

# *Since 1977* **FARM** **VIEW**

A newspaper with something for everyone | August 2025 | Volume 48 #08

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New 5th  
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Available



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at the Barrie Fair

# 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. Submission deadline is the 14th of the month for the following month's issue.

## August 1st - 4th: Georgian Bay Steam Show

The very popular Georgian Bay Steam Show returns taking place **August 1st to the 4th**. Featuring Made in Canada equipment, a fun filled family event! Visit [www.steamshow.ca](http://www.steamshow.ca)

## August 2nd & 3rd: Essa National Draft Horse Show

The 10th Annual Essa National Draft Horse Show takes place **August 2nd & 3rd at 7505 10th line, Thornton, ON**. This promises to be an exciting event not to be missed! Call 705-726-1200 or email [admin@essaagriplex.ca](mailto:admin@essaagriplex.ca) for details.

## August 9th: St. John's Pancake Breakfast

St John's United Church will be celebrating it's 50th anniversary hosting the Potato Pancake breakfast during the Alliston Potato Festival. Taking place in the East parking lot of the Church, all are welcome! Visit [www.alliston-potatofest.com](http://www.alliston-potatofest.com)

## August 14th: News and Advertising Deadline

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

## August 15th and 16th: Carrot Fest

Carrot Fest kicks off on Friday, **August 15 from 4:00-10:00 pm and returns on Saturday, August 16 from 9:00 am-6:00 pm**. Downtown Bradford. Visit <https://www.townofbwg.com/en/recreation-culture/carrot-fest.aspx> for details.

## August 16th: SSFA Golf Tournament

South Springwater Firefighters Association presents the annual golf tournament taking place on **August 16th, 2025** at Springwater Golf Course. Golf, lunch, dinner and prizes! Email [south.springwater.firefighters@gmail.com](mailto:south.springwater.firefighters@gmail.com)

## August 16th: Simcoe County Plowing Match

Simcoe County Plowmen's Association presents the 2025 Plowing Match. Hosted by: Brian Fieldhouse and Family. 3288 County Rd 27, Bradford.

Contact: Barry DeGeer 705-734-5193  
All are welcome, free admission.

## August 21st: Farm Safety Corn Roast

Farm Safety Corn Roast hosted by York Federation of Agriculture will take place on **Thursday, August 21st at 6:30 pm**. This free family event is open to everyone and will be held at the Sutton Fairgrounds. *See the ad on page 6 for more details.*

## August 22nd & 23rd: OSCIA Summer Farm Day & Bus Tour

The Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association (OSCIA) invites farmers and agri-professionals to gather in North Simcoe County for its Summer Farm Day & Bus Tour, taking place **August 22-23, 2025**. The two-day event promises innovative soil health practices, hands-on insights and regional ag highlights. *More information on page 9.*

## August 21st - 24th: Barrie Fair

The Annual Barrie Fair takes place at **7505 10th line, Thornton, ON August 21st to the 24th**. Many exciting activities, shows and vendors! Visit [www.essaagriplex.ca](http://www.essaagriplex.ca). *See the advertisement on page 13 for more details.*

## Sept. 24th: Program announcement for E.D.G.E.

Elmvale District Garden Enthusiasts meet on Sept. 24th, the topic **Help Plants Thrive not just Survive** at Elmvale Legion 7 John Street at 7 p.m. Guests are free.

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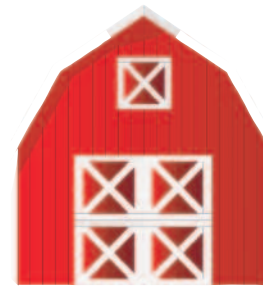
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# Giffen Grain Elevator acquired by Central Ontario FS

Report by Don Beaulieu

Central Ontario FS, a retail division of GROWMARK, Inc. has purchased Giffen Grain Elevator of Minesing, Ontario. In conjunction with Great Lakes Grain, the elevator will provide grain marketing services in the Simcoe County region as part of their grain co-operative system.

This acquisition is a key step in the continued growth of the FS grain elevator system, allowing the opportunity to serve growers in the region and re-enforces their commitment to providing trusted, local solutions with the strength of a co-operative network.

Larry Giffen will continue to operate the facility during the transition, ensuring a smooth hand-over and ongoing support for local farmers. Grain contracting for the Giffen location will be co-ordinated through the FS Beeton Elevator.

This change was celebrated recently, at the Minesing location. Eighty or so friends and dignitaries socialized and discussed all things grain before the guest speakers began their presentations.

Maggie Pendleton, plant manager at the Beeton location, welcomed everyone and introduced key people. The first speaker she invited to the microphone was General Manager FS, Frank Barron.

Barron covered the benefits of membership and explained how funds are distributed. He also spent some time talking about technology available to help grain farmers.

Off the top, Barron explained that many of us may be familiar with the names FS Partners and UPI Energy. On September 1, 2024, a re-branding has happened, bringing those to entities together as one.

He reminded us that FS remains a co-operative of GROWMARK, which is owned by farmers and farm organizations in the United States of America. "When you buy a membership" he advised, "you become a member of GROWMARK".

Following Barron, Great Lakes Grain General Manager Matthew van Sintern-Dick addressed the crowd. He provided a brief history of how Great Lakes Grain came about.

Van Sintern-Dick was positively excited about bringing Giffen Grain Elevator "on board" and hopes to make Great



Participating in the official ribbon cutting for Central Ontario FS' acquisition of Giffen Grain Elevator are, from left to right: Larry Giffen, Colin Giffen (Giffen Farms Trucking), Maggie Pendleton (Beeton plant manager), Matthew van Sintern-Dick (general manager of Great Lakes Grain), Frank Barron (division manager) operating the scissors, Jennifer Coughlin (Mayor of Springwater Township), Jim Irvine (grain origination).

Lakes Grain the "grain marketer of choice".

Providing a very interesting and important presentation was Jim Irvine. He covered grain markets, focussing on corn, soybeans and wheat. After each detailed section, Irvine provided a summary bringing it all together in a cohesive manner.

Irvine explained some of the pitfalls farmers can fall into in a section labelled "Common mistakes in marketing". These are summed up as five main issues.

- Reluctance to pre-harvest marketing
- Failure to understand basis
- Lack of an exit strategy

- Holding grain too long in storage
- Not knowing the cost of production

The reasons to be aware of all the above were explained very well.

Larry Giffen is looking forward to the time after this transition and his assistance in that regard. He is confident in the organizational skills of everyone involved in these changes to the business. He hopes to find more time for himself and his personal interests, although surely missing being intimately involved. Giffen is no stranger to change, or adapting, but this is a big one for him. Farm View wishes him well personally and general success moving forward.

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OPINION

EDITORIAL



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

Here we are in the middle of a gorgeous summer season. I recognize the heat isn't appealing to everyone, especially if you are spending long days working on your farm. Please keep in mind Dennis' column about heat stroke and heat exhaustion from the July 2024 issue of Farm View. You can find it on my website [www.farmviewonline.com](http://www.farmviewonline.com) if you'd like a reminder on how to tell the difference and how best to prevent either one from occurring. In this issue Dennis has timely fire tips for our students heading off to post-secondary education.

The summer season also brings quite a few fun filled events. In this issue Cathy has given us a look at the Kawartha Antique Power's 45th Heritage Show; Don has covered ribbon cutting ceremonies and the SCFA BBQ and Andrew Hind gives us a glimpse of the Rosseau Fair which has been occurring for 150 years in his Village Stories article. Have a look at the ag calendar on page 2 to see what events are still to come!

Take care of yourselves and one another,  
Roslyn Watkins

LETTERS

Canada Day Reality

In Canada vested interest urban sprawl creep and crawl. Did the premiers Wynne and Ford think at all? With huge real estate and infrastructure ponzi scheme costs, society will be broke! World trade foreign companies import supposedly cheaper products robbing Canadian dollars and jobs, leaving Canadians on the street and at food banks because with slave labour rates they cannot compete. The news cast today reports that the federal government has rescinded the tax on the transnational communication foreign giants at President Trumps demand in order to negotiate trade. So now it becomes American Pie and Canada bye bye. Does the Prime Minister lie?

Donald R. Mac Donald  
Brechin, ON

Ad/News DEADLINE for the September Farm View is August 14th.

LETTERS

Tools are at hand for climate change

The recent opinion piece, 'Why Net Zero Isn't a Realistic Goal for Agriculture' (Farm View, July 2025) is one of the most misguided commentaries on climate change that I have read in quite some time. Considering the harm that climate change has done to human beings such as causing mass migrations, initiated wars, crop failures leading to food shortages and starvation, extreme storms and fires leading to loss of property and life, disease causing vectors moving northward, it's daunting to hear a representative of a Christian organization say sorry but were really not up to it.

Agriculture is generally recognized by the scientific community as contributing 25% to the global carbon foot print, thus if you want mankind to survive, you really don't have a choice. But this is the wrong outlook.

