

A newspaper with something for everyone

Inside this issue:

MP Barlow's Summer Tour

Canadian Plowing Championships

4-H Achievement Days

Georgian Roots Flower Farm

Township of Tiny Farm Crawl

Photos of Fall Fairs, Essa National Draft Horse Show, Ivy Days and Fibre Spirit Festival



AGcalendar

September 30th: Anten Mills Artisan Fair

Annual Artisan Fair takes place at the Anten Mills Community Centre and Park on Saturday, September 30th. Shop for unique items! Door prizes from each vendor! 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. 3985 Horseshoe Valley Rd W Anten Mills, ON Contact farmview@on.aibn.com for information.

October 2nd to 8th: Ontario Agriculture Week

Ontario Agriculture Week is dedicated to celebrating the abundance of food our farmers produce! *See MPP Dunlop's ad on page 13 for more details.*

October 6th & 7th: Elmvale Fall Fair

The 161st annual Elmvale Fall Fair takes place Thanks-giving weekend. Fun for everyone! For full details **visit www.elmvalefallfair.com or call 705-527-1899.**

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

October 14th: News and Advertising Deadline

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

October 26th: SCFA Annual General Meeting

The Simcoe County Federation of Agriculture hosts the Annual General Meeting on Thursday Oct. 26th at 7:00 pm. Please see the ad on page 9 for full details.

October: Fire Safety Month

October is Fire Safety Month. Refresh your fire safety plan with your family, update your first aid training and most importantly, check your smoke alarms! Read Dennis Gannon's article on page 7 for more tips.





Jaiden van Kolfschoten and mini horse Diablo have some fun with their costume on Achievement Day. Read Jaiden's report on page 10. —Photo by Lisa van Kolfschoten



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Agricultural Anecdotes from Farmer Tim



I think that everyone on social media has had a run-in with a cyber bully at some point in time. I've certainly seen my share but thankfully my experiences on social media have been mostly positive. However, it's the bullies that often keep farmers from speaking up about agriculture online and I tip my hat off to the few that soldier on.

Lately, I've had some conversations with fellow farmers who have reached out for advice. They have been attacked and have felt threatened by extreme activists. I feel for them. They have been bullied for doing something that the public wants us to do. They have been transparent and work hard to share the hows and whys of farm life with consumers. Sadly, there are those who want to silence the voices of the hard-working farmers who have the courage to speak up and dispel the misinformation surrounding agriculture. Extremists may have empathy for animals or a passion for food but they sometimes lack compassion when it comes to fellow human beings. No one should feel threatened or scared to speak their mind - that includes farmers AND activists. You can get your point across without intimidation. So how do you protect yourself as a farmer on social media? Here are a few tips that I've picked up over the years.

- 1) Don't poke the bear. Agrocating is about dispelling misinformation and promoting the positives about agriculture. It's not about making fun of people and their food choices. Avoid memes or posts that directly attack an individual's food choices. They only serve to stir the pot and you will only appear like a jerk to some of the people who support you. Don't make yourself a target.
- 2) Engage in polite conversations even if you strongly disagree with the other person's opinion. Many wars were started by a poor choice of words. Food is a passionate discussion for many and a simple conversation can quickly turn into an battle if level heads don't prevail. Be the better person and take the high road. You will be respected by others who read your comments and follow your conversations.
- 3) If you can't say something nice don't say anything at all. Often activists will comment on your post simply to make you angry and try to force you to engage. If you can't bite your tongue then try to ignore them completely. If necessary, hide the comment to prevent your followers for getting sucked into a debate that solves nothing. Save your time for people who are willing to have a positive conversation.
- 4) If you are getting overwhelmed by hateful comments don't hesitate to block the commenter and delete comments when necessary. It's okay for people to comment with opposing views but if they directly attack you or use foul language it's often wise to ban that person. Just be prepared. If you anger one extremist by blocking them, more extremists may follow.
- 5) Take screen shots of threatening comments and messages. Report the person to your social media platform or in extreme cases contact police if you feel like you or your family are at risk.
- 6) Organizations like Agriculture More Than Ever and Farm and Food Care are there to help farmers engage in positive conversations. They can offer tips to help protect you online.

Finally, remember that the hard times will pass and you are not alone. Don't give in to the negativity. Reach out to other agrocates who have a public presence. We are in this together and here to help.

Follow me on Facebook: Farmer Tim

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!"

Canadian Plowing Championships

Story and photos by Cathy Hamill-Hill

The recent Canadian Plowing Championships was hosted by the Durham Region Plowmen on a farm in Woodville owned by the Baker Family. Everyone within a 100 km radius of Woodville that has a farm background, remembers friendly, happy Allan Baker who managed, along with his wife, Lois, their farm business, Baker Feed and Farm Supply. Allan also managed a feedlot cattle operation while Lois worked in a medical office. Their two daughters, Holly and Kathy, grew up helping with the farm business and joined both 4-H and Junior Farmers. The 100 acre Baker farm continues looking like a calendar picture with beautiful barns and a house surrounded by gardens, now taken care of by Lois. Sadly, Allan passed away in May 2022. He would have loved to welcome the plowing community to Woodville, his beloved hometown, since he was 2 years old.

In 1854 this farm was bought from the Crown by the McLeod Family who kept the farm for 105 years. Next it was purchased by Allan's parents, the late Clarence and Rosalind Baker, and became the Baker Farm.

Plowing means that the furrow must be straight and the right depth and width. Plowing competitors like Bob Campsall from Woodville, shown below, will often get off the tractor to make

sure the furrow is correct. Bob Campsall is a highly successful plowman who has competed in an incredible six-Canadian Plowing Championships. Bob went on to the high honour of representing Canada five times at the World Plowing Championship and was also the coach/judge for the Canadian team in Austria in 2008.



Shown above are competitors in the Conventional class at the 2023 Canadian Plowing Championship. The competition is organized with official timing between each set of plowing to allow for judging and the judging results to be collected. Patrick Sanders from Strathroy, Ontario, who is plowing under the shade of the yellow umbrella, is like a lot of competitors who began competing in plowing matches at a young age. Patrick and his wife operate Commonwealth Financial as well as own and operate a 250 acre crop farm operation. This is his third Canadian Plowing Championship.



Pictured at left is Barry Timbers, a legend in Canadian Plowing. Barry started plowing at nine years of age on his family's farm and by his twelfth year, he had advanced to the level of competition at the International Plowing Match. Barry's success in the plow field rocketed him into the best in Ontario to compete at the Canadian Plowing Championships fifteen times in his career. He went on to represent Canada at the World Plowing Competition eleven times and his best placing was an incredible 10th place. Barry said, "Plowing let me see the world, I have been to Ireland

Pictured at right in competition as a Junior Conventional, is Alexander Cameron from East Linton, Ontario. Alexander has been plowing since he was eight years old. This is his first Canadian Plowing competition. Plowing is an art: notice the hands on the levers, this is all manually done to adjust the plow and at the same time, the tractor has to be driven straight over the field of wheat stubble. He is driving his 1982 Ford 4600 with a Kverneland 2 furrow match plow.



twice, to Czechoslovakia, France, Spain and Sweden- and more." Barry was the Chair at this year's Canadian Plowing Match held at the Baker Farm near Woodville.

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JD Z930R (E89809) 2021, 25HP, 70HR, KAWA, 2 CYL, AIR COOL, 60",, 7-IRON DECK, SUSP SEAT, PWR LIFT MWR, 3 BAG,, FOLDING ROPS, ONE OWNER, LOW HOURS, \$19,900.00



JD Z915E (E90402) 2018, 25HP, 414HR, KOHLER, 2 CYL, AIR COOLED,, 54" MOWER, 7-IRON DECK, MANUAL LIFT MOWER,, ISOLATED SEAT, INSPECTED & MOW READY, \$9,900.00



JD Z994R (E90156) 2019, 25HP, 870HR, YANMAR, 3 CYL, DIESEL,, 60" MOWER, 7-IRON DECK, MULCH-ON-DEMAND DECK,, MANUAL LIFT MOWER, SUSPENSION SEAT, \$19,480.00



JD 930M (E90593) 2015, 25.5HP, 458HR, KOHLER, GAS-EFI, 60" MOWER,, 7-IRON DECK, SUSPEN-SION SEAT, MANUAL LIFT MOWER,, FOLDING ROPS, INSPECTED & MOW READY, \$11,060.00



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 \$22,900.00



JDJD 2038R/LDR (E90409) 2019, 4WD, 38ENG HP, 175HR, OOS, HYDRO, R4 IND,, 220R QUICK-TACH LDR, 57" QUICK-TACH BKT,, W/MID PTO, HOOD GUARD, 270B BACK-HOE, THUMB, \$46,320.00



JD 1025R/LDR (E89116) 2016, 4WD, 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, \$22,900.00



JD Z915E (E90718) 2021, 25HP, 425HR, KOHLER, 2 CYL, GAS-CAR-BURATED,, 54" MWR, 7-IRON DECK, ISOLATED SEAT, MANUAL LIFT,, FOLDING ROPS, INSPECTED & FULLY SERVICED \$9,970.00





JD X/58 (E89/90) 2018, 4WD, 24HP, 1275HR, YANMAR, 3 CYL, LIQ.COOL,, DIESEL, 60" 3-BLADE MOWER, HYD DECK LIFT,, HYDRO-STATIC, TILT STEERING, ONE OWNER, \$9,990.00

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FROM THE EDITOR



Roslyn Watkins

Publisher/Editor

Farm View Newspaper
farmview@on.aibn.com

As I sat down this morning to write my editorial I glanced out my window and noticed the neighbour's oak leaves have just started to turn red. So I'm surmising it is time for me to say Happy Fall Y'all! Most of you may know I will be mourning the end of summer for a little while yet but after reading Soul Sisters Celebrations column on autumn transformation and spiritual growth, I can see there is much to embrace as well. That article can be found on page 9. I also found Farmer Tim's article incredibly insightful, on page 2. Not just for when we are on social media, but in our day to day lives. It isn't always easy to remember the right way to speak to one another, we can get wrapped up in our own stress and worries, but I will be trying harder to follow Farmer Tim's good old fashioned advice.

