# AGthe year of publication September 2023 Volume 46 #09

A newspaper with something for everyone

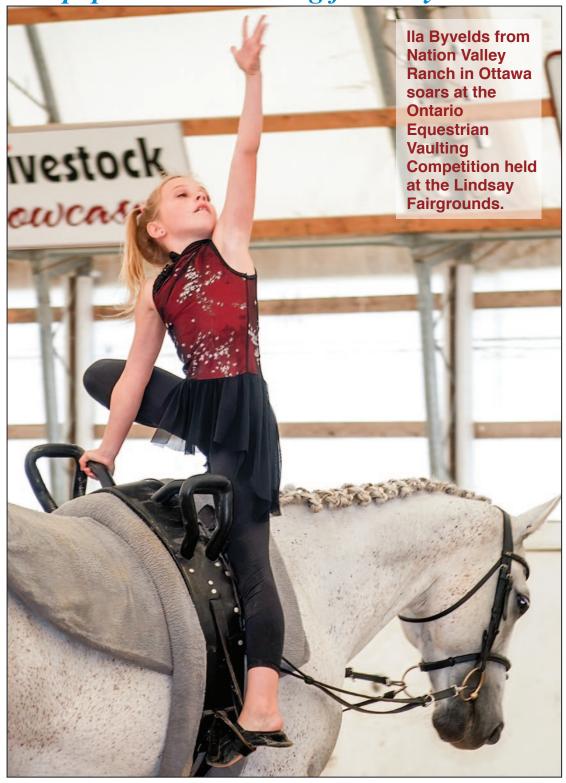
**Inside this** issue:

Hands off the Greenbelt Rally

Province introduces Test Your Smoke Alarm Day September 28th

Bird Flu update from Small Flock Ontario

Photos of
Ontario
Summer
Show,
Ontario
Equestrian
Vaulting
Competition
and
The
Georgian
Bay Steam
Show







# AGcalendar

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

#### August 24th - 27th: Barrie Fair

The Annual Barrie Fair takes place at 7505 10th line, Thornton, ON August 24th to the 27th. Many exciting activities, shows and vendors! *For more details visit www.es-saagriplex.ca or call* (705) 726-1200.

#### August 26th & 27th: Doors Open Simcoe County

The Township of Springwaters' Cultural and Heritage Advisory Committee is hosting a special Doors Open event! The event will include a farmers market showcasing local farms! 3985 Horseshoe Valley Rd W Anten Mills, ON

#### September 12th & 13th: Sunderland Fall Fair

Sunderland Agricultural Society celebrates the Pumpkin at this fall fair!

Originating in 1851, Sunderland Fall Fair is the oldest fair in Durham Region.

**September 12th & September 13th**, Fair opens at 5 p.m. on Tuesday.

20 Park St, Sunderland, ON LOC 1H0 www.agfair.ca See the ad on page 7 for details.

#### September 14th: News and Advertising Deadline

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

#### September 22nd, 23rd & 24th: GNE Collingwood

The 166th Great Northern Exhibition, Bounty from our County, will run **September 22nd to the 24th. 2220 Fairgrounds Rd. N** (1 km south of Highway 26)

Clearview Twp, Simcoe County https://www.greatnorthernex.com See the ad on page 17 for more information.

#### September 22nd - 24th: Albion & Bolton Fall Fair

The Albion & Bolton Fall Fair takes place **Sept. 22nd to the 24th, 2023**. Visit boltontractorpull.ca for more details.

#### September 30th: Anten Mills Artisan Fair

Annual Artisan Fair takes place at the Anten Mills Community Centre and Park on **Saturday**, **September 30th**. This years event will also include a Farmers' Market. Shop for unique items! Door prizes from each vendor! **See the ad on page 16 for full details or contact farmview@on.aibn.com** 

#### October 6th & 7th: Elmvale Fall Fair

The 161st annual Elmvale Fall Fair takes place Thanks-giving weekend. If you have never been to this extraordinary event, this is the year to do it. Once you visit the Elmvale Fall Fair, you will find yourself wanting to return year after year. See the ad on page 11 for more details.



Owner/Funeral Director

## CFFO Simcoe County District Annual Summer Family BBQ a big success

Story and photos by John Beischer



CFFO Development Relations officer Jackie Rombouts brought greetings from the Ontario Federation and explained the work they are doing at the Provincial level on behalf of all farmers and farm organizations.

Last month the Simcoe County Christian Farmers association presented their annual summer family barbecue at Rounds Ranch, near Elmvale. Members and guests were asked to contribute a side dish or a desert and arrive at 4:30 on the afternoon of July 20th. At about 5 pm with approx. 70 guests in attendance, numerous phone alarms sounded, alerting everyone to the potential of a tornado in the immediate area. While the tornado didn't materialize during the picnic, the resulting severe thunderstorm drove the festivities indoors. Unfortunately the food preparation had already begun outside and the chicken and steaks had to be rescued from the grill and held until the weather cleared 90 minutes later.

In the meantime, the interlude gave everyone an opportunity to have extended conversations with neighbours and acquaintances. Young teens enjoyed making new friends and monitoring the storm on their phones while the youngest guests simply enjoyed splashing in the quickly forming puddles.

Host Ken Rounds did an exceptional job of cooking with the assistance of several CFFO members while many others laid out a delicious buffet meal for all to enjoy.

Following the dinner, director Sandy Kursis introduced area resident Abbey Martin, the winner of the 2023 CFFO scholarship award.

Pictured at right 18 month old Vivian Kloosterman watched the storm from an open doorway while she splashed in the puddles that were inching into the shelter.

Pictured below, Frank Wyssen, director and Vice President, delivered a biblical parable and gave the blessing prior to the meal being served.





Calm before the storm; only minutes before a cloud burst dumped several inches of rain on the annual SCCF association picnic, Ken Rounds [left] and Angus area farmer, Mike Arsenault, discuss the proper way to shuck corn.





SCCF directors pose with Abbey Martin, the recipient of the scholarship award. Abbey's family farms in the Phelpston area. She will be attending the University of Guelph this fall to advance her studies in agriculture. Pictured left to right are Wayne Benjamins. Sandy Kursis. Abbey. Frank Wyssen and Ted Woods.

# Wayne Benjamins, Sandy Kursis, Abbey, Frank Wyssen and Ted Woods. HURON TRACTOR THE TRADE BARN

#### RECENT TRADES – REDUCED PRICES

Agriculture - Tractors - John Deere Utility Tractors



JD 3003E/LDR (E00034) 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



JD 6130K/LDR (E88354) 2021,
MFWD, 130ENG HP, 660HR, 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

JD 6125R (E90055) 2013, MFWD, 125ENG HP, 4700HR, PREM CAB, 40KPH, AUTOQUAD+ECO, FLANGE AXLE, 50%, 35%, 3 REMOTES,, 2 FUNC MID LDR VALVE, 540/540E/1000 PTO, \$86,320,00



JD 6125R (E90057) 2013, MFWD, 125ENG HP, 4700HR, PREM CAB, 40KPH., AUTOQUAD+ECO, R&P AXLE W/CAST CTR, 50%, 50%,, 3 REMOTES, 3FUNC MID LDR VALVE, 540/540E/1000 PTO, \$86,320.00



JD 6110M/LDR (E90227) 2017, MFWD, 110ENG HP, 2641HR, OOS, 620R MSL LDR,, 83"BKT, 40KPH, 24x24 SPD, PQ, LH REV, FLANGE AXLE,, 340/85R24 85%, 460/85R30 55%, 2 REMOTES, \$98,950.00



JD 6140R/LDR (E89611) 2015, MFWD, 140ENG HP, 2468HR, DLX CAB., H360 MSL 3F LDR, 85"BKT, AUTOTRAC READY, 40KPH., 20x20 PWR REV, 100" R&P AXLE W/CAST CENTER,



JD 8R 310 (E89784) 2022, MFWD W/SUSP, 310ENG HP, 232HR, PREN CAB,, 40KPH, 16F/5R SPD, PWR-'SHIFT, RH REV, 118"R&P AXLE-, W/CAST CTR, 480/70R34 100% MI, 480/80R50 R1W 100% \$581,950,00



JD 8245R (E90143) 2018, MFWD W/SUSP, 245ENG HP, 1370HR, PREM CAB,, 40KPH, AUTOPWR IVT, LH REV, RH REV, 118"R&P AXLE-, W/CAST CTR, 380/90R54 70% FS, 380/80R38 70% FS, \$328,870.00



JD 8R 340 (E90154) 2021, MFWD W/SUSP, 340ENG HP, 395HR, SIGNA-TURE CAB,, 40KPH, 23F/6R SPD, E23, LH REV, 120MMx118.5" AXLE-, W/AXLE FLATS, R&P AXLE W/CAST CENTER, AXLE DUALS, \$625,650.00

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#### FROM THE EDITOR



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

Often when I begin to write my editorial I wonder if I will have enough to say (or too much?). This month I have two topics to hit on before I run out of room.

First, is the newly designated Test Your Smoke Alarms Day. It is September 28th. I urge you to read Dennis Gannon's article on page 8. It is honest and heartbreaking. I also urge you to test your smoke alarms right now and again on Sept 28th. Why wait? This is your opportunity to give the people you love a fighting chance of survival in case your home does catch on fire. Also have a look at the advertisement on page 9 bringing awareness to this subject. The advertisers mentioned there made that lifesaving ad possible.