The tools and technology are at hand. And many Canadians including myself don't necessarily expect the family farm community to foot the bill on their own. But more to the point the transition has the potential to make life better for the family farm. If Porsche and some of the Chinese EV firms can build cars with excess of 1000 hp cer-

tainly a tractor can be built with all the power they need. If you don't have time to charge the battery, use a small robotic device to switch out the depleted one for a full one. One that has been charged by on farm solar and wind. Lower energy costs and lower maintenance costs.

A very recent scientific study in the peer reviewed journal 'Nature', 'Impacts of climate change on global agriculture accounting for adaptation' shows the real potential for staple crop yields in North America to decrease by 13 to 16% by 2050 depending on the rate of climate change, and 20 to 55% decrease by 2098.

We've been mislead in the past about the reality of climate change, but growers know weather and the climate and that things are changing at a quicker pace. This is not the world we want to leave our children and grandchildren.

Canada is now in a nation building mode. Climate change is part of it. We are late to the game, the time to get to work is now; our kids are counting on us.

Sincerely,  
Ralph Plickert.  
RR1, Campbellville.

Say hello for a hat!

This August and September, if you spot me out delivering papers and stocking newsstands around Simcoe County, be sure to say hello—I'll have a Farm View hat just for you! Can't catch me on the road? No problem! Write in and share what you love most about farm life, and you'll be entered into a draw to win one of the hats.



Farm View is available at the following agricultural businesses.

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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 \$45.00. Contact Roslyn at 705-722-0138, by mail 8 Luella Blvd Minesing, ON L9X 0W7 or email [farmview@on.aibn.com](mailto: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  
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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.

"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.I. Bryan

OFA Members Service Representative:  
Leah Emms 1-800-668-3276 email: [leah.emms@ofa.on.ca](mailto:leah.emms@ofa.on.ca)  
Lisa Hern 1-877-343-5444 email: [lisa.hern@ofa.on.ca](mailto:lisa.hern@ofa.on.ca)

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# Rural Ontario Institute celebrates 15 years!

Celebrating our roots and those who planted them during ROI's 2025 Annual General Meeting. Thank you to the original board members and staff whose dedication, foresight, and leadership laid the foundation for ROI. By bringing together the strengths of The Centre for Rural Leadership (TCRL) and The Ontario Rural Council (TORC), you helped create a platform where rural leaders can connect, collaborate, and champion the future of #RuralOntario.

ROI is a charitable organization that delivers programs that develop strong leaders who are critical voices around opportunities and key issues facing rural and northern Ontario. Visit [www.ruralontarioinstitute.ca](http://www.ruralontarioinstitute.ca) to learn more.




Photo left to right: Minister Lisa Thompson, Janet Horner, Harold Flaming, Jim Whaley, Tom Prout, Julie Cayley, and Senator Rob Black. Unable to attend and very much missed were the other founding Board members from 2010 Rob Hannam, Rob Hall, Craig Desjardins, Christine Dukelow, Dr. Rob Gordon, Scott Merrifield, Stig Puschel and Chris White.

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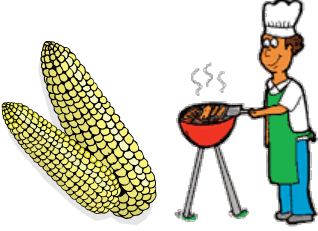


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# FARM SAFETY CORN ROAST



Presented by the  
York Region Federation of Agriculture

**Thursday, August 21st**  
6:30 pm

Sutton Fairgrounds  
in the Pavilion



All welcome  
bring your friends, family, and neighbours!

# New 5th edition Environmental Farm Plan helps Ontario farmers build future-ready, sustainable farms

A new 5th edition Environmental Farm Plan (EFP) became available to Ontario farmers on July 14, 2025. The updated edition reflects current regulatory requirements and latest science on best management practices, includes links to new tools and new areas of focus like biodiversity and farming in a changing climate.

The EFP is a confidential and voluntary environmental risk assessment tool that helps the owners of all types of farms—large or small—take a whole-farm view and identify incremental improvements that support long-term sustainability, profitability and productivity. There is no cost to farmers to participate. Since its first edition was published in 1993, the EFP program has helped farmers develop comprehensive plans for their lands to help them achieve their goals as good stewards of the land.

“Our government is proud to support the development of the newly updated Environmental Farm Plan (EFP) Workbook which helps farmers identify and apply the latest farm management practices to improve productivity, protect the environment, and strengthen the long-term success of Ontario’s agriculture,” said Trevor Jones, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness. “The EFP is an important tool to assess, enhance and protect the environmental sustainability of Ontario farmlands and provides valuable information and guidance to Ontario farmers.”

Development of the 5th edition relied on technical expertise from staff at the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness (OMAFRA) and other provincial ministries and federal departments and has been supported by the farm organizations that originally launched EFP as co-chairs of the former Ontario Farm Environmental Coalition (OFEC). These founding leaders — Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, the Ontario Federation of Agriculture, Chris-

tian Farmers Federation of Ontario, Farm & Food Care Ontario, and the Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association — remain committed to the EFP’s fundamental principle of helping farmers adopt innovative and sustainable best management practices.

“We encourage all farmers to complete the updated edition. An EFP provides farmers with the opportunity to assess their farm’s environmental impact using new tools that ultimately improve long-term productivity, profitability and sustainability,” says Melanie Hunter, Field Services Manager. “Even if a farmer has completed an EFP before, updating it ensures decisions are based on current operations and environmental conditions.”

The EFP consists of two parts: a confidential self-assessment of the farm operation and a farm-specific action plan. Through this process, farmers highlight their farm’s environmental strengths, identify areas of concern, and develop realistic action plans with timelines to improve environmental conditions. Funding programs may be available to assist farmers in implementing improvements identified in their EFP action plan.

“An EFP helps farmers adapt to changing environmental conditions and plan for the long-term success of their farms,” says Hunter. “But attending a workshop or webinar and completing an EFP are first steps—once a farmer begins implementing best management practices, we recommend they also explore cost-sharing programs to help offset implementation costs.”

Farmers can complete an EFP, using the new 5th edition workbook, in one of three ways:

- In-person: Attend a two-day workshop led by knowledgeable OSCIA staff, with opportunities to network with fellow farmers.

- Virtual sessions: Participate in two, two-hour online interactive webinars delivered by OSCIA staff.

- Electronic EFP (eEFP): Renew a previously-verified 4th edition EFP independently online.

For more information on the 5th edition of the EFP, or to find available workshops and webinars, visit the EFP webpage. A frequently-asked-questions resource is also available outlining the key updates, cost-share eligibility and more.

The 5th edition EFP is funded through the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership (Sustainable CAP), a 5 year (2023-2028), \$3.5-billion investment by federal, provincial and territorial governments to strengthen competitiveness, innovation, and resiliency of Canada’s agriculture, agri-food and agri-based products sector. This includes \$1 billion in federal programs and activities and \$2.5 billion in cost-shared programs and activities by federal, provincial and territorial governments.

Completion of an EFP may be an eligibility requirement for accessing different cost-share funding opportunities, with EFP requirements varying by program. While farmers are encouraged to update their farm’s plan to the new 5th edition EFP as soon as possible to learn about the latest practices, the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness will continue to accept completed 4th edition EFP as part of eligibility requirements for stewardship programming for the remainder of the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership until March 2028.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

EFP Inquiries

Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association Phone: (519) 826-4214 or 1-800-265-9751 Email: s-cap@ontario-soilcrop.org

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During the recent Simcoe County Federation of Agriculture (SCFA) 85th Annual BBQ, we had the pleasure of touring Alliance Agri-Turf's Ivy location. Each time I drop off the Farm View there, I'm greeted by these three enthusiastic young men—always smiling and eager to chat about the paper. We couldn't resist taking a fun photo to spotlight a few of the friendly faces working behind the scenes. Pictured: Matthew Goodman (back left), Evan Flavelle (back right), and Brandon Jerram (stretched out in front). Read more about the SCFA BBQ on page 12!

By Roslyn Watkins, photo by Don Beaulieu

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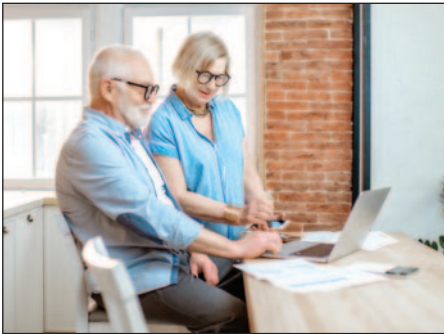
For many people the approval process with the banks can be grueling. Tracy Green Mortgage Broker (level 2 licenced to provide all mortgages including private funds) owner of Ontario-Wide Financial has been a mortgage provider in the industry for 37 years and has always had the “if there’s a will there’s a way” approach.

She says “for myself as a broker I kind of refer to what I do as assembling a jigsaw puzzle, you must work with the pieces until they all fit, sometimes this means being creative. Many of my clients feel defeated with the banks (sometimes) timely approval process and unwillingness to think outside of the box, whether the reason is bad credit, self employed, previous bankruptcy, consumer proposal, mortgage or tax (property or CRA) arrears, location, type (out of town , farm or hobby farm) or condition of property, age, clients on disability or clients looking for short term financing. Whatever the reason, the banks are unwilling to lend. Well, let me tell you that there are alternative lenders willing to work with open eyes to help these clients achieve their mortgage goals and work through the tough times.