I'd like to bring your attention to the incredible coverage of Fairs and plowing matches that Cathy Hamill-Hill brings

us in the issue. I know Fair Season is her favourite but I don't know how she does it. Farming, working off the farm and getting around to all the events to provide us with great photos and coverage from across the regions. Thank you Cathy, your hardwork is appreciated.

I find my comments from a few years ago at this time still hold true and as we get closer to Thanksgiving, I hope all of you have a few similar sentiments as we celebrate the season of giving thanks.

"I am grateful to live in Canada, more specifically in rural Ontario. I can walk outside my home without fear of being bombed or attacked. I am fortunate to have a job that helps provide for my family. I am blessed to have family and good friends who lift me up every day."

Take care of yourselves and one another, Roslyn Watkins



The above photo was taken in the north west area of Alliston on September 14th, at 7am by Kara Harris-Row. Together Kara and her husband, Jason, own and operate the business PXL8IT Productions. They specialize in photography and social media marketing. For more information on their business visit www.pxl8it.com

Ready for adoption!





Bessie is a big, beautiful, female Caucasian Shepherd who is approx. 1+ years old. She has been in a local shelter for almost 9 months now while she waits for her new family. Bessie is good with dogs, but we are not sure about cats or livestock. She really loves her handlers at the shelter and is the sweetest girl. If you have lots of love, a nice big yard and can give Bessie a home, please contact the Caledon Animal Shelter

animal.services@caledon.ca 905-584-2272 ext. 4698

The Farm View is available at the following fine establishments

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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.

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

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

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In memory of Jill Beischer

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

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

W.T. Bryan

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

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PAC Member: Dave Ritchie SCFA Phone: 705-726-9300 ext 1224

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Fall season brings the opening of hunting season



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

Where did this year go already? I find myself posing that question more and more as I experience life. This year is no different. The fall season has arrived on our calendars which indicates many things for

many people but for us in the agricultural sector it mainly means crop harvesting and seeding winter crops, attending events, festivals, and meetings. One big event for many people is the opening of hunting season in Ontario.

There is a beneficial relationship between farmers and hunters. That being the lawful harvesting of wildlife that causes millions of dollars worth of crop losses and damages every year. But every fall we hear about incidents of trespassing, crop damages, and failure to follow safety protocols by hunters. In Ontario there are seven different pieces of legislation that cover hunting and fishing licensing.

- 1. Fish & Wildlife Conservation Act Provincial
- 2. Migratory Birds Convention Act Federal
 - 3. Endangered Species Act Provincial
 - 4. Species At Risk Act- Federal
 - 5. Invasive Species Act Provincial
 - 6. Trespass to Property Act Provincial
 - 7. Firearm Act Federal

If you witness violations of any of these Acts, you are encouraged to call the Ministry of Natural Resources & Forestry tips line at 1-877-847-7667 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477.

To obtain a hunting license and tags hunters must present a valid Outdoors Card. Each hunter is required to obtain an Ontario Outdoors Card that the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry issues.

Did you know that there is a special license for farmers and landowners to hunt white tail deer on their own property for \$25.14.? There are qualifications to be eligible. You must own at least 50 acres, live on the property, have a valid Farm Business Registration Number, submit one application for one controlled deer hunt season, complete an attestation statement and have a valid Ontario Outdoors card.

Migratory Game Birds require a federally issued permit and a Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp along with an Ontario Outdoors card and a small game license. The federal permit information is available at local post offices and online at permis-permits.ec.gc.ca

To hunt in Ontario, hunters must complete and pass the Ontario Hunter Education Course to purchase licenses. Topics covered in this course include Wildlife Management, Hunter Responsibilities, Hunting Laws and Regulations, Safety & Equipment, Hunting Techniques, and Wildlife Identification.

Here is some additional important information to be aware of even if you do not hunt.

- The Fish & Wildlife Conservation Act is enforced by Ontario Conservation Officers and Police Officers.
- All hunters are required to wear orange coloured head cover and orange garments above the waist that cover 400 sq inches and are visible from all sides.
- Hunting generally can only take place 30 minutes before sunrise and 30 minutes after sunset. There are some very specific exemptions
- Hunters cannot carry loaded firearms in any vehicle including ATV's. It is illegal to have loaded firearms in any vehicle.
- Hunters cannot shoot from or across a right of way for public vehicular traffic.
- Hunters must not have a loaded firearm within 8 metres or 26 feet of a travelled portion of a right of way for public vehicular traffic.
- Trespassing it is unlawful to enter private property. Typical signs that indicate prohibited entry are bright red four inch circles posted along property lines and fences. Lands under cultivation are notice against entry.
- It is the responsibility of the hunter to obtain permission to be on private lands. It is recommended that property owners' issue written permissions with a date, and name of the hunter(s), contact information and Outdoors Card number. Do your due diligence and document as much information about your permitted hunter(s) as possible. Hunters are required to obtain permission to enter properties where hunting is prohibited to retrieve wounded animals.
- Wild Turkey hunting has two seasons, spring (April 25th May 31st) and fall (October 10th 22nd)
- White Tail Deer have several seasons depending on which Wildlife Management Area you are hunting in and what type of weapon used. Bow vs shotgun. Typically, in the areas covered by Farm View the fall controlled hunt season is open during the first week of November and December.
- Hunters are required to complete hunting reports even if they do not successfully harvest an animal, they have a tag for. This report assists the Ministry of Natural Resources & Forestry to monitor populations of wildlife, establish tag quotas, make changes based on collected data to seasons and bag limits and inform management policies.

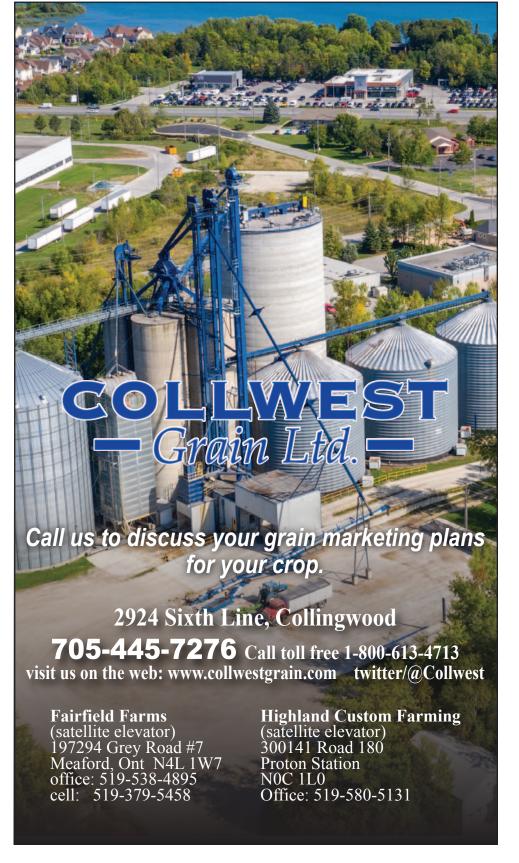
For more detailed information on the regulations for hunting in Ontario visit the MNRF 2023 Hunting Regulations Summary guide https://www.ontario.ca/files/2023-05/mnrf-2023-hunting-regulations-summary-en-2023-05-03.pdf

If you see suspicious hunting activity do not approach the hunters, instead call the authorities such as the police or the MNRF tips line 1-877-847-7667.

As Thanksgiving is right around the corner, I would like to thank our members for their continued support of OFA. It is an honour for me to be the OFA field staff representative in Peel, Simcoe, and York.

Wishing you a very happy Thanksgiving! Don't bother counting calories, count your blessings!





York Federation of Agriculture hosts annual Farm Safety BBQ

Story and photos by Roslyn Watkins

Towards the end of August my son, Harry, and I ventured around the other side of the lake to enjoy the York Federation of Agriculture's annual Farm Safety Corn Roast. Community members gathered in the pavilion at the Sutton Fairgrounds shortly after 6:30pm. The timing was perfect as it gave everyone the chance to finish up farm chores before enjoying a nice evening of good conversation and relaxation. Kim Empringham, from the York Federation of Agriculture (YFA), gave a lovely welcome and invited everyone to partake in a dinner of bbq hotdogs and fresh corn on the cobb purchased from Holtrop Family Farm located in Keswick. A variety of refreshments were provided as well as a dessert of donuts and ice cream treats that everyone enjoyed. The event was well attended and also gave guests the opportunity to chat with YFA representatives and OFA Representative, Leah Emms.