Second, is the Greenbelt. Don Beaulieu attended a rally held recently in Orillia at my request. His article covering the rally is on page 12 and Environmental Defence placed an ad which is opposite on page 13. In conversation Don

asked me my viewpoint on this subject. My answer is that I know I'm not educated enough on the topic, but that being said, I do firmly believe building on the greenbelt is wrong even without knowledge to back that up. Have a read of Don's article, and let me know your thoughts. Keep in mind as you read, it sounds like six out of the seven speakers are rational human beings with clear points to be made. The seventh... well there's always someone tainting the efforts of the rest with theatrics. I would also like to point out that the land the government is putting into the greenbelt to try to make up for the land they are building on, is rivers. They are building on land that produces food for not just Ontarians, but people around the world, and generously replacing it with rivers. Rivers that we cannot grow crops or livestock on. The government is using this tactic to distract us. So that we say, "oh it's not so bad, they're taking .15% away to build on but giving the Greenbelt .32% back." Just keep in mind what we need the land for, farming.

All of that aside, this issue is packed with great photos and stories from across our distribution area. I hope you enjoy reading it as much as I enjoyed putting it together. Now I'd better go have a cup of tea...

Take care of yourselves and one another, Roslyn Watkins



Diana Robichaud captured this scenic shot of carrots farmed by the Hambly family of Gwillim-

## - LETTERS-Thank you letter

to readers This is a very heartfelt thank you to all the Farm View readers. As the seasonal advertisers put their advertising on hold, many of them have said they will be back in the spring. Liftec continued their advertising this past summer from last year, Primo Paving has said they will be back and Barn Angels composting has commented they are receiving calls and will renew their contract. As well as Insta-Panels, Georgian Waste Services and Recycling Specialties. These are just a few to mention. As most of you know, the advertisers that support Farm View have been there since the beginning, or very close to it. The advertisers that have come on board since I became publisher also continue to re-new their ads. They do so because you continue to call them and request their services. Thank you for that and thank you

> With much gratitude, Roslyn Watkins Publisher, Farm View



-Photo by Cathy Hamill-Hill

#### The Farm View is available at the following fine establishments

HEWITTS FARM MARKET BEARD'S FARM SUPPLY

EGO'S FARM MARKET (Seasonally)

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**ONTARIO STOCK YARDS** 

FOODLAND in Cookstown and Elmvale **COUNTRY CONCESSION QUILT STORE** 

**EDWARDS FARM STORE** 

KEVIN BARKER AUCTIONS in Lindsay

DEREK'S DIESEL SERVICE INC.

STEWART'S EQUIPMENT in Cookstown and Stayner

The Farm View is delivered to these business between the 25th and 29th of each month and copies are available while supplies last. If you would like the Farm View mailed directly to your home, one year subscriptions can be purchased for \$49.00. Contact Roslyn at 705-722-0138, by mail 8 Luella Blvd Minesing, ON L9X 0W7 or email farmview@on.aibn.com.

#### 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.

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

8 Luella Blvd, Minesing ON L9X 0W7 Phone (705) 722-0138 e-mail farmview@on.aibn.com

Visit us on the web: www.farmviewonline.com

#### A forum for the Agricultural and Rural Community The farm newspaper that covers Simcoe and Dufferin County,

York, Peel and Muskoka Regions, keeping farmers and rural home owners informed about local and national news that affects their farm business, family and rural lifestyle.

**SUBSCRIPTIONS:** \$49.00 + 13% HST OFA Members \$45.00 + 13% HST

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 Lisa Hern 1-877-343-5444 email: lisa.hern@ofa.on.ca

**OFA Zone Director for Peel, Simcoe and York:** Paul Maurice: 705-427-3126 email: paul.maurice@ofa.on.ca

**OFA Zone Director for Dufferin County:** Mark Reusser: email: mark.reusser@ofa.on.ca

2022-2023 Executive - Simcoe County

Dave Ritchie

President: 705-534-4017 Vice President: Colin Elliot 705-791-1006 PAC Member: Dave Ritchie

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simcty.fed.agriculture@outlook.com

2022-2023 Executive - York Region

Darryl Hamilton 416-788-1415 President:

Contact YRFA: york@ofa.on.ca

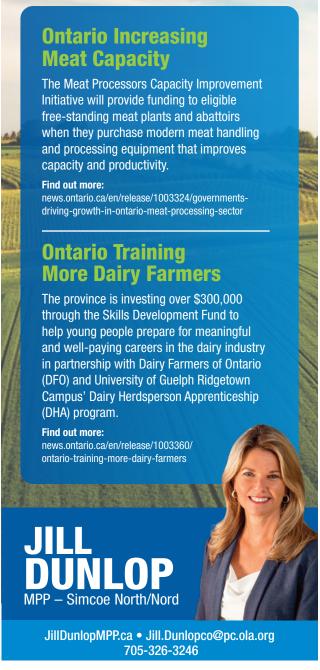
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#### 2022-2023 Executive - Peel County

647-225-3410 Vice President Gary Mountain 416-346-5066 **PAC Member** Philip Armstrong peelfederationofagriculture@gmail.com Contact:











# Agronomy & soil health discussion

Recap and pictures accumulated by Don Beaulieu

The Georgian Soil Crop Improvement Association hosted an Open Soil Health Discussion with Dr. Lee Briese recently. This was a Zoom meeting and is available in a recorded version.

Dr. Briese describes himself as doctor of plant health, agronomist, soil scientist and a no-till, cover crop and soil health enthusiast.

In his introductory words, Briese re-enforced that this event was a discussion and he would try to address issues brought up by the participants. His home base is North Dakota, U. S. A.

He began with a short list of basic soil health principles. "These are not rules, but rather guidelines" he advised. These were five headings he was to speak on: Soil armour, Minimize disturbance, Diversity, Continuous living root and, Livestock integration.

Here are a few topics covered, and brief points on them;

#### Soil armour

This includes residue covering when appropriate, "... leaving as much residue as you can, adding carbon to the soil, minimizing impact from rainfall".

#### Minimizing disturbance

Reducing tillage is recommended when possible. "I don't think you have to reduce to absolute zero, one needs to fill in the sprayer ruts from time to time".

#### **Diversity**

Briese sees diversity as "...a powerful tool." Economics are always a consideration, of course.

#### **Continous living root**

This is important for the soil's microbes but can be difficult in northern climates. Maximizing the time there is plant growth and doing as much as you can, "makes a lot of sense to me" Briese said.

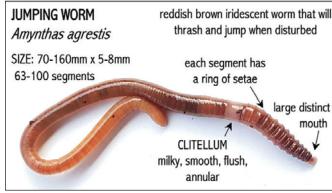
#### **Livestock integration**

Admittedly, Briese struggles with the area of livestock integration. This is something best left to be determined by the individual farm.

#### Beneficial soil organisms

The top handful of beneficial soil organisms were listed as earthworms and jumping worms, mycorrhizae, rhizobia, ground beetles and predatory insects. Attendees to the talk were invited to check out his website for details on all these, and more.

"We do like earthworms", they do a lot, moving our soils and creating channels and such. Most of the worms in North America, including Ontario, are invasive species. Jumping worms in particular are a negative invasive specie. The bulk of our earthworms have been brought over, introduced from Europe. They are not causing huge detriment to our soils but the jumping worms can cause trouble. Briese recommended (and showed) an excellent article about worms on the Halton Master Gardener website.



#### Mycorrhizae

These are the fungi that help plants gain nutrient uptake from the soil. Over 90% of crops and other plants benefit from mycorrhizae. They tend to be in every soil and are difficult to get rid of. Populations will increase and decrease dependent on the crop in the field.

#### Rhizobia

Rhizobia are particularly important to legumes, helping to fix nitrogen. They can be introduced into soils and live very well in cold climates mycorrhizae are the best

understood of soil micro-organisms.

#### **Insects**

Many of us know the benefits of ground beetles (59 species) on apples and grapes. "These things are mercenaries against other insects, they are voracious eaters" said Briese. Some types will feed on weed seeds. They may also go for cover crop seeds, but for the most part, they are very beneficial. Having grassy areas near your crops can help the beetle's population to maintain itself and grow.

The Ichneumon wasp was also presented as beneficial. These are parasitic wasps. Most lay eggs inside live caterpillars. The eggs hatch, with the young eating the inside of the caterpillar. They form a cocoon on the outside, leave and start the cycle over.

Biological nitrogen fixing is the application of microorganisms to your plants and field, in the hopes they will colonize the plants or soil. There are a host of organisms that can do this. Best to do some online research to see what may work best for your situation.



The image above shows a variety of ground beetles, many of which are very beneficial, warding off pests.

#### **Nematodes**

Nematodes were another topic of discussion. They are often a vessel to carry bacteria. It infects a larvae or caterpillar with that bacteria. The bacteria basically eat the larvae from the inside out. There are also parasitic nematodes.

The best way to enable and sustain the above microorganisms is to provide them with their preferred habitat. Reducing tillage is a key factor. Briese reminded his audience that using tillage to even out irregularities or for other specific problem areas is fine.

#### Integrated pest management

Reducing pesticide use "in and of itself, may not be a good thing" warned Briese. He did stress using the right product, at the right rate, at the right time. A product with a narrow spectrum will help protect some of the bene-

ficial organisms in your field.

The question & answer period was exciting and involved even more in-depth talk than the planned portion and was able to address real-life situations from the participants. is always far more to these events than Farm View dream of including in our newspaper. Nothing beats attendance, even if viewing a recording of the

live event.