Especially over the last few years many people have been affected by numerous issues with the pandemic, loss of income and interest rates soaring in a short period of time. People don't realize that there are alternative lenders willing to help. “NO” this does not mean you will be paying extortionist rates and unreasonable terms and conditions!

Tracy is the owner and broker at Ontario-Wide Financial, her objective and job are to find the best mortgage product (Mortgages, HELOC, credit lines) based on the client's situation at the best rates. Undoubtedly these clients are not going to get “A” bank pricing, but they will get a fair shake and in most cases the rates are not too far off from what they would get if they had qualified at a bank.

Tracy explains, “in my experience there are really 3 categories of lenders, “A” lenders (the banks/ credit unions) “B” lenders (still institutional with more flexible lending) and “Private lenders” (private individuals who invest in mortgages) As a broker I work down the ladder to see where the best fit is for my client. The second part of my process as owner and broker of Ontario-Wide Financial is to work with the client to establish what needs to be done to become bank qualified down the road if that's my client's goal. Here at Ontario-Wide Financial I work with my clients to create an exit plan to get them back on track. This may be simply helping to repair and clean up credit, settle overdue accounts and collections and guide the client to be “A” lender approved in the future. The process depending on the individual's situation usually doesn't take longer than a year and we can go as high as 80% of the value. Self employed and small business owners know how frustrating obtaining mortgages can be, having to provide endless paperwork, only to be turned down or offered much less than applied for. I can also help with this process and in most cases provide several opportunities and options without having to provide years and years of financial statements and paperwork for these clients. And in many cases these clients prefer to stay in the “B” lending category or private sector as it meets their needs better than a bank. The bottom line is that there are endless situations that can be overcome with the help of a professional. The best reason to call Ontario-Wide Financial is you will be working directly with myself, Tracy Green the owner and broker. We are not a huge conglomerate company, just a small brokerage that can do big things to improve our client's lives and finances! I prefer to work with my clients on a person-to-person basis with no judgement to make sure they know their options, understand the process and product and meet their goals. While in some instances I may not be successful I will do my best to offer advice to my client as to alternatives and other services that may be able to help with their individual situation. All in all, I will do my best to provide you with as many options for the best possible outcome with a fast and painless process as possible.”



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# College and University Students Fire Safety

By Dennis Gannon

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

report for yourself and note the date of the last inspection.

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

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

# OSCIA Summer Farm Day and Bus Tour Invites Participants to Explore Soil Health Innovations

The Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association (OSCIA) invites farmers and agri-professionals to gather in North Simcoe County for its Summer Farm Day & Bus Tour, taking place August 22–23, 2025. The two-day event promises innovative soil health practices, hands-on insights and regional ag highlights.

## Friday, August 22: Farm Day

Join your industry peers for a practical day focused on Applied Farm Research: the latest on-farm approaches to improving productivity through soil health—hosted by Andy and Lori Van Niekerk on their Stayner, ON farm in the Georgian Central Region. Topics include:

- Yield Enhancement with Joanna Follings, Cereal Specialist, OMAFA
- Sustainable Soil Management with Dr. Laura Van Eerd, Professor, University of Guelph
- Living Lab Ontario Manure Research Project
- Farm Tour:
  - Cover Cropping Demo with Speare Seeds
  - Living Lab Ontario Nitrogen Inhibitor Trial with Dr. Craig Drury, Soil Biochemist, AAFC
  - On-Farm Composting

The farm day runs from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Registration is \$35 and includes lunch catered by a local producer.

## Saturday, August 23: Bus Tour

Take part in a tour of innovative Simcoe County operations. This full-day tour will highlight the diversity of agriculture in the region while providing time to connect with industry peers. Tour stops include:

- Miller's Dairy: An 800-acre dairy and crop operation; feeds are grown on-farm with corn, soybeans and wheat sold as cash crops.
- Ontario Crops Research Station – Bradford: Includes a plant pathology lab, greenhouses, cold storage facilities and several sites for field research.
- Beattie's Distillers: Premium farm-to-bottle potato vodka and gin products made using only the heart of the homegrown potatoes, and five generations of farm-crafted pride.
- Agripharm Corp: A licensed manufacturer of consumer cannabis products with expertise in both cultivation and processing. Agripharm is on the frontier of the Canadian cannabis industry.

The bus will depart from Stayner, ON at 9 a.m. Registration is \$40 and includes lunch.

Tickets for both events are limited and must be purchased in advance at <https://membership.ontariosoilcrop.org/event/oscia-summer-farm-day-bus-tour/>

The OSCIA Summer Farm Day & Bus Tour is made possible through the support of local sponsors and partners committed to advancing sustainable agriculture in Ontario.

## Grains Innovation Fund

The 2026 Grains Innovation Fund is now accepting applications! The Grains Innovation Fund seeks to support projects that will drive growth and innovation in Ontario's grain end-use markets. This initiative provides project-based funding for the development and commercialization of new and reformulated products and processes that expand market demand and opportunities for Ontario barley, corn, oat, soybeans, and wheat, – including their associated crop residues.

Eligible projects can be reimbursed for 60% of project costs to a maximum of \$75,000 per project.

Please visit <https://gfo.ca> for more detailed information on the fund criteria, innovation themes, eligible costs, and evaluation criteria. To get started, interested companies are encouraged to contact Grain Farmers of Ontario at [marketdev@gfo.ca](mailto:marketdev@gfo.ca) to discuss project ideas and whether the project fits the program criteria.

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CFFO photo Contest 2025

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Hands on opportunities in Simcoe County 4-H

Reports and photos submitted by Simcoe County 4-H

Elmvale 4-H Dairy Club

By Tyler Phillips



On Sunday June 22nd, the Elmvale Dairy Club had our third meeting which was held at Nellridge Jerseys. We had Aaron Mosley from Pretty View Farms demonstrate on how to clip our 4-H calves. He explained the different types of clippers, and what clippers to use where on the calf. Every 4-H member had the opportunity to clip different parts of

the calf to gain a little bit of experience on where to clip. At the end of the meeting, we had an ice cream sandwich to enjoy in the 40 degree weather. Thanks Aaron for your clipping demonstration and to Nellridge Jerseys for hosting a great meeting.

South Simcoe 4-H Line Dancing Club

By Cali Bulman

South Simcoe 4-H Line Dancing Club enjoyed a great turn out for their first two meetings. Thank you to our two hosts Jordan Williams for hosting in your hay barn and Robyn Wallace for hosting at Maple Grove Farm.

We learned fun dances like Wagon Wheel, Cadillac Slap, and the Pirate Dance. Come and dance with us at the Georgian Bay Steam Show August 1st, Barrie Fair August 23rd, Beeton Fair September 13th and the Great Northern Exhibition September 21st.



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# Family farm suffers from development

By Cathy Hamill-Hill

Glenn Beer is heartsick that his wife, Penny, might have to end the family's Midhurst business due to reasons that he believes are fully preventable by Springwater Township. The generational family farm owned by the Beer's is located close to a new development of homes called Midhurst Heights on Gill Road.

For a few years, the Beer property experienced some water run-off as Midhurst Heights development was growing, Glenn explained. Then, this spring in April, the run-off exploded in volume. Penny was "out (on horseback) doing training, and a horse sank to its knees in water," Glenn said. Penny has been riding these trails for over four decades, "Penny got her first horse here as a girl," he said adding she knows this property as it's been a significant part of her life.

Investigation as to where the new water was coming from was easily found. The Township ravine was full and all that extra water was pouring into the property owned by the Beers. The ravine is the closed Craig road allowance.

All water—except what goes down household drains in the development—flows into a designated stormwater management pond. This pond is designed to collect and temporarily hold the runoff before gradually releasing it into the Township-owned ravine, as planned. A spring weather event caused the pond to fill up- and it had to be pumped out.

"The pond was pumped 24 hours a day for days," Glenn says adding all that water poured into his property.

Local Springwater Township Councillor, Brad Thompson promptly answered Farm View's questions via email explaining, "Mr. Beer's flooding occurred because the developer pumped the pond dry this spring because the outfall was not completed. This should not have happened and hopefully will

not happen again."

Penny Beer built her family's farm into a full service equestrian facility. She is a well known name in equestrian Eventing. Eventing has three components, dressage, cross-country and show jumping. Dressage is judging the horses's obedience and precision in movements. Cross country is a course of natural obstacles. Show jumping is a timed jumping course in an arena setting. Penny had a group in training for cross country, when the flood on her family farm happened.

Penny explained that she was in the midst of a training schedule with a competition coming up when in April the flood happened on her farm. "I had to cancel all the training and let people down. How can I do my job when I can't be counted on? How can I risk the safety of horses?" She asks, biting back tears.

Penny Beer is a well known name in the equestrian world in North America. She also operates an equestrian farm in South Carolina, USA which is part of her training circuit with the Midhurst farm. Her dedication and hard work have been passed down to her daughter, Lindsay Beer.