Firefighters from the Georgina Fire Department were on hand with an informative safety presentation as well as giving tours of the fire trucks, which everyone enjoys no matter their age.

Thank you to the Sutton Fairgrounds for the use of the pavilion.



All smiles cooking at the grill are mother daughter duo, Kim Empringham, from the York Federation of Agriculture to the left, and daughter, Laura at right.

Thank you to the Georgina Firefighters who gave informative and fun tours of the fire trucks at the York Federation Farm Safety Corn Roast. Ethan Mc-Connell had a great time 'driving' the firetruck while siblings Willa and Joe Johnson, center, and friend Ainsley Barker, front right, posed for a picture.



Have a safe, not scary, fall season

By Dennis Gannon

October is a fun month when we decorate for Fall, Thanksgiving and of course, Halloween. While the decorations make the season colourful, it is important that we do it safely. Here are some safety tips that will ensure that your decorations will brighten your home and keep it safe.

Dried flowers, crepe paper, cornstalks and decorative scarecrows may make your home look festive for fall, but these classic decorations can also pose a scary fire risk. Flammable decorations are the first things to ignite and are often started by a candle. Don't put decorations near open flames and other heat sources, such as light bulbs and heaters. Check that any decorative lights have been tested for safety by a recognized testing laboratory. Examine each set of lights for broken sockets, frayed wires or loose connections, and discard any damaged sets. Be careful not to overload sockets when plugging in lights and other electronic decorations. Consider glow sticks or battery-operated candles instead of real candles when lighting your jack-o'-lanterns or other luminaries. If you do use real candles, light them with long, fireplace-style matches or a utility lighter. Keep lit decorations off of doorsteps, yards and sidewalks where excited trick-or-treaters may knock them over. Check that no decorations are blocking your home's exits or pathways, so you have a clear escape route in case of an emergency.

For our trick or treat safety consider the following. Avoid costumes with loose, trailing fabrics or other hanging parts, which can catch fire on open flames. Check the labels on costumes, wigs and props to be sure they are made with flame resistant or retardant materials. Double-check that the eye holes in masks are large enough that children can see and avoid any trips or falls, or brushes with open flames. If visibility is an issue, use makeup or face paint instead of masks. Provide flashlights or glow sticks to carry for lighting, and use glow-in-the-dark reflective tape on costumes for extra visibility near roads. Talk with children about fire safety before heading out, reminding them to stay away from open flames. Practice the "stop, drop and roll" technique. This is a great time of the year for adults to teach children about fire safety, as well as first aid measures if someone gets hurt. Finally, October is Fire Safety month. This October and every month, check your smoke alarms and ensure everyone knows two ways out of the residence and practice it regularly.

For more fire safety information contact your local fire department. They are always available to give you information about keeping your family safe from the effects of fire.

ESSA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Plan to attend the following meetings:
Saturday October 28th - Utopia Hall, 1:30 pm
Christmas luncheon - November 25th, Utopia Hall
Guest speakers to be announced.

For further information call Joan at 705-424-9895



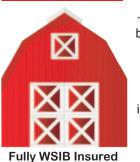
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Meet the Farmer: Georgian Roots Flower Farm Florals grown in the heart of Georgian Bay

Story by Cathy Hamill-Hill

Cady McLaughlin, owner of Georgian Roots Flower Farm, is becoming a well known name in the local wedding industry. Georgian Roots has provided all the flowers for about 40 weddings in one wedding season for several years.

Georgian Roots is a business that branched off of Celtic Roots, a premium Equestrian operation that includes boarding about 50 horses at the farm in Tiny and selling premium horse hay across North America. When Cady married Gavin, son to owners of Celtic Roots, the decision was made to come back to his home farm as the couple wanted to begin a family.

Cady's background in wedding design led her to looking to provide a bigger selection of flowers for the weddings she was part of and her inlaws, Robert and Mary Ann McLaughlin offered her field space on the farm.

The Flower Farm has two greenhouses. One is the "seedling house" where the seeds are first planted, the second greenhouse is the next step before the field.

One of the flowers grown here is the beautiful Lisianthus that is available in all colours. Cady likes the "champagne and apricot colours the most." This plant has to be grown from seed.

This year, 8,000 Lisianthus seeds were carefully planted at the end of December in the seedling house. There were 6,000 seedlings that were strong enough to transplant to the second greenhouse. This plant cannot withstand frost so they were planted in clear plastic "mini greenhouses" in the field.

Mini greenhouses are labour intensive. "Gavin and I have temperature monitors on our phone. When the temperature drops, we must go put a "frost cloth" on the mini greenhouse at once.

A frost cloth is like a big blanket made just for plants. We might be woken up at 2 a.m. when the temperature drops," Cady explains adding that "the frost clothes must be taken off early morning because the sun will cook the plants under that cloth."

One of the most popular flowers for weddings are sunflowers. Georgian Roots Flower Farm has 10,000 sunflowers growing in an average year. Sunflowers are not only the "classic yellow." Cady grows sunflowers in white, pink, chocolate and burgundy.

Dahlias are another favourite, Cady has 10,000 dahlias planted and the plan is to divide the clumps in half this fall and have 20,000 dahlia plants ready for the next season to keep up with demand. Cady says there are 50 different varieties planted.

COVID-19 shut down the wedding industry but the flower farm was in full operation. This forced change led Cady to a new direction. She began an on farm stand which has become very popular. The on-farm Flower Stand is self serve including a debit card option and

it is open from Thursday-Sunday from 10 am-7 pm. The Flower Farm had to be greatly expanded to meet the farm stand demand especially when the wedding industry went back in operation.

The biggest challenge to farming today, in Cady's opinion, is "Climate. So much depends on climate. Climate is changing rapidly, frost is much later in the fall and it is heating up earlier in the spring. And we are having way too much rain."

Cady works full-time- and

more with the Flower Farm. She and Gavin start their day, on average, at 6:30 a.m. and the work day ends at 9:30 p.m. Gavin works as Manager of Celtic Roots Equestrian and helps when he can at the Flower Farm. Cady cares for young son Cameron and is the Manager of the Flower Farm. There is one full-time seasonal employee from May-October. The quiet time of the farm is from end of October until the end of December. The end of December begins the seeding season.

Adding new flowers happens all the time because Cady likes to experiment in the flower fields. "I often plan weddings two years in advance. I plant flowers with that wedding in mind two years ahead. The first year there are usually no flowers. The second year is the year that I know that flower variety will be a success- or not."

The best part of her working life, Cady says, "is to be able to be outside with my family every single day. I also appreciate having the (parent) inlaws I have and sharing meals together every day with them."









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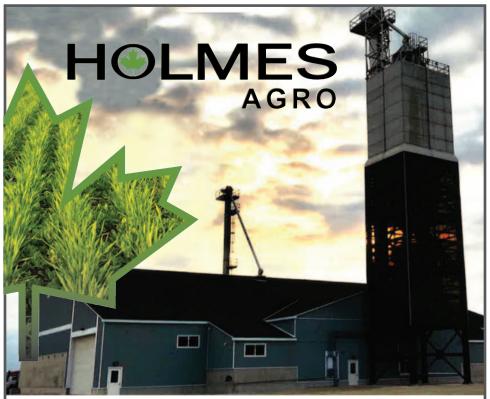
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Soul Sisters Celebrations

Autumn Transformation: A Season of Spiritual Growth

As the hot and humid nights & bright evenings of summer slowly give way to cool darker evenings and dew-covered mornings, a remarkable transformation unfolds before our eyes. Nature, in all its wisdom, unveils a breathtaking spectacle of color and change. The leaves on the trees, nonexistent 5 months ago, then lush and green, now turn brilliant shades of crimson, gold, and orange before gracefully descending to the earth. It is autumn, a season that invites us to contemplate the profound connection between outer and inner worlds, and to recognize the powerful metaphor it provides for our own spiritual growth and inner transformation.

Autumn is a time of transition, much like the seasons of our lives. The trees, once adorned with the vibrancy of life, now shed their leaves in a display of surrender and letting go. Similarly, in our spiritual journey, we encounter moments when we must shed old habits, beliefs, and attachments to make room for spiritual growth and transformation. The similarities between the shedding of leaves and shedding of old habits are reflective in the realm of spirituality. In both cases, there is a recognition that holding on to what no longer serves us can hinder our spiritual progress and inhibit our connection with the divine. The trees understand this truth inherently, and so must we. Just as the leaves release their hold on the branches, we too must release our grip on the patterns and behaviors that no longer align with our evolving spiritual selves.

Change often carries a sense of loss, much like the trees losing their leaves. Yet, in this apparent loss, there is a deeper wisdom at play. As the leaves fall, they create fertile ground for new growth in the spring. In the same way, when we shed old habits and beliefs, we create space for spiritual growth and renewal. It is through this process of shedding that we find the potential for inner transformation and a deeper connection with our spiritual essence. The fiery reds, vibrant oranges, and golden yellows that paint the landscape remind us that even in the process of letting go on a spiritual journey, there is beauty and vitality. Our own inner transformation can be just as radiant and awe-inspiring as the autumn foliage. It is a reminder that spiritual growth and change are vibrant and full of life, connecting us with the divine essence of the universe. The transformation of the leaves doesn't happen overnight. It is a gradual and deliberate process. Similarly, our own spiritual growth and inner transformation requires time, patience, and persistence. We must be willing to embrace the journey, even when it feels like progress is slow or setbacks occur. It is through this patience and persistence that we deepen our spiritual connection and understanding.