## Neighbours, family and friends joined in for the annual Lewis Family Thrashing Day

Story and photos by Cathy Hamill-Hill

The Lewis Family Thrashing Day is a 34 year old farm neighbour tradition, now in its second home. Harry Lewis recounts, "My brothers and I were binding wheat for the Markham Fair in 1957- and people stopped us to see what we were doing. The next year more people stopped and then my brothers and I started collecting old farm equipment and here we are today."

Neighbours, family and friends joined in for the annual Lewis Family Thrashing Day. The tradition grew with 300 people in the Markham community coming to see grain cut by the binder, thrashed by the thrashing machine and the grain field plowed. Two years ago the Lewis Thrashing Day moved was Lewisview Farm near Uxbridge owned by Harry's son, Allin and his wife Karen and family. This is where farm neighbours come out to see the old ways of farming and after, enjoy pie and ice cream.



Pictured above Dan Barron from near Marmora is seen driving a 3 horse team operating a disc plow at the Lewis Family Thrashing Day.

Pictured at left is Harry Lewis at this year's Lewis Family Thrashing Day and his granddaughter Kaleigh Lewis-Todd. Kaleigh owns Clydesdales draft horses and is responsible for organizing the horse section at the Lewis Family Thrashing Day. She may look familiar because she has been the Clydesdale Queen of Canada.



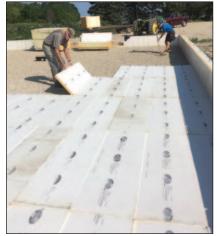
Pictured above is a Corn Chopper owned by the Lewis Family. The corn chopper was used to make corn into livestock feed. This machine was made in the 1920's.



Pictured above is Ken Ferguson, nephew to Uncle Harry Lewis. Ken is shown here operating a 1020 McCormick-Deering tractor, that was made in the 1930's, plowing with a 2 furrow plow.

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Everything from home baking and crafts to flowers and giant vegetables in the arena.
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www.aqfair.ca · sunderlandfallfair@qmail.com





#### The Dufferin Farm Tour is back!

We are excited to return to another IN PERSON event on Saturday, September 30th, 2023 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Rain or Shine!

Registration will be ONLINE, PRIOR to the event opening August 15th. Spaces may be limited.

Sign up for Farm Tour news at Dufferinfarmtour.com or follow us on social media: Facebook or Instagram

See Dufferin County farms in person this September 30!





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## Complacency is not acceptable for smoke alarms

By Dennis Gannon

I am not one to ask for anything. Be it to support a cause with a donation, or to assist with chores or community help. Those that know me can recognize my hesitation but will wholeheartedly support me and my causes. If you are reading this, then I'm asking you to do something that hopefully will spare you and your family from terrible pain and suffering. It's an easy ask and something that won't take much time and if current, no money. On Thursday, September 28, I am asking you to take some time with your family and TEST YOUR SMOKE ALARM. The Province of Ontario has a crisis that we as a community can help resolve. Last year in Ontario, 133 people perished due to fire. That is the worst number in more than 20 years. As I am writing this, I have heard that 2 more people died in a fire. For most of these deaths there was no working smoke alarm that would have notified them and permitted them to leave. To put this number in perspective, in all of Canada, there were slightly more deaths caused by impaired driving. We know that impaired driving isn't acceptable and there are serious consequences for the driver. But what about the homeowners who don't have working smoke alarms? Shouldn't they be accountable? And when was the last time you checked your smoke alarms or replaced them?

I have a history with smoke alarms that goes back almost 50 years. Out of school I started my working career as an insurance adjuster for a company that provided coverage in Ontario. As an active member of the adjusting community, I went to many house fires. An idea was presented to us by a smoke alarm company that we could start a trend by offering smoke alarms to our insurance community for a reasonable price and hopefully start a greater trend. Smoke alarms were new and few if any had them. We did a great job and distributed cases of alarms to our friends and families. We were on the cusp of saving lives, reducing fire destruction and hopefully getting them into every home. Jump forward a few years and as a volunteer firefighter in my community we did free home fire inspections and got the word out more about the benefits of having smoke alarms in every home especially outside the bedroom areas. The trend was picking up and soon the building codes required them. My career changed and I became a senior fire officer in my community. One Sunday morning we received a call for a reported chimney fire. We were still a volunteer fire department but I was full time and responded immediately. When I arrived on the scene not more than 6 minutes later, I was met by an older male with few clothes on and bare feet. It was about minus 10 degrees celsius. His first words to me were "where are the kids". As you can appreciate my heart sunk, my reflexes jumped in and we moved from a chimney fire to a house fire with people trapped. A firefighter found one person at the bottom of the stairs and removed them. Unfortunately they perished. Attempts to enter the building again to rescue anyone were hampered as the fire was well established and spreading. Firefighters managed to get it under control in short order and then discovered the second individual on a couch deceased where they had been sleeping. There were no smoke alarms in that basement where the they had been sleeping and had there been, likely the two people would still be here today. The mother of one of them contacted me several years later and was still looking for answers as to why her child died. It was all I could do to comfort her and provide her with information that she already had. As my career moved forward I became part of the senior management for the Office of the Fire Marshal. Many, many times I reviewed fire cases reports of fatal fires and found the common theme was there were no working smoke alarms. Before I retired, more changes were made to the building code as well as the Fire Code. If you were found to have no or not functioning smoke alarms you could be fined. Smoke alarms became required on all levels of a home and they had to be replaced every 10 years. The number of deaths due to fire dropped. Then it seems people became more complacent and the numbers started rising again. There have been a number of fires where not one but a number of people, often family members, died in a single fire from the lack of a working smoke alarm. Should we think that this is ok? Not for me and hopefully not for you. To reduce the trend the Office of the Fire Marshal collaborated with their stakeholders and decided that there needs to be a specific program to get everyone involved. So on September 28 they are asking everyone in Ontario to participate in the Test Your Smoke Alarm Day. Thanks to a number of the advertisers in Farm View, Roslyn has been able to have this message made prominent in this edition of the paper. Cut it out, post it on the fridge or bulletin board, discuss it with your family and on Thursday, September 28, everyone participates in the Test Your Smoke Alarm Day. Every member of the family should know what to do when the smoke alarm sounds. Fire departments across Ontario will be doing their best to remind you and they are there to help. If you know anyone who due to circumstances can't afford new smoke alarms, the fire departments can help. If your home was built in 2013, you need to replace your smoke alarms. If you don't know when the smoke alarms were installed, they all have a replacement date on them and if they don't, they need to be replaced. Think of this as my simple ask. An ask to participate in

Think of this as my simple ask. An ask to participate in Test Your Smoke Alarm day and possibly save your life and the lives of your loved ones.







THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2023

LET'S KEEP ONTARIO
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www.TestYourSmokeAlarmDay.ca

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# John Deere featured at the 58th Annual Georgian Bay Steam Show

Story and photos by Cathy Hamill-Hill



JOHN DEERE was the feature tractor this year at the 58th Annual Georgian Bay Steam Show held in Cookstown. The above tractor looks like it came out of a showroom but it was purchased second hand in 1955 at an auction sale in Schomberg. This tractor was restored to perfection and carries so many family memories. Pictured above next to the 1953 John Deere AR 26 Horsepower tractor is owner Bob Dike, a long time member of the host Club. This tractor was a big part of his growing up years, Bob recollected, "I remember 6 of us kids piling on this tractor with my Uncle."





Pictured above, Frank Hume from Milton stands beside his 68 horsepower Sawyer Massey Steam Traction Engine. This Steam Engine was made in 1913 and it would have cost between \$3,000 to \$4,000. Frank's farm is the site for the 61st Steam Era Show that takes place on Labour Day Weekend hosted by the Ontario Steam & Antique Preservers Association. Steam Era features steam powered tractors, engines and farm implements and is considered the biggest exhibition of antique steam powered equipment in Ontario.



At left is Wayne Agar from Mansfield beside his innovative creation, a coat rack made out of scrap gas nozzles. He also re-purposes old sewing machines into tractor decor. He was one of the many vendors at this year's 58th annual Georgian Bay Steam Show held in Cookstown on the Long Weekend in August.

Pictured at left is Shari-Lynn Dunn of Grand Valley at the Georgian Bay Steam Show promoting the 2023 International Plowing Match and Rural Expo. Shari-Lynn says the Dufferin County Plowing Match is expected to have 80,000-90,000 people visit because "there is so much entertainment, plowing competitions, a Tented City and a Rodeo happening this year. Nobody should miss the International Plowing Match."

GENERATIONS enjoy the Georgian Bay Steam Show. Pictured to the right is Grampa Bruce Nelson from Innisfil, a long time member of the Georgian Bay Steam, Auto, Gas and Antique Association. He was very happy to meet his little grandson, Noah Spittle, also from Innisfil, at the huge Georgian Bay Steam Show.



Pictured above is Randy Crawford, member of the Georgian Bay Steam, Auto, Gas and Antique Association. Randy is displaying a threading wrench that is over 100 years old. It belonged to his great Grandfather. Randy explains that this tool would have been used in sawmills and for framing years ago.



# **Healthy Waters Program**

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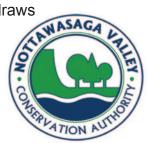
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Check out the ag business directory on page 27.

