

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

A newspaper with something for everyone | November 2025 | Volume 48 #11



**Farmland,
homes and
livelihoods
threatened
by DND
Radar site
in Clearview
Township.**

**Inside this Issue: Coverage of the International Plowing Match
2025 · 4-H'ers Shining in their Communities · Fun Farm Science:
Striped Cows? · Flos Ag Society Award Winners ·
Farmfest and Farm to Fork**

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.

November 7th - 16th: The Royal Agricultural Fair

The Royal Agricultural Winter Fair takes place every November in the City of Toronto. Come celebrate the best in agriculture, local food, and equestrian competitions from across the country. More information can be found at www.royalfair.org

November 14th: News and Advertising Deadline

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

November 27th: CFFO Hosts Education Days

The Christian Farmers Federation of Ontario (CFFO) announced upcoming Education Days. The Education Day in Barrie will be held on Thursday, November 27, 2025.

January 6th & 7th: SouthWest Agricultural Conference

Registration is open for the 2026 SouthWest Agricultural Conference "Planting Knowledge, Growing Prosperity." Pre-registration required by Dec. 9th. **Full details in the ad on page 7 and also available at <https://southwestagconference.ca/swac1/swac-agenda/>**

January 7th - 12th: Grey Bruce Farmers' Week Conference and Trade Show

Save the dates for the Grey Bruce Farmers' Week Conference and Trade Show! The conference will be held January 7th to the 12th. Many fascinating speakers and presentations! Topics covered are beef, dairy, goat, sheep, horse, eco day and crops day! More information can be found on their website <https://www.greybrucefarmersweek.ca> and in next month's edition of Farm View

Strengthening Agriculture Through Research and Innovation



Jill Dunlop
MPP Simcoe North

As we move into November and prepare for the winter months ahead, it's an important time to reflect on the incredible work being done across Simcoe North's agricultural community. From harvest to storage, farmers and producers continue to demonstrate resilience, innovation, and dedication, qualities that define the strength of Ontario agriculture.

This season, I was pleased to share news of Ontario's \$41 million investment to modernize agricultural research infrastructure across the province. This funding will help ensure our research facilities remain at the forefront of innovation, supporting the development of new technologies, sustainable practices, and stronger production methods that will benefit farmers here in Simcoe North and across Ontario.

Agricultural research plays a vital role in shaping the future of farming. It helps growers adapt to changing weather patterns, manage soil health, and improve yields in environmentally responsible ways. With this investment, we are not only supporting the next generation of agricultural leaders but also ensuring that rural communities like ours continue to thrive.

As fields quiet and preparations for winter continue, I want to extend my gratitude to the farmers, researchers, and agribusinesses who keep Ontario's food supply strong. Your work sustains families, drives local economies, and embodies the spirit of hard work and stewardship that defines this region.

Save the dates January 27th and 28th!
2026 Guelph Organic Conference!
Visit <https://guelphorganicconf.ca/> for full details.

Tell Ottawa to Protect Farmers' Privilege – Sign the Petition!

Canada's Plant Breeders Rights Act (PBR) gives plant breeders exclusive rights to produce and reproduce new varieties for 20 years. When farmers buy these varieties, they pay for the seed itself and a royalty to the breeder for the right to use the variety. The PBR Act has a clause called "Farmers' Privilege" which permits farmers to grow future crops on their own holdings with saved seed, cuttings, tubers etc from a new plant variety in future years without paying further royalties.

The government is proposing a regulatory change that would narrow the Farmers' Privilege clause by eliminating its application to new varieties of fruits, vegetables, ornamentals, and hybrids. Farmers using these varieties would be forced to buy and pay royalties every single year, and will not be allowed to save their own seed.