Lindsay Beer is a professional eventer and competes across North America. Lindsay also operates her own equestrian operation with her husband. Lindsay has competed at the Royal Winter Fair.

Both Glenn and Penny Beer stress they are not against new housing being built in Ontario. All they ask is "move the outflow away from our property."

Glenn admits he is so disappointed that his own Township won't respect his family business and way of life. Those cross-country trails are carefully maintained and thoughtfully designed to meet the standards required for competition training. He notes that the recent flood has caused washouts and significant damage along the trails, "We

can see this property is damaged but that means nothing. Nobody from the Township will even listen to us and they have walked this property."

Councillor Brad Thompson responded to Farm View's question about whether the Township has plans to relocate the drainage (outfall) system to help protect this family farm. "I was part of the council that unanimously approved the current outfall plan. I did so after visiting Mr. Beer's farm and reviewing all the information accessible to me. I currently am not pursuing any relocation of the outfall as I have not been provided with any information that would cause me to alter my position."

Penny and Glenn Beer are so discouraged they are to the low point of considering just packing up their Midhurst farm and moving to their USA location. They fear for their Midhurst farm's future as the development is scheduled to grow and extreme weather events are happening more often.

Councillor Thompson does not share the same concerns for the Midhurst farm and instead has confidence in the run-off plan that was approved by both the Ontario Ministry of Environment and the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority. He stated in the email, "The stormwater pond will drain directly on township property once the outlet is finished. The pond is designed to filter contaminants from the water and will stimulate spring thaw or storm runoff."

Editor's Note: Is your farm facing a similar challenge? If you'd like to share your story, feel free to contact me at farmview@on.aibn.com. Or send a letter to the editor to share your story with Farm View readers.

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Country Fair Page 21  
by Carolyn J Morris  
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# Simcoe County Federation of Agriculture annual BBQ

Report by Don Beaulieu

It was a hot sunny day last month for the Simcoe County Federation of Agriculture's summer barbecue. It was the 85th installation of this annual event. This year's location was the event space at Drysdale's (tree farm) near Egbert, Ontario.



SCFA President Dave Ritchie received a flag and a framed commemoration on the 85th installment of the annual barbecue event, from Steve Cassard, representing Member of Provincial Parliament Brian Saunderson.

The day included a tour of the Alliance Agri-Turf facility and a new farm stand/agri-tourism business.

The tour of the Alliance Agri-Turf facility was very insightful and educational. Even as the group was there, construction was underway with improvements and expansion.

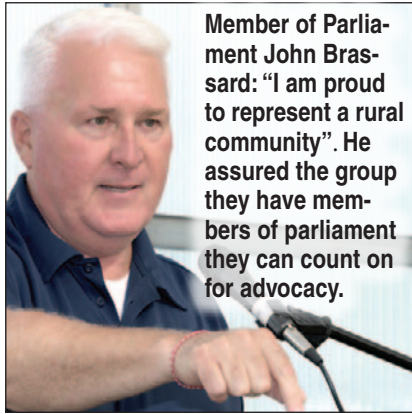
Back at the main event, Doug

Drysdale spoke at length telling how their tree business began (accidentally, in short) and how it got to where it is now. Hosting parties, weddings and banquets was not in the original plan, but is a large part of what Drysdale's is known for today, beyond Christmas trees.

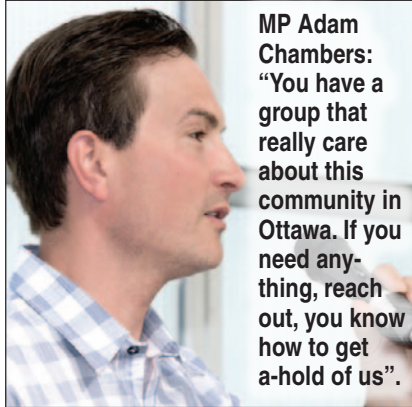
Representing MP Terry Dowdall, Jennifer Armstrong spoke on his behalf. Dowdall thanked Dave Ritchie and the entire board of the SCFA for their continued dedication to agriculture in Simcoe County. "We are all blessed to have a diverse economy in Simcoe County but agriculture continues to be the backbone of many of our communities. For 85 years the SCFA has been its voice. What a huge milestone to



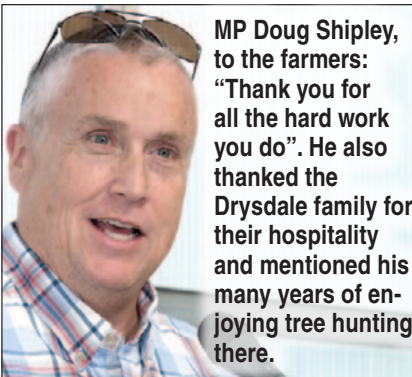
Warden Basil Clarke: "I want to thank you (farmers) for feeding so many people and caring for this Earth, and the hard work you put in every day."



Member of Parliament John Brassard: "I am proud to represent a rural community". He assured the group they have members of parliament they can count on for advocacy.



MP Adam Chambers: "You have a group that really care about this community in Ottawa. If you need anything, reach out, you know how to get a-hold of us".



MP Doug Shipley, to the farmers: "Thank you for all the hard work you do". He also thanked the Drysdale family for their hospitality and mentioned his many years of enjoying tree hunting there.



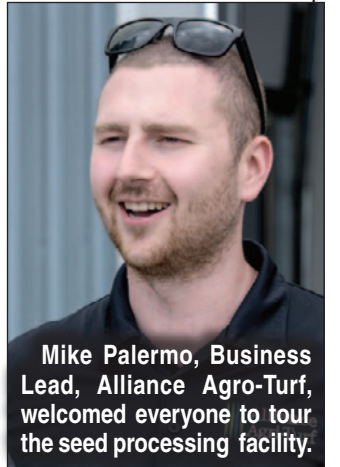
Farm View publisher Roslyn Watkins and husband Shawn enjoyed meeting Farm View readers on the 85th annual SCFA BBQ tour.

achieve; advocating on behalf of farm families in Simcoe County on local agricultural issues ensuring we have sound policies, proper support and the ability to grow and expand our agricultural sector."

Representing MPP Jill Dunlop was Grace Dilawri who spoke on Dunlop's behalf. "Agriculture is not just an economic driver in our region, it's a way of life. Our farmers work tirelessly to feed our province and the world." Dunlop values the SCFA and all they due to support rural communities, sustainable farming and a local economy.

Further to the SCFA Dunlop added: "Your leadership, your resilience and your commitment to excellence represent the very best not only in Simcoe-North but the entire region".

A wonderful dinner of salads, pulled pork sandwiches and desserts rounded out the day of celebration.



Mike Palermo, Business Lead, Alliance Agri-Turf, welcomed everyone to tour the seed processing facility.



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## Congratulations Luke Jones and Mitchell Hales!

The Flos Agricultural Society, organizer of the Elmvale Fall Fair, is thrilled to announce the winners of two \$250 bursaries: Mitchell Hales & Luke Jones. These were presented at their respective Graduation ceremonies.

Criteria for the application was as follows: The applicants must be continuing their education and have demonstrated volunteerism relating to the Flos Agricultural Society, aka Elmvale Fall Fair. They were required to complete a short questionnaire, related to

their contribution to the Society.

The application was then reviewed by the Bursary Committee, prior to selecting the winning recipients. Their involvement with the Elmvale Fair has been an important part of our success and we value their input. These Youth continue to make our Community a better place. They will be our future!

We wish them much success in their future education, and hope that some of the community skills that were developed, while volunteering, will serve them well.



Pat Leonard, Secretary of the Flos Agricultural Society operating as the Elmvale Fall Fair (pictured at left in both photos), presents \$250 bursaries to Luke Jones (left photo) and Mitchell Hales (right photo) in recognition of their contributions to the Elmvale Fall Fair.

## Agricultural Anecdotes from Farmer Tim

Five words a farmer never wants to hear: "I love a good storm!"

I live by the weather. Multiple times a day, you will see me checking the latest forecast update or checking the mobile radar maps. This time of year, storms don't just shake the windows — they shake a farmer's heart. One minute the sky is blue, the next it's black and booming. And while most folks simply head inside when the weather turns rough to get ready for the show, farmers watch the skies with worry. Not for themselves, but for their cattle, their barns and the crops they've poured their time, sweat, and soul into.

Farming means rolling with whatever nature throws your way. Too much rain or not enough. Wind that flattens grain or hail that bruises fruit in seconds. It's not just about growing food, it's also about resilience, risk, and hope. I've seen a bumper crop turned into a complete loss in minutes after a storm. I've seen cattle sheltered under a tree only to be struck down by lightning. I've watched fields of freshly sown seeds washed away in the blink of an eye and acres of almost dry hay ruined by freak rain showers.