## Provincial Poultry Specialist says the message is clear "keep disease out"

Story by Cathy Hamill-Hill

Poultry farmers were told to be watchful for Avian Influenza, known as Bird Flu in a webinar on July 17th titled "Ontario HPAI Update" from Small Flock Ontario.

Dr. Ellen Denstedt with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) reported that HPAI, known in the broad form as Bird flu is a "contagious viral infection." She said that "HPAI is reportable in Canada and everyone is legally bound to report." Reporting means, when it is suspected there is a Bird Flu infection, to call one's local veterinarian who will then contact CFIA or the nearest CFIA Animal Health Office for domestic birds. She clarified that for reporting Wild Birds, contact is to be made to the Canadian Wildlife Health Cooperative (CWHC).

"Reporting does not mean you are in trouble. CFIA needs to know where the infections are," Dr. Denstedt explained.

Once a flock has been determined to be infected, the entire flock will be destroyed and disposed of. This is to keep Ontario flocks safe, there is no blame attached. "Your address is never posted or released publicly," Dr. Denstedt stressed.

Risk factors for contacting Bird Flu, she said are, "close proximity to wet (marsh) areas and buying in infected birds to your flock." Other risk factors are having poultry with direct contact with wild birds especially during the migration season.

Dr. Brian Stevens, a wildlife pathologist with Canadian Wildlife reported that in 2022 there were 206 reports of Bird Flu in wild birds and there were 1,088 birds testing positive. In 2023 so far, there have been 160 reports with 456 positive wild birds.

He reported that Bird Flu has been found most often in migratory water birds but it has also been found in scavenger birds. In 2022 twenty three Turkey Vultures were found positive and in 2023, there have been 15, so far. In 2022, there were 9 Bald Eagles found infected and 1 in 2023, so far. There were 3 American Crows found infected and there were 25 found infected this year, so far.

He said the numbers are different this year, in part, because 2022 infections were found widespread in Ontario while 2023 have "been mostly in the Greater Toronto Area."

Bird Flu has also been found in wild mammals including Red Fox, Mink, Striped Skunk, Raccoon. Fisher and River Otter.

Dr. Stevens reported that Bird Flu has been found to spread from an infected wild bird to one dog and four feral cats. "Do not let your dogs go near dead wild birds," he stressed.

Ontario Ministry of Agriculture Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) Provincial Poultry Specialist, Al Dam, says he has the same message he's had for the 18 years in this profession, "Keep Disease Out."

Dam reported that there was a local outbreak of poultry disease in the past. Bird diseases pass via bird to bird, insect to bird and people to bird through shovels and boots. Local farmers could not figure out where the spread came from until "the spread was sourced through a local coffee shop where the infection spread through people's boots." He said that there should be boots delegated to poultry barn use only.

Dam added that a sign in/sign out book should be part of the poultry barn today. "Every person that comes into the poultry barn should sign in and sign out so you can track them back in case of an outbreak of illness at either your barn or another barn," he said.

The risk of spreading Bird Flu from bird to bird increases by attending shared events like racing or shows. He recommended, "put all birds that were out into quarantine when they come back home for 28 days."

He suggested that Poultry barns at fall Fairs should have a "triage" where sick birds are sent home if they arrive sick. Dam said that poultry judges, if they are handling birds, should wear gloves and sanitize between different flock entries. He said a double wall between cages minimizes any direct contact between birds.

Dam added that people need to be watchful of migratory bird hunters this fall as a possible source to bring Bird flu on to one's home property.

There is no way of predicting if the fall migration will cause another wave of Bird Flu at this point. It was suggested that bird owners monitor the situation through www.smallflockontario.ca



# Orillians rally for the greenbelt Summary and photographs by Don Beaulie

A group of concerned and co-operative citizens gathered in front of Jill Dunlop's constituency office in mid-August. They were there to rally themselves about the Conservative government's decision to take some land away from the greenbelt. About 160 folk gathered in the parking lot. They do not agree that greenbelt land should be taken for housing, which no one feels will be their definition of affordable housing. Exacerbating their discontent is the perceived secrecy and apparent "deals" provided to the developers. A number of speakers, well-versed in these matters, took to the microphone to offer their views and details on what irks them about this matter. An underlying concern

Founding member of Orillia for Democracy, John Winchester lead the way with speeches and was a key or-

was the general health of the environment at large.

To MPP Dunlop and MPP Saunderson:

"We're not as gullible as your voters are. 'Sell' it to somebody else."

—John Winchester

ganizer of the evening event.
The organization was also celebrating its 5th anniversary. Orillia for Democracy was inspired by past issues in volving Dunlop. In his introductory remarks Winchester quot-

ed their local MPP's comments regarding the greenbelt decision as well as those of Grey County MPP Brian Saunderson. Their words did sit well with the attending group.

In short time, Winchester introduced Madeleine Fournier to speak, who immediately turned the microphone over to Vicki Monague. Monague is a member of Beausoleil First Nation. She spoke largely to native concerns, particularly of

"Indigenous people continue to face systemic racism and discrimination and prejudice in every single day of our lives"

—Vicki Monague

water being "the most beautiful and sacred thing that we have". She blasted the Ford government: "The Ford government may continue to say that they're adopting reconciliation agen-

das; their actions speak louder than words. We continue to have to fight just to be able to live, just to be able to breathe."

Past Liberal candidate for Simcoe North, Aaron Cayden Hiltz was next to address the crowd. Referring to the plan to remove land from the greenbelt: "It's incredibly disap-

"Listening to

the people

is the most

important

thing that

claims to

can do."

anybody who

represent us,

Cayden Hiltz

that care

pointing, disheartening, unethical... tearing apart a swath of the greenbelt for the fewest bit of super-wealthy developers... to make more money... is abhorrent, disgusting, terrible."

Past candidate for the New Democratic Party of Simcoe North, Dr. Elizabeth Van Houtte was next to speak. Referring

to the Homes Faster Act, Van Houtte went on: "I haven't heard anything about affordability. To build these homes its going to take ten years. We have a shortage in trades; Who's going to build these homes? Who is going to afford these homes? The infrastructure that's required for these homes (to be paved over our food source and our wild-



because of the policies that are in place". She stressed the lack of moral compass of our government.

Jacob Kearfor Democracy ex-

life) are going to

be paid for by

municipalities

ney-Moreland, co-founder of Orillia for Democracy, expressed how this situation made him want to puke. He brought garlic "to ward off the vampires", putting a bulb at the candidate's door. Moreland likened the current politics to Capitalism. He offered alternatives to how government is currently run.

Margaret Prophet, Executive Director Simcoe County Greenbelt Coalition was next to speak. "What this government is doing is changing our conversation about what we value... if you can chop it up and sell it off it doesn't mat-

ter any more. We're here tonight to say it does matter."

Prophet clarified an aspect of the greenbelt: "This decision is an act of cabinet.



That means 30 MPPs across Ontario signed off on this deal. We can not let them get away with letting Ford take all the blame."

The final official speaker of the evening was Madeleine

Fournier of Stop Sprawl Orillia. She referred to Monague's presentation saying "What we're all feeling right now is what indig-



enous people have been feeling for a really long time". She continued "Capitalism and Colonialism are at the root of what's happening here".

Writer's notes:

There is an area of land (7,000 acres) from the Paris Galt Moraine in Wellington County to be added to the greenbelt. It is designated as Protected



Countryside. Wellington County was not supportive of adding this particular parcel of the moraine to the greenbelt, asserting that the land was already protected under other means.

As well, 13 additions and expansions of urban river valleys (URV) to the greenbelt plan totalling approximately 2,400 acres are planned. The percentage of land to be added is .32% of the current greenbelt land. The amount in to be taken out of it is .15% or less.

# MORE THAN "JUST" A TRUCK SHOP!



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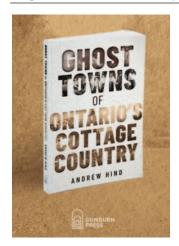
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## **Ghost Towns of Ontario's Cottage Country**

Ghost Towns of Ontario's Cottage Country (Dundurn Press) is the latest release from author Andrew Hind. In it, he explores the rise and fall of thirteen faded communities from across Muskoka, Haliburton, Parry Sound, Nipissing District, NE Ontario, and even Algonquin Park.

Here's an excerpt:

Falkenburg Junction (Macauley Township, Muskoka District)

The land around Falkenburg Junction was unspectacular. The forests were just as thick and dark as elsewhere in Muskoka, and the soil similarly threadbare. But the location did have one thing going for it: it was here that the Muskoka

and Parry Sound Colonization Roads met. As the tides of settlement began to push newcomers into the northern reaches of Ontario, traffic along these colonization roads increased. As a result, the crossroads became a vital nexus through which commerce and settlers passed to points throughout the district. The formation of a community was inevitable. In fact, the village that emerged subsisted largely by catering to the needs of the road weary.

Among Falkenburg's first settlers was Thomas W. George who arrived in Falkenburg in 1860 as an eager thirty-year old to begin clearing a farm from the ominous forest. Not content to remain a mere farmer, he erected a steam-powered shingle mill to provide roofing for homesteaders, and a store selling dry goods and provisions. As if that didn't keep him busy enough, George then established a crude log inn called the Junction Hotel. It didn't matter to him or his patrons that the whiskey served up was manufactured of questionable ingredients in a back-lot still, or that lacking a tavern license his entire establishment was illegal. The township council turned a blind eye to George's tavern and illegal distillery, so why should they be concerned? The seemingly tireless man even added a store to the rustic establishment.