This means:

- Higher annual production costs due to increased seed and royalty expenses
- No access to PBR protected varieties that may be discontinued before their 20 year protection period expires
- No access to PBR protected varieties that are not available from licensed nurseries or seed sellers
- No opportunity for farmers to adapt new varieties to local conditions or to climate change by using farm-saved propagating material harvested from plants grown on the farm
- No ability to replace fruit trees/bushes lost due to winter-kill, drought, etc., from the farmer's own stock of the variety

Further entrenchment of largely foreign private plant breeding in the fruit, vegetable, and ornamental sectors which formerly were served by vibrant, well-funded public plant breeding institutions that bred for the needs of Canadian farmers, our food supply and our growing conditions. Multinationals focus on their largest markets and most profitable crop kinds, leading to Canadian farmers being offered only varieties that fit corporate priorities.

This is a direct threat to food security, seed sovereignty and farmer autonomy.

We MUST stop this restriction of Farmers' Privilege.

The ultimate goal of the corporate seed sector is to require annual purchase and royalty payments for all crop kinds. As one farmer said during the 2014-15 debate on the bill that became the current Plant Breeders Rights Act: "Bill C-18 is like moving livestock. You start by herding them into a large corral, and then close the gates behind them one by one until they cannot turn around. Eventually, there will be little choice but to buy seed and pay royalties every year.

You can do something about it. Tell the Government of Canada to keep the Farmers' Privilege intact - sign the Parliamentary e-petition today!

<https://www.ourcommons.ca/petitions/en/Petition/Details?Petition=e-6778>

Once you've signed the petition, don't forget to verify your signature via email so that your signature will be counted.

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Engineer Raises Alarms Over DND Radar Project Threatening Clearview Farmland

By Eric Jelinski M. Eng. P. Eng., Retired Nuclear Engineer

I am a professional engineer licensed to practice engineering by the province of Ontario. I have university degrees in mechanical engineering, chemical engineering and nuclear engineering from prestigious universities of Waterloo and University of Toronto. I have practised engineering, also farming since the 1950's.

With this essay, I have completed some homework self study on WW1, WW2, and Ukraine war against Russia.

In the beginning, wars were fought with hand tools, then machines, large sophisticated tanks and airplanes, ships and submarines, powerful missiles, and lately drones, unmanned, launched and guided from considered safe places. The reason for drones used by both Ukraine and Russia is that they are cost effective relative to large tanks, military vehicles, airplanes and also ships. Pilot safety is no longer a concern.

Drones have the advantage of avoiding detection by radar systems by flying low, and in very large numbers because they are relatively cheap to manufacture and still carry weapons.

Destruction of farmland/foodland is a crime against humanity.

Has DND explored options?

It is an engineering fundamental practice to explore options, assess, weight them, and select the best option.

There are ample crown lands further north. For electric power, small modular reactors are available.

Furthermore, the OTHR is not bullet proof.

The ionosphere varies in height, seasons, day and night, and solar activity. Therefore, there are numerous holes in this protection scheme. Holes that may be used by the enemy. Of course low flying drones launched from a submarine off the coast is a certain hole for attack.

Radar systems are subject to the first attack to destroy the radar for the purpose of undeterred further attacks. Eg. Russian OTHR system has been destroyed by a drone, thus allowing Ukraine to attack and destroy Russian infrastructure far beyond the border. Radar stations become junk yards of military hardware. I predict this may be the final disposition of the bountiful farmlands and ecology of Clearview.

Another aspect that makes the DND radar vulnerable is attack from terrorist factions that have already been allowed into Canada by the Trudeau and now Carney governments. We observe the Hamas operatives parading in streets and public areas for the past two years with no sign of reduction. They are a threat that could sabotage radar systems from within.

A truth spoken long ago... "A nation cannot survive treason from within." —Marcus Tullius Cicero

In summary;

The DND OTHR radar in Clearview is a liability.

The DND OTHR radar is obsolete before it is built.

In any event, it is becoming clear why POTUS Trump would like to annex Canada as a 51st state, and also take control of Greenland, that appear necessary for complete control of a defense system.

It is also clear that Canada has 'drifted' into war against Russia without any parliamentary discussion. The 'war' to support Ukraine against Russia was initiated by Federal MP Ms. Freeland based on her family ties from WW2 being at war against Russia. Therefore, Canada has become an enemy of Russia; and must now become a more active part of NATO to the extent of putting citizens at personal risks.

A radar system in Clearview will be destructive to farmland, flora and fauna.