The crisp, cool air and the rustling of leaves underfoot invite us to turn inward. It is a time to ask ourselves what we need to let go of spiritually, what no longer serves our higher purpose, and what new beginnings we wish to cultivate in our spiritual journey. Take this as your reminder to shed what no longer serves you spiritually, allowing your inner self to bloom with renewed spiritual vibrancy and purpose. Just as nature embraces the changing seasons, we too can embrace the changing seasons of our spiritual lives, finding spiritual growth, beauty, and transformation in each one.

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

SOUL SISTERS CELEBRATIONS

Simcoe County Federation of Agriculture Annual General Meeting

Thursday October 26th, 2023 at 7:00pm

at Living Faith Presbyterian Church in Baxter, ON. Tickets are \$25 per person Doors open at 5:30PM

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

Register on Eventbrite.ca under

Simcoe County Federation of Agriculture's Annual General Meeting.



Cookstown Dairy Club celebrates a successful Achievement Day

Story by Rebecca Lange, photos provided by the Cookstown Dairy Club

The Cookstown Dairy Club held their Achievement Day at Barrie Fair on Friday, August 25. Over 56 4-H members participated in the Inter-club 4-H Dairy Show that was held in conjunction with the Achievement Day.

Cookstown Dairy Club Results: Novice Showmanship - 1st - Rosalind Marling

Junior Showmanship - 1st Katelyn Mann

Intermediate Showmanship - 1st Rachael Lange, 2nd Rebecca Lange Senior Showmanship - 1st Grace Finch, 2nd Maeve Marling, 3rd Riley Broad

Grand Champion Showperson -Grace Finch; Reserve Rachael Lange

Spring Calf - 1st Rebecca Lange Winter Calf - 1st Rachael Lange, 2nd Katelyn Mann

Fall Calf - 1st Grace Finch, 2nd Maeve Marling

Summer Yearling - 1st Riley Broad Grand Champion Calf - Grace Finch; Reserve Rebecca Lange 2nd Place Group of 3

Thanks to the Cookstown Agricultural Society, Essa Agri-plex, Bowman Farms, Green Tractor and our leaders Lisa Robinson and Karl Lange.



Pictured above at center is Grand Champion Showperson, Grace Finch and at left, Reserve Rachael Lange. Presenting at right is Dorothy Lange.



Novice Showmanship 1st place winner, Rosalind Marling, is pictured above.

South Simcoe 4-H Mini Horse Achievement Day

Story by Jaiden van Kolfschoten, photos provided by South Simcoe 4-H

Friday August 25th was our Cookstown Mini Horse Achievement Day hosted by the Barrie Fair and co-sponsored by the Cookstown Fair.

Our show consisted of numerous classes and divisions. The divisions included Novice, Junior, Senior and Intermediate. The classes were Showmanship, Grand Champion, Ball & Pylon, Barrels, Obstacles, Hunter (Jumps), & Costume

The day had perfect weather, and we were greeted with many friends, family and fair-goers there to cheer us on. The results of the fair are too numerous to list, though it is appropriate to name Grand Champion Danica Kirby and Reserve Champion Jaiden van Kolfschoten.

On behalf of our club, I would like to thank The Barrie Fair, The Cookstown Fair, Angie Trumpler, our judge and all the family and friends who attended our show! I would also like to thank Paradeez Acres, the farm of Darren and Debbie Kirby for being our host for our club meetings this year.

Until next year, Happy Trails Everyone.



The Cookstown Agricultural Society awards four Bursaries

Story and photo by The Cookstown Agricultural Society

The Cookstown Agricultural Society awarded Bursaries to four students this year at the Barrie Fair on Friday August 25th. The students recognized for their hard work are Josh Vernon, Rebecca Lange, Ava Miller and Jocelyn Rivett.



In the above photo are Bursary recipients Josh Vernon,at left and Rebecca Lange, center. Mike Elines, president of the Cookstown Agricultural Society, at right.

Celebrate fall with maple syrup

The Ontario Maple Syrup Producers' Association (OMSPA) is pleased to announce the return of the successful agricultural and fall harvest event, Fall in Love with Maple, for its third year.

Running from Sept. 30 to Oct. 8, Fall in Love with Maple invites visitors to head out to a participating sugarbush from 17 locations across Ontario to see the fall colours and celebrate the changing of the seasons in a sweet way.

"Fall is a time when we celebrate the harvest, and Fall in Love with Maple is a great way to get out in the fresh air and sample maple syrup, chat with small farmers, and celebrate our region's agricultural bounty," Leann Thompson, Chair of the OMSPA Maple Weekend working group said.

Create and coordinated by OMSPA, Fall in Love with Maple is a celebration of the Canadian tradition of maple syrup production, and this year features nine days of activities and specials at participating maple syrup producers across the province. This fun, free, family-friendly event will run daily Sept. 30 to Oct. 8 between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. *Participating sugarbushes may limit their participation to specific weekends or days and visitors are encouraged to check the website before heading out.

Visitors to Fall in Love with Maple can expect to experience the best of fall, like vibrant foliage featuring brilliant shades of gold, orange, and red. The event will feature guided or unguided trail walks, outdoor activities, and chatting one-on-one with the maple syrup producers who make this sweet liquid gold each spring.

This year there will be 17 producers taking part in Fall in Love with Maple with participants from Algoma, Algonquin & District, Eastern Area, Lanark & District, Haliburton-Kawartha, and Waterloo-Wellington.

Visitors are invited to visit the website at www.ontariomaple.com/fall-in-love-with-maple for more information.





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South Simcoe County 4-H clubs bring on smiling faces

4-H South Simcoe Hiking Club By Brooklynn Downey



The last 4-H South Simcoe Hiking Club meeting we had was held on the Bruce trail up near Singhampton. We saw some wildlife. We also saw some different rock formations and we saw spectacular views. We finished the hike with smiling faces.

Simcoe County 4-H Youth Adventure Camp 2023

By Isabella Cullen



Twelve 4-H members from Simcoe County attended Camp Winnebagoe in August to have a wonderful adventure at Youth Adventure Camp. North and South Simcoe 4-H members all had an amazing time and are still chatting about the memories that we made.

4-H South Simcoe Biking Club

By Brooklynn Downey



At our last South Simcoe Biking Club meeting we biked on the Simcoe Rail trail. We enjoyed the scenery. We had a great time and can not wait for our next bike ride together.

South Simcoe 4-H Sheep Club

By Clara Brooks

On Friday August 25th we gathered at the Essa fairgrounds for our 2nd show of this year which was the Barrie Fair. Congratulations to all of the 4-H members that showed at the Barrie fair. South Simcoe 4-H Sheep club placed first for best 3 lambs in the interclub competition. This show was a great learning opportunity for us. We can't wait for the next show!



South Simcoe 4-H Arts & Crafts Club

By Brooklynn Downey

At the last meeting of the South Simcoe 4-H Arts and Crafts Club we started our achievement day project cross stitching! We all started off with difficulty and by the end we were going incredibly fast. We can hardly wait for the next meeting.

4-H Bradford & Beeton Dairy Club

By Isabella Cullen

On August 16th the 4-H Bradford & Beeton Dairy Club had our final dairy meeting! This meeting helped to teach us how to prepare for the Barrie Fair. Our guest speaker Dave Swartz showed us how to clip and do toplines. He also showed us how to trim the calves' hooves. He answered all our questions and gave us pointers. He shared his knowledge and guided us through the clipping when it was the members turn. A big shout out to Dave. We had our snack and adjourned the meeting! At the Barrie Fair our club placed first in the Herdsman Event.

South Simcoe 4-H Rabbit Club

By Anika Mortelliti

On Sunday August 26th, 2023 two of the rabbit club members showed their rabbits at the Barrie fair. Nicole Palmeteer and Milana Palmeteer both showed their Netherland dwarfs. They both got second place in their showmanship classes. Milana Palmeteer achieved a reserve breed in the Netherland Dwarf class with her rabbit Dakota. Overall this was a fun experience for these two members.

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MP John Barlow, Shadow Minister of Agriculture, Agri-food, and Food Security tours Simcoe County farming operations

Story by Roslyn Watkins, photos by Errin Dickens, Executive Assistant office of Doug Shipley, MP

This past summer I had the pleasure of meeting MP Barlow on one of his many stops across Ontario. MP Barlow was conducting a summer tour taking the time to meet one on one with as many ag producers as he could before returning to Parliament in the fall. The mission was to find out what concerns the agricultural community has and how they can be addressed.

The meeting I attended was held at Addis Grain Elevator in Oro-Medonte. Owner Kevin Eisses and office manager, Graham Holloway, welcomed MP John Barlow, Shadow Minister of Agriculture, Agri-food, and Food Security, Dave Ritchie, President of the Simcoe County Federation of Agriculture (SCFA), Doug Shipley, MP for Barrie-Springwater-Oro-Medonte, Errin Dickens, Executive Assistant to MP Shipley, and Basil Clarke, the Mayor of Ramara Township.