When George opened his businesses there was hardly a community to speak of. Falkenburg's population stood at only a couple of dozen people spread out over a handful of roadside farms. But every year more and more homesteaders arrived. Soon, the growing settlement merited a post office, and newly arrived William Holditch was appointed post-master. Born in 1838, he left his Markham home around 1864 and headed for new prospects in Muskoka. Here he wrote himself into history for reasons beyond merely being Falkenburg's inaugural postmaster: his marriage to Elizabeth Willson in 1866 (officiated by his father-in-law, Gilman Willson, no less), went down as the first wedding in Bracebridge.



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## **Class Dismissed for Bogarttown**

You're at the Whitchurch-Stouffville Museum and enter a historic one-room schoolhouse. It's not hard to imagine children seated at the little desks with a teacher at the head of the class reciting the lesson of the day. You may even imagine hearing the scratching of chalk on slate boards. But if you listen more closely, if you stretch your imagination just a bit further, you might also hear the echoes of a village long gone, one completely erased from the landscape.



with what he saw, but died before he could return to stake a claim.

The schoolhouse, you see, is the last tangible remnant of Bogarttown.

Incredibly, as late as the 1850s, some believed this village located at the intersection of today's Leslie Street and Mulock Drive had an even brighter future than Newmarket, its rival and nearest neighbour. The story of Bogarttown's rise and fall demonstrates the fickleness of fate.

Image courtesy of Whitchurch-Stouffville Museum

It begins in 1640 with the emigration of the Bogart family to Pennsylvania from their native Holland. In the late 18th century, lured by Lt. Gov. John Grave Simcoe's offer of free land grants, Martin Bogart made an exploratory visit to Upper Canada in search of mill sites. He was suitably impressed

Bogart's son John fulfilled his dream and settled near Leslie and Mulock in 1802. John

Bogart built a sawmill and a gristmill to serve area farmers. In turn his son, John Jr., a township warden for Whitchurch from 1825 to 1830, expanded the operation even further by building a larger gristmill with correspondingly greater capacity to grind flour in 1830. As a result of the improvements, he was able to export flour overseas.

Village stories
by Andrew Hind

Wherever a mill was located, a community was sure to grow around it. It was a truism throughout pioneer Ontario and the Bogart mill proved no exception. Soon, the hamlet, called Bogarttown after its founding family, included a wheel-wright shop, tailor, carpenter, general store, blacksmith, shoemaker and two hotels. In the winter, the millpond supported a thriving ice harvesting industry that saw blocks shipped to businesses in Newmarket and Aurora.

Bogarttown grew so rapidly that by 1850 it was outpacing Newmarket and becoming the centre of the area economy.

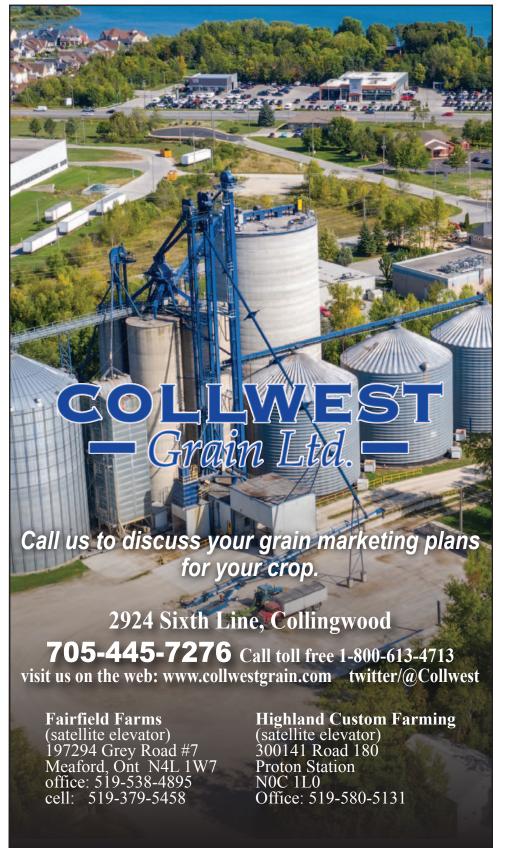
Fate, in the form of the Ontario, Simcoe and Huron Railway intervened. Once they appeared trains ran the economy, offering access to distant markets in a far more profitable manner than ever before. Communities linked by rail prospered, while those that did not atrophied. Dozens of villages across Ontario literally faded away after being bypassed by the railways.

When the OS+HR chose to run its tracks through Newmarket, it doomed Bogarttown. By the turn of the century little remained. Eventually, it was completely swallowed by the ever-growing Newmarket and its few fleeting remnants erased.

The Bogarttown schoolhouse, moved to the Whitchurch-Stouffville Museum in 1979 to make way for the Construction of Highway 404, serves as a monument to the vanished village and those who bet their futures on its prosperity.











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- · \$25.00 deposit to book your space which is returned to you on the day of the craft fair.
- · Vendors to donate a door prize valued at \$25.00
- · Set up begins at 9 a.m. on Sept 30th
- · Vendors to provide their own table and shelter if required
- · Many spaces available along the pathway! No cut off date to sign up!

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# Quilting Corners Guild Christmas in July 2023 Presentations Story and photos provided by Senora Baldry



On July 4, 2023 Quilting Corners Guild, Alliston made our annual Christmas in July presentations to our community partners. Senora made four presentations to My Sister's Place, Matthews House Hospice, Simcoe Manor and, The Good Samaritan LTC – our latest community partner. Our members have been very, very busy as always

and we were pleased to present a total of 100 Quilts of Comfort and 42 pillow cases. Another 18 Quilts of Valour – Canada were delivered following the meeting. Several games of Quilto – our version of Bingo – were enjoyed by all, with the proceeds going to The Good Shepherd Food Bank.

You just can't slow these quilters down!!!









The Spiritual Harmony of Music: Elevating Mindsets and Enriching Souls

While attending the amazing Pink concert tour with my sister Rev. Kelly, I knew my next article was going to be about how in the intricate tapestry of human existence, few phenomena possess the power to touch the depths of our souls and elevate our consciousness quite like music. From ancient chants to modern chart toppers, the spirituality of music has long been recognized as a conduit for connecting with the divine and nurturing a positive mindset. Across cultures and centuries, music has proven to be more than mere entertainment; it is a universal language that transcends boundaries, weaving together the threads of spirituality and human experience.

Music, in its various forms and genres, has a unique ability to evoke emotions that resonate deep within us. The subtle interplay of melody, rhythm, and harmony can evoke feelings of joy, tranquility, sorrow, and ecstasy. This emotional resonance is where the spiritual aspect of music takes root. Just as spiritual practices often seek to elevate consciousness and cultivate awareness, music has the innate ability to awaken profound emotions and touch the core of our being.

Throughout history, music has been closely intertwined with religious and spiritual rituals. From Gregorian chants in Christianity to Sufi Qawwali in Islam, from devotional bhajans in Hinduism to Indigenous drum circles, music has served as a medium to connect with the divine. The repetitive rhythms and melodic patterns found in spiritual music can induce altered states of consciousness, facilitating a sense of unity with a higher power and fostering a deeper connection to the universe.

The impact of music on mindset is profound and farreaching. Scientific studies have shown that listening to music can stimulate the release of neurotransmitters such as dopamine and serotonin, which are associated with feelings of pleasure and well-being. This chemical response explains why music has the power to uplift our spirits and create a positive outlook on life. Whether it's a soothing classical symphony, an energizing rock anthem, or a meditative ambient composition, music has the ability to shape our mindset and influence our perceptions. This is evidenced regularly in my home when we turn up the tunes and have a dance party, it can change moods and uplift in moments.

Engaging with music mindfully can be a form of meditation. When we immerse ourselves in a musical piece, focusing our attention solely on the sounds and rhythms, we enter a state of presence and mindfulness. This state of flow allows us to temporarily detach from the stresses and distractions of daily life, enabling us to center ourselves and cultivate inner peace. In this sense, music becomes a vehicle for introspection and self-awareness, fostering a sense of spiritual connection to our innermost selves.

In a world often defined by its hustle and bustle, the spirituality of music offers a sanctuary for the soul and a path towards positive transformation. Through its ability to evoke emotions, connect us with the divine, and shape our mindset, music stands as a powerful force that can elevate our consciousness and enrich our lives. Whether experienced in a concert hall, a sacred temple, or the intimacy of our own spaces, the harmonious interplay of melodies and rhythms has the potential to awaken the spiritual dimensions within us, fostering a profound sense of connection, mindfulness, and joy. As we embrace the transformative qualities of music, we embark on a journey of self-discovery and inner growth, guided by the timeless rhythms that echo through the fabric of our existence. Until next time, I hope you turn up the tunes and enjoy the experience!

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



## Fun had by all at recent Utopia Gristmill fundraiser

Story by Roslyn Watkins, photo provided by Stephanie McCann



Duffer's Dugout Golf Centre, located at 4904 County Road 90, was the place to be for putting the 'fun' in fundraising this past August. Mini golfers gathered for fun and games in support of the Utopia Gristmill. Pictured above from left to right are Essa Councillor Ward 2 Henry Sander, Essa Councillor Ward 3 Liana Maltby, MP for Simcoe-Grey Terry Dowdall and Essa Township Mayor Sandie Macdonald.