The proposed DND RADAR system puts residents of Clearview at certain risk, risk that could be minimized by building the radar much further north in a much less populated area.

Websites referenced

<https://www.robinradar.com/why-traditional-radar-isnt-effective-at-tracking-drones>

Sources; what affects the earth's ionosphere - Search <https://www.bing.com/search?q=what+affects+the+earth%27s+ionosphere&q=SSA&pq=ionosphere+and+solar+storms&sk=GS6SSA3&sc=12-27&cvid=B1B894FEC11F4D84A72B0F2813FFE2FB&FORM=QBRE&sp=10&ghc=1&lq=0>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ilshsLtsqZ4>
WATCH: Ukraine's 'Ghosts' Destroy Russian High-Value Radars, An-26 Planes in Crimea Raid
<https://www.kyivpost.com/post/60841>

Ukraine Now OWNS the Sky... Russia's Air Defenses Are COLLAPSING

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1GOYK57QMOc>

This video explains the steps and the challenges involved in defense against even a single Inter-Continental Ballistic Missile attack.

Why Stopping Just One ICBM Is Almost Impossible | Watch

<https://www.msn.com/en-ca/video/news/why-stopping-just-one-icbm-is-almost-impossible/vi-AA1L6pnU?ocid=msedgntp&pc=U531&cvid=68ebd8bbf6e48b58a572c14d7e50c7b&ei=108>

More to explore;

Vanguard AprMay _p15.pdf

https://www.arcticsecurity.ca/pdfs/Vanguard%20AprMay%20_p15.pdf

Can America's Missile Defense Intercept a Nuclear ICBM?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tMORgmekVgQ>

Shifting global picture disrupted Canada's national security strategy update: memo

<https://www.msn.com/en-ca/news/canada/shifting-global-picture-disrupted-canada-s-national-security-strategy-update-memo/ar-AA1OjaI2?ocid=msedgntp&pc=EDGEDSE&cvid=68eb9120c07a489cbeaaebd935eb069&ei=25>



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EDITORIAL

Standing Up for Our Fields and Our Future



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

now closed comments. Not a lot of time for residents to have a say.

Farmers are proud stewards of the land, and once farmland is lost, it's lost forever. Residents have organized in opposition to the radar project, calling for better consultation and protection of agricultural land. A petition is now available for those who want to stand with Clearview farmers and help protect our farmland for future generations.

In other news, I'm excited to share a new column by Don Beaulieu "Fun Farm Science" that will cover interesting, slightly quirky, sciencey news bits happening in agriculture. Want to know how to keep flies off your cows? Find out on page 11!

As we face local challenges and changes, it's important to pause and reflect on what truly matters. With Remembrance Day approaching, we honour the courage, sacrifice,

and service of our veterans — not only on November 11, but every day of the year. Their dedication reminds us of the importance of protecting our land, our communities, and our freedom.

This year, that reflection feels especially personal for our family, as we proudly recognize our son, Trenton Watkins, for his bravery and commitment. Trenton is currently completing basic training with the Canadian Armed Forces and will begin the Combat Medic program later this winter. It was a true honour to witness his signing ceremony. A moment of pride and gratitude we'll never forget.

The DND gave homeowners/farmers notice late July 2025, held a public meeting Sept 10th and have

On the Cover

Rachel Brooks (left) and Terri Jackman are featured on the cover of this issue. The photo was graciously shared by Trina Berlo, editor of The Creemore Echo. Trina also wrote a thoughtful and in-depth article about the proposed DND radar site, which you can read here: Residents launch petition in fight against DND radar.
<https://creemore.com/2025/10/17/residents-launch-petition-in-fight-against-dnd-radar/>

Email your thoughts and objections to:

- National Defence/Government of Canada
Email: NORADModInfraInfo-InfraModNORAD@forces.gc.ca
- The project manager for the Arctic Over the Horizon Project, Irv Marucelj
Email: Irv.Marucelj@forces.gc.ca
- Office of the Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food
Email: aafc.minister-ministre.aac@agr.gc.ca

Sign the petition
<https://www.ourcommons.ca/petitions/en/Petition/Details?Petition=e-6829>



The Elmvalle 4-H Dairy Club members were all smiles at the Elmvalle Fall Fair, celebrating a fun-filled weekend of showing cattle, cheering friends, and sharing their love of agriculture. Read more about the Fair and everyone's accomplishments on page 7.

