24,740.00</p>
Agriculture - Tractors - John Deere Utility Tractors				
 <p>JD 6130R/LDR (E88185) 2019, MFWD, 130ENG HP, 464HR, CAB, 40KPH., AUTOPWR IVT, LH REV, FLANGE AXLE, NO DUALS., 480/70R34 CONT 99%, 380/70R24 CONT 99%, \$172,640.00</p>	 <p>JD 6130R/LDR (E87703A) 2019, MFWD, 130ENG HP, 1190 HR, CAB, 640R SL LDR., 85" BUCKET, 40KPH, 24F/24R SPD, LH REVERSER., AUTOQUAD + ECO, 90" R&P AXLE CAST CENTER, \$167,990.00</p>	 <p>JD 6130R/LDR (E88354) 2021, MFWD, 130ENG HP, 650HR, 640R SL LDR, 85"BKT., CAB, 40KPH, 24F/24R SPD, AUTOQUAD+ECO, LH REV., 90" R&P AXLE W/CAST CENTER, NO DUALS, \$193,690.00</p>	 <p>JD 5083E/LDR (E88854) 2013, MFWD, CONSIGN, 83ENG HP, 285HR, CAB., 12F/12R SPD, PWR REV, QUICKE X36 LDR, HLA 78"BKT., 11.2-24 50%, 16.9-30 70%, FLANGE AXLE, 2 REMOTES, \$79,480.00</p>	 <p>JD 6120R/LDR (E89216) 2016, MFWD, 120ENG HP, 1620HR, DLX CAB, 95"MAT BKT., Q56 MSL LDR, 40KPH, 24F/24R SPD, AUTOQUAD+ECO., LH REVERSER, 100" R&P AXLE W/CAST CENTER, \$154,900.00</p>



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FROM THE EDITOR**Welcome 2023 and Happy New Year!**

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

2023 marks the beginning of 46 years of publication for the Farm View newspaper. Not an easy feat these days with easy access to online news, magazines and social media. The Farm View's success is largely in part due to the quality reputation that my father, John Beischer, built over the many years he was publisher and editor. That quality reputation is what attracted so many advertisers who, once started advertising, continue to this day. As you read this issue please take note of all the faithful advertisers old and new who continually support the Farm View. Their financial support enables me to try to provide interesting content each month for your enjoyment. I received a lovely email from a reader saying how much they enjoy the paper. He made my day by saying "It's just a guess but I think you are unaware of the impact and influence your paper has in the community and beyond. The world needs more 'Roslyn's' - people who see the facts and are willing to make them public."

Our daughter is always asking people where she works if they are familiar with the Farm View and recently a woman replied "Your mom is Roslyn Watkins? I know your grandpa too!" It gives me a great amount of pleasure to here from you, the readers, and to know you are out there enjoying the paper.

On a personal note I'd like to wish my better half a very Happy Birthday. Thank you, Shawn, for your constant love, humour and support. You make life interesting and fun from the smallest moments to the biggest events. The kids and I are blessed to share our lives with you. We wish you an incredible year ahead, Happy Birthday!

I hope everyone enjoys a fantastic start to 2023 and it carries on the whole year through. Wishing you health, wealth, and new blessings to count each day.

Happy New Year from my family to you and yours!
Roslyn Watkins

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Farm View invites letters to the editor. They should be fewer than 300 words and deal with a single topic affecting farmers. All letters must be signed, including your full name, address and daytime phone number. All letters are subject to editing for brevity. Please no phone calls.

Thank you to the community

The Flos Agricultural Society, on behalf of the volunteers, would like to thank everyone involved, for another successful year of the Elmvale Fall Fair. We are especially grateful to our fair visitors for attending, our exhibitors for displaying their animals and handicrafts, our sponsors for supporting the fair, our concession vendors for supplying such a wide array of food and merchandise, the service clubs for their dedication and support, the Police, Emergency Services, Township of Springwater and Staff for their professionalism and care, and of course our many suppliers and business partners for their expertise and service. The Elmvale Fall Fair is truly a community event and we rely on our many stakeholders to ensure our annual tradition continues to be such an overwhelming success!

Our crowds enjoyed the ever-popular animal shows, homecraft and agriculture exhibits, the thrills of the midway, the Parades, Truck and Tractor Pull, and all sorts of entertainment on stage and throughout the grounds. Young and old, families and friends, gathered to enjoy the 2022 Elmvale Fair.

Plans are already underway for the 161st Elmvale Fair.

Matt Garwood
Elmvale, ON

Open letter to Doug Ford

Hon. Doug Ford Premier of Ontario Legislative Building Queen's Park Toronto ON M7A 1A1

Dear Premier Ford,

Farmers and farm organizations understand the province's need for more homes to help keep pace with our increasing population. We support the government's stated goal of building more houses for Ontarians but proposing to rezone thousands of acres of farmland, both in the Greenbelt and near other urban areas, is a change that's of serious concern to the farm and agri-food sector. Rural and agricultural communities in Ontario need more labour, and we want to retain our youth in our rural communities and they in turn need houses too. But once farmland is lost to development, it is gone forever.

We recognize that the balancing act between farmland protection and further urbanization doesn't come with a quick or easy answer and that the issues facing us today are complex. However, Ontario's limited supply of farmland is a scarce resource, making up less than five percent of all the land in the province. It's vital that Ontario has a strong, viable and sustainable supply of food products grown, harvested and processed right here at home.

Farmland losses are already at a rapid pace. The current rate of loss is measured at 319 acres per day in our province, according to the 2021 Census of Agriculture. These losses are not sustainable and will become increasingly worse with the overreaching ef-

fects of Bill 23, More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022.

Agriculture and food in Ontario is a major economic driver contributing \$47 billion annually to the provincial economy and employing nearly one million Ontarians through skilled labour, trades, technology, innovation and more.

The loss of thousands of acres of agricultural land has the potential to jeopardize our domestic supply chain and local food production. The impact will be felt on consumers today and for future generations.

With a responsible land use planning approach, we believe it is possible to build complete communities that can provide for the needs of residents while minimizing sprawl, preventing the loss of farmland, and avoiding additional pressures on urban-rural boundaries.

The key is a collaborative approach to responsible long-term land use planning that balances meeting housing needs and supporting economic growth with protecting agricultural land.

Sincerely,
Peggy Brekveld
President, Ontario Federation of Agriculture
Ed Scharringa
President, Christian Farmers Federation of Ontario
Max Hansgen
President, National Farmers Union - Ontario

Focus on Hwy 407, not on building something we already have

Hi Roslyn,

I read your piece concerning the 413 and just wanted to voice my feelings. I have a farm just northwest of Hwy. 400 and County Rd. 88.

I totally agree with Mike Schreiner's statement that you quoted concerning the sprawl development and the destruction of the wetlands and Greenbelt.

We already have a highway that connects Hwy. 400 to Hwy. 404. It is a "sound transportation network" and it is called Hwy. 407. The agricultural industry needs farmland to

sustain the industry not development that will destroy farmland that supports our agri-food sector.

The focus should be on making Hwy. 407 a more feasible, economical transportation option for agricultural industry despite the fact it is now privately owned with partial ownership internationally. It does not seem to make sense to spend billions on building something that we already have.

Sincerely
Catherine Marshall

FARM VIEW is published monthly by:
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The publisher shall not be liable for slight changes or typographical errors that do not lessen the value of an advertisement. The publisher's liability for other errors or omissions in connection with any advertisement or for omitting to publish an advertisement is strictly limited to publication of the advertisement in any subsequent issues or the refund of any monies paid for the advertisements.

**In memory of Jill Beischer**

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

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

W.J. Bryan

OFA Members Service Representative:

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

OFA Zone Director for Peel, Simcoe and York:

Paul Maurice: 705-444-1398 email: paul.maurice@ofa.on.ca

2022-2023 Executive – Simcoe County

President:	Dave Ritchie	705-534-4017
Vice President:	Colin Elliot	705-791-1006
PAC Member:	Dave Ritchie	
SCFA Phone:	705-726-9300 ext 1224	
	simcty.fed.agriculture@outlook.com	

2022-2023 Executive – York Region

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Contact YRFA:	york@ofa.on.ca	

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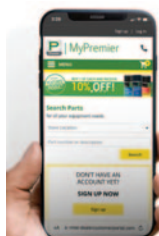
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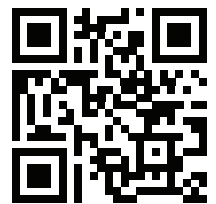
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Farm Business Registration due for renewal



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

Well, another year in the history books! I don't know about anyone else but 2022 seemed to pass by quickly. Sometimes, this is appreciated and sometimes I wish life would slow

down a bit so I can enjoy the more pleasurable events just a bit longer.

January & February are busy meeting months in the agricultural sector. With all the comings and goings on top of your normal daily work, important small tasks can be forgotten, or paperwork misplaced.

Soon, all registered farm businesses in Ontario will receive their Farm Business Registration (FBR) renewal notice. Do you know that your FBR number is required for your inclusion into the Farm Property Class Tax Rate Program? Farmers earning a minimum of \$7000 of gross income as defined by the Canadian Revenue Agency must register with the Farm Business Registration Program. Payment to Agricorp is due March 1st. Your farm property value is assessed by the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC). The house and one acre are classified in the residential tax class. The farmland, outbuildings and bunkhouses are classified in the farm class tax program. The farm class tax rate is set at a maximum of 25% of the residential class, although some municipalities have chosen to lower that rate in recognition of farmland not using the same services provided to the residential class.