I get it, the power of nature is fascinating. In fact, in my youth, I used to want to be a meteorologist, but I realize now that farmers are already grassroots weather forecasters because our lives are immersed in it every day. When a weather warning alerts us, we don't run for our camera, we run to shut barn doors and bring cattle in to safety. We pray that we will be spared from the worst. We hope that our family, crops, buildings and livestock escape unscathed. We weep at the news of neighbouring barn roofs being torn off, or nearby corn fields being stripped of their leaves. I follow many weather groups on social media, and I'm always shocked when people hope that the storm hits their area or that they may get a chance to spot a tornado!

So the next time you see storm clouds rolling in, spare a thought for the farmers out there — checking fences, securing equipment, walking fields after the damage is done. They don't get to "enjoy a good storm". They just hold their breath, pray, and wait for it to pass until the next one rears its ugly head. Enjoy the power of nature and respect it, but also be mindful of those who it affects the most — the farmer.

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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# Kawartha Antique Power's 45th Annual Heritage Show

Story and photos by Cathy Hamill-Hill

The featured tractor at Kawartha Antique Power's 45th Annual Heritage Show was the International Harvester. This year, Chapter 20 of the National International Harvester Collectors' Club was on site with a trailer loaded with historical displays. It takes nearly two hours just to unload and set up the extensive collection of tractor models. Chapter 20 represents all of Ontario, Canada, and its President and Membership Chairman, Tom Laird—pictured at right—was present at the show, which took place in June at the Lindsay Fairgrounds. He says there are about 1,115 members with 232 active members currently in Chapter 20. Tom owns 38 International tractors and says he has one that is "green because it worked on an Air Force base." Tom says he has been driving International tractors since he was 5 years old on his family farm. He came to the Lindsay show with his wife from their farm in Lambton County, on the southern side of Lake Huron.



In the photo above is Nathan Baker from Roslin, operating a round shingle mill. This is the first step in a process to make shingles in the late 1800's. Nathan works in the trades today and "enjoys simpler times" operating heritage equipment like this. Nathan is a member of KAP, and enjoyed participating in the show.



This is Eric Ward making shingles on a Shingle Mill owned by the Durham Heritage Gas & Steam Society at the Kawartha Antique Power 45th Annual Heritage Show. These shingles are being made from cedar that has been in dry storage for three years. The shingles are a club fundraiser as they are sold to be used on garden sheds.



In the photo above is Josh Struik operating the edger which is the second part of a shingle mill operation, which does the finishing. Beside is the "bundler" which is like a wooden box with a lever on it that puts the shingles into a uniform bundle. All of this heritage equipment is from the 1800's and is currently owned by Nathan Baker.

Pictured to the right is a 1917 George White side-mount traction engine, originally purchased in 1918 by the Miller Bros. in Lakefield for \$1,850 to power a sawmill. Today, it is owned by Walter Andruszko of Woodville. "Ol' Zack" as this steam engine is known, was getting some attention from its owner at the Kawartha Antique Power's Heritage Show. Heritage equipment does not have easily available maintenance and repair options like modern farm equipment and owners have to be resourceful to keep equipment working.



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# Grand opening of Clearview Ag Inc. in Stayner

Report by Don Beaulieu

Spirits were high at the grand opening celebration of Clearview Ag Inc. in Stayner in July. There was cake (lots of cakes), music, and games among excited chatter about community and family-run businesses.

The location is one many Simcoe County farmers will be familiar with, on the east side of town at 7085 Highway 26. This is the location BJS Farm Supply had occupied for four decades.

Marieke Patton and her husband Andrew are carrying on a family business and taking care of customers under a new moniker.

With the former business operators retiring, Patton saw an opportunity, already familiar with the operation. Not only were the Pattons customers of BJS but



Here is the large group of dignitaries, friends and family on hand for the official ribbon-cutting at Clearview Ag Inc. last month. Left to right we see: Elise Patton, members of Clearview council Robert McArthur, John Broderick & Phyllis Dineen, Marj Gilpin & Brian Gilpin of BJS Farm Supply fame, Mayor Doug Measures, owners Marieke Patton & Andrew Patton, Deputy Mayor Paul VanStaveren & Abby Patton.

Marieke was one of their chemical supplier representatives for two decades. It was a large, but somewhat comfortable decision after all considerations, to move "from wholesale to retail" as

Patton put it.

The Pattons appreciate the support and encouragement they have received from the community to take on this new venture.

Marieke says "The grand

opening was a great way to kick things off, get to know members of the community, and celebrate with them." Further, she says it gave them a way to "... say thank you to Brian and Marj Gil-

pin of B.J.S. Farm Supply Ltd. for their many years of serving the agricultural community and our goal is to carry on that tradition!"

The family aspect is a natural for the Pattons. Marieke

says their daughters "...are very excited about helping out at the store!"

Abby says she is most looking forward to meeting all the local farmers and making new friends.

Elise says she is looking forward to helping customers find what they are looking for.

The friendly attitude of all the Pattons will ensure they are a popular and valuable asset to the local community and the agricultural community in particular.

On the business side, Clearview Ag offers a wide range of products including chows, pet food, DEKALB seed, crop seed, lawn seed and fertilizer, bird seed, and farm supplies. Their store will also have Carolyn Morris' children's books available!



Flanked by daughters Elise (left) and Abby (right) are Marieke and Andrew Patton, owners of Clearview Ag Inc. They are all excited about this new venture serving the agriculture community.

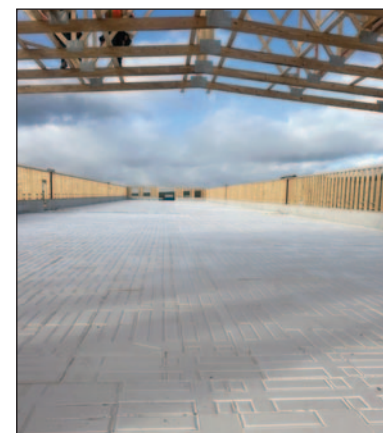


Lucas Rogerson was on hand at the grand opening to provide some excellent tunes, covers and originals. Rogerson was born in the Fergus area but lives in Drayton with his family. His is seen here with his daughter Hannah. He performs solo but his whole family also performs as "The Rogersons". It is very special to be able to make music together as a family and perform together whether it is for a small backyard party or a local fair! All the girls got in on the act eventually, singing their hearts out.

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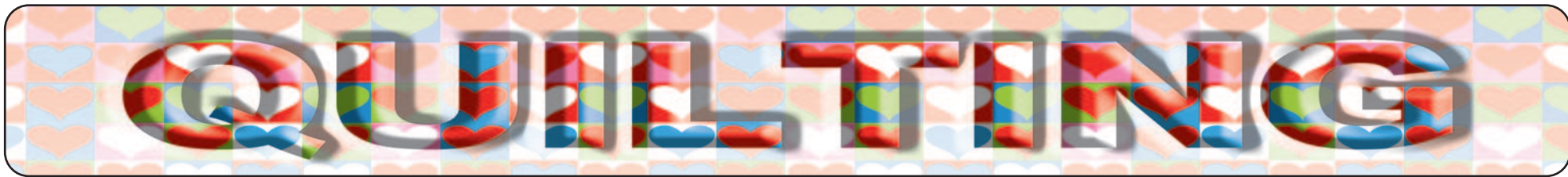
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## Inspiration for your quilt projects is everywhere!

By Janis Hamilton

Summer is a time for relaxing and reflecting about the things we would like to do. It could be visiting friends, camping, kayaking or just looking though Pinterest and we all know how big that rabbit hole is once we start searching for ideas of things to make or recipes to try.

Many of us did go to Quilt Canada in Toronto and we kept seeing folks from our quilt guilds or kindred groups. I have to say it was a welcome relief to stop in at Country Concessions on the way home to find classical music playing and no one in the store. Crowds were so thick at the show and the food line ups were ridiculous, we were thankful we brought our lunches. The quilts on display certainly gave each of us in our group time to realize there is talent beyond what we see at our guild meeting. I was thrilled to see there was a space for children to enter the quilting contests. Three age groups 5-9, 10-14 and 15-19. The theme was "One Starry Night". The younger children had the most creative wall hangings or quilts. The 3 prizes for each category were sewing machines. The first prize for each was a \$4,500 sewing machine. Now if that doesn't inspire a grandparent or a parent to help a child learn to quilt, I'm not sure what would.

One quilt came from France, while the one shown to the right began in England. I mentioned it in the Farm View June edition, but I wasn't allowed to share a photo before the quilt show. Now, you can finally see the result of four years of work and the contributions of 57 family members, each of whom provided either a footprint or handprint. The ivory square at the base of the tree represents a quilt made in 1867 for the grandfather. The red borders were added at the request of Murri Smith, who wanted the quilt to resemble the Canadian flag.

Sometimes, signing up for newsletters from quilt shops will provide a lot of information. Thimbles and Things, located in Orillia, is one of those stores. They do provide a

great newsletter. The staff at Thimbles and Things Quilt Shop wanted to share with you a new documentary streaming right now on Netflix called The Quilters. This award-winning short documentary is about men in a Missouri maximum-security prison. Their goal is to design and sew beautiful personalized quilts for children in foster care. It is only 33 mins long and is a great documentary worth watching. Perhaps it will inspire you to make a quilt for a local charity. Donated quilts are always welcome, you just need to find out where in your community they could be donated and loved.