In early August participants enjoyed an 18 hole round of mini golf in support of the Utopia Gristmill. The Rai\$e the Roof Mini Golf Tournament held at Duffer's Golf Centre was very successful. Funds raised will contribute towards restoring the roof and sidings of Utopia's Gristmill.

Throughout the course players could see holes were sponsored by many local Angus businesses. As well as prizes donated. Some players were very experienced and for other's it was their first time playing. Either way, there were a lot of laughs, and everyone had a great time in support of a worthy cause.

More information on Essa Township's historically-designated building can be found on the website http://www.utopia.on.ca

The Friends of the Utopia Gristmill and Park have been established as a non-profit organization to spearhead the care and management of the Utopia Conservation Area as well as to work towards the restoration of Bell's Gristmill.

The vision for the Utopia Conservation Area is for it to remain as a public greenspace, respecting the natural beauty of the property and to care for it accordingly.

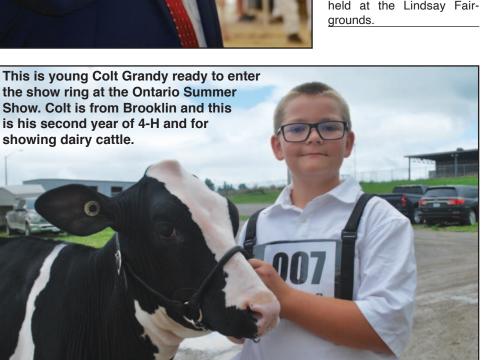
They welcome your involvement and support. They have lots of work ahead, but know that, together, all is possible.



### 26th Annual Ontario Summer Show brings exhibitors from across Ontario and Quebec



Pictured at left is Pierre Boulet from Montmagny, Quebec. He is considered one of the most prestigious judges in the dairy industry today. Boulet has judged dairy shows worldwide including in Australia and France. His herd of Holsteins with the prefix "Pierstein" have won prestigious awards at both the Royal Winter Fair and World Dairy Expo. He is seen here, explaining his reasons for the Holstein heifer classes at the 26th Annual Ontario Summer Show held at the Lindsay Fairgrounds.





In the photo above is Brian Armstrong of Armcrest Holsteins and Jerseys showing his entry of Sanexa Warrior's Red Arrow in the Fall Heifer class of the Ontario Summer Dairy Show. This show is considered second only to the Royal Winter Fair for Ontario's dairy cattle industry. This prestigious show takes place each summer at the Lindsay Fairgrounds and has exhibitors from across Ontario and Quebec.



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#### Only top entries get to the prestigious Ontario Summer Show

Story and photos by Cathy Hamill-Hill





In the photo above is Jeff Stevens showing for exhibitor Clarkvalley Holsteins, an entry in the Spring Heifer Class named Mapel Wood Master Trudy.

In the photo at top right is Julie Smith of High Point Farms from Port Perry. Here, she is showing for exhibitor Clarkvalley Holsteins from Woodville, an entry in the Spring Heifer Class named Rougette Altitude Alexanne.

In the picture to the right is Peter Leach showing Duhibou Energy Primy in the first heat of the Winter Heifer class held at the Ontario Summer Show. This heifer, owned by Clarkvalley Holsteins, Dalton J. Faris and Peter Leach won 1st in the entire class that was close to 40 entries in size.



# **Agricultural Anecdotes**

IT'S CORN!!!

By the time this gets published, I am guessing that many ivestock farmers will be in the process of corn silage harvest. Have you ever wondered how we even know when to harvest our corn silage? One way to know is when you see your neighbours start! There is actually some science to

If you harvest too early you get...

- decrease in starch
- lower yields
- poor fermentation
- juices can run down your silo and cause damage
- it freezes to the silo easier

If harvested too late you get...

- lower fibre digestibility
- lower starch digestibility
- poor packing in the silo/pile (increase in moulds)

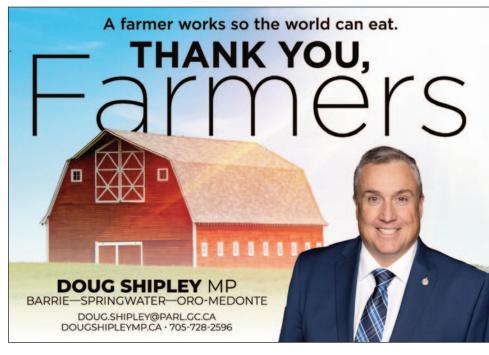
A rule of thumb is that the silage is ready when you see the "milk line" about halfway down the kernel as it makes its way to the cob. However, this isn't precise because planting date, corn hybrid, weather and field location all play a part. The best thing to do is to sample some plants from across the entire field. The plants are chopped up and then tested for moisture. For a tower silo like ours, the target moisture is 62-67% moisture. It dries 0.5% per day normally or up to 1% per day in dry conditions. We add friendly bacteria to our corn to help with fermentation.

\* As the kernel dries/matures it hardens starting from the outer tip of the kernel. The line separating the hardened part from the still soft part is the milk line.

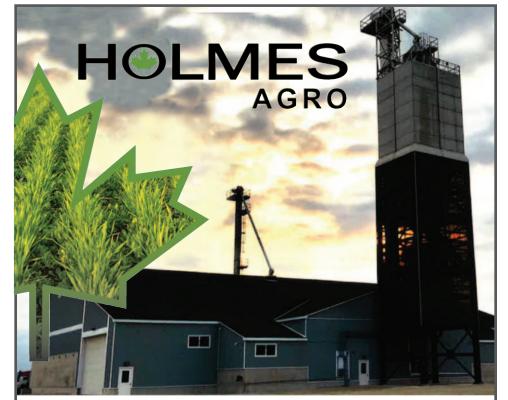
Fun fact: Corn is a grass and that's a kernel of truth you can count on!!!!

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

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







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# **QSCIA** Compaction Day Event

A soil compaction event offers a below-ground look at how heavy equipment traffic impacts the soil. The main feature of a soil compaction event is an equipment compaction sensing demonstration, where a selection of farm equipment is driven over a suite of sensors buried in the ground. These sensors indicate the magnitude of stress transferred to the soil by equipment as it travels over the field. A compaction event also involves handson demonstrations that dig deeper into soil compaction and its impact on various parts of the crop production system.

Quinte Soil & Crop Improvement Association, with local associations in Hastings and Lennox & Addington, Northumberland, and Prince Edward counties, is hosting a soil compaction event on September 7, 2023, from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM at 2141 Theatre Rd South, Cobourg, ON.

The day will include live demonstrations with Ontario Soil & Crop Improvement Association's Mobile Soil Technology Suite, complete with compaction sensors and coordinated by the Ontario Compaction Team. Live speakers will recap the findings of the compaction testing. A video of a Compaction Day event can be viewed https://youtu.be/XMS6HYg Uijs.

The day will also feature learning stations with interactive sessions on:

- tire technology/choosing the right tire setup for your application
- how cover crops can mitigate compaction/how to choose the right species for your mix
- what a soil pit can tell you about your soil
- how to assess soil structure and compaction in your fields

Currently the following organizations are sponsoring this event: Ontario Soil & Crop Improvement Association, Tirecraft, TreadRight, Michelin, Hunco Farms and Fastenal.

For more information, please contact Jenn Nash, Regional Communications Coordinator, qscia.rcc@gmail.com, 705-991-3909.

Tickets: http://membership.ontariosoilcrop.org/even t/quinte-compaction-day-2/

# South Simcoe County 4-H kick up some fun!

#### **South Simcoe 4-H** Go For The Gold Club

By Scott Cullen

The South Simcoe 4-H Go for the Gold team participated at the Region 4 4-H Go for the Gold event. Our association sent a team of five members and two coaches to the event. They had a lot of fun socializing with other teams from region 4. The lunch was delicious and the participant bags were much appreciated. Special thanks to the host association Haldimand.



#### **South Simcoe 4-H Biking Club**

By Isabella Cullen

The South Simcoe 4-H Biking Club has had three meetings. We have been riding on the rail trails in Simcoe County and enjoying the beautiful weather. Our club is having a lot of fun. We enjoy stopping to take breaks, eating the snacks, drinking cold water and conversing with other club members and cyclists that we meet. Special thanks to our leadership team of Trish, Rob, Jason and Scott

## South Simcoe 4-H Line Dancing club By Madeleine Cullen



The South Simcoe 4-H Line Dancing Club has had five meetings and will be performing at the Beeton Fall Fair Saturday September 16th and the Great Northern Exhibition Sunday September 24th. Amie Andison from Dance the Line has been teaching us a lot of great moves and how to dance to more songs. We have been dancing all around the Downey farm. A huge thank you to Farm Credit Corporation for supporting our club, and allowing us to have the opportunity to "learn to do by doing" Special thanks to our 4-H leadership team Trish, Mae, Marianne and Scott.

#### South Simcoe 4-H Sheep Club

By Clara Brooks



On July 17th we gathered at one of our leaders' home and learned about showmanship. We had a special guest, Jordan Bell, join us to teach us how to be a great showman and all the techniques to achieve our goals this show season. All of our members had the opportunity to lead a lamb around and practice showmanship. After the showmanship demonstration and practice, we all had a great time playing keep up volleyball. Refreshments and cookies were served. We laughed a lot and had lots of fun!