Every fall I get calls from members, who for one reason or another have not paid their Farm Business Registration fees. The reason

they suddenly realize that they missed paying their FBR is that their property tax bill has arrived, and the tax increase has been large. Their farm property has fallen out of the Farm Property Class Tax Rate Program and now the entire property has been taxed at the residential rate. Agricorp calls members after the March 1st deadline as a courtesy reminder to those that haven't registered. This fall Agricorp sent letters to 2300 property owners that did not have a valid Farm Business Registration number attached to their property. Those owners had until October 19th to provide a valid FBR number. In some cases, the property owners were required to have the tenant farmer complete the Tenant Declaration Form that was included with the letter.

It is very important to also ensure that all your contact information is up to date on the renewal form. We do hear that Agricorp does have renewal notices returned to them from Canada Post. If you have not received your renewal notice by the end of January, I highly recommend that you contact Agricorp. The repercussions of not renewing in a timely manner are more than frustrating. It can be a costly mistake.

If you require assistance with your FBR renewal call Agricorp at 1-888-247-4999 and speak with a customer service representative. Additional information on the FBR program can be viewed at agricorp.com

Wishing all the Farm View readers a Healthy & Prosperous 2023!

If you're in need of support, please reach out to the Farmer Wellness Initiative - from the tractor, from the barn, or from the house after the sun sets on another long day. 1-866-267-6255 or www.farmerwellnessinitiative.ca

Accessible 24 hours a day, seven days a week, every day of the year.

The Farmer Wellness Initiative provides access to free counselling services and tailored mental health support and resources to all Ontario farmers and their families.

Generous donation received by Essa Historical Society

Story by John Beischer



John Beischer [center], president of the Essa Historical Society, gratefully accepted a generous donation from the Ivy Orange Lodge members Ted Woods [left] and Scott Guy. The EHS along with several other volunteer organizations in the community, were the recipients of the funds the Orangemen have raised this past year, most notably from the prize draws at the annual Ivy Days event at the clubs facilities in the hamlet of Ivy in central Essa Township. Essa Historical Society is a group of dedicated volunteers whose main objective is to recognize, maintain and preserve the history of the 'garden' township of Simcoe County. Former and present members of the EHS have produced many books and calendars, as well as coordinating plaque installations at historical locations throughout the township. The EHS meet once monthly and welcome new member volunteers who share an interest in preserving the important history of the township we all call home. Inquiries can be made to John Beischer at 705-726-5308.

International Plowing Match to be held in Lindsay 2024

Story and photo by Cathy Hamill-Hill

The International Plowing Match & Rural Expo (IPM) is coming to Kawartha Lakes on August 20-24, 2024. There are opportunities for community service clubs and organizations to be rewarded financially for helping out.

"The IPM is the largest show of its kind in North America and it moves to a new location every year within Ontario." Robert MacLean, President of the Ontario Plowing Association (OPA) told the crowd at a 2024 IPM information meeting held recently at the Commonwealth Building at the Lindsay Fairgrounds. The OPA is the host organization of the IPM.

The IPM has been held in Kawartha Lakes, formerly known as Victoria County in 1922, 1948, 1970 and in 1992. The IPM was set to return in 2020.

The pandemic ended all plans for everything in both 2020 and 2021- the IPM was cancelled. The 2022 IPM was promised to Kemptonville. The 2023 IPM will be held in Bowling Green, Dufferin County.



Pictured above is Elizabeth Arnold from Woodville, the current Kawartha Lakes Queen of the Furrow. She competed at the provincial level at the 2021 International Plowing Match and earned the Most Congeniality Award.

The 2024 IPM will have its centre at the Lindsay Fairgrounds which will be the location of the massive "Tented City." President McLean said, "all these great buildings here (at the Fairgrounds) will be used. There will be 500 exhibitors in the Commonwealth Building." Usually, Tented City is literally built into an empty field complete with hydro and water lines so the 2024 IPM having a site established will make planning easier. Near the Tented City there needs to be parking fields, the hugely popular RV Park and the Plowing Fields. At an average IPM, there are about 120 plowing competitors that plow with tractors and horses.

The IPM has a huge positive economic impact for the entire community. The usual 80,000 visitors that come to the IPM over five days- is just part of it. The exhibitors, the plowing judges, the army of volunteers all need a place to stay. The local accommo-

dations will be booked solid along with restaurants during the days before and during and sometimes after the event. There is also an opportunity for local service clubs and organizations' including Churches to earn some of the IPM proceeds to give to their own communities.

Dave Murray, Director of the OPA explained, "The OPA keeps back enough money to cover its expenses and the rest we leave in the host community. An example is a service club taking on the "Cookbooks." The club would go out and sell the cookbooks everywhere. The cookbook is popular and there have been \$20,000-\$30,000 profit made from them in the past." He said another example is an organization taking on the Admission Gates.

President of Simcoe County Plowing Association Robert (Bob) is a big time IPM supporter. In an interview after the OPA Meeting, he explained he was part of the 2014 IPM held at Ivy, close to the current Barrie Fairgrounds. He was the RV Park Committee Chairman.

"The local ATV Club had people that came to drive an ATV in front of each RV trailer to make sure they found the right spot and got them all parked in right according to our plan. The local ATV Club was given enough money after their help to buy a brand new ATV for our local Fire Station in Simcoe County. The IPM gives to the local community- in all kinds of ways," he explained.

He says the RV Park Chair job had work involved however, it was rewarding work to set up 1,200 RV sites. The RV Park for the 2023 Match was being set up now, "the OPA had 14 (transport) trucks in the RV park ready to start setting up the hydro," he said adding that the RV Park also has an entertainment stage that has live bands. Sales for the RV Park for next year's IPM starts at the opening day of the preceding IPM.

"Each host community needs 1,000 volunteers....some volunteers only work a few hours on one job but they are needed to be part of this. We need everyone to come and be part of this," he said adding he was quite pleased to be asked to be a Director on the Ontario Plowing Association.

Director Dave Murray predicts that the 2024 Kawartha Lakes IPM will be a big one, "You here have a rural base and rural people already know that going to the IPM is an experience for everyone to enjoy. We still need to educate the urban people that the IPM has so much."

The most current need now is for a volunteer Chairperson to come forward to begin the official planning for the 2024 IPM. Anyone interested, please contact admin@plowingmatch.org

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Beautiful day for the Canadian Foodgrains Bank harvest 2022

Story and photos by Dr. Tim Henshaw

Caleb Langman, pictured here, getting some great video with his drone at Canadian Food Grains Bank Harvest 2022.



The Canadian Foodgrains Bank (CFB), a Christian response to hunger, has operated in Canada since 1983. CFB is a partnership of 15 church and church-based agencies working together to end global hunger. CFB has a twofold approach in its work. 1) delivering emergency for people in times of crises and disaster and 2) long term support for families including agricultural training and improved nutrition. The local Elmvale group was started in 2000 by the late Sam Langman and Morley Minty. Beautiful blue skies and sunshine framed the harvest day this year. Corn, soybeans, and wheat are grown in rotation. This year, 85 acres of corn was grown. Some of the land used is donated and this year one parcel was rented. The seed is donated. The group purchases fertilizer needs. Needed sprays are donated as well. All the equipment and labour to plant, grow and harvest the crop is also donated. Robert Spence prepped the land in the spring and David Spring planted the crop. Roger Spence coordinated the efforts as project manager. In the farm community, there is a lot of discussion of the superiority of red equipment (Case IH) and green (John Deere) equipment but they both cooperated for the harvest. This year, 3 combines and 4 grain buggies made short work of the harvest. I was joking that the invitation for the day said BYOC, bring your own combine. Thank you to Roger Spence, Drew Langman and Ray KleinGebbinck for bringing combines. Grain buggies were run by Art Turner, Don Griedanus, Josh Parnell and Trevor Klein Gebbinck. Caleb Langman got some really cool pictures from a drone camera. Larry and Colin Giffen provided trucks to transport the crop. Colin Giffen, Mike Pearson and Zec Sowden trucked 8 loads to Minesing for drying and storage. The expected yield was 5 Tonnes per acre. Thanks to all involved.



Shown clockwise beginning top left: a grain buggy delivers corn to waiting transports provided by Giffen Farms of Minesing, Larry and Colin Giffen. One of the three combines working to harvest the local crop for the Canadian Food Grains Bank. Josh Parnell and buddy Ryan Spring deliver corn to waiting transports. Red and Green Grain Buggies and Combines all co-operated bringing in this great harvest to benefit the Canadian Food Grains Bank.



Remembering Mike Maye.... Parts Manager Legend

By Cathy Hamill-Hill

Mike Mayes never lived on the sideline in his life; he was always right in the centre of everything he was a part of. Mike always put other people first.

Michael Ray Maye was born in the Uxbridge area. He grew up on a farm. He and his family attended Church in Goodwood and this is where Mike met his lifetime friend, Jim Tindall of Uxbridge.

Jim remembers Mike as a highly skilled hockey player. Uxbridge had its first Junior "C" team- and Mike was chosen for the team. At this time, Mike was going to the University of Guelph and he was chosen there for the University team. "So there was Mike, he didn't want to let down the Uxbridge coach so he played hockey for Uxbridge- and he played for the University. He was driving all over on the weekends. And Mike kept an average at school of 70%."

Mike liked fishing in northern Ontario. When he saw a window of some free time, Jim would get the call to come fishing. Departure was often 3 a.m. "One time I said no to Mike as I had a correspondence course assignment due on "organic compounds." Mike said we would do it in the truck as he took that last year. So I read out the questions- and Mike answered them, we never even opened a book, he just gave me the answers. I mailed the assignment around North Bay. Mike got 72%. Mike was highly intelligent, he never shared that though, he never was boastful."