If you are wanting to try making a charity quilt and are new to the quilting world don't take on something that might frustrate you. Look for simple patterns and hopefully you will have fabric in your stash that will be just the perfect fit. Here are some

links to so you might consider. If you are new to doing this, just highlight (bold) the site you want and right click to "open hyperlink" and you are then on the web site. Give it a try.

<https://sarahmaker.com/quilt-patterns-for-beginners/>

<https://www.scatteredthoughtsofacraftymom.com/25-free-beginner-quilt-patterns/>

<https://www.thesprucecrafts.com/quilt-patterns-for-beginning-quilters-2821877>

<https://hellosewing.com/quilt-patterns-for-beginners/>

<https://www.allpeoplequilt.com/quilt-patterns/35-free-quilt-patterns-beginners>

If you are on a road trip this summer and want to visit quilt shops along the way, do check to make sure the shops are not just online shopping. Many are finding it easier to do this than pay rent but I'm sure most of you want to feel the fabric and then choose the perfect pattern so do some homework before



starting out on that trip.

Mark your calendars!

The Simcoe County Artisan and Quilt Show returns to the Simcoe County Museum from September 19 to 21, running daily from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Location: Simcoe County Museum, 1151 Highway 26, Minesing

Admission: Regular museum admission applies.

A number of talented groups are taking part in this year's show. Here's the full list:

- Huronia Handweavers Guild
- Huronia Spinners Guild
- Huronia Branch of the Ontario Hooking Craft Guild
- Orillia Sunshine Rug Hookers
- Simcoe County Arts & Crafts Association (SCACA)
- Simcoe County Embroidery Guild

- Simcoe County Lacemakers
- Simcoe County Potters Guild
- Barrie Modern Quilt Guild
- Georgian Bay Quilters Guild
- Kempenfelt Quilters' Guild
- Orillia Quilters' Guild
- Quilting Corners Guild, Alliston
- Simcoe County Quilters' Guild
- Slope to Shore Quilters' Guild

There will be ongoing demonstrations throughout the day, a variety of vendors, and lunch available for purchase on-site. Outdoors, you'll often find additional craft demonstrations and live music—making it a fun outing for all ages.

My daughter recently came across a quilt label that gave us a good laugh—hopefully it brings a smile to your face too "If you find this in a yard sale, I'll haunt you. Stitched by Annie."

And don't forget to label your quilts! Be sure to include the pattern name (or write "original design" if it's your own), your name, the name of the quilter (if different), your city, and the date.

Happy sewing!



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# Quilting Corners Guild celebrates Christmas in July

Story and photos by Senora Baldry

Another busy Christmas in July guild meeting. Four of our community partners joined us to receive our donations of quilts and pillow cases: My Sister's Place, Matthew's House Hospice, the

Good Samaritan and the Alliston Foodbank. In total 101 Quilts of Comfort and 48 pillow cases were happily given out. We also held a mini food drive for MSP and members played Quilto...our

version of bingo...to raise funds for the Foodbank. Lots of laughter, great snacks and warm hearts by sharing with our community.



Matthew's House Hospice



The Alliston Foodbank



My Sister's Place



101 Quilts of Comfort and 48 Pillow cases



The Good Samaritan

## Tickets now available for the 2025 International Plowing Match & Rural Expo

Tickets are now on sale for the 106th International Plowing Match and Rural Expo (IPM), taking place from Tuesday, September 16 to Saturday, September 20, 2025, in Grassie, West Lincoln, Niagara Region.

This five-day celebration draws tens of thousands of visitors from across the province and beyond, offering a dynamic mix of agriculture, innovation, entertainment and family-friendly fun. Whether you're a lifelong farmer, a curious city-dweller or someone looking for a fun and unique day out the IPM has something for everyone of all ages.

The event showcases the very best of Ontario's agricultural heritage while creating the future of farming through, world class plowing competitions, a tented city, educational exhibits, livestock displays, live entertainment, food vendors, and family fun zones.

With ticket sales now available online visitors can avoid the lineups and take advantage of early-pay discounts by purchasing tickets in advance: <https://www.plowingmatch.org/ipm2025/visitor-info/tickets/>.

Advance ticket sales are available until Tuesday September 9, 2025.

- Adults (16+): \$20 (HST included)
- Youth (6-15): \$5 (HST included)
- Family pack (2 adults + 2 youth): \$40 (HST included)
- Children 5 and under are free
- Parking is free

When advance ticketing closes online ticket sales will continue but regular gate pricing applies:

- Adult (16+) \$25 (HST included)
- Youth (6-15) \$5 (HST included)
- Children 5 and under are free
- Parking is Free

Payment methods accepted at the gate: Cash, Debit, Visa and MasterCard.

Tickets are also available for purchase at the Match, running daily from Tuesday, September 16 to Saturday, September 20 from 8:30am until 5:00pm at 7402 Mud Street West, Grassie, Ontario.

For over 100 years the International Plowing Match and Rural Expo has brought together rural and urban communities to celebrate Ontario's agricultural roots, innovation and community spirit. Act now so you don't miss out on Ontario's largest celebration of agricultural and rural life and buy your tickets today to experience the heart of agriculture in Niagara.

• The International Plowing Match and Rural Expo is held in a different Ontario community each year, highlighting the many great things the area has to offer and attracting thousands of visitors from across the province, throughout Canada, the United States and beyond;

• Tourism industry figures put the economic impact of the IPM at about \$25 million annually (not including the long-term benefits this exposure provides to communities) and it spurs tourism in the surrounding area for years to come; and

• Profits generated by the IPM are donated to groups and organizations within the host communities



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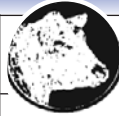
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### Roasted Corn Dip

Story by Roslyn Watkins, recipe by Craig Giffen

Shawn and I feel truly blessed to live in a community filled with wonderful neighbours who have become very good friends. Last month, we gathered around a backyard campfire with the usual suspects, and the conversation turned to everyone's favourite dips. Craig had just made a roasted corn dip, and since his wife Val gave it an enthusiastic two thumbs up, I knew it was one worth sharing with all of you—just in time for our amazing local corn season!


**Ingredients**

- 2 cups sour cream
- 1 cup mayonnaise
- Kernels removed from 2 leftover roasted cobs of corn or 2 cans of corn, drained.
- 4 cups shredded cheddar cheese
- Chopped green onions to your preference
- Chopped cilantro to your preference
- Pinch of cayenne pepper, cumin, salt, ground black pepper
- A little “how you doin’” (this cracked me up as Craig rattled off the ingredients—basically a loose translation for a packet of Ranch seasoning).

**Directions**

- Blend sour cream and mayonnaise.
- Stir in all remaining ingredients.
- Cover and refrigerate for a few hours, or ideally overnight.
- Serve with your choice of tortilla chips and enjoy!

\*I've explored a few variations of this recipe and noticed that some include ingredients like jalapeño peppers, smoked paprika, or lime juice. Feel free to experiment and make it your own!  
Also a perfect dip to feed a crowd at your next BBQ, Reunion, beach day...



## CAMPSITE WORD SEARCH

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W	C	M	Z	T	O	Z	W	H	I	K	E	R	L	H	W	E	V	D	A

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

### WORDS

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- BILLY CAN
- BLAZE
- CAMPER
- CAMPFIRE
- CAMPGROUND
- CANOPY
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## Rosseau Fall Fair celebrates 150th Anniversary

It's not often that any event reaches 150 years of age. In light of the relative decline of agriculture over the last half century, it is even rarer for a fall fair to celebrate a sesqui-centennial. And yet, this August the Rosseau Fall Fair reaches that storied milestone.

The people of Rosseau (then known as Helmsley) were quick off the mark in establishing an agricultural society in 1875. The village was still in its infancy, barely a decade old, and many farms were little more than scratches in the carved out of the forest. The first fair was held that autumn, on October 1.

There was some perceived urgency in launching a fair because of the important function they played in rural communities of the day.

Fairs were exhibitions, where farming ideas were shared, development in agricultural science disseminated, and new products demonstrated. In a region where farming was so challenging, any advantage was invaluable. Additionally, fairs offered a potential financial award for hard-pressed farmers. Prize money was considerable in the early days. Finally, fairs were a chance to unwind after a hectic season in the fields and before men left for winter employment logging camps, forging the tight bonds that characterized small communities.

Entertainment was initially in the form of log sawing, tug-of-war contests, baseball games and evening dances.

For almost a century, the Rosseau fair was held in late September and participation by schools in the area against one another for school pride was a big part of the festivities. Student bodies would march to the fairground under hand-made banners proudly displaying their school section number and once there the students would line up and call out their distinctive chants, attempting to outduel their rivals. Children

exhibited their work, and it was a point of pride for the school that earned the most ribbons.

In the mid-20th century, the fair was moved to last week-end in August before Labour Day. The decision, which ruffled many traditionalists, was made for several reasons. The closing of rural schoolhouses and the rise of central schooling eliminated the rivalries that were the heart of the festivities was one. Additionally, an earlier fair date would also reduce the chance of inclement weather impacting the event. Finally, and importantly for the long-term health of the fair, it meant that the event could attract the cottagers and tourists that were now proliferating in the area.