Ad/News DEADLINE for the December Farm View is November 14th.

Farm View is available at the following agricultural businesses.

- ALLIANCE AGRI-TURF in Ivy, Bolton, Fenelon, Baxter and Lindsay
BARRIE KOA (Seasonally)
BRADBURY SMALL FAMILY FARM INC.
BRADFORD GREENHOUSE Barrie
CHARWEN FARMS
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HARRIS FARMS (Seasonally)
HOLMES AGRO in Stayner and Orangeville
HURON TRACTOR, Stayner
KEVIN BARKER AUCTIONS in Lindsay
LEGACY FUNERAL AND CREMATION SERVICES INC in the Barrie Cedar Pointe plaza
McLAREN EQUIPMENT Phelpston
NEIGHBOURS COUNTRY DEPOT
NICHOLYN FARMS
ONTARIO STOCK YARDS
PREMIER EQUIPMENT, Alliston
RICHARDS EQUIPMENT INC.
SOBEY'S in Angus and Bradford
STEER ENTERPRISES
STEWART'S EQUIPMENT in Cookstown and Stayner
THE UPS STORE in the Barrie Cedar Pointe plaza

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.

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

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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.J. Bryan

OFA Members Service Representative:

Leah Emms 1-800-668-3276 email: leah.emms@ofa.on.ca

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

OFA Zone Director for Peel, Simcoe and York:

Paul Maurice: 705-427-3126 email: paul.maurice@ofa.on.ca

OFA Zone Director for Dufferin County:

Mark Reusser: email: mark.reusser@ofa.on.ca

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Vice President:	Donna Jebb	705-623-8065
PAC Member:	Colin Elliott	
SCFA Phone:	705-726-9300 ext 1224	
	simcty.fed.agriculture@outlook.com	

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Contact YRFA:	york@ofa.on.ca	

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JD 6R140 2022 ... \$269,995
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COMMANDPRO, TLS, CAB S, 700 HRS



JD 8R280 2024 ... \$598,995
E23 (50K), PREM COMFORT, 60 GPM
PUMP, 5 PREM REMOTES, ILS, 56 HRS

FALL TURF INSPECTION

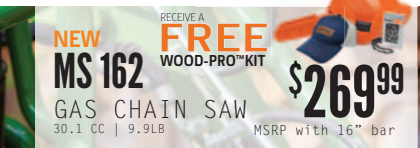
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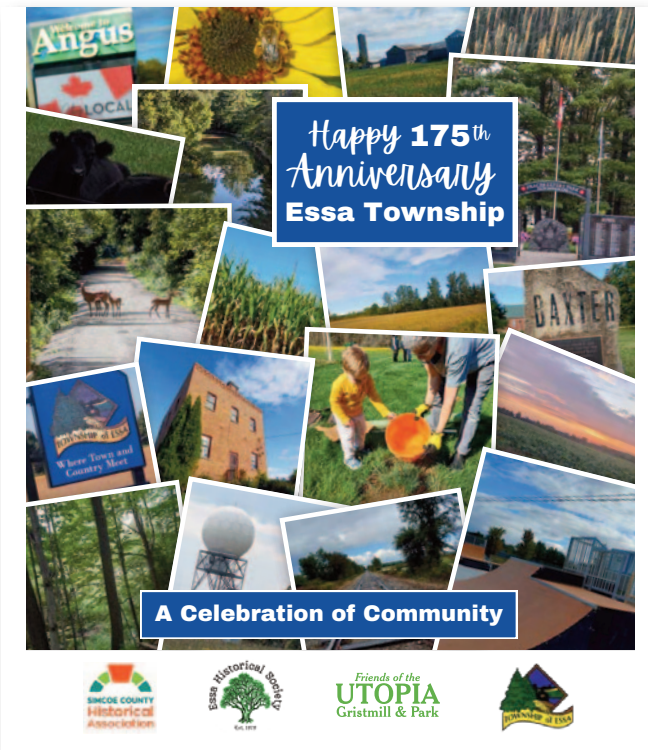