Another fishing trip involved Mike's best friend, Dan Norton, that he met at public school. They had all been fishing and got an exceptionally good catch that day. Jim remembers Mike insisting, "We had to share the fish. We went to Mike's neighbor's house near Oakwood but no one was there. So Mike decided to leave the fish in the guy's mailbox. And we never lived that down." Years later the trio of friends are still sometimes getting gift bags of fresh fish for their birthdays.

After graduation, Mike found a job working at a seed company as a salesman. It seemed a good job for Mike as he strongly supported farming. Things went fine until a type of seed didn't yield- and farmers were left with poor crops. Jim remembers, "Mike was determined to help the farmers. There were hundreds of acres planted of the seed that Mike sold. Mike was called into company's head office and was told, "Can't you think of the company- and not the farmer, for once?" Mike said "NO." He got a permanent note in his file over that."

One of the only times Mike changed- was when he met his wife, Sandy, for the first time through mutual friends. "It was love at first sight when he met Sandy. He didn't want to talk about crops, sports or anything, just Sandy. They later married and they were complete, together," Jim says.

Farmers were so important to Mike and when he was hired as Parts Manager for Ross Doble Inc. in Sunderland that then specialized in Case IH (brands of farm equipment), he found the job he would never want to leave. "Mike grew up with Case IH," Jody Howe, General Manager for Ross Doble Inc. said and "even before computers, he took the time to find even the smallest part. When we broke off from Case IH, we kept a 4 year part contract- but Mike didn't stop after 4 years. He would go after work here to a Case IH dealer if needed- and he often delivered parts too. From a business sense, a 1945 something that needs a bearing is not worth much to the dealership selling it- but Mike didn't see it that way."

Jim says once Mike got working at Ross Doble Inc., fishing trips usually had stops to deliver parts as "Mike said someone in South River or Powasson needed parts and since we were going that way he offered to deliver." The Parts Manager legend was known across Ontario.

Mike and his wife moved to a property near Woodville where, per usual, he moved right into the centre of life there. Mike had an Uncle Henry that introduced him to canoeing. In his new area, there is a large municipal drain. Mike decided to start a "Paddle the Drain" event. He had canoes but others didn't so he sourced out canoes, fixed them and he had a canoe fleet to lend out. Evelyn Chambers, longtime Peniel United Church member and former neighbor says, "Mike was an integral part of Peniel church... grass cutter, care taker extraordinaire (with Sandy), launched and organized the Paddle down the drain each spring which included clearing the drain of debris, fallen trees etc. and on the day of the event provided canoes and kayaks to anyone who wished to participate however didn't have one of their own. He was given to saying you could never have too many canoes."

He owned antique tractors so joined Kawartha Antique Power (KAP) in 2009. Again, he got into the centre and was seven years on the Executive. In March 2022, Mike was elected to President. KAP Vice President and Interim-Chair, Michael Bruce from Woodville says, "Mike was an exceptionally good leader. He liked working with the next generation and was always thinking about his grandchildren. He took on the job of the Kids Push Pedal Tractor part of our KAP Heritage show. He would get tractors for every kid entered. He did so much "behind the scenes" work too for KAP. He would, if asked, get parts for anything and he would first give us options based on price," he said. He added that Mike would make phone calls or send emails for KAP business during his lunch break (at Ross Doble Inc.) because "Mike just jumped in to help because he knew a lot of us don't have good internet at work. Mike is so missed for his leadership, his willingness to help, his incredible



Michael Ray Maye
March 20, 1957 ~ November 12, 2022

knowledge."

Those Pedal Tractors often came in to Ross Doble's Inc., General Manager Howe says, "Customers heard about Mike's need for Pedal Tractors and we had a lot come in here. Mike would get them to the shop here, fix them up and get them ready for the Show so every kid had a tractor. He added that Mike had a special place for children, "Mike and I were known as the "Ground floor Grandfathers." While adults were on the couch talking, we were on the floor with our grandkids or taking them out to the field or the playground."

Dealing with the public can be a challenge but Mike didn't see it that way, "Mike could find something good in everyone for the 30 years I worked with him, he said adding, "Mike was always good natured. We aren't sure yet how we can cope without him (at Ross Doble Inc.), he had been here with us for 35 years."

Mike was ill for about a month before the Parts Manager Legend passed away unexpectedly at 65 years old on November 12. "The Good Book says, "But he who is the greatest among you shall be Your servant"....although we never thought of Mike as our servant, that was truly the case for Mike Maye," Jim Tindall concludes.

Mike was husband for 37 years to Sandra (Coakley), father of two children, Brandi and Blair (Stephanie). He was grandfather to four grandchildren, Felicity, Luke, Genevieve and Alex.

To remember Mike, donations can be sent to Kawartha Antique Power or the Woodville United Church at Box 164, Woodville, ON KOM 2T0



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Dealing with Deadstock

By Cathy Hamill-Hill

Owning livestock means owning deadstock at some point. No livestock farmer can raise and/or keep animals without one day having to deal with a dead animal eventually. Gone are the days of calling a number, paying \$250 for someone to pick up the dead- and being done with the sad side of livestock ownership.

Today, in Kawartha Lakes and in many areas across Ontario- there are no numbers to call to remove deadstock with the exception of horses.

Victoria Beef Producers held an information meeting in Cambray on November 28 on this difficult topic. Peter Doris, Environment Specialist from OMAFRA was in attendance

to explain the rules now for dealing with deadstock. He admitted he knew farmers need a “deadstock hauler” but such a business no longer exists for the cattle industry in Ontario.

The first rule is not to be hauling deadstock without a leak- proof carrier and it can only be done between properties owned by the same farmer or to the local vet for a post-mortem. This is a federal rule that governs the transport and disposal of dead cattle off the death site. The Canadian Food Inspection Agency permit for transporting dead cattle must be in place for all other transportation. This rule is in place to help eliminate bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) from Canada.

No burial is permitted in areas where the bottom of the burial site is less than 0.9 m (about 2.9 feet) from bedrock or an aquifer. There is a maximum of 2,500 kg (about 5,510 pounds) per burial site measured immediately before burial. Multiple sites are permitted however, there must be adequate separation distance between them to reduce the risk of groundwater contamination through leaching.

Doris said several times it is well known that the current situation- with no deadstock pick-up option- that there is a lot more required of the farmer at an already bad time of dealing with deadstock. He said that farmers need to keep records, “Livestock owners must record and keep records for two years. You need the date of when the animal died, assumed reason of death, its estimated weight, date it was disposed of and location of its disposal.”

In an emergency situation like a barn fire where there are many deadstock, Doris said the OMAFRA office should be called so an Emergency Authorization for Deadstock can be issued. OMAFRA staff, he said, can get some of the rules lifted as in amount of deadstock allowed in one burial site, in some instances, he said adding the OMAFRA can also step in to help the farmer deal with the insurance company concerning timelines of deadstock removal.

Kelly Maloney, Agriculture Development Officer for the City of Kawartha Lakes said that she understands the frustration of “what to do with deadstock, when no one picks up cattle in the Kawartha Lakes.”

She said that deadstock collectors have become fewer and fewer over the years. She said the costs alone for the deadstock collector have skyrocketed plus the amount of regulations that need to be followed to do the job increased. Plus, she added, “it is not a job that a lot of people want to do.”

For the farmer, costs are not one bit financially better with the most common form of disposal which is burial. “How many farms own a backhoe?” she said adding that a “creative solution” needs to be found. She reported other countries have come up with mobile incinerators coming to the farm, for a fee, and cremate the deadstock into a small pile of ashes. However, Canada’s environmental rules are different than many countries.

Other Agricultural officers in the province share the concern over not having a deadstock collector. “We (Agricultural Officers) are looking for an interested operator- and we all can come together and try and create a solution to this problem of what to do with deadstock.”

Next Month: New Transportation Regulations for Cattle

For those with cattle operations, it is best to have an on-farm plan for the dead. There is only a 48 hour window of time- and less in the summer in hot, humid conditions to dispose of the animal.

One such plan can be for composting. Outside stalls with a cement floor and cement sides as well as a roof are required. The dead animals are put in the stalls along with sawdust, wood chips, old straw or old hay. For composting to work, it has to be continually turned over. Once finished, the compost has bone fragments no larger than 15 cm in any dimension and has no odour. The finished compost can be spread on fields.

One of the most popular forms of deadstock care is to bury it and that starts with having or renting a backhoe to meet the rules. Here, the rules are in place, to protect ground and surface water. The new standards are that deadstock is placed in a burial pit covered with at least 0.6 m (about 1.9 feet) of soil at all times the pit is open.