# South Simcoe County 4-H learn all about showmanship

#### South Simcoe 4-H Rabbit and Cavy Club

By Anika Mortelliti



On August 9th 2023 the South Simcoe 4-H Rabbit/Cavy Club held its 6th meeting. The meeting was held at the Patton farm. It started off with a roll call which was to state what your favourite rabbit breed is. Breeds such as Netherland dwarfs, holland lops, angoras, and french lops were mentioned. Then members had a conversation about rabbit breeding and terminology. Some terminology learned was cross breeding, line breeding, outbreeding, predominant traits and dominant traits. Afterwards, the members played 3 fun rounds of the game kahoot about rabbit facts. The game became very exciting and competitive. The members then took their rabbits and practiced their showmanship skills. There were many opportunities for members to learn and expand their knowledge.

#### South Simcoe 4-H Mini Horse Club By Lauren Cowan

#### South Simcoe 4-H Poultry Club

By Lawton French



The South Simcoe 4-H Poultry Club has had a great year so far, we've been to lots of great places and it's been lots of fun. We went to Steph French's farm and we checked out all the chickens and quails, we saw baby quail hatching and then we went and built feeders using buckets and drilling three holes in the side then we put little head feeders in the holes. Thank you to George McQueen for the buckets and donation for the head feeders, and thanks to Steph French for inviting us to her farm. Then we went to Weston's Farm. We walked around and looked at all the breeds of chickens he had and we saw his ducks and baby chicks. He showed us how to show a chicken and we looked at all the different parts you'll need to know to show a chicken. Thanks to Weston's family for inviting us to your farm.

#### Stewart L. Page **Scholarships** Helping **Students Since** 1967

This year, the Stewart L. Page Scholarship Selection Committee is pleased to announce that Grace Whiteside from Midland and Andrew Jones from Vasey have received our scholarship to assist with their Post-Secondary Education.

Grace will be attending the University of Guelph in the fall taking the Bachelor of Bio-Resource Management Coarse, majoring in Equine Management.

Andrew will be attending Queens University in Kingston this fall taking the Bachelor of Applied Science for Engineering.

Congratulations to both our applicants.

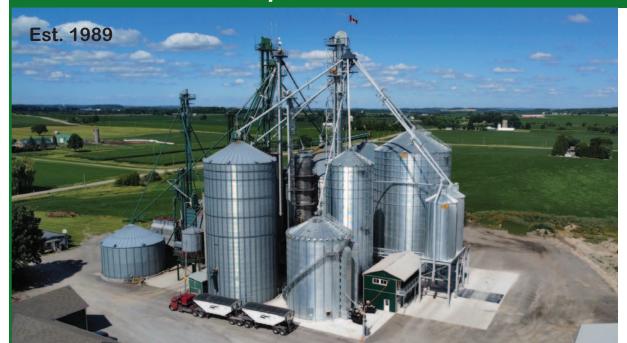
The Stewart L. Page Scholarship Fund was established in 1967, when S. L. Page retired as an Agricultural Representative in North Simcoe. Money was provided by farm people in North Simcoe, in appreciation of his guidance in the development of agriculture and rural life. Further contributions, by individuals or commodity groups, to the scholarship fund are welcome. The scholarship is available to students, residing in North Simcoe, who plan to enroll in an Agriculture, Veterinary, Environmental or Home Economics related Degree or Diploma Course.

For more information Contact: Myrna Jones, Chairperson, Scholarship Committe 1796 Rumney Road, Midland, ON L4R 4K3



The Cookstown 4-H Mini Horse Club held their last meeting on August 7th. During our meeting we reviewed how to prepare your mini horse for achievement day at the Barrie fair and practiced for our showmanship and obstacle course classes. The club will be having our achievement day at the Barrie fair on August 25th. We will let you know how we do!

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# A rainy day didn't dampen the competitive spirit at the Ontario Equestrian Vaulting Competition

Story and photos by Cathy Hamill-Hill







Hoofprint Vaulters Omemee presented the Ontario Equestrian Vaulting Competition that was held at the Lindsay Fairgrounds on July 15th. Rainy weather conditions caused the competition to move inside the spacious open barn. There were plenty of spectators at the free admission event. Pictured above, Nick Vandenbroek From Mount Elgin is in competition.

Pictured at right is Allana Harper from Ottawa in competition showing the incredible sport of horse vaulting where competition is all done on a moving horse.





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#### After The Chores: Safe with Hummer the Llama

By Cathy Hamill-Hill



Hummer is now my only llama.

I just read a report from authorities warning livestock producers to NOT keep male animals raised by bottle. The report was warning about fatality statistics caused from mature "pet" male animals. I looked at my young male

llama and thought, "Not a chance here, I'm special."

God only knows why I was not a statistic.

It started with one bump. I forgave the young male llama that I had named Pandee as he was born in the beginning of the pandemic. His mother died from founder, properly known as laminitis. I was working a complicated shift, caused by the pandemic, at my off-farm job causing me to call in the vet too late. I raised Pandee by bottle from September until spring. Pandee had never been aggressive before. I decided it was a bad day for young llamas for

The second time I got pushed, I ended up slammed against the gate of Hummer's pen. The gentle old Hummer I figured was the target so I forgave Pandee as I was just in the way. Taking a hit for sweet old Hummer was worth it. I thought I might have damaged some ribs, but my breathing pain eased a few hours later so no harm done. I excused him again.

I was getting a bit nervous now of Pandee so tried to keep out of his way. I left him outside when I was in the barn and put him in the barn as the last job of the night. He would stay near the barn all day as he wandered around browsing and then eventually made it to the hay field. He had a free life. He watched me all the time when I was outside, making me a bit nervous but my reasoning was that he was just lonely since he could not be with Hummer as he was mean to him. Male llamas fight each other by biting so Pandee was only acting normally.

With no contact, Pandee became angry at me- and took up spitting. Hummer has never spit once but Pandee was spitting all the time. He would come up to me, like we used to hug- and then spit in my face. Llama spit all over my face and in my hair was becoming a normal chore time experience. I reasoned that spitting was better than hitting me so I was winning, in a roundabout way.

WHACK! My arm was smashed against the gate post so hard that I was sure it was broke. I was praying "Please don't be broken!" as I flexed my arm and found, thank God, it all moved as it should. The arm was swelling and turning purple but that was minor compared to what it could have been. I was going to get hay out of the hay feeder for my goats and my back was turned to Pandee as I went to shut the gate behind me. Sweetie was home as this was a weekend and he had some choice words for that llama's fourth attack. The fifth attack came a few minutes after I did my hurt arm inspection. I was turned to latch the gate again and this time I landed flat on the ground being pushed down through the unlatched gate. Again, nothing broken but ouch, ouch and ENOUGH. No more excuses.

I realized, just as that report said, that this male had imprinted on me. He never once spit or was aggressive or bothered to look to Sweetie. I now understood. Looking at my bruised, swollen arm and while walking carefully after the fall to the ground, I knew now there was no hope left here. I was not special, this male livestock raised by bottle and I had to perma-

We have an excellent trucker, Kevin, that fully understood in his caring way. Kevin said he would re-arrange his schedule to get this llama out of here to the next local livestock auction. We decided to make sure we had a quick exit plan to get the llama on Kevin's trailer so loading would be easy and fast. The decision was to put the llama into a pen in the barn.

I was terrified for the sixth attack. The llama came at me, in an obvious rage, at full speed, running. This time though I fully expected something bad- and I swung the gate to the pen in front of me. He met the gate with a thump but I was thankfully untouched, this time. We quickly shut the gate and Sweetie said, "Now you are safe."

Hummer watched his son leave the barn to Kevin's trailer. I told Hummer he was safe now too. Hummer was not raised by people, he keeps a short distance away always, but he will eat from a person's hand, apples are his favourite.

## Adorable mini horses enjoying the sunshine

Farm View reader, Heather Pratt, raises reqistered mini horses in Barkway Ontario. Heather sent in this adorable photo at right of a little filly. She is 19" tall at last hair on neck, Mom is 30". Heather isn't sure if she can part with this one and states "Baby minis are so much fun." Heather has been raising mini horses for 35 years. For more information please contact Heather bfmuskoka@hotmail.com





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A man walks into the police station to apply for a job. The interviewer asks him what is 2+2, he answers 4. What is the square root of 100? He answers "ten". Who shot Abraham Lincoln? "Don't know" He said. Interviewer says work on it tonight and come back in the morning with an answer. The man goes home. His roommate asks him if he got the job? Not only did I get the job! I got my first murder investigation!"





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Spraying crops from the air

Story by Don Beaulieu assisted by Great Lakes Helicopter Corporation.

Photograph courtesy of Great Lakes Helicopter Corporation.

Some folk may have been curious as to why there was a helicopter flying extremely low and appearing to circle fields around their homes the past couple of months. Great Lakes Helicopter Corporation was hired to spray fungicide on corn and bean crops.

Great Lakes Helicopter Corporation is a proud agricultural service operator for aerial work. Each year they offer fungicide aerial application (corn and beans typically) throughout Ontario. The season typically spans from the middle of July to the middle of August, depending on planting time in the spring and maturity. The fungicide is ideally applied at the tassel stage in corn.

GLHC utilizes a fleet of 5–6 aircraft for this operation and fully self contained "mix rigs" which provide water, fuel and the ground crew supporting the operations.

Helicopter tank sizes vary somewhat but can carry approximately 300 liters of fungicide/water mix per load. This works out to approximately 15 acres per load before landing and refilling.

Optimal time of application is typically during lower wind speeds and moderate temperatures.