Further changes were afoot. With the decline of farming in the area and stricter government regulations, all livestock and poultry exhibits came to an end over the next few decades. The last judging of horses was in 1978, while poultry exhibits ended in 1984.

Although fairs have changed a bit over the years, the basis remains the same. There are home craft competitions where exhibitors bake or sew or quilt or craft items and compete for the prestige of a ribbon. Entertainment takes the form of children's games, contests (log cutting still remains one of the most popular), browsing vendors, checking out the exhibition hall, maybe having some food, and enjoying the last gasp of summer.

"We're just an old-fashioned country fair, and we like it that way," says Rosseau Agricultural Society President Dawn Chisholm.

### Village stories

by Andrew Hind



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**Saturday, September 27th 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

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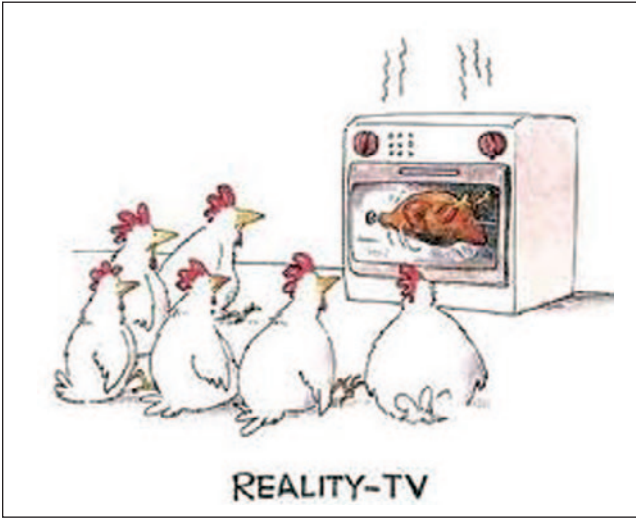
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- Vendors to provide a door prize valued at \$25.00.
- Vendors to provide their own table and tent if required.
- 12' x 12' spaces on the lawn.
- No commercial products will be sold.

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# 2025 New Entrant Chicken Farmer Program – Application Process Now Open



The application process is now open for the CFO New Entrant Chicken Farmer Program, which continues to help qualified new farmers enter the growing chicken business.

**The deadline to apply is 5:00 PM on October 31, 2025. Apply today!**

“The Ontario chicken sector is strong, vibrant, and continues to grow. Chicken farming in Ontario supports over 29,000 jobs and contributes \$5.3 billion to the Ontario economy,” said Murray Opsteen, Chair, Chicken Farmers of Ontario. “CFO offers a range of opportunities for those interested in entering the Ontario chicken business; including through the CFO New Entrant Chicken Farmer Program.”

Since the program began in 2012, forty-seven farm families have joined the chicken business through the CFO New Entrant Chicken Farmer Program. New farmers accepted into the program benefit from a wide range of supportive services and educational resources. New Entrants also benefit from a fifteen-year repayment period involving quota holdings – all in support of the successful transition into Ontario’s chicken farming business.

“As we celebrate 60 years of Chicken Farmers of Ontario and the supply management system, we remain steadfast in our commitment to our vision of leading a trusted, prosperous, and sustainable chicken industry,” said Denise Hockaday, CEO, Chicken Farmers of Ontario. “The CFO New Entrant Chicken Farmer Program is an opportunity for new farm families to successfully transition into the vibrant and growing chicken business.”



Photo by Cathy Hamill-Hill

Pictured above is 8 year old Claire White from Young's Cove, New Brunswick at the Canadian National Shorthorn Junior Show held in Lindsay. Claire travelled with her family for 16 hours to bring cattle to this show that had an incredible 120 youth showing Shorthorn cattle. Claire and her family own Carriage Lane Livestock. Claire won the Reserve Champion Shorthorn Cross Heifer Calf banner for her homebred and owned Carriage Lane Dream Catcher. Youth came from across the nation, from Alberta, Saskatchewan and Quebec as well as from Eastern Canada. One young woman from New Zealand came to attend this show. More coverage of the 2025 Canadian Junior Shorthorn Association "Shorthorn Showcase" next month here in Farm View.

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# After The Chores: Leftover Summer Job

By Cathy Hamill-Hill



I have an extra summer job that is going to last 11 more weeks.

I found him, fully deserted, as a newborn. His mother did clean him off, gave him a few baas of good-bye from across the pen and called motherhood all finished.

Leftover Lamb's first meal was colostrum thanks to some incredible powdered cow colostrum easily found- and it even can be frozen. Some hot water and frozen cow colostrum can be easily turned into a life-saving combination. Leftover slurped up his meal and my job had officially started.

During normal lambing time, I bought milk replacer in plastic pails. These pails have a sealed lid. Another great invention to make raising bottle lambs easier. I told Sweetie I would get a pail at about \$45 which should raise this lamb until weaning. Factoring my time at my usual hourly rate pay of 0, this summer job might see a small profit was the plan. I was not happy when the Sunderland Co-op staff girl said that there were only bags of 20 kg of milk replacer available at this time. I came home with a \$105 bag of lamb milk replacer with an extra job of freezing milk replacer in small quantities.

Leftover arrived just before Canada Day so thankfully I had several days I could be at home all day to feed him, we started at five times a day. The morning shift was by far the worse. Sweetie had to take one afternoon feeding which made Leftover decide all people mean food. I was changing into barn clothes for chores when I heard a big unusual racket on the stairs along with

Sweetie's footsteps. I feared Sweetie had a sudden terrible fall on the steps. Then I heard a baa. Sweetie said Leftover now can do steps.

When it comes to eating, sheep can figure things out. Leftover realized there were two ewes in full milk in the flock as they also had lambs in June. He realized the single's mother had extra milk- if he was fast. He got to sleeping next to the single lamb- and then he got that early sunrise feeding too. When I got to the barn, Leftover was not exceptionally hungry so I dropped the early morning feeding and changed it to morning as part of chore time which was so appreciated. He waits for me.

Francis my new boer buck herd sire is a natural leader. He has taught the kids that live free in the barn that if the gates are not securely tied up they can just push a gate- and escape. Francis has been found at the apple trees, standing on his back legs, his front legs braced against the tree as he reaches as far as he can to eat leaves. The apple trees barely got past the ice storm so now are in no condition for being a play area for kids.

I had finished chores and was looking at having some extra time before I had to leave one morning. I unclipped Isaac from his tie-out to look up and see two kids prancing across the deck in front of the house. I had to get those two kids back to the barn or there would be leafless apple trees by end of day. The kids did not want to go back so they had to be hauled in. Next step was moving back the new barrier to keep Francis from pushing open the screen door on the barn to push these two kids in. This set off Francis who was sure it had to be chore time again- and he wanted grain. More pushing. Now I count kids before I decide chores are done.

All farmers are working against the clock in summer time. The positive is we are never ever bored.

## New agricultural initiatives

By MPP Jill Dunlop

Welcome into August, I would like to take a moment to thank our farming communities who have worked tirelessly through some difficult weather this summer and to share some news about a promising initiative that will help our hardworking cattle farmers adapt and thrive in the face of economic uncertainty.

The provincial and federal governments are investing up to \$5 million in sustainable grazing lands to help farmers ensure a sustainable future for the sector. This "Community Pastures Initiative", is funded through the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership (Sustainable CAP), and will provide funding to eligible community pastures so they can adopt best management practices and technologies that boost the quality of these lands for grazing animals, while also enhancing biodiversity and strengthening soil health for the long-term.

Sustainable CAP, will be administered by the Ontario Forage Council (OFC), working with the Association of Community Pastures to deliver the program and support the co-development of eligible projects. The goal is to help farmers raise healthier herds while

also protecting biodiversity and building stronger, more resilient soil for the future. Investing in long-term environmental sustainability is crucial to maintaining the strength and vitality of our agricultural sector. More information can be found by reaching out to the Agricultural Information Contact Centre (AICC).

In addition, the province is investing up to \$4.4 million to support 90 small agri-food businesses across Ontario through the Food Safety and Growth Initiative. This program will help local producers and processors upgrade their food safety systems, adopt traceability technologies, and provide access to employee training. These supports are essential for helping small businesses expand into new markets, meet evolving consumer demands, and strengthen Ontario's food system.

I'm proud to support initiatives like these that help strengthen our local agriculture and protect the health of our lands, and I wish everyone in Simcoe North a safe and enjoyable summer as we continue to work together to build a resilient and thriving agricultural community!

## HJV Equipment Becomes Full-Line PTx Dealer, Grows Precision Agriculture Team

HJV Equipment is pleased to announce it has been named a full-line PTx Trimble dealer, marking a significant expansion of its precision agriculture offering and strengthening its ability to support growers with advanced ag technology solutions.

As part of this growth, HJV Equipment welcomes three new Precision Agriculture team members: Alfredo Rodriguez in Ontario, and Will MacNeill and Nathan Smallman in Prince Edward Island. With extensive experience in agriculture and PTx Trimble systems, these specialists will provide customers with integrated hardware, software guidance and responsive service.