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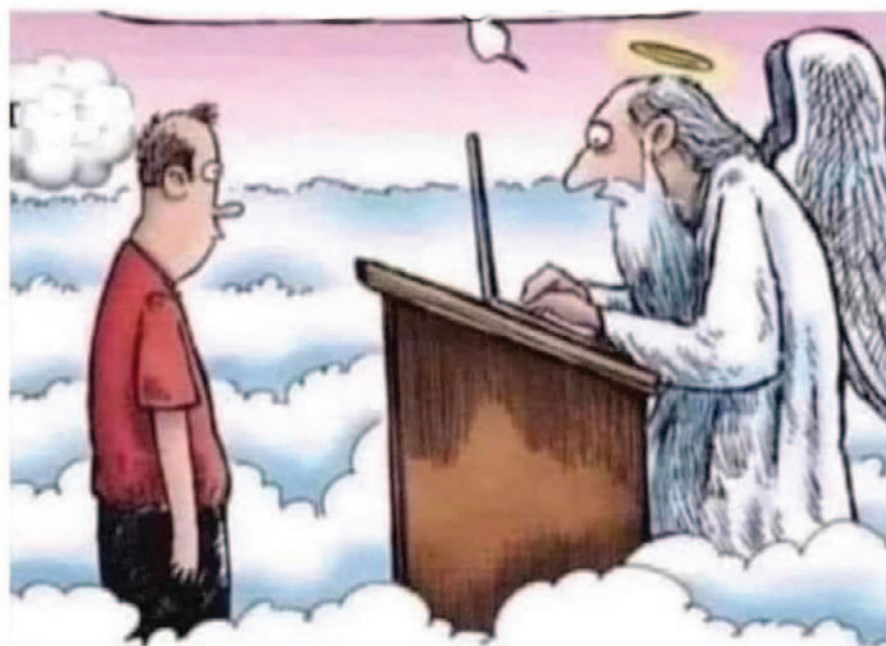
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Year end at South Simcoe 4-H

Story and photos by Don Beaulieu

Wrapping up the year's activities with a 4-H group is always a very exciting and positive experience. Specific successes are recognized, the opportunities afforded our children and the dedicated efforts of volunteers, organizers, host farms and businesses are all shown appreciation in one form or another. Most importantly, the skills and experiences 4-H members have learned will be with them for ever. The South Simcoe 4-H Association is no exception, and one we feature here in Farm View often. All the adults involved also speak of the wonderful experiences they encounter while mentoring the members. Everyone wins.

At the South Simcoe year-end event held in Baxter last month, representatives from all the clubs had a spokesperson tell the crowd of organizers, officials, volunteers and family members what it was the club meant to them. Each spokesperson emphasized their leaders and thanked them specifically for their dedication.

The book club had some interesting comments, with each member offering their personal highlight of the club's activities. One member's highlight was "The snacks." This was confirmed by a couple of the leaders. "I got to hang out with kids who love to read books" was another leader's response. All the comments confirmed the value of each club as seen by the members involved. The Vet Medicine club also offered individual highlights. A new and popular club is the automotive and mechanics club.

Before the clubs made their presentations, there was time to mingle and watch a slide show of the many and varied

activities members took part in during the year. Miller's Dairy had white milk and chocolate milk available. There was coffee, tea, apple cider and snacks available throughout.

The official proceedings got underway with Lisa Craig welcoming everyone. Mae Senick brought further greetings from the South Simcoe 4-H Association. As well as being on the board of directors, Senick is also the vice-president. She noted there are over 30 active clubs in South Simcoe, giving recognition to the leaders who allow such a diversity of experiences. She encouraged ideas for more clubs to be suggested if someone had an interest or skill to offer.

The GayLea New Leader award was presented to Trish Downey by Faith Kirk, board member and support co-ordinator for Region 4. Kirk is also a registered social service worker and an advocate for mental health. She is the primary contact for volunteers in the region. A number of leaders were recognized for their efforts. Despite the public address system failure, the evening continued very smoothly with volunteer awards and the club awards. Craig was acting as master of ceremonies and did a fine job.

Scott Cullen explained the variety and value of scholarships available through 4-H, encouraging members to apply.

All members can be proud of their participation. They were asked to prompt their friends to become involved in 4-H.



Shown in the photo above is Faith Kirk. Kirk is the support co-ordinator for Region 4. She is a registered Social Service Worker and is a strong advocate for mental health. She is the contact for the region's volunteers. Pictured to the right is Scott Cullen. Cullen is on the board of Directors for South Simcoe 4-H and is involved in many of the clubs, including the games club, hiking club, maple syrup club and the mountain biking club.



4-H members pose for a year end photo.

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Agricultural Anecdotes from Farmer Tim

As I get older it has become much clearer that bringing happiness to others is much more satisfying than getting stuff. I think that blogging had also opened my eyes to the much more pressing needs of the world and the people around me. As I reflect on my year of social media, I can't help but think of a few individuals.

There was a farm family who reached out for help when they lost their entire barn to a fire. You guys came through and gave them support when they needed it the most.

There was a mom who lost her son to suicide and messaged me for advice on how to get closure. You guys gave her the love and understanding that she needed to get by.

I will never forget the vegans who came to my aid when I was getting hated on by animal rights activists. They put their beliefs aside to help a fellow human being.

I remember the farm family who lost their dad/husband to cancer and their struggle to keep the farm going after their loss.

Then there are the countless farmers who have faced disaster because of politics, economics, weather, etc. - the sweat of countless generations lost forever.

I could go on but my point is that Christmas isn't a merry time for everyone. In fact,

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!"

the holidays only magnify the sadness and loss that is felt by some. Perhaps what is needed is more presence and fewer presents. Visit friends and take time for the lonely. Give the gift of time. As farmers we are always talking about how we care for our land and our livestock when taking care of our fellow human beings should always be our first priority. I know that not everyone celebrates Christmas but no matter how you spend the holidays try to make a difference in someone's life. I will be taking a break from social media over Christmas to spend time with family. I suggest you try to do the same. Life is precious and fleeting so enjoy it while you can. So I want those of you who celebrate the season to enjoy your presents and the time with your families but I also want you to remember something. I want you to remember that the holiday season isn't a joyous time for everyone. Please do what you can to help the lost, the lonely and the unfortunate in your communities and around the world. Sometimes all that is required is a little time, a kind note or a listening ear. I'm always talking about how farmers care for their land and their livestock but people are always a priority. This Christmas I want you all to give the gifts of compassion and love to your fellow man.

New Report Clearly Shows Need for Government to Remove Tariffs on Fertilizer Imports for Farmers

Ontario grain farmers worried about access to plant nutrition for 2023 growing season.

Grain Farmers of Ontario, the province's largest commodity organization, representing Ontario's 28,000 barley, corn, oat, soybean and wheat farmers, unveiled a new report by Josh Linville, Vice President Fertilizer, StoneX: "Farmers Need Fertilizer," which represents a robust study of fertilizer and the circumstances and trends that have led to the current negative environment for farmers and the Canadian food system.

The Farmers Need Fertilizer report outlines the complexity of global fertilizer supply, demand, and price, and shows how Canada's tariffs on fertilizer have an impact on farmers in Ontario. It also explores the investments required to address the fertilizer supply in Canada in the longer-term.

"The results of the report echo what we have been saying. 'Farmers Need Fertilizer' shows that the best short-term solution for food security is for the Canadian government to remove the burden of tariffs on imported fertilizer," said Brendan Byrne, Chair, Grain Farmers of Ontario. "The report also explores the magnitude of the investment required to implement other solutions to address Canada's fertilizer supply."

Grain farmers are not alone in calling on government to put food security first and remove all barriers to crop inputs such as fertilizer. The United Nations Secretary General António Guterres has also called on governments around the world to: remove barriers to "avert a global food crisis and ensure food security."

The Farmers Need Fertilizer report cites the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) position that commercial fertilizer is directly responsible for approximately 60 per cent of total world food production. And that without commercial fertilizers, global food security would become considerably harder to attain, especially with a growing population.

To read more about the report and understand the current and potential situation for fertilizer and Canadian farms, please visit <https://gfo.ca/government-relations/fertilizer-report/>.



AUCTIONS?

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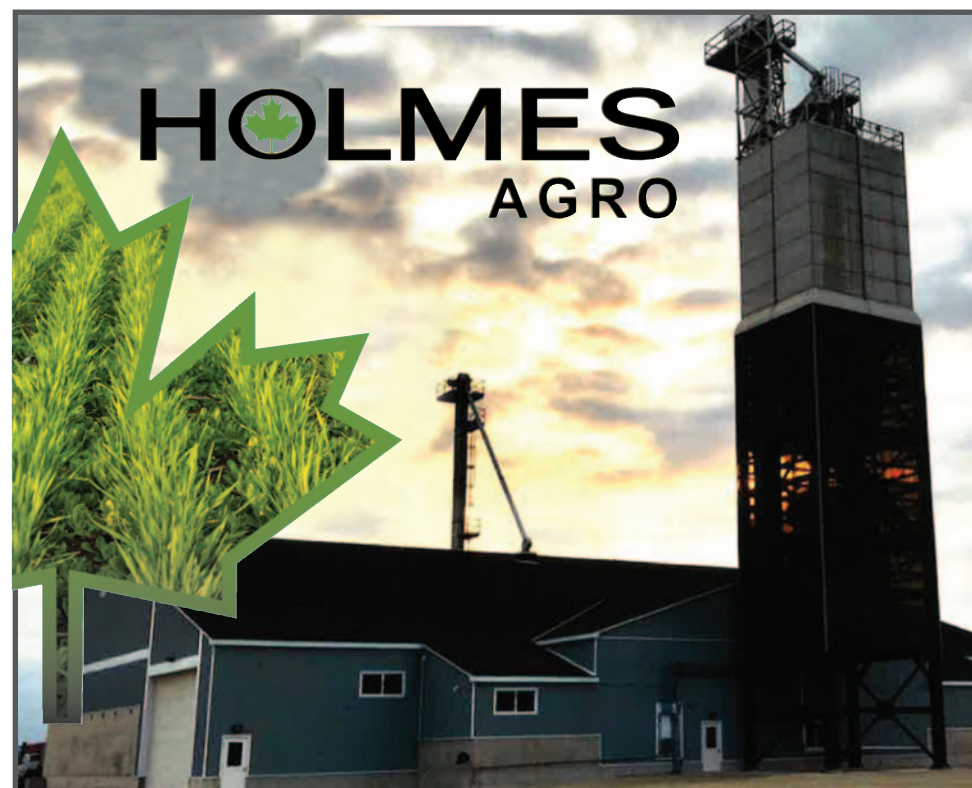
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After The Chores: Snow Animals

Story and photo by Cathy Hamill-Hill



I watched the weather warnings carefully- and this storm was coming.