Kevin proceeded to give us a tour of the grain elevator and answered questions from both MP's regarding labour availability and rising costs of production and improvements. Kevin noted that his costs to expand have increased about 40% and energy rates have increased 15% since this time last year.

After the visit at Addis Grain MP Barlow also met with Wrico Holsteins, Kapteyn Farm and had a round table meeting with local politicians.

Take a moment to read MP Barlow's article below for what is next in Parliament.

Much was discussed at a round table meeting during MP John Barlow's summer tour. Pictured at right back row left to right are Dave Ritchie, President of the Simcoe County Federation of Agriculture (SCFA), Donna Jebb and Doug Shipley, MP for Barrie-Springwater-Oro-Medonte. Front row left to right are Paul Maurice, Ontario Federation of Agriculture Director representing farmers in Peel, Simcoe and York and MP John Barlow Shadow Minister of Agriculture, Agri-food, and Food Security.





Touring the Addis Grain Elevator in the photo above from left to right are Basil Clarke, the Mayor of Ramara Township, MP Barlow, Kevin Eisses, owner of Addis Grain, MP Shipley and Dave Ritchie, SCFA President.



MP Shipley, at left and MP Barlow far right posed for a picture with the family members who own and operate Wrico Holsteins.

Working to protect our producers and make life more affordable

By MP John Barlow

I had the pleasure to meet with some incredible folks from across Ontario including Simcoe County, Thunder Bay, Barrie, Perth, Belleville, and Wellington County. After speaking with many farmers and producers from these areas, it was clear the challenges they face reflect the challenges felt by all Canadian farmers across the country. After eight years under this Liberal government, the agriculture and agri-food industries have been burdened with the carbon tax, new regulations and red tape, labour shortages and trade issues making it increasingly difficult to sustain their operations.

As Shadow Minister of Agriculture, Agrifood, and Food Security, I know it is vital Canadian agriculture be environmentally sustainable and economically viable, yet the Liberal's burdensome taxes and red tape are making it nearly impossible for Canadian farmers to achieve this balance.

Many of the Ontario regions I visited are hubs for agriculture boasting incredible innovation and opportunities. Harnessing the potential of the agriculture and agri-food industries within these regions will play an integral part in Canada being a solution to feeding the world and is why it is critical to

support Canadian agriculture.

As such, when Parliament returns, there are a number of important pieces of legislation to be further debated and I will continue to push forward. Canadian agriculture is suffering under this Liberal government, and I am working to ensure we pass critical Bills to protect our producers and make life more affordable.

Firstly, I will continue to push forward Bill C-234, an Act to Amend the Greenhouse Gas pollution Act. This bill will exempt the cost of the carbon tax for farmers when using natural gas or propane for activities such as grain drying, irrigation and heating and cooling livestock barns. This Conservative Bill has been in the works for two years and has passed through the House of Commons with support from all parties, except the Liberals. After being referred to the Senate, the Liberal government once again demonstrated a disregard for Canadian agriculture when a Liberal Senator held the Bill from passing further than Second Reading before the summer. This Bill will be critical to reduce the costs for Ontario farmers when they must dry their grain or Wrico Farms when they must heat their barns for their livestock during the winter

In addition, Bill C-280, An Act to Amend the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act and the Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act will establish a deemed trust for the producers of perishable fruits and vegetables in the event a purchaser becomes bankrupt. The bill would also ensure greater price consistency, and improved quality and availability of fresh fruits and vegetables for Canadian consumers, while increasing Canada's food security. This bill is crucial to address the important issues for fruit and vegetables growers in this country and strengthen our agriculture and agri-food industries. As Ontario is one of Canada's largest producers of fruit and in the country, this bill will be vital to the success of their operations. I am proud to support this Bill both in the House of Commons voting for the interest of the hardworking producers that I have had the pleasure to speak with.

Conservatives will also be pushing for the completion of a Grocery Code of Conduct for more transparency and accountability for large grocers.

These pieces of legislation are concrete action towards measures to allow Canadian

producers to remain economically viable while producing products of the utmost quality.

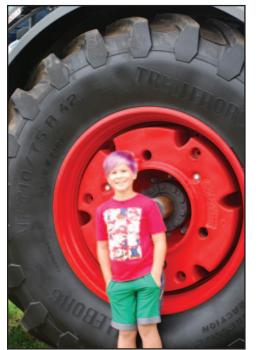
Finally, my work is not done as Conservatives fight to eliminate the tariff on fertilizer, ensure policy and regulatory decisions are science-based, and reign in taxes and inflation to lower costs on farmers and consumers.

Having the opportunity to speak with so many farmers and producers within Ontario demonstrated this is a time where Canadians are relying on our farmers, but the Liberal government continues to ignore farmers' needs and fail to understand the connection between higher on farm production costs and inflated prices.

Our Conservative team, under Pierre Poilievre, will showcase our agriculture and agri-food industries' world leading technologies and innovation. I will continue to ensure the concerns of our farmers, ranchers, processors, and agri-food businesses are heard because it is imperative Canadian farmers are recognized for their world class environmental stewardship and have the tools to be economically viable.

Hastings County Plowing Match & Farm Show draws a crowd from near and far Story and photos by Cathy Hamill-Hill

A slightly overcast day didn't prevent fans from coming out to enjoy the 2023 Hastings County Plowing Match & Farm Show. The event was a two day affair at the end of August held at Todd and Matt Milligan's farm located in Marysville, ON. The Hastings Plowing Match had the traditional tented city and plowing competitions as well as children activities, Queen/Princess competitions, live demonstrations and food booths.



Shown at left is young Cooper Wayte beside a BIG tractor's tire at the popular farm equipment display section at the Hastings Plowing Match. Cooper came to the Hastings Plowing Match with his grandparents from Napa-



Pictured above, according to some friends, is "Mr. Hastings Plowing Match", Ron Hough. Ron is a longtime volunteer and this year's Antique Farm Equipment Committee Chairman.



Seen in the photo above is a 1/4 scale steam Engine that is self-propelled. It was a real crowd pleaser at the Hastings Plowing Match. This steam engine was built from an idea by tradesman James Bosma from Belleville. "I grew up with steam and wanted a steam engine but even the smallest one cost \$10,000. I decided to build my own," the innovative James explained.

In the photo to the left is Resi Walt, Member Service Representative of Zone 12, Hastings, Lennox & Addington, Northumberland, Prince Edward of the Ontario Federation of Agriculture (OFA). Resi explained that the Hastings branch of the OFA along with the neighbouring Lennox and Addington were on hand to meet the Match's visitors. The OFA is a farmer led farm organization that has about 38,000 members across the province.



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Ontario is celebrating the 25th anniversary of Agriculture Week October 1 - 8, 2023 by celebrating Ontario's thriving agriculture and food supply chain from farm to fork, including restaurants. During Agriculture Week, participating restaurants will showcase a menu item made with Ontario food

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An educational and fun day at the Township of Tiny's Farm Crawl

Story by Roslyn Watkins

This past August my father, John Beischer, and I ventured out on a Farm Crawl in the Township of Tiny. The day was incredibly well organized, a bus was arranged for transporting the 45 guests and a picnic lunch was served at each of the four stops. The chef at Fresh Baked Consulting sourced the ingredients for each dish from the farms that we were visiting that day. More information about Fresh Baked Consulting can be found at www.freshbakedconsulting.com.



Bonnie Desroches, Director of Recreation Township of Tiny, is pictured above welcoming Farm Crawl guests with pastries and refreshments.

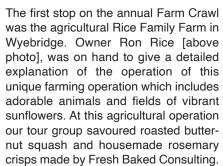
-Photo by Roslyn Watkins

Our morning began with coffee, tea and pastries at the Township of Tiny's community garden. We had time to appreciate and admire the efforts the community has put into this garden. It was noted there are sensory beds, herbs available for free and a section for produce to be grown by volunteers to be donated to the food bank.

Once we were settled on the bus, Councillor Dave gave a very informative history lesson of the area as we travelled to our first stop at Rice Family Farm. I fell in love instantly with the mini donkeys and goats. Rice Family Farm is open to the public for the fall season with pumpkins, fall produce and decor, a petting zoo and of course, the stunning sunflower field with photo ops. They are located at 640 Ellery's Sideroad, Tiny (Wyebridge) and can be found on instagram.

Our second stop at Monpiero Farms, was the most important in my opinion, from a raising awareness point of view. Paul Maurice gave us a detailed explanation of how life on the farm really is. Paul used to farm dairy cows and explained that job is literally 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. As a dairy farmer you are late for everything, if you are lucky to attend at all. A few years ago Paul made the decision to switch to chicken farming and has a rotation of 6 weeks to grow the chickens and a 2 week rest before the next cycle begins. This allows him time to spend with his family and enjoy other favourite activities. That being said Paul also





told us agriculture is on the leading side of science. "The world is looking to us for direction." Also stressing that schools need to teach children about the many opport-

grows

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acres

cash

crops

a n d

Pictured at left, Paul Maurice of Monpiero Farm, a 4th and 5th generation family farm, explains the difficulties and joys farmers face in modern day.