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Celebrating 175 Years of Essa New Book Chronicles Township's Roots 'Where Town and Country Meet'



The Essa Historical Society and the Friends of Utopia Mill and Park have recently completed a book celebrating the 175th Anniversary of Essa Township, where the growth of agriculture began in 1826. This 24 page informative book has been distributed to Essa residents in recent weeks and a few hundred copies have been put aside for sale to former residents and any interested families in Simcoe County. The price is ten dollars. Contact EHS president John Beischer at 705-726-5308 to arrange for a copy.

In addition to agriculture, the book discusses the Nottawasaga watershed and its rivers that shaped

Essa's growth from the beginning. Pioneered by settlers who built vital mills on these waterways, a strong agricultural heritage began. The township was officially incorporated in 1850.

The book discusses the settlement of the ten hamlets within the township, and several personal stories contained therein. Also featured are the engines of progress beginning with the 1854 Northern Railway.

Logging, CFB Borden, the Ontario tree seed plant, Bell's grist mill and our original inhabitants are fully discussed in this colourful new book. Essa is a special place, where it is a great honour to celebrate the 175th Birthday with our more than 21,000 residents who have chosen to live, work and play 'Where Town and Country Meet'.

Safety and Respect Go Hand in Hand During Ontario's Harvest Season



By Leah Emms
OFA Member Services Rep.
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As harvest season gets underway across Ontario, drivers can expect to see more slow-moving farm equipment on rural roads and it's a critical time for both farmers and motorists to prioritize safety.

As a former farmer and the Member Service Representative for the Ontario Federation of Agriculture (OFA), I know how important it is that we all do our part to make the roads safe during this busy season. Farmers are putting in long hours to bring in the harvest, often working well beyond daylight hours, and much of that work includes moving equipment between fields using public roads.

Farmers have a responsibility and take it seriously to ensure their equipment is properly marked and visible at all times of day and night. This includes clearly displaying a Slow Moving Vehicle (SMV) sign. A bright orange triangle with a red border on all equipment travelling under 40 km/h, using fully functioning lights and reflectors, especially in low light, darkness, or poor weather conditions, and ensuring SMV signs are clean, undamaged, and highly visible, with lights that are not obstructed by dust, mud, or debris.

These safety measures are not just recommended; they are required by law and essential to keeping both farmers and other road users safe. Farmers are also encouraged to use escort vehicles and avoid peak travel times when possible.

But safety is a shared responsibility. We're asking motorists across Ontario to slow down as soon as they spot farm equipment, stay alert and avoid distractions, and only pass when it's absolutely safe and legal to do so. A moment of caution can prevent a serious accident.

Harvest season is a busy time, but it also offers an opportunity to recognize the hard work and dedication of farmers who feed our province. Every time you see farm equipment on the road, remember it represents months of effort and the livelihood of many families in Ontario. Showing patience and respect is one small way we can all support this vital industry.

The fall harvest is about more than crops, it's about community. The work farmers do supports local economies and food systems across Ontario. When we all stay alert, respectful, and cooperative on the roads, we help ensure a safe and successful harvest for everyone.

As we approach November, it's also important to take time on November 11th to pause and pay respects to those who have served our country. Just as farmers work tirelessly to support our communities, so too have many sacrificed for the freedoms we enjoy today. Let's remember their contributions with gratitude and reflection.

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Community Pride on Display at the 163rd Elmvale Fall Fair

The Flos Agricultural Society hosted an amazing Elmvale Fall Fair over Thanksgiving weekend, October 10 and 11, at the Elmvale Fairgrounds. This year marked the 163rd Fair, once again showcasing outstanding local agricultural and craft exhibits.

Festivities began Thursday evening with the midway and continued through Saturday. Friday and Saturday featured the school parade, animal shows, antique tractor pulls, truck and tractor pulls, and live music.