Llama Hummer and his son, Pandee, don't spend their days together. Hummer spends his days out in the paddock by the barn watching over his sheep, Pandee wanders around in the yard as Pandee wants to see Hummer, he just can't share a fenced in with area with him now. At night, Hummer goes to his pen and Pandee has to decide what he wants to do. Pandee can stay loose in the barn or he can go outside, by himself to the paddock.

This storm started exactly as predicted, the west wind was blowing around a bit of snow at night chore time. I put the sheep in first since hauling in loose hay covered in snow is an ugly job and this time I could avoid it. Going out to get the hay for the goats in the barn, the snow was now starting to fall- and I was accompanied, per usual by three dancing doe kids. The kids raced back to the barn on the first cold blast on their faces. I was surprised to have company to the feeder, Pandee.

I did my best to get Pandee in the barn. I tried to pull him out of the feeder but he refused to move. I clapped my gloves in his face. Pandee did not move his feet but he got mad and spit his mouthful of hay over me. My glasses were then splattered in llama spit and spotted from the snow. I told him in a stern voice as I wiped off my glasses that he was a dumb llama and he would regret being out this night and spitting was rude. I tried one more pull- and Pandee pushed his head in further. He was too big to be carried. I knew

Pandee would be okay- but it still feels wrong to leave an animal out in a snowstorm beside a barn.

The next morning the wind was gone- but there was snow on the ground and snow coming down. Isaac is better dressed for the snow this year- but he was a sad red pup as I dug out his tie-out in the snow. Isaac didn't do any big, happy jumps, he slumped instead in the snow.

As much as I hate winter, the Camera calls out on the first big snowfall. I had to go back in the house to get Camera which set Isaac hoping he could go back in too. By the time I got back, Isaac was up to his knees in snow as the snow was really coming down now.

At the barn, I met a pathetic looking Pandee who now was humming to get inside. His back was a mat of snow and he had snow stuck to his long eyelashes. He pushed his snowy neck between the gate and the post, he was so wanting to get in the warm barn. I told him we needed a picture first as he was not going to look like this any time soon again, as he threw himself against the gate in protest. He also had to listen to the lecture about not listening to me last night.

I had to push Pandee back to open the gate and as soon as the gate opened, the snowy llama blasted into the barn. Pandee looked at Hummer who was dry and warm and then he went to the back of barn and lied down.

Once chores got done, Isaac was a red ball of snow. We let him in the house and he went right to the couch, curled up in a little ball and went sound asleep. No usual barking, no stealing, no shredding, we worried he was sick. At lunch time, Isaac was ready for snacks but he was polite, quiet and acting like a people loving Labrador Retriever. He pulled himself up to Sweetie's recliner chair for the first time in his life and had a short nap here too.

Except for one little chase of Daisy the cat, Isaac was a model dog. I kept checking his nose to make sure he was not ill. Sweetie said that "he was turning

into a Lab." He came to us wanting attention. Twice, I got so carried away that I called him "Larry." Larry was our previous Lab, a most loving, sweet, silent, typical loving Lab he was. There was no sign of the racing, barking dog named Isaac that throws himself on the couch and rolls around upside down and then jumps off barking at top volume.

That night at chores, Isaac raced through the barn at top speed. He barked from the barn door. He chased sheep and got yelled at for it, per usual in the barn. He cute sat for dog biscuits and gulped them down, per usual. Once chores were over, Isaac leaped up the stairs in the house and then silently went to the couch and lied down.

Isaac was like a normal Lab- until the snow started to melt. When Isaac bounced into the house and started barking at top volume, we knew the good times were over.

I may have found something, finally to enjoy in the winter- a snow Lab.



Pandee the Llama, pictured above, didn't listen- and experienced the first snowstorm of the season, outside. He was glad to get in the barn by morning.

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Open house at Radomere Farms
Story and photos by Don Beaulieu



The Holsteins are clearly very comfortable and well taken care of in their new home.

Employing the latest technologies in dairy farming, Trevor Klein-Gebbinck and family invited the local agricultural community, friends and neighbours to take a look at their new Holstein set-up west of Elmvale, Ontario, in Springwater Township recently. The herd of approximately 70 (about 60 currently milking) enjoy the latest automated robotic milking system in their 280 foot by 77 foot barn.

With two Lely A5 milking robots, the cows decide when they need to be milked. Allowing them to eat, drink or otherwise relax allows them to go with their natural rhythm resulting in more milk production. The latest technology allows for less energy required to achieve faster and more accurate attachment, with a larger reach than previous models.

Much of the daily manual labour is taken care of by other robotics. A Lely Juno Flex feed pusher keeps their fodder within reach; no more shoveling it back as the cows shove it out too far. Lely states this stimulates the cows to eat more, improving health and that it “improves fertility, production and financial results.”

Manure is robotically removed from the barn with scrapers and ends up in a 120 foot by 14 foot pit with a Dairy-power manure aeration system. To help keep the cows clean (which also means healthy) there is a standard 6 foot automated footbath for them. Canarm stabling and gates keep the herd safe and allow for easy movement as necessary.

All the contractors involved in the building of the barn were on hand at the open house. Murcott Design, Grand River Robotics, Klein Electric, to name just a few. It was a good opportunity to see their products in use and ask questions. Everyone was in on playing host to the hundreds of visitors. Roast beef-on-a-bun was served-up by Lisa of Murcott Design and Amber of Klein Electric for most of the day. These gals were very popular, with many folk coming back to see them a second time. Blair and Jade from Masterfeeds kept the crowd supplied with hot coffee. It was truly hard to keep track of so many familiar faces as many of us have been holed-up for a few years. There was a lot of catching-up going on between compliments being made about the barn itself.

Local business was in on the action, including BMR PRO in Elmvale, DLG Services, Elmvale Sand and Gravel, Desroches Concrete, Priest Plumbing, FCC, Cronin Poured Concrete (liquid manure storage tank), Masterfeeds, Heartland Vets, Buchanan & Hall (refrigeration), Ventway (of Proton Station), Abate and Associates Inc. (flooring) and Partner Ag Services (dairy supply)... and if we’ve missed someone, we apologize. Everyone played a significant role to achieve an exceptional end result for Radomere Farms and this family operation.



Pictured above at left is Lou Mason of General Seed Company speaking with Leah Emms of the Ontario Federation of Agriculture during the Radomere open house. After a few years of little personal contact everyone was very talkative, catching up and supporting each other. Integration of technology into farming, easing stress, is always a reason to celebrate.



Beef on a bun was popular with guests at Radomere Farms. Pictured above is Lisa of Murcott Design, handing out the buns to appreciative visitors. Just out of the photo Amber from Klein Electric was filling the buns with the all-important beef portion.



New contest asks Canadian growers how they outsmart pest resistance on their farms

Canadian field crop growers are being asked to share their resistance management tips, tricks and success stories in a new first-of-its-kind online contest in Canada – Pest Management Challenge: How do you outsmart resistance on your farm?

The contest is hosted by Manage Resistance Now, a collaborative effort of industry, academia and government experts, brought together by CropLife Canada to raise awareness and promote the adoption of strategies to manage weed, insect and disease resistance.

“What better way to get farmers thinking about resistance management issues in their fields than by rewarding them for sharing their own experiences?” says Jennifer Hubert, Executive Director, Plant Biotechnology with CropLife Canada. “Canadian farmers are already dealing with resistance issues on their farms and the Pest Management Challenge is an opportunity to get people talking and to encourage the adoption of resistance management best practices. After all, this is critical to protecting crop yield and quality today and to ensure continued access to tech-

nologies to support sustainable production going forward.”

The online contest (pestmanagementchallenge.ca) is open to all Canadian growers from November 29, 2022 to March 31, 2023*. Contest entrants can fill out the short online form and share their own experiences for a chance to win an iPad Air 256 GB** and the first 200 entrants will receive a \$10 Tim Hortons electronic gift card. Three iPad prize winners will be drawn on April 10, 2023. Contest rules are available on the website.

“Pest resistance is a serious threat to growers. The support for this ‘challenge’ really demonstrates the agriculture industry’s collective commitment to stewardship and sustainability,” says Hubert.

The Pest Management Challenge: How do you outsmart resistance on your farm? contest is operated by CropLife Canada with support from Alberta Canola Producers Commission, BASF Canada, Grain Farmers of Ontario, Les Producteurs de grains du Québec, Pulse Canada, RealAgriculture and Syngenta Canada.

About Manage Resistance Now

Manage Resistance Now (managere-sistancenow.ca) is a complete go-to resource to help growers and industry proactively manage herbicide, insecticide and fungicide resistance. With a goal to increase knowledge and promote adoption of strategies that will lead to a reduction of weed, insect and disease resistance, Manage Resistance Now is a first-of-its-kind initiative in Canada. The initiative provides a holistic approach that includes resources on cultural, mechanical, biological and chemical best management practices.

Through the variety of resources offered, Manage Resistance Now aims to enable cross-sector sharing of scientific developments and field observations to help manage resistance issues for crop protection products and seed traits in Canada.

*Contest closes March 31, 2023 at 11:59 pm EDT.**3 iPad Air 256 GB tablets available to be won, ARV of \$1,000, odds of winning subject to the total number of eligible entries, mathematical skill testing question required to win an iPad.

NVCA calling for submissions from local artists

Artists who live in the Nottawasaga Watershed are invited to submit their best representation of the Tiffin Conservation Area or the Nottawasaga Bluffs Conservation Area for a chance to have their artwork displayed and used on NVCA conservation area merchandise.