GLHC has a number of agricultural retailers, co-operatives and Agromart which they work in unison with. These partners supply large quantities of water, field maps and fungicide to support the operations.

Each year GLHC completes approximately 40–50 thousand acres within a 3 week period with skilled pilots and ground crew teams.

The two lower images here were taken in Springwater Township near the end of July by Farm View's intrepid photographer.



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Ontario Forage Council is pleased to offer the Forage Focus webinar series again in 2023!

We will be hosting one webinar per day for three consecutive days:

December 5, 6, 7, 2023 from 12:00 - 1:00 pm EST.

Tuesday, December 5, 2023 - Matt Groen - Value of Feed Quality

Wednesday, December 6, 2023 - Christine Brown - Soil Health Value

Thursday, December 7, 2023 - Pat Lynch - Forage Value as a Cash Crop

Registration: https://events.eventzilla.net/e/forage-focus-2023-2138618222?p

Additional program and speaker details as they become available: https://onforagenetwork.ca/ontario-forage-council/forage-focus/

## Farm View WORD SEARCH

This month's puzzle is based on livestock farming. Some letters may be used more than once. Solutions may be printed backwards, horizontal or diagonally. Good luck!

This month's words...

ALPACA BALE BARN BULL CALF CATTLE CHICKEN CORRAL			COWS DONKEY DUCK EMU EWE FEED FOAL GATE			GOAT GOOSE HAY HOG HORSE LAMB LIVE- STOCK			LLAMA MANURE PADDOCK PASTURE PEN PONY POULTRY RAM				ROOSTER SHEEP SOW STALL STRAW TRACTOR TROUGH TROUT		
D	U	С	Р	М	Р	В	L	Α	F	С	0	W	Α	G	٧
W	Т	G	0	0	Α	Α	В	С	L	Е	S	R	0	Н	G
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# Worth a Chuckle.. and life lessons

\_\_\_\_

by Aunt Hazel

# **Church Ladies With Typewriters part two**

Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church... So ends a friendship that began in their school days.

A bean supper will be held on Tuesday evening in the church hall. Music will follow...

At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be 'What Is Hell?' Come early and listen to our choir practice.

Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.

Please place your donation in the envelope along with the deceased person you want remembered.

The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hostility.



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#### Ontario Releases 2023-24 First Quarter Finances By Doug Downey, MPP

Recently, the Ontario Government released the 2023-2024 First Quarter Finances, the first update on the province's economic and fiscal outlook since the release of the 2023 Budget: Building a Strong Ontario.

Overall, this update demonstrates the government's plan is working, as Ontario's economy has remained resilient through heightened economic and geopolitical uncertainties. Despite the resiliency of Ontario's economy so far in 2023, the province is not immune to any potential economic slowdown.

This report provides updated information about Ontario's economic and fiscal outlook primarily as of June 30, 2023, and since the 2023 Ontario Budget for the 2023–24 fiscal year. Highlights of the report include:

- Ontario's real gross domestic product (GDP) increased by 1.0 per cent in the first calendar quarter of 2023, following a 0.2 per cent decline in the fourth quarter of 2022. Real GDP growth in the first quarter was supported by higher exports and household spending.
- Ontario's labour market has remained strong, with employment increasing by over 230,000 net jobs between September 2022 and

July 2023. In addition, Ontario's unemployment rate of 5.6 per cent in July 2023 is near historic lows.

- Since the 2023 Ontario Budget, expectations by private-sector forecasters for GDP growth have improved for 2023, reflecting better-than-expected economic performance so far this year. However, expectations for GDP growth have declined for 2024, reflecting the impact of Bank of Canada policy interest rate increases the fastest rise in the key policy interest rate since 1981.
- Ontario's Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation has moderated for 12 consecutive months, from 7.9 per cent in June 2022 to 2.6 per cent in June 2023. The Bank of Canada projects that Canadian inflation will stay around 3 per cent for the next year, returning to the 2 per cent target by the middle of 2025.
- Économic uncertainty remains elevated. High interest rates and inflation persistently above the Bank of Canada's 2 per cent target remain key downside risks for the economic outlook.
- As of the 2023–24 First Quarter Finances, the province's 2023–24 deficit is projected to be \$1.3 billion unchanged from the outlook published in the 2023 Ontario Budget.
  - Revenues in 2023–24 are projected to be \$204.4 billion, largely

unchanged compared to the forecast in the 2023 Ontario Budget.

- Overall program expense in 2023–24 is projected to be \$190.6 billion, largely unchanged from the outlook presented in the 2023 Ontario Budget. New commitments announced since the release of the 2023 Ontario Budget are primarily funded through existing contingencies within the fiscal plan.
- Following the 2023 Ontario Budget, Standard & Poor's, Moody's and DBRS Morningstar have all placed Ontario's credit ratings on positive outlook, while Fitch confirmed Ontario's credit rating with a stable outlook.

As of the 2023–24 First Quarter Finances, the province's 2023–24 deficit is projected to be \$1.3 billion — unchanged from the outlook published in the 2023 Ontario Budget. Revenues in 2023–24 are projected to be \$204.4 billion, and expenses are projected to be \$204.7 billion, largely unchanged from the budget projections. New investments, funded from existing contingencies, include supports for Ontario's manufacturing sector, policing and anti-crime initiatives, and municipal infrastructure.

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culvert type pipe \$150 for all. Uxbridge Area. Call **647-614-6309** ask for Larry

Wanted Good used wood rocking chair. Preferably in South Simcoe area Please call 705-440-3567

Wanted old Eatons or Sears Christmas Catalogue's between years late 60's or early 1970's . Preferably in South Simcoe region.

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Lots of love from Diana,
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#### ANNOUNCEMENTS



Happy 18th Birthday Lily! Lots of Love from Mom, Dad, Trenton and Harry. Also from Rocky, Sawyer, Temari, Princess & Moose

#### Happy 90th Birthday Ralph Hayes



You are invited to join in celebration of Ralph's 90th Birthday
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Date: Saturday September 23rd, 2023
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#### JOB OPPORTUNITY

Free classified word ad's can be mailed, emailed or faxed by the 15th of the month for the next month's issue. Telephone orders are invoiced at \$15 for the first 25 words. Ad's run for one month only and must be resubmitted each month to be repeated. Mailing information is on page 4.



As one of the largest employers in the region, Simcoe County provides a diverse and dynamic workplace. The County of Simcoe is composed of sixteen member municipalities and provides crucial public services to County residents in addition to providing paramedic and social services to the separated cities of Barrie and Crillia

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# **Free Classifieds**

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

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### Fourteenth Annual Grey Bruce Farmers' Week Prize Awarded



Grey Bruce Farmers' Week has been a main stay for the agricultural industry in Grey and Bruce Counties since 1966. The featured commodities have evolved as the area's agricultural focus has changed, but the mandate to provide information to producers and agribusiness has remained firm. Producers have supported our programming

for 57 years, so the committee would like to give back to the community. With that mandate in mind, the Grey Bruce Farmers' Week Committee has established an annual \$1000 Grey Bruce Farmers' Week Prize in conjunction with the University of Guelph, Ontario Veterinary College (OVC), to recognize new veterinarians entering food animal practices serving producers in Grey and Bruce Counties. This award recognizes the individual's past accomplishments, but also encourages their future contributions, and commitment to our rural communities.

On June 16, 2023, the OVC Doctor of Veterinary Medicine

Class of 2023 had their Convocation and Veterinary Oath Ceremony. The GBFW Committee is delighted to announce that Dr. Hannah Jansen is the recipient of the 2023 GBFW

Hannah grew up on a swine and cash crop farm outside of Seaforth. Other animals on the farm included horses, goats, backyard chickens, veal, a few beef cattle, and sheep. She loved growing up on a farm and getting to spend time caring for these animals.

Hannah did her undergraduate degree in Nursing Science and graduated to work as a Registered Nurse for three years where she worked in Tennessee first, then in Ontario. She loved the medicine and the people but missed working with the animals and the agriculture community. Hannah decided to bridge the gap between her interests and set her sights on veterinary school. After taking some required courses, working at the University of Guelph as a research technician and taking some odd jobs as a farm hand, she was elated to be accepted to the veterinary program. As an aspiring vet she never considered working with anything other than livestock in the agriculture community. She believed that she would work full time as a swine vet. Hannah was swayed to broaden her scope of large animal medicine while shadowing throughout second and third year at Blyth Vets. She enjoyed the herd and individual medicine that they provided to the other

large animal species including cattle, small ruminants, and horses.

Dr. Jansen is currently working four days a week at South West Ontario Veterinary Services, pursing her dreams of working as a swine veterinarian working across Ontario, including farms in both Grev and Bruce counties. She is also working one day a week and sharing the on-call schedule at Blyth Veterinary Services, working predominantly in Huron and Bruce counties as a large animal veterinarian. At both practices she has enjoyed meeting the farmers and getting to know the various operations. As she starts her career, it is her hope to be part of these farm teams helping the farmers to be economically successful and strive to provide the animals with the most humane care. She has a special interest in applying a one health approach to the veterinary care she provides due to her history working in the human health care field and her experiences on their farm. This approach uses a holistic approach to medicine by incorporating a human, animal, and environmental health perspective.

Hannah would like to thank the farmers who have already welcomed her onto their farms and looks forward to meeting

The Grey Bruce Farmers' Week Committee congratulates Dr. Hannah Jansen, and wishes her all the best in her future endeavours!

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