Those attending for the first time quickly discovered why the Elmvale Fall Fair remains a cherished community tradition year after year.

The following are the Flos Agricultural Society's 2025 award winners. Congratulations to everyone on a job well done!

- Ambassador Contest:**
Winner: Eliza Graham
1st Runner-up: Lucy Grummett
- Jr. Ambassador Contest:**
Winner: Max Stones
Runners-up: Lexxy Edmonds & Payton Rowland
- Best Rural Display:**
Winner : Alicia Spence
- Residential Decorating Contest:** Winner: Karen Locke & Brian Lambie
- Business Decorating Contest:** Winner: Four Corner Tea Room
- Junior Fair:**

- Elementary Student accumulating the most points
Winner: Annie Stroud, HCES
- Pony Show:**
High Point Pony & Rider: Hannah Mooney
- Baby Show:**
Sweepstakes Baby: Scarlett Guarino, Tiny Twp.
- Junior Pedal Tractor Pull**
Class 1 winner: Tiatgo Campo
Class 2 winner: Harvey Wittick
Class 3 winner: Tave Cobbett
Class 4 winner: Emmett Lees
- Bicycle Draw:** (Donated by Elmvale Maple Syrup Committee)
Winner: Finn Trace
- Sheep Show:**
Overall Grand Champion Ram: Derrick Robertson
Overall Grand Champion Breeder's Flock: Leo Atkinson
Market Lambs: Alexa Livingston
Overall Grand Champion Ewe : Garry Milne
Overall Grand Champion Get-Of-Sire: Chris Atkinson
Top Youth Showperson: Olivia Livingston
- 4-H Achievement Day:**
- Beef Club:**
Champion Calf: Brooklyn Cramp
Champion Showperson: Brooklyn Cramp
- Elmvale Dairy Club:**
Grand Champion Animal: Grace

- Finch
Champion Showperson: Emi Lange
- Champion Jersey Calf: Landry Jones
- Overall Grand Champion 4-H Showperson:** Emi Lange
- Reserve Grand Champion 4-H Showperson:** Brooklyn Cramp
- Things From the Past:**
Best Antique entry: Dianne Doan
- Flowers:**
New Exhibitor Award: Rebecca Elliott
- Domestic Science:**
OAAS Butter Tart class: Heather O'Neill
New Exhibitor Award: Samantha Wesson
Exhibitor winning the most points in the Domestic Science Section, sponsored by PineRitch Fur Farm Ltd: Jean Jolie
- Handcrafts:**
Elaine Parnell Memorial Quilt of the Fair: Karen Street
Bea Lambie Memorial Quilt: Cheryl Webb
Phelpston Quilter's Special: Frank Klucowicz
New Exhibitor Award: Pamela Burt
Exhibitor winning the most points in the Handcraft Section
- Ricky Hummelink Memorial:** Jennifer Klucowicz
- Grain & Forage:**

- 4-H Exhibitor with the most points : Carina Jones
- Field & Garden Produce**
Exhibitor with the highest points: Linda Marchant
- Heavy Horse Show:**
Best Foal on the Grounds: Kent Bruce
Best Horse on the Grounds: Kent Bruce
- Beef Show:**
- OVERALL CHAMPIONS:**
Grand Champion Bull: Lori Chalmers
Grand Champion Female: Medonte Highlands
Breeder's Herd & Get-Of-Sire: Chester Tupling
Jacob Martin memorial Banner: Best Cow-calf pair –British breeds. Medonte Highlands

- Results and photo provided by the Flos Agricultural Society
- Dairy Show:**
Class 15-1: **Holsteins**
Champion Jr Female : Emi Lange
Champion Sr Female: Jay Robertson
Best Udder: Robins Holsteins
Best Herd: Arway Farms
Class 15-1: **Other Dairy Breeds**
Champion & Reserve Jr Female: Mark & Julie Parnell
- Parade Winners:**
Business: Adamson Tree Service
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After The Chores: Fall Days

By Cathy Hamill-Hill



Fall days on this farm are a season of a unique smell.