The Nottawasaga Watershed includes 18 municipalities and spans from Wasaga Beach in the northeast to Moonstone and Bass Lake, southeast through Barrie and Bond Head to Hwy 9 then westward to Orangeville then heading north through Collingwood to Nottawasaga Bay. Artists can check to see if they live in the Nottawasaga Watershed by using NVCA’s Interactive Data Viewer.

“We have been offering recreation opportunities in our conservation areas since the 1970s,” said Kyra Howes, Manager of Lands and Operations at NVCA. “Many of our visitors have developed a special relationship with these natural areas. Some people started coming to our conservation areas as children, and continue visiting their whole lives. We also have many regulars who enjoy our conservation areas year-round! We want everyone to have an opportunity to con-

tribute to this initiative.”

A panel of NVCA staff will review artwork submissions and have their top picks judged by the public. There will only be one winner and two runners up. The artist who receives first place will receive \$350, an annual parking pass, choice of merchandise item with their design. The two runners up will receive an annual parking pass and their art displayed at the subject conservation area.

“As this is a new initiative, we are calling for submissions for the Tiffin and Nottawasaga Bluff Conservation Areas for now. If this campaign is successful, we will be calling for art submissions for other conservation areas as well.”

All artwork submitted must be in colour, in the shape of a circle or rectangle. As the artwork will be embroidered, artists are asked not include shading or thin lines.

Artists are welcome to submit their artwork to events@nvca.on.ca until February 6, 2023. The winning artwork will be chosen on/by February 13, 2023. For full submission rules, visit <https://www.nvca.on.ca/about/careers-volunteers>.



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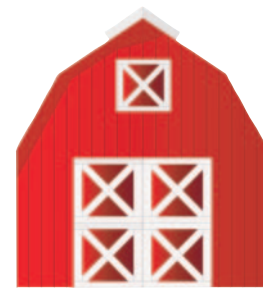
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QUILTING

Quilting Corners Guild present four community partners with labours of love

Story and photos provided by Senora Baldry



Quilting Corners Guild made their presentation of quilts to our four community partners on December 6. Once again our membership has been very busy and created 79 Quilts of Comfort, 8 Quilts of Valour and 107 quilted stockings since our last presentations in July 2022. We are always so happy to share with Matthew’s House Hospice, Quilts of Valour-Canada, My Sister’s Place and Simcoe Manor. Each of these services provide important supports and comforts within our community. Since 2006, QCG has made 1445 quilts and 807 stockings in support of these important organizations. We will take a little break to spend time with family and friends during the holidays, but our needles will be ready to sew in 2023. Happy Holidays!

Pictured here clockwise beginning at the very top are presentations to My Sister’s Place, Matthew’s House Hospice, Simcoe Manor, Quilts of Valour - Canada, and a second photo of Matthew’s House Hospice.



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Soul Sisters Celebrations

Happy New Year! We hope everyone had a lovely holiday season, celebrating whatever traditions are near and dear to your hearts. We wish you all a very Happy year ahead and want to encourage you to be gentle to yourselves. Many of us have just made it through a season of celebration. These times can bring forward a large range of experiences and emotions such as joy, grief, comfort, stress, gratitude and so much more. The most important part of the statement and greeting "Happy New Year" is the Happy. We often hear things like, "the new year, the new you" and are often asked what changes we are going to make or resolve to do. This is an excellent time to remind you all, each one of us is perfectly imperfect. Don't feel compelled to set all sorts of resolutions, especially if those resolutions will cause unnecessary stress in your life. Ask yourself, "is there something I need to change?" "Is this something that will help my spiritual well being?" If you feel that there is, look at how you can effectively and realistically make it happen to avoid setting yourself up for feelings of disappointment. Don't sweat the small stuff! If life is moving along well for you, just go with it. If something isn't broken, there is no need to feel the need to fix it and remember, show yourself the same kindness you show to others! We came across this New Year poem and thought we'd share it with you!

Happy New Year by Author: Catherine Pulsifer

Happiness depends upon your outlook on life. - Find the good in all situations
 Attitude is just as important as ability. Keep your attitude positive
 Passion find yours this year! - Do what you love and you will never work
 Positive thoughts make everything easier. Stay focused and stay positive
 You are unique, with special gifts, use them. - Never forget you have talent
 New beginnings with a new year.
 Enthusiasm a true secret of success.
 Wishes may they turn into goals.
 Years go by too quickly, enjoy them. Wisdom from your elders, listen
 Energy may you have lots of it. Take care of yourself
 Appreciation of life, don't take it for granted. Live each day
 Relax take the time to relax in this coming year. Keep a balance in your life

In Gratitude,
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Reverend Erin Wilson and Reverend Kelly Blakely
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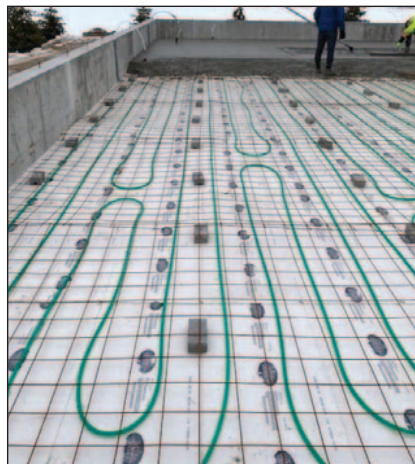
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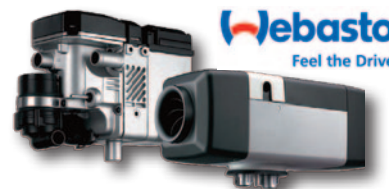
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Compost can help food production

By Cathy Hamill-Hill

Dr. Lord Abby has a Ph.D in Plant Science and a Masters in Tropical Horticulture and Crop Science amongst his education credentials- and presented a paper he worked on with a group of others called Increasing Food & Nutrition Security While Sustaining Soil's Ecosystem Services and Biodiversity: Research Findings from the Long-Term Application of Compost. The paper was on findings from a 5 year study on the effects of Municipal Solid Waste compost on three common plants used for food.

The goal of the United Nations sustainable development "is to provide adequate and consistent nutritious food for the estimated 9.73 billion world population by 2050" Dr. Abby said in a webinar presentation. He said the need is there to make more food in the same space. At the same time, the waste from Municipalities is another problem, "Global generation of solid waste (MSW) is estimated at 2 billion metric tonnes per year- and it is expected to raise to 2.59 billion in 2030," he said adding the increase is "mainly because of urbanization and changes in people's lifestyles."

All the waste created by people is actually 40% from kitchen, yard, restaurants, hotels and groceries and are "organic and compostable," Dr. Abby explained. He added that "MSW compost is a significant source of nutrients, macromolecules, and other compounds essential for plant growth and development." While this waste is organic, it is not easily accepted by either food producers or food consumers as the fear is that compost can contain pathogens like Salmonella or harmful foreign objects. However, the realization is starting to see MSW compost in a better light.

There was a 5 year organic field research held on Agaard Farms in Brandon, Manitoba between Fall 2015 and winter 2020. Crops planted were Golden Wax green beans, Grand Rapids lettuce and Detroit Supreme beets and were all purchased as seeds from Brandon, Manitoba. Extensive studies were done- and the yields were greatly enhanced after using MSW compost, even obvious just by viewing pictures.

"The positive impact of compost on crop productivity is well established," he said adding that the studies had compost applied annually or bi-annually to see the difference. It was shown that annual composting using MSW compost has the most yield in the plants.

Taking a useless product and giving it to produce food is a huge find. Dr. Abby says, "Currently, farmers are faced with many challenges in relation to soil health which is exacerbated by sustained global climate change and the current global shortage and high cost of fertilizers" He said this study is "urgently needed and timely."

After the highly detailed study results were fully analyzed by experts, it was decided that there was real benefit for MSW compost on food producing plants. "We concluded that MSW compost application is safe and effective for food production. Therefore, annual applications of MSW compost can be classified as climate smart and sustainable practice for the maintenance or rejuvenation of agricultural soils for nutrient-dense food production over the long term."



Immune-boosting vegetable and chickpea soup

Recipe and photo by Roslyn Watkins

I was inspired after seeing posts on the Compost Council of Canada's Facebook page promoting the Plant-Grow-Share a Row program. Reading about this program and all the delicious soup recipes on their website made me want to share a favourite of my own.

This is a very versatile soup with many nutritional benefits. Ginger and garlic improve immunity, carrots are good for your heart and blood pressure, celery has anti-inflammatory compounds and lemon is beneficial to the liver as a few examples.

The chickpeas provide inexpensive protein and fiber to help keep you full but you can add cooked chicken or turkey as well.

Toss in onions, diced sweet potato, cooked rice or noodles to vary the recipe to your liking.

Have a look at the website www.growarow.org for more inspiration and tips for planning your spring and summer vegetable garden this year.

Ingredients

2 tbsp olive oil
6 large garlic cloves minced
2 1/2 tsp minced or grated fresh ginger
3 medium carrots, peeled and diced
3 medium celery stalks, diced
3/4 tsp dried thyme
2 tbsp tomato paste

Method

In a large pot warm the olive oil over medium heat, add in the garlic and ginger, saute over medium heat for 4 to 5 mins until fragrant. Add the diced carrots and celery and saute for another 5 mins. Add the thyme, tomato paste, broth, and chickpeas. Bring the soup to a boil over high heat, add in the frozen spinach then reduce the heat to medium and continue cooking for 20 mins or so until the spinach is thawed and the soup is warmed through. Serve with a squeeze of the lemon juice and a dash of cayenne pepper if you like a little heat.