-Photo by Roslyn Watkins







Posing in the sunflower field at Rice Family Farms are Farm View publisher, Roslyn Watkins and John Beischer.

—Photo by Chad Gilchrist of Roll on Painting.

nities in the ag industry.

—Photo by John Beischer

Paul couldn't stress enough the importance of having quality inputs such as fertilizer. Without fertilizer, we wouldn't be eating. He told the crowd that there is a petition going around at the moment to ban fertilizer and stressed not to sign it. "Don't take away our tools to grow your food."

Paul gave great insight into how much the weather plays a part in crop farming as well. The moisture has to be just right, with all the rain we have had it might not even be worthwhile, if possible, to harvest the crops that they planted in the spring.

Continued on page 15...

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Township of Tiny's Farm Crawl continued...

Imagine all the work and planning that goes into growing wheat, soybeans, corn, hay, and after all your labour all season long, it is entirely up to mother nature if you are able to reap what you sow and make an income for that year. Our farmers are true super heros. The stress and hard labour, physical and mental, is nothing short of heroism.



The Tiny Farm Crawl last month took us to this premium horse boarding facility which overlooks the serene shores of Georgian Bay. At this point in our tour we were encouraged to embrace the bond between horse and rider in this equine paradise. Owner Robert [above photo] spoke to the group and answered numerous questions about his equine operation. This stop in the farm crawl was especially enjoyed by the group. Celtic Roots Farm is located at Road 18 west in Lafontaine, Tiny Township. -Photo by John Beischer

Our third stop was at the premium horse boarding facility, Celtic Roots Equestrian. Owners and our hosts, Robert and Mary Ann McLaughlin, divided us into two groups to take us through the beautiful stables and property. Robert has had an interesting life of many careers, from wildlife researcher to dairy farmer and now operating the boarding facility with Mary Ann and son, Gavin. Gavin's wife,

Cady, operates a successful flower farm from this property as well. Her story can be found on page 8 of this issue. Celtic Roots can board 40 to 50 horses at any time. There are 21 stalls inside, but the horses prefer to be outdoors as often as possible. The majority of veterinarians will tell you the healthiest place for horses is outside, barns are for people. There were a number of boarders at the farm during the crawl to answer our questions. Some boarders are local and some come from farther away such as Toronto. At Celtic Roots they also have 500 laying hens and offer eggs for sale on a daily basis.

The love and humour Robert and Mary Ann have for their business, and one another, was evident through the entire tour.

Our fourth stop found us at the most delicious Maple Syrup Farm, Windlee Farms. Windlee Farms has won many awards for their syrup production, in-

cluding from the Royal Winter Fair. We were all given a shot of the flavoursome product and it is easy to understand why. At this point we were again separated into two groups, one group to enjoy a wagon ride to the sugar bush for an educational lecture on how the sap is harvested. The second

> group went with owner and operator, Peter Lorriman, for a thorough tour of the sugar shack where the syrup is made and bottled. Peter noted the state of the art equipment that is used for production and also explained a few of the difficulties they encounter such as sourcing the glass for bottling. The effects of Covid -19 and the war in Ukraine are even more far reaching than I would have thought. Peter explained the 1 litre glass bottles were from



The last stop on the annual Tiny Township Farm Crawl was Windlee maple syrup farm located at 10 base line Road in Tiny Township near the village of Perkinsfield. The century old craft of maple syrup production was very well explained by owner operator Peter and his family, all of whom are busy in the day to day work of this agricultural farm operation. A wagon ride trip to the maple forest was very much enjoyed by the farm crawl participants. -Photo by John Beischer



Farm View newspaper was very pleased to be invited to participate in this annual promotion of the rural and farming operations in this township on the shores of Georgian Bay. Our tour guides [above photo left to right] Councillor Dave Brunelle, Councillor Kelly Peter Helowka and Grace Beaman Community Engagement Coordinator were efficient and well versed in the history of the community in which we were vis--Photo by John Beischer iting.



Tara boards her horse, Patch, at Celtic Roots and enjoyed taking time from her riding schedule to answer questions put forward by the farm crawl participants.

—Photo by John Beischer



chases of the day. This was a fun adventure that I would highly recommend to anyone of any age. Either in the Township of Tiny, or one closer to where you live. I certainly appreciated the opportunity to learn more about our agricultural community and the inner workings of a variety of farms. Thank you to the organizers, the bus driver and of course the

This concluded our sched-

Shanghai but that plant



Fibre Spirit Festival featured over 65 local vendors

Story and photos by Lizz Smekal



The Fibre Spirit Festival is back and took place Saturday, August 26th from 10:00am - 4:30pm at the Barrie Curling Club. This year the talented Fibre Spirit volunteers demonstrated their amazing skills to show their wide range of fibre crafts. The Knitting Basket Fibre Games included a wide variety of activities. There was a scavenger hunt and a variety of door prizes. Birch Robusta was brewing up mercury espresso and for those looking for a tasty treat, Frites Wagon a Dutch themed food truck was just outside in the parking lot.

Pictured to the left is Elspeth comes from!

King from Humming Hill Alpacas in Mono Ontario. They specialize in alpaca yarn, hand knits, hand cranked socks and gifts. This was their first Fibre Spirit show and reported that it was well organized and the volunteers were very helpful. Visit their website www.humminghillalpacas.ca to see the beautiful Alpacas where the yarn



In the photo above are Sarah Craig (left, working on loom) and Betty Trach (right, at spinning wheel) from Ontario Handweavers and Spinners at their first Fibre Spirit show. Members aim to promote fibre arts, spinning and weaving education. Learn more and become a member at www.ohs.on.ca



In the photo above is Karin Lewis owner of Pretty String Yarn Co. In Ottawa specializing in exclusive, small batch hand dyed natural fibres. This was her first Fibre Spirit show. Karin enjoyed the experience and found the volunteers extremely helpful.

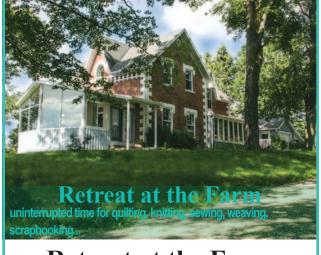
Calling all Quilters! Send in your stories and pictures of your projects! Or send a snapshot of you and a friend at a fall fibre show tell us what you enjoyed!

Quilting Corners Guild Sit n Sew Day

Story and photos provided by Senora Baldry

On August 26th, members and guests, of Quilting Corners Guild gathered for a day of community outreach at the 3rd Sit n Sew of 2023. They took on a new focus for the guild to support Gilda's Club Simcoe Muskoka and make heart pillows and knot bags for mastectomy kits. The kits will be distributed by Gilda's Club to local hospitals for patients recovering from breast cancer surgery. Sixteen gals worked at various stations cutting pillow covers and knot bags, stuffing pillow inserts, and sewing covers and bags. Lots of kits were completed and many parts went home to be completed. A very successful and enjoyable day for an important program. Thank you to everyone who participated and those who prepared and organized the day.





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Ivy Days provides fun for the whole community!

Story and photos by John Beischer

The 2023 edition of Ivy Family Days was a huge success. At 9 am on September 9th vendors inside and outside the Ivy Orange Lodge set up their displays and prepared to greet their potential customers.

St. Jude's Anglican Church in Ivy ran a very successful garage sale throughout the day. Elsewhere homemade apple pies and other specialty baked items were offered for sale. Most baked goods were sold out before noon which is also a tradition at this remarkable rural event. At 11 am the men and women of the Ivy Orange Lodge served a generous FREE BBQ meal consisting of burgers, hot dogs and fresh corn on the cob donated by Harris Farms of Springwater Twp. As well as a variety of soft drinks and water. Country meat Cuts of Utopia donated the meats.

An antique car and farm equipment display was set up on the vast lawn behind the hall. As well, several children's games were taking place, including 3-legged races and many other fun events with prizes offered to the winners. A balloon artist wandered the grounds to the delight of many pre-schoolers and adults. A silent auction, raffles and so much more were offered to visitors on a beautiful September day. All proceeds are used in charitable endeavours in the community. Hundreds of volunteer hours went into the planning and execution of this annual event. Farm View was pleased to be invited and happy to display former publisher John Beischer's iconic 'Betsy Ford' 1952 8N tractor.



Ivy Days always features an impressive line up of vintage and antique tractors and automobiles; this year was no exception! More than 50 vehicles graced the lawn behind the Ivy Orange Lodge and hundreds of visitors spent many hours throughout the afternoon reminiscing about days gone by.

Essa Mayor Sandie Macdonald kicked off the Essa Volunteer fire department's demonstration of how a firefighter handles a high pressure hose at a structure fire. Joining Sandie was her Essa Council volunteer crew members, Henry Maltby, Liana Sander and Pieter Kiezebrink. After the initial demonstration kids were invited to handle the hose and many did. The demo was professionally orchestrated by Yaz Stoer, who said "firefighters are good community helpers."





Rhod Price, a local resident of Ivy brought his new horse, Rose, and cart to the popular Ivy Family Days event earlier this month and offered cart rides to willing visitors. Pictured above, Gladys Fieldhouse was among the first to take advantage of the experience with instruction from Rhod, at right.