On the farm here, there is one smell that only comes this time of year that is a signal that fall is here. There is nothing quite like the scent of a buck goat in the fall. Francis has replaced his soft white fluffy coat into a stinky urine soaked yellow one. Every day Francis looks that much worse to the delight of the does. I can tell with one whiff if Francis will be working today- or not. And it is only going to get stronger as he ages.

My Dad grew up with cattle, sheep and draft horses in the barn so the goat business that me and Mom had was all new to him. The first fall we had mature goats he came to the house in the daytime when it wasn't lunch time, suddenly feeling ill. He had no idea what was wrong. He went to the barn feeling fine and then a feeling of unwellness suddenly came over him, near where the mature, very wet buck was. He felt better quickly in the house- and when he returned to the buck pen, the feeling came right back. Dad had an allergy to what he called- and I'm using nicer words that he would say here- "to the old stinking goat". He shed no tears when I married and took all the buck goats with me. I'm sure my Dad isn't bothered in Fall now in his home in Heaven.

This year is my first with a boer buck. Francis smells the same as other bucks of the past but otherwise, he is way different. Francis stands in front of the pen with the interested doe by the pen's gate. I open the gate and Francis rushes in to be with the does. He stomps his front feet, blubbers with his tongue flapping and has a special call just for this time of year. He is absolutely frantic with excitement. When I am finished

chores, Francis looks at me and calls out as if to say, "I am DONE! Let me out!" and calmly waits by the gate. The lovestruck doe will throw herself against him while wagging her tail frantically while Francis now totally ignores her. I then open the gate and Francis calmly trots out. The next thing I hear is Francis calling out, "I'm hungry!" and I find him standing next to his grain bucket hollering at me.

Isaac is given off leash free time after his supper while we do chores. He has a route that includes a potty stop in the long grass, out of sight and smell from his tie-out. Isaac believes potty is strictly private business and it has to be done in long, thick grass only or buried in snow. Also on his route is every part of the barn. If he can get into some feed spilled somewhere, it is considered a good time. He tries to get in some mouthfuls of sheep food as he slides into the sheep pen just before the sheep come in.

Once the sheep are in, the route is done, and the sun is up, Isaac often goes for a run. Sweetie has spent all spring and summer and early fall fetching him back with the truck. Isaac especially likes the open road which is exactly where he should not be. As soon as we notice him missing, Sweetie gets in the truck and heads for the road. Isaac knows the truck and will come right to it as he wants a ride back after his run. So many times this summer, Isaac has gotten an air conditioned ride home.

Fall has made the evenings go dark early. One night Sweetie went to look for Isaac but could not find him. He got the truck and turned it around. I heard a terrible screech from the barn. I rushed in fully expecting to see either a goat or a sheep in life threatening distress. Instead, I found a red dog with his head in the air, howling. He was accidentally locked in the dark sheep pen.

Fall days are beautiful with everything wrapped up in the golden glow of autumn with coloured leaves and the crispy twinges of frost- this season might be stinky at times but it sure is beautiful.

Another Memorable Journey for NSSCIA Members

By Allen Mosley, NSSCIA President

Our 47th annual NSSCIA bus trip in July of 2025 was another successful trip thanks to committee members Glen Simpson, Leonard Hogenbook and Ross Langman. We visited Skyridge Clydesdales as well as Brandi McCabe's new constructed beef barn which holds up to 800 cattle. They also crop 1200 acres along with 100 Suffolk sheep. Brandi is the third generation in this operation. We visited Grand Valley Fortifiers who have expanded to Manitoba, Saskatchewan and British Columbia. It was started out as a family-owned operation in 1960 known as Deen Acres. They had 30 highland cattle, mules and goats. Next was a visit to the world-renowned breeders of jerseys and Holsteins, the Sayles family. We learned that Uncle Bob's Popcorn has to be air dried so that the kernels won't pop cracked. They also sell their products on site, at farm boy and giant tiger. While touring Whistling Garden, south of Brantford we discovered that they have over two-hundred different varieties of Peonies and waterlilies nestled among beautiful water fountains. Our last day was spent touring the Alexander Graham Bell Homestead, enjoying refreshments and listening to the blazing fiddlers prior to enjoying a farmers dinner on the Grand River Boat cruise. That evening we took in a performance of Jesus Christ Superstar. A highlight of the trip was having a tour guide from the Six Nations Farmers Association speak about the area and what they are doing to encourage young farmers to farm. Their goal is to build and sustain agriculture practices for their community. Fantastic trip. If you want to learn more about the North Simcoe Soil and Crop Improvement Association or would like to become a member please check out www.ontariosoilandcrop.org