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tions and times, to have the food distribution agencies weigh and record the weight of total donations to provide some measure of success, to enlist the support of master gardeners, home gardeners, garden clubs, youth groups, seniors, schools, churches, local growers, community gardens and the media.

In each community, a committee should be formed to organize this effort. The committee needs a chairperson and

a food bank representative to coordinate and guide the initiative, a media person for promotion, and where possible, a master gardener, a garden club representative, a local service club representative and, if possible, municipal representatives and local celebrities.

If you are interested in forming a committees please contact the national coordinators by calling 1-877-571-GROW(4769).



5 cups vegetable broth, bought or your own
1 540ml can drained and rinsed chickpeas (I like to peel them but not necessary unless you have an extra 30 mins)
2 cups frozen spinach or chopped fresh kale
1 tsp fresh lemon juice or more to taste
Cayenne pepper (optional)

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Lithium Battery Safety *By Dennis Gannon*

Did you or someone you know get an ebike, electric scooter or drone for Christmas? How about a new cell phone, computer or tablet? New cordless drill, saw or driver? A new electric vehicle? That's quite a broad list and you may wonder what they have in common. The answer, they are all powered by a lithium-ion battery. The lithium battery as they are more commonly known have a very high capacity which permits them to power these devices quickly with lots of energy. As an example, most electric bikes have the ability to travel upwards of 20 kilometers on a single charge. An electric car which uses a lithium battery can go upwards of 450 kilometers. The lithium battery is inherently safe but when improperly used or charged, they can cause extensive damage and injury. Over the past several years there has been a sig-

nificant increase in fires caused by the improper use or charging of the battery and the device being charged. When a fire does occur with the batteries it is called thermal runaway. The thermal reaction cannot be easily stopped. The reaction gives off extreme heat which in turn causes a fire. Once a thermal runaway starts, it cannot be halted, even by unplugging the device. Injury can occur as the battery could possibly explode as well as catch other objects nearby on fire.

There are a number of precautions that we can take to ensure that these otherwise safe batteries continue to provide the necessary energy to our devices. Allow batteries to come to room temperature before charging. Never attempt to charge a battery in below freezing temperatures. Do not exceed the recommended charging time. Frequently fires have been occurring in garages when left too long or not supervised.

Charge your devices only on a hard surface and not on soft surfaces, such as a couch or bed. Soft surfaces can trap heat around the battery. Use the charger that came with your device. Do not keep batteries on a charger once the charging cycle is completed. Only charge batteries when you are home or present to monitor the process. If you need to buy or replace a charger, make sure the voltage and current are compatible with your device. Make sure to use a charger that has one of the recognized Cana-

dian certification marks, such as CSA, cUL or cETL and do not use uncertified chargers. It is important to note that you do not use batteries that are swollen, dented or show other signs of damage. They are unsafe and should be taken out of service and recycled.

Children should not take battery-operated items to bed. Burns and other injuries can occur if the batteries leak or overheat during the night. Do not leave battery-operated devices, like cell phones and laptops, on your bed while you sleep, especially while charging. They can get very hot and possibly start on fire. You should not attempt to repair a device containing a battery if it is not recommended by the manufacturer. Damage to a lithium-ion battery can result in hazards, such as overheating, fire or explosions. Follow manufacturers instructions and remove batteries from devices that will not be used for an extended period of time. Finally If you feel excessive heat coming from the charging device, remove the item from the power source and place it away from any combustible items until it has cooled down. Call the fire department if needed. Replace the battery as soon as possible. Your local fire department is a great source if you have any questions about lithium battery safety and they would be happy to answer any questions you may have. Enjoy your new device or old one and remember to charge and follow all the instructions that came with it.





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New Executive Director Named for OSCIA

Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association (OSCIA) is pleased to announce that starting January 16, 2023, Harry Stoddart will take the helm as the new Executive Director. Stoddart brings a unique combination of leadership experience in not-for-profit and public agencies along with 25 years of direct experience in Ontario agriculture.

Andrew Graham, the current ED, plans to retire in June 2023 after a celebrated career that will have spanned 43 years, starting at Upper Thames River Conservation Authority in London, and then the Oxford County office of the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs in Woodstock. In 1990, Graham's career in soil and water conservation shifted to OSCIA where he worked for many years, primarily in the design and delivery of numerous stewardship education and incentive programs and special projects for the farm community. He has served in the role of ED for the last eight years. Graham will take on the role of Executive Officer in January and provide support for the transition to Stoddart.

OSCIA is a unique not-for-profit grassroots farm organization. Over 50 county and district associations encompassed by 11 designated regions make up OSCIA's network of members. The diverse membership of over 4,000 has a significant presence in all agricultural areas of the province and across all major sectors. The OSCIA mandate is to facilitate responsible economic management of soil, water, air and crops through development and communication of innovative farming practices. They are farmers actively seeking, testing, and adopting optimal farm production and stewardship practices. The organization focuses

squarely on producer education and has been delivering stewardship programming to Ontario producers for 35 years. Their top research priority is soil health.

Stoddart brings to OSCIA considerable consulting experience in agri-food business strategy and policy design and has proven expertise in leading teams of employees and volunteers. He graduated in 1992 with a B.Sc. in Agricultural Economics from the University of Guelph and completed his Master's in Economics at Guelph in 1995. Before joining the Lindsay Agricultural Society as General Manager seven years ago, Stoddart and a business partner operated a 2,000-acre family farm that was successfully transitioned to certified organic. While farming, he took part in Environmental Farm Planning and conducted on-farm trials, including building, and field-testing the first cover crop roller in Ontario in 2005 to terminate cereal rye while no-tilling soybeans. He authored a book on his farming experiences titled, "Real Dirt: An Ex-industrial Farmer's Guide to Sustainable Farming."

"We are truly excited to introduce Harry Stoddart as our new executive director," said Warren Schneckenburger, OSCIA President. "With his tremendous experience and leadership capabilities, we think Harry is a perfect fit alongside our skilled team of expert staff and dedicated volunteers."

"I have deep respect for the reputation that OSCIA has earned through its many accomplishments in stewardship education, cost-share programming and applied research," says Stoddart. "I am honoured to be joining an organization that continues to play an integral role in leading efforts to tackle environmental and sustainability challenges in Ontario agriculture."

Traditions old and new: Parades in Simcoe County enjoyed by all

3rd Annual Minesing Christmas Tractor Parade

Story and photos by Dr. Tim Henshaw

The Minesing Christmas Tractor Parade, a now annual event was started during Covid Lockdown 2020. Coordinated by Shannon Giffen and Carley Duffy, the parade featured tractors and farm equipment of all sizes. It was a perfect evening to enjoy the event. Spectators came from farm and wide to enjoy the night, including the local backwaters of Ivy, Apto and Stayner. A highlight was the appearance of Swampy, the Minesing Swamp Monster and Santa who shared a float.

Josh and Noah Rowland of Rowland Brothers Moving donated their moving truck to collect donations of food, hygiene products and cash for the Elmvale Food Bank.

Thank you to all the farmers for their creative efforts. Thank you to the volunteer elves who collected donations and thanks to Rowland Brothers for collecting donation and delivering them to the Food Bank.



Anten Mills celebrates 25th anniversary parade

Story and photos by Roslyn Watkins

The Anten Mills 25th 'Silver' anniversary parade took place on a beautiful day mid December. The parade began with Springwater Fire leading the way, followed by Christmas wishes from the Vanderwielen's on the John Deer Tractor, then innovative and creative floats entered by each street in the village. The neighbouring town of Midhurst supported the parade with a float and the Midland Shiners put in a great coast guard float. MP Shipley and MPP Downey walked the route greeting residents and handing out the sought after Christmas candy.



Edward O'Brien of Shanty Bay

In 1828, John Colborne was appointed Lieutenant Governor of Upper Canada (now Ontario). The province was still woefully underpopulated, so over the next decade Colborne encourage immigration from Britain, increasing the population by 70%.

One of his initiatives for promoting immigration was to offer land to retired army and navy officers (initially the land was free, and after 1832 it was sold with heavy rebates based on the officer's rank and years of service). A military man himself, he was certain that the experience, leadership, and social status that these officers possessed would help lay a solid economic, political, and military foundation for newly settled areas.

Colborne eyed the western shore of Lake Simcoe for settlement. Nearly thirty officers and their families settled between Barrie and Orillia during the 1830s.

Among the more prominent was Lt. Colonel Edward O'Brien and his wife Mary. They would found the community of Shanty Bay and leave a legacy that endures to this day.

Born in Ireland, Edward George O'Brien enlisted in the Royal Navy in 1810 at the height of the Napoleonic Wars. Six years later, he transferred to the army. Retiring in 1826, he emigrated to Canada in 1829 and took up land near Thornhill, where he met and married Mary Sophia Gapper, a young English woman of education and refinement who came to Canada to visit and brother and fell in love with the colony.

O'Brien also met and befriended Lt. Governor Colborne, who convinced him to head a settlement on the shores of Lake Simcoe. The new community came to be called Shanty Bay for the log houses that were quickly erected to accommodate the newly arriving homesteaders. Edward and Mary, as befitting their standing, erected the largest home in Shanty Bay, a majestic estate they named The Woods. Soon, the hallways of this home were echoing to the sounds of six children racing and playing as the O'Brien family steadily

grew.

As emigrant agent for Oro Township, O'Brien took pride in overseeing the growth of Shanty Bay. He built a wharf, raised a school, and donated forty acres for St. Thomas' Anglican Church and its associated rectory. The church was built in manner rarely used in Canada.

The 'rammed earth' technique involved trampling wet clay and straw by oxen, packing the mud into forms, letting them dry, and then covering them with plaster for protection against the elements. It was time intensive but resulted in a sturdy building. St. Thomas' Church was finished in 1842 after four years of construction.