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Record breaking attendance at the 170th Barrie Fair!

Story and photos by Cathy Hamill-Hill



Pictured above is Rick, Farm Manager for Elkridge Farm located in Rama in Simcoe County. This was a very busy site at the Barrie Fair as there was a group of live baby elk on display including this one. The baby elk aged between 3-4 months old were raised by bottle for the purpose of being in public displays. For safety reasons, the males will be sold but the females will be retained to be kept in the Elkidge herd. Elkridge raises elk in a natural environment for sustainable meat production.



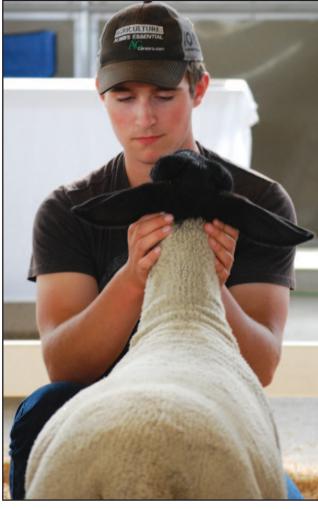
LITTLE COWBOY: This is 6 year old Jase Lasby from Marmora. Young Jase was showing his family's purebred Hereford "Lily" in the Hereford Mark of Excellence Show at the 2023 Barrie Fair. He won 2nd in his showmanship class.



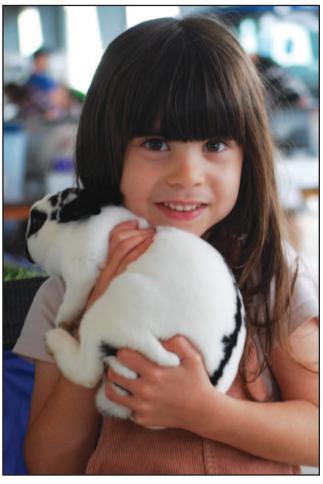
In the photo at left is Dale Darroch, judge for the Sheep show at the 2023 Barrie Fair. The sheep show was sidelined in the pandemic and it came back stronger than ever with an incredible 150 entries with exhibitors coming from across Ontario. Dale is a shepherd and also a popular speaker at many sheep events sharing his expertise from his long caas a feed



Fair educating the public about the Wye Marsh Wildlife Centre which is 3,000 acres of Provincially Significant Wetlands and Woodlands in Tay Township. Also, at the display was volunteer, Gerrit, who explained that the Wye Marsh has a boardwalk that is accessible to everyone.



Pictured above is Charlie Isaac showing a homebred Suffolk ewe from his White Rock Livestock operation. Charlie is from Singhampton, which is near Collingwood.

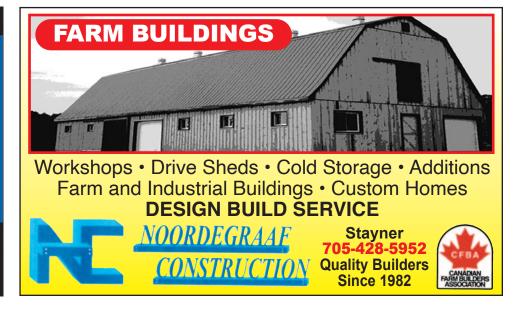


Pictured above 5 year old Brenna McCarrey from Elora cuddles her favourite rabbit at the Barrie Fair's Dominion Rabbit and Cavy Breeders's Association Show that had over 150 entries. Brenna's favourite rabbit is a Mini Rex and her name is Buttons



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Story and photos by Cathy Hamill-Hill



Pictured at left is Hailey Tucker riding a horse named Clyde. Clyde is 30 years old but he clearly still loves his job. Hailey was part of the demonstration from the Equine Mounted Games Canada. Equine Mounted Games are basically relay races that are played on horseback in a large field. The sport has its origins from the fields of War. The soldiers in camps during War time would practice with their horses "in friendly competition" to keep them thinking fast with sharp eyes and hand coordination to be ready for battle.

This is a simple concept game using upside down containers as it would have been done in the War time when the first Equine Mounted Games began. In the photo to the right we see Liam Daniels in a demonstration of the Equine Mounted Games Canada at the Essa National Draft Horse Show. Liam is riding a horse named Winter.





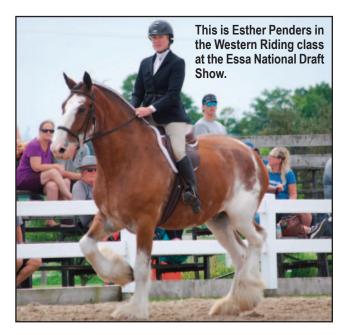
In the photo to the left is a Percheron Draft Horse of the Allenholme hitch owned by John Borer of Dundas, ON. It takes a great amount of work to get a horse in this show ready condition.

Photographed to the right, is an entry in the Unicorn Hitch class. The entry is owned by Driver Jared Dare and Assistant Driver Kristina Dare of Rising Creek Farms from Warwick, Ontario. There were huge crowds this year on a beautiful Civic Holiday Sunday for the Essa National Draft Horse Show.



First place winner in the Classic 6 Horse Hitch class at the Essa National Draft Horse Show are pictured here. This entry of Belgians is owned by Manuel Tavares from Erin, Ontario. The driver is James Kuepfer and Assistant driver is Sarah Kuepfer. The couple were very happy winning the prestigious title of Best 6 Horse Hitch at the Essa National Draft Horse Show.









A beautiful day at Kinmount Fall Fair

Story and photos by Cathy Hamill-Hill

At the Kinmount Fall Fair the focus was on family and community. There was much to see and do from the Pet Dog Show, a crowd favourite, to relaxing and taking in classic country music provided by "Country Hot Flashes." The all sister band is comprised of Linda Robertson, Doris Robertson and Wendy Connelly. The sisters are from Minden and perform exclusively classic country.



To the right in the above photo is MPP Laurie Scott who has been elected 6 times to represent Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock. The busy politician made time for her hometown Fair in Kinmount on Sunday of the Labour Day Weekend, and is seen here with her brother, Guy Scott, a past President of the Kinmount Fair and longtime Kinmount historian and author. The brother and sister were helping out at the Kinmount Fair Pet Dog Show.



This is Sadie Galvin-Hynes from Bethany showing her Nigerian Dwarf dairy goat that won Grand Champion at the Kinmount Fair Dairy Goat Show. The doe's name is Golden Acres RMF Hurrah. This is only the 4th goat show Sadie has ever been at.

New and old events are enjoyed at the Sunderland Fall Fair

Story and photos by Cathy Hamill-Hill

The Sunderland Fall Fair did not disappoint the many visitors they received this year. There was a wide variety of shows, competitions and demonstrations to be taken in. One example is Carriage Racing. This event has horses of all sizes in competition by pulling a cart through a course of cones with penalties for each cone knocked down while being timed.



Pictured above is Hayley Ashton from Uxbridge, a 4-H Ontario Ambassador. Hayley is working on a Community Engagement Project and meeting people at the Sunderland Fair at her display was part of this. She is a graduate from the Class of 2023 from the University of Guelph's Ridgetown Campus.



Young Blake Morden is pictured above showing a Clydesdale in the Showmanship class. This horse belongs to Blake's uncle who owns Goslin Clydesdales from Blackstock.



Pictured here is Stephen Wallace of Heatwave Blacksmithing from Brampton. Stephen is a full time fabricator and part-time Blacksmith. He greeted everyone at the busy Sunderland Fair with a "Welcome to the Blacksmith Shop!" and explained his craft. He has a full season with blacksmith demonstrations booked across Ontario



In the above photo, at right, is Eliza Goslin, from Goslin Clydesdales and winner of the Showmanship class at Sunderland Fair. Next to Eliza is the 2023 Sunderland Fair Ambassador, Rebecca Smith and the 2023 Sunderland Fair Junior Ambassador Runner-up Veronica Weir.

Ghostly Milliners of Ballycroy



Glenville is not only a ghost town, but literally a town inhabited by ghosts.

Located east of Orangeville, Ballycroy is a community with deep

1819 when Samuel Beatty built a sawmill on the Humber River north of what is today Highway 50 and just west of County Road 50. The first sawmill in Adjala Township, it attracted settlers and other businesses. In time, a busy village with more than a dozen businesses emerged.

Among these businesses was the McLelland general store, which thrived for almost a century. It still stands today, one of the few buildings to survive Ballycroy's slide into near oblivion. It represents an invaluable link to the community's

Within the building, clinging to it like vines to a brick wall, is said to be another, more mysterious link to the past - an ethereal woman that refuses to pass on to the other

Some decades ago, an elderly woman was a guest in the restored building, staying in one of the upstairs bedrooms. One night she felt a presence in the room, like a pair of eyes boring into her. The woman awoke to find an old lady, dressed in Victorian clothes and her hair in style long out of history. It began in date, staring down at her.

> Not knowing what to do or how to rationalize what was before her eyes, the elderly lady remained as calm as her quivering body would allow her. The ghost continued to stand over her, staring into her with cold eyes. The woman began wondering what the ghost could possibly want with

> As if reading her mind, the spirit finally spoke in a hollow voice: "Why are you in my room?"