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"It's who you meet. Chances are they've already solved the problem you're trying to figure out," Greg Traynor, Otonabee South Monaghan, ON

"We share mistakes as much as successes — that's how people learn," Dave Gowan, Bruce County, ON
Whether you're a producer, agronomist, or soil health advocate, the OSN Network Challenge offers a chance to build your skills, grow your network, and support your soil.

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A Sweet Stop on the East Gwillimbury Farm to Fork Tour

Story and photo by Roslyn Watkins

During the East Gwillimbury Farm to Fork Tour, my sister, Diana, and I made a delightful stop at Sharon Orchards, where we stocked up on our supply of crisp, delicious apples and an assortment of colourful fall vegetables.

Owner Paul welcomed us warmly and shared fascinating insights about the care and science behind growing quality apples. As he guided us through the orchard, he explained how the sides of the apple trees are pruned each spring to encourage upward growth and prevent the trees from becoming too bushy. "If the trees get too thick, you get smaller apples," Paul told us. Ideally, each tree should produce about 100 apples, roughly a bushel per tree, with the fruit growing close to the trunk rather than on long, heavy branches that could snap under their weight.

Sharon Orchards, established in 2011, began with the planting of dwarf trees and continues to expand each year with new varieties. Co-owners Cathy and Paul now offer six different kinds of apples along with a selection of fresh, organically grown produce.

Visitors on the tour were invited to sample slices of the various apple varieties before choosing their favourites to take home. To make the visit even more special, every purchase included the chance to cut six sunflowers from the field. A cheerful and memorable souvenir from a perfect autumn day.

For more information about Sharon Orchards, visit www.sharonorchards.com. Other stops on the tour included Sharon Museum and Gardens, Queensville Country Store, Holburne Mushroom Farm, Queensville Sod Farms, Rose Family Farm, Niemi Family Farm, AE Natural Meats and The Giving Place.



Every visitor was greeted by this sunny, smiling team who cheerfully guided guests to Paul for the Orchard Tour, pointed out the delicious apple tastings, and helped with cutting souvenir sunflowers. Pictured left to right: Aaron, Judah, and Maddy.

The Rise and Fall of a Once-Thriving Village That Vanished from Manvers Township

Few people have heard of the community of Fleetwood. Its existence was, well, fleeting.

And yet, for a time, Fleetwood was one of the larger communities in the former Township of Manvers.

Manvers township was officially established in 1816. Settlement began, in a trickle at first, about two decades later. Most of the earliest settlers were retiring soldiers or Irish migrants. What they all had in common was a drive to make new lives for themselves by carving bountiful farms from the forested hills of the region.

Among the earliest and most consequential of the settlers was Thomas "Long Tom" Staples and his wife Elizabeth. Born in Ireland in 1816 and a blacksmith by trade, Thomas was newly married when he established his farm. More important to the development of Fleetwood was his decision to open a sawmill. The mill provided building material for the homesteaders flocking to the region and marked Long Tom as a man of importance.

Thomas had been joined in Manvers Township by several brothers. Recognizing that settlers gravitated to mills like moths to a flame, and that communities often grew in their shadow, the Staples' decided to subdivide part of their lands and lay out a town site. Fleetwood was born.

By 1860 the village and its environs had grown large enough to warrant a school and a post office with Thomas Russell as the first postmaster. Two decades later Fleetwood's streets were lined by the school, two stores, a steam powered sawmill that had replaced the old water-driven mill, Henry Morrow's cobbler shop, a Methodist church, an Orange Lodge, a pair of blacksmith shops, and a tavern operated by the Grandy family. The village was at its apogee.