O'Brien also served as magistrate and as an officer in the militia, rising to the rank of Lt. Colonel in 1838 after loyal service during the MacKenzie Rebellion the year prior.

In 1845, with Shanty Bay well-established and his own health failing, O'Brien moved to Toronto to pursue business endeavors. O'Brien bought a newspaper, the Toronto Patriot, and was secretary of both the Provincial Mutual and General Insurance Company and the Lake Huron Union Railway (later the Northern Railway).

O'Brien never lost his love for The Woods. The estate was maintained as a summer home and when O'Brien retired in 1858 it was here that he chose to spend the golden years of his life. He died there in 1880.

Sadly, the Woods burned to the ground in 1925, but if one wants to find a reminder of Edward O'Brien's legacy, they need look no further than St. Thomas's Anglican Church, still very much active and as charming a church as you're likely to find in Ontario. Both Edward and Mary O'Brien are buried on its grounds.

Village stories

by Andrew Hind

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Worth a Chuckle... and life lessons

by Aunt Hazel

At a couple's counseling meeting the speaker mentioned that couples are so disconnected that 85% of husbands don't even know their wives favourite flower. John turned to his wife and whispered: "it's self rising, isn't it?"

When Brian was young he decided to go to medical school. At the entrance exam, the students were asked to rearrange the letters PNEIS and form the name of an important human body part which is most useful when erect.

Those who answered SPINE are doctors today...

Two little boys were at a wedding when one leaned over to the other and asked, "How many wives can a man have?" His friend answered, "Sixteen... four better, four worse, four richer, and four poorer."

Nancy said to her neighbour, "that's a nice ham you got there. Be a shame if someone put an 's' in front of it and an 'e' behind it."

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57th Annual Grey Bruce Farmers' Week 2023

In Person and Livestreamed

Grey Bruce Farmers' Week returns for its 57th consecutive year in 2023! This annual conference and tradeshow will be held in-person at the Elmwood Community Centre, or can be livestreamed from your home, between January 4th and 10th 2023.

The conference starts with Beef Day, followed by Dairy, Goat, Sheep, Horse, Ecological and Crops Day. It is a 7-day Agricultural Conference packed with a most impressive and informative line-up of speakers! The coordinators for this event, Grey County Ag Services, in conjunction with agricultural commodity leaders from Grey and Bruce Counties, look forward to seeing producers, agribusiness professionals, and industry experts gather together after two years of airing the conference virtually. They anticipate a stellar event with strong support from sponsors and exhibitors, as well as lots of enthusiasm from the audience. Not to be forgotten, the return of the in-person event also brings the return of the excellent hot roast beef meal! Goat and lamb will be served on their respective days, and pies will line dessert tables once more. Networking is always better when done over dinner!

New this year: whether audience members purchase tickets for livestreaming or in-person attendance, all will be given access to conference recordings for a thirty-day span post-event. Producers can make use of this 'Encore Access' in order to catch up on pieces that they may have missed, or to recap information that they found especially useful.

In addition to Encore Access for the live presentations, audience members will also find available twenty-one 'On Demand' presentations. These are pre-recorded and available for watching on the attendee's own time, from home. Topics covered are broad, and access to all twenty-one presentations are included with ticket purchases for any day of the week. This roughly triples the content available to the GBFW audience.

- The program will be strong as ever in 2023. Keynote speakers include:
- On Beef Day, Dr. Jordan Thomas, Cow-Calf Specialist from the University of Missouri, will deliver The 'Silent Killer' of Cow-Calf Profitability
 - On Dairy Day, Mike Hutjens, Ph.D., Professor of Animal Sciences at the University of Illinois, Urbana, will present Strategies with High Feed Prices
 - On Goat and Sheep Days, Dr. Robert Van Saun, Professor and Extension Veterinarian from Pennsylvania State University, will share Understanding Colostrum Quality and Passive Transfer and Pregnancy Toxemia and Milk Fever in Goats & Sheep
 - On Horse Day, Dr. Wendy Pearson, Associate Professor – Equine Physiology from the University of Guelph, will delve into Leaky Gut Syndrome in Horses
 - On Ecological Day, Dr. Vicky Levesque, Research Scientist – Soil Health, with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, will explore, Biochar: Ancient "Black Gold" Amendment Method May Improve Agricultural Soil Health of Today
 - On Crops Day: Andrew Pritchard, Senior Meteorologist for Nutrien Ag Solutions, will dig into, Disruptive Weather Patterns in Production Agriculture & Weather Outlook

tions, will dig into, Disruptive Weather Patterns in Production Agriculture & Weather Outlook

Many, many more excellent speakers fill out the schedules for each day, as well as panel discussions covering (by order of the day they appear) ROI on Grazing Cover Crops, Robotic Milking Systems: Past, Present and Future, Culling Tips for Goat Farms, Outwintering Sheep, My Must Haves for Horse Management, All About Cover Crops, and The Fourth Crop – Winter Canola, Winter Barley and Edible Beans. Livestreaming tickets must be pre-purchased online. It is recommended that attendees purchase in-person tickets online as well. For those unable to do so, cash, cheque and debit will be accepted at the door.

Registration Price (online required for livestreaming, recommended for in person attendance):

All days, in person or livestreamed: \$50/day Includes HST or \$120 for 3 days. Livestreamers can purchase the content for the whole week for \$180. Registration includes access to conference content during the 30 day encore access. All attendees can also view 21 bonus presentations following the event.

In person attendance includes hot roast beef dinner. Goat and Lamb are also served on those respective days.

Grey Bruce Farmers' Week will be held at the Elmwood Community Centre (# 38 Queen St. W.), 8 km north of Hanover on County Road #10. The Community Centre is 1.6 km west of the Amber flashing beacon.

Would you like more information about Grey Bruce Farmers' Week's program or tickets? Go to their website: www.gbfgw.ca, or contact the organizers directly by emailing info@greyagservices.ca or calling 519-986-3756. Don't forget to follow the event on social media too! Twitter and Facebook: @GBFarmersWeek, Instagram: @GB_FarmersWeek, #GBFW23.

The GBFW planning committee would like to thank the generous Premier to Bronze sponsors!! The full list is on our brochure, or on our website (www.gbfgw.ca)

Grey Bruce Farmers' Week would like to acknowledge the Premier and Platinum Sponsors: Farm Credit Canada (Event sponsor, and Livestreaming sponsor); BDO Canada LLP (Brochure sponsor); Trillium Mutual Insurance Company (Major Livestreaming sponsor); Country 93 (Media sponsor); Howick Mutual Insurance Company and CMR Insurance (Media sponsors); CTRE Productions (Daily Sponsors); Scotiabank (Daily sponsors); Bruce County Federation of Agriculture (Daily sponsors); and Ontario Federation of Agriculture (Daily Sponsors).

For further information or interviews, please call Lorie at 519-986-3756, or email lorie@greyagservices.ca.

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New Year's Resolutions

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Federal Funding Boosts Local Tree Planting Programs

Action to reverse climate change and enhance the local environment in the Severn Sound region is getting a major helping hand. The Government of Canada is announcing over \$276,000 to aid in expanding the tree planting programs of the Severn Sound Environmental Association. Federal funding is provided through the 2 Billion Trees program, aimed at partnering with governments and organizations to plant two billion trees over 10 years.

"By supporting this project from the Severn Sound Environmental Association, we are advancing our climate goals, creating good jobs, and helping to ensure increased resiliency and cleaner air in the local community," shares the Honourable Jonathan Wilkinson, Minister of Natural Resources Canada. "This investment advances Canada's goal of planting 2 billion trees, a key part of our plan to fight the twin crises of climate change and biodiversity loss."

"We are hoping to significantly increase our tree planting capacity," says Steffen Walma, Chair of the SSEA, "turning our existing small-scale tree planting program into a much larger one that will benefit both rural and urban constituents - resulting in environmental, social and economic benefits for all."

The Building Tree Planting Capacity in the Severn Sound Watershed Project includes hiring additional staff and developing local expertise on tree planting to be shared with Indigenous communities, property owners, municipalities and others interested in using forest cover to offset the impacts of climate change, managing stormwater, reducing flooding, protecting topsoil and improving water quality.

"Aside from the great environmental positives of this 2-year Project, this federal investment into our region's economy means at least one new green job locally," says SSEA Executive Director, Julie Cayley, "as well as, indirect support of numerous other jobs - including tree nurseries, material and equipment suppliers, media service providers and professional foresters."

The newly expanded Project also aims to engage Indigenous and community groups, as well as, local schools by getting them involved in tree planting - which till now has been about 10,000 trees annually for the Severn Sound Environmental Association.

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*Offer available December 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022. Rebates and/or financing based on the purchase of eligible equipment defined in promotional program. Pricing and rebates in CAD dollars. Additional fees including, but not limited to, taxes, freight, setup and delivery charges may apply. Financing must be through DLL using one of the available financing options. Financing is subject to credit approval. Customers must take delivery prior to the end of the program period. Some customers will not qualify. Some restrictions apply. Offer available on new equipment only. Prior purchases are not eligible. Offer valid only at participating Dealers. Offer subject to change without notice. See your dealer for details. 6 Year Warranty for Non-Commercial, residential use only. 6 Year Warranty applies to CS, CX, CK10, DK10, NS and NX model KIOTI tractors and must be purchased and registered between September 1, 2016 – June 30, 2023. Offer valid only at participating Dealers. Offer subject to change without notice. See your dealer for details. © 2022 Kioti Tractor Company a Division of Daedong-USA, Inc.

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