> The elderly house guest was naturally startled. She clamped her eyes shut, hoping that the ghost would simply disappear. It worked. Come morning, the woman's nighttime visitor was gone, and she felt safe enough to leave her bed.

The woman told her hosts about the event and how the ghost questioned her presence in the room. The homeowners were shocked at how casually she had taken it all, convinced that had they seen the ghost they wouldn't be nearly as calm.

But the old woman assured them that she never felt threatened by the experience. "I'm 90 years old", she said. "What could the ghost have done to me?"

Others have seen this specter, presumably a former resident, over the years as well. Was it some forgotten tragedy that causes her to remain tied to the building all these years later, or is it perhaps an unusually strong affinity for the building? We'll likely never know.

This ghost, whomever she may have been in life, must certainly have good reason to cling to the mortal world. After have, she has lingered even after their community she called home became a ghost town, passed over in the 20th century by development, its businesses withering away like grapes on a dead vine.

Perhaps she's still there today.

After The Chores: My Favourite Season

By Cathy Hamill-Hill



I love Fair season.

Fairs are events managed by a group of dedicated volunteers in the local community that showcase the community, invite others to visit and entertain us all in one short segment of time. Fairs also contain my favourite subject of agriculture including livestock shows which is seeing the very best in farming up close. And then, there are the Fair snow cones. I am addicted to snow cones even at \$5.00 each and I can see \$10 snow cones coming soon in my future and I still won't be complaining about cost.

"Chicken George" was one that understood about Fairs- he was the same as me, he loved Fairs. "Kinmount weekend" means Labour Day Weekend and "Norwood weekend" is Thanksgiving, we both knew that. With his devoted wife and daughter by his side, he would be at 30 Fairs in a season showing poultry, mainly chickens. I "only" got to 18 Fairs in my "best" season. He would spot me at a Fair, and with his arms out like the wings of a banty hen, he would trot over telling me he was coming in for his hug. He let me have it once over a Sebastopol Goose picture, I was only sort of right. He told me I should have explained it all better. Then he told me more- then I ever needed to know- about that kind of goose. Everybody we meet creates a memory- and my memory of George "Chicken" Cooper will always be the vision of him trotting out of a Fair's poultry barn looking for his hug. I miss him.

One year I was either dedicated or incredibly stupid to my Fair habit. We had tickets to the Royal Winter Fair's Horse Show. I assured Sweetie that I was "fine" after being diagnosed a week before with pneumonia. We went to Toronto to stay with relatives for the weekend with the plan of going to the evening Show and then showing my guinea pigs the next day. All dressed up and going to the big city at dark was quite the experience so the weekend had a wonderful start. The Royal Horse Show at night is an event of pageantry. I was doing great at first, but the next twenty minutes of walking made my lungs upset- and by the time we finally

got up all those stairs to our seats, I knew I was in huge trouble. Sweetie, being the sweet guy he is, offered to take me home that night but I told him I had to show my guinea pigs the next day. The next day, I decided I had to "rest a while" in the Jeep as I was coughing so much that I could barely speak. Sweetie

asked me again about going home and instead, I asked him to show my pigs instead. That was my only successful Royal showing guinea pigs- and I missed the whole thing because I managed to get to the show site at the end of the day only to tell Sweetie I wanted to go home now. At every Royal since, I have been so grateful to not to have to spend the day in the parking lot.

Some of the special times for me that came only from a Fair were certainly the Prince now King Charles sighting and seeing comedian Rick Mercer from the CBC and meeting the super friendly Ron MacLean from Hockey Night in Canada in person. For me, one of the most special memories will always be the Wedding. Bill and Jane were both big time Orillia Fall Fair supporters at the time- and they decided to get married at lunch time at the dairy goat show that they ran. Jane did all the desk paperwork and Bill announced the classes and handed out all the ribbons. The two caused a bushel of gossip, Jane was not right for Bill and Bill was not right for Jane, depending on which side you were talking to at the moment. The Wedding had them both wearing all white show clothes and a Reverend did the service in the show ring. The groom kindly helped his bride up to the horse driven carriage that was part of the Fair for years. The newlyweds were driven all around the Fairgrounds waving at everybody and it was a beautiful happy sight. The newly married couple ran the show so we had to all wait until they came back from waving to resume the show. I had to gather quarters and use the pay phone to explain to Mom that Dad and I were "at a Wedding" so we would be quite late coming home. It was such a memorable day, Jane and Bill must be close to their 25th wedding anniversary now proving the gossip, on both sides, was all wrong.

The very best part of the Fair experience, even above the snow cones, is the friends we meet at the Fair and I thank God for each one





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Check out the ag business directory on page 23.



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For sale Steel lawn roller, 24" x 30", \$50.00. Coke machine, chest type, 1950's style, needs restoration, \$400.00 Contact Bill at 705-458-4479

International 400 cylo air planter 4 row. Works great for sweet corn. Cookstown, call Allan 905-830-6278

AUCTION SALE

Live Auction Sale Equipment Consignment Saturday October 14th, 9:30 am

554447 Mono-Amaranth TLine, Mono, ON Go west through Orangeville on Hwy 9 to County Rd 16 (Veterans Way at Greenwood Cemetery), turn north 5 miles to farm on East side. OR From Shelburne go east on Hwy 89 for 2 miles to Mono-Amaranth Townline, turn south & go 5 miles to farm on East side.

Accepting: Tractors, Machinery, **Equipment, Farm Rel/Shop**

Note: Please contact auctioneer if you are wanting to consign any equipment/items

Watch the website as items will be added regularly

Auctioneers: Kevin McArthur (519) 942-0264 Scott Bessey (519) 843-5083 www.theauctionadvertiser.com/KMcArthur

- full listing & photos

Timed Online Consignment Auction

Farm, Shop & Construction Materials and Equipment, Vehicles & Trailers, Etc!

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For more information visit the website!

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2) Heating Division requires a labourer to assist in the service and installation of oil & propane tanks & furnaces as well as water systems & water softners. Please call, fax, email or drop in resume for heating attn: Jamie Hamilton email jhamilton1874@gmail.com Experience is an asset, but not required.

3) Truck Driver: flat bed, full or part time

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website www.hamiltonbros.ca

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

JOB OPPORTUNITY



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This month's puzzle is scary, for fans of Hallowe'en. Some letters may be used more than once. Solutions may be printed backwards, horizontal or diagonally. Good luck!



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Erin Location:

9410 Wellington Rd 124, Erin, Corner of 124 & 24 ON, NOB1TO 519-833-9616

Cookstown Location:

4321 Line 13, Cookstown, Corner of 27 & line 13 ON, LOL1L0 705-458-0871



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Used Equipment



hours ua: 1385, 4wd , diesel , cab/heat/air , 340/85r24 fronts , 460 / 85r34 rears , cast centers, 2 remotes, 540 rpm, swing shift plus with dual speed f32/r32 ,kubota m41



1014.2 hours, camo, 4wd, cab/heat/air, 27x9.00r14

ires, front bumper, winch, front windshield wipers, Electronic/ Hydraulic dump, spray in liner, Unit is located



Kubota BX25DLB-T2

494.7 hours ua , 4wd , diesel , open station with foldable rops , 26x12x12 rear tires , 18x8.50-10 front tires , front grill guard , loader , backhoe attachment with 12" ditching



hours ua: 1850.8, 4wd, cab/ nours ua: 1850.8, 4wd, cab/ heat/air, 12.4r24 fronts, 18.4r30 rears, 540 rpm, 2 remotes ,front grill quard, m36 loader, self leveling, manual q/a 82" bucket, Unit is located in Erin.



pivot tongue mower conditioner, 1000 rpm, 2 pth, excellent condition, Unit is Located at Stewart's equipment in Frin Stock Number : U27673





hours ua: 1306 , 1986 model neat, two sets of remotes. 540 pto, ag tires 10x16 fronts, 18.4 x30 rears, manual trans 16X4, Unit is located in Erin. *Great Shape*



hours ua:5783 , 2wd , cab heat air 11.00x16 front tires 18 4x38 rear tires 540 16x16 semo power shift, bar axle, Unit is located in *\$335,900*



nours showing: 547, 4wd, 12 speed transmission, rops, left hand hydraulic shuttle rears, cast centers, la1154 ldr, 7' bucket, 3 pth, front grill guard. (Erin) \$57,900



NewHolland BC5070

540 rpm , hydraformatic tension, hydraulic pick up lift , hydraulic swing tongue bundle , wagon hitch, Unit is located at Stewart's equipment in Erin \$27,900



4x6 bales, netwrap, wide pick-up, hydraulic pick up,18l-16.5l rubber, crop 14100, Unit is located at Stewart's equipment in Erin \$33,900



New Holland C232

hours ua: 725, rubber track machine, cab with heat and air, aux hydraulics, 2 spd. 72" low profile bucket w/ bolt on cutting edge, unit located *\$71,900*



S/N: KT471218, Horsepower (min.): 70.0 HP Cutting Width: 2'2"Type: Rubber / Tine Equipment in Stayner (Formerly Earth Power)

\$27,900



*Offer available July 1, 2023 – September 30, 2023. *Offer available March 1, 2023 – June 30, 2023. 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. Offer valid only at participating Dealers.





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