"This is a key step forward in our mission to be the premier specialized agricultural equipment distributor in the world," said Dave Vander Zaag, president of HJV Equipment. "By investing in experienced people and proven technology, we're helping growers improve efficiency and maximize results."

HJV Equipment operates locations in Alliston, Exeter and Norwich, ON, as well as Charlottetown, P.E.I., and Grand Falls, N.B. The company's mission is to be the premier specialized agricultural equipment distributor in the world, delivering industry-leading solutions through expert support and innovation.

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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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AUCTION SALE

Live Auction Sale

for Milt Stutt

Saturday August 30th, 9:30am

665 Eliza St., Arthur, ON From the corner of Hwy 109 & Hwy 6 at Arthur. Come north on Hwy 6 for 800m to the lights at Frederick St.E & turn right. Go to the roundabout & take the second exit onto Eliza St. Then 1.2km to sale on east side of road OR from Hwy 89 at Conn, come south on Wellington 14 (Eliza St.) for 14km to sale on east side of road. **\*\* PARKING ON SITE\*\***

**Tractors:** JD 4x4 2355 loader tractor, new tires, rims & updates in 2024 (\$8K), 200hrs on rebuilt motor, 6500hrs approx; MF 1105 tractor, cab, 2 hydr; Universal 4x4 530 DTC SD loader tractor, shuttle drive, 1 remote; Allis Chalmers B with woods 59 belly mount mower.

**Mach/Equip:** Turnco gravity box & fert auger; Glencoe 18' cultivator; Stine 22' cultivator; 20ft Harrowgators; 16ft Bushog disc; 7ft scraper blade 3pth; (2) steel round bale wagon (24' & 20'); steel feeder wagon & ext; JD 16A crop chopper, hydr hood; Kongskilde 5 furrow adj width semi-mount plow; JD crop chopper, new slip clutch; Herd 750 fertilizer spreader, 3pth; White 7' , 2 auger snow-blower, hydr chute; Woods 7' rotary mower; (2) steel thrower wagons; NH 326 square baler; NH tandem manure spreader -for parts; Brillion 12' cultipacker -for parts.

**Shop/Farm Rel:** (2)20ft I-beams; Danuser post hole auger; 40ft alum ext ladder; asst lumber; asst chains; 3pth PTO cement mixer; quick hitch; Ariens rototiller; steel shelving; (2)Ritchie water bowls; pickup bed fuel tank; tarps; motor stand; scrap; qty hand tools; fencing supplies; parts cleaner; hardware; tire changer; gas powered welder on a trailer; belt drive buzz saw; (4) construction jacks; wagonloads.

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Preview: Friday August 29th, 1-6pm

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**Shop/Farm Rel:** International double auger snow blower; Lucknow single auger snow blower; homemade wood splitter; various running gears; hay feeders; creep feeder; head gate; gates; augers; conveyors; cement mixer; 3ph scraper blade; Danuser post hole auger; farm misc; tractor chains; rolls of page wire; wagon load of smalls.

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**Preview: Friday Sept. 5th, 1-6pm**

**Terms & Conditions:** Cash or Cheque with proper I.D. on day of sale. Owner and/or Auctioneer will not be held responsible for accident or loss on day of sale. All items are sold "As Is". All verbal announcements on day of sale take precedence over written ads.

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 Please call **416-455-0232** location near Hwy 9 and 27.

## FREE ADS

**Trade or sell. One black Angus bull.** One year old sired. Specialist. East Gen. Easy calving. Grain grass fed. Wanting to trade for breeding heifer, Or sell. Text or call **705-817-6818** Creemore.

## SEASONAL JOB OPPORTUNITIES



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 Orillia.

### SEASONAL LABOURER/TRUCK DRIVERS

**TEMPORARY, FULL TIME**

**MIDHURST, ON  
 ORR LAKE, ON**

**BEETON, ON  
 CREEMORE, ON**

Seasonal Labourer/Truck Driver is responsible for working as a labourer and/or flagman on maintenance activities. Also involves the operation of tractors with attachments, trucks for snow plowing, sanding and general summer use, rollers, chainsaws, compressors and other designated equipment requiring special skills.

The successful candidate:

- has a Secondary School diploma or equivalent approved combination of education and experience
- must possess a valid DZ license, be able to work without supervision and make decisions
- is able to interact with the public in a courteous and positive manner at all times

The successful candidate will also have related experience as a truck driver, light equipment operator, or skilled labourer in either construction or maintenance of roads experience.

Start date: November 1, 2025

Wage rate: \$30.03 - \$30.55 per hour (As per Collective Agreement)

**For resume submission, please view the complete job description and apply online at [www.simcoe.ca/jobs](http://www.simcoe.ca/jobs)**

The County of Simcoe thanks all applicants but only those selected for an interview will be contacted. Personal information provided is collected under the authority of the Municipal Act (2001) and will be used to determine eligibility for employment.

The Corporation of the County of Simcoe is an Equal Opportunity Employer.



**Stewart's Equipment Stayner Location:**  
6837 ON-26, Stayner, Corner of 26 & center line rd  
ON, LOM 1S0 **705-428-3132**

**Erin Location:**  
9410 Wellington Rd 124, Erin,  
Corner of 124 & 24 ON,  
NOB1T0 **519-833-9616**

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



**Agricultural Implements**

Powerful implements for tough tillage tasks. From mixing soil and crop residues, slaying weeds, leveling soil, preparing the field for seeding, and anything in between - Kubota's compact disc, cultivator, power harrow, and plough ranges will keep you working efficiently all season long.

**Used Equipment**



**Kubota M59TLB**  
year:2015, 4wd, four post  
rops with canopy, front aux  
hydraulics, kubota tl1350  
loader, bt1200v backhoe,  
hydraulic thumb, grill guard,  
light package Unit is located  
in Erin. **\$63,900**



**New Holland L216**  
hours showing: 2151.6, cab  
with heat, standard flow  
auxilliary hydraulics, iso &  
h pattern controls, air ride  
seat , 10x16.5 tires, hydraulic,  
Unit is located at Stewart's  
Equipment in Erin. **\$32,900**



**Claas Liner 650 Twin**  
Drawbar Hitch, 540 PTO RPM,  
Twin Rotor, 20'8" Working  
Width, 9'10" Transport Width.  
Unit is located at Stewart's  
Equipment in Erin.  
Stock #: U29257  
S/N: 924792.0 **\$26,900**



**New Holland 460**  
net wrap / twine , silage spe-  
cial ,540 rpm, Unit is located  
at Stewart's Equipment in  
Erin.  
Stock number: U4814  
Serial number: YFN187897  
**\$29,800**



**Kubota DMC8536R**  
pivot tongue mower con-  
ditioner , 1000 rpm , 2 pth ,  
excellent condition, Unit is  
Located at Stewart's equip-  
ment in Erin.  
Stock Number : U27673  
**\$34,800**



**Can-am Defender XT**  
528.9 klm showing, cab  
enclosure with heat, camo  
unit, front bumper, front  
windshield wiper, manual  
dump box, winch, Unit  
is located at Stewart's  
Equipment in Erin. **\$18,850**



**John Deere 4320**  
Folding ROPS, Diesel,  
1053.9 Hours, 400x Ldr  
W JD Manual Q/A, Pallet  
forks w44" Tines, 74"  
Bucket, 1 Remote, e-Hydro  
Transmission, Located in  
Erin. **\$36,900**



**Kubota RA2071TVARIO**  
dual rotor rake , 7.1m  
working width , side  
delivery , hydraulic offset,  
Unit is located at Stewart's  
Equipment in Erin. (Financing  
available @ 4.99%\* O.A.C.)  
**\$22,900**



**Case IH 6500**  
9 SHANK CONSER-TIL SOIL  
SAVER, Unit is located at  
Stewart's Equipment in Erin.  
Stock Number: YU0209  
Serial Number: JAG0012440  
**\$9,400**



**New Holland 460**  
4x6 bales, netwrap, wide  
pick-up, hydraulic pick  
-up, 18l-16.5l rubber, crop  
cutter, rear kicker, bale count  
14100, Unit is located at  
Stewart's equipment in Erin  
**\$33,900**



**Kuhn GF7802THA**  
working width 25'7" , 6  
rotors with 7 tine arms per  
rotor , minimum horsepower  
required 35hp, Unit is located  
at Stewart's Equipment in  
Erin. Stock Number: U29101  
**\$14,800**



**New Holland 7230**  
2018 model year ,108"  
cutting width, 540rpm ,  
8 disc, high stubble kit ,  
rubber rolls , draw bar hitch,  
Unit is located at Stewart's  
Equipment in Erin. **\$24,300**

**STEWARTSEQUIP.COM**

**Erin 519-833-9616**  
**Cookstown 705-458-0871**  
**Stayner 705-428-3132**

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As well as farm communities in Grey, Bruce, Victoria,  
Durham, Wellington and Haliburton Counties.

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is proud to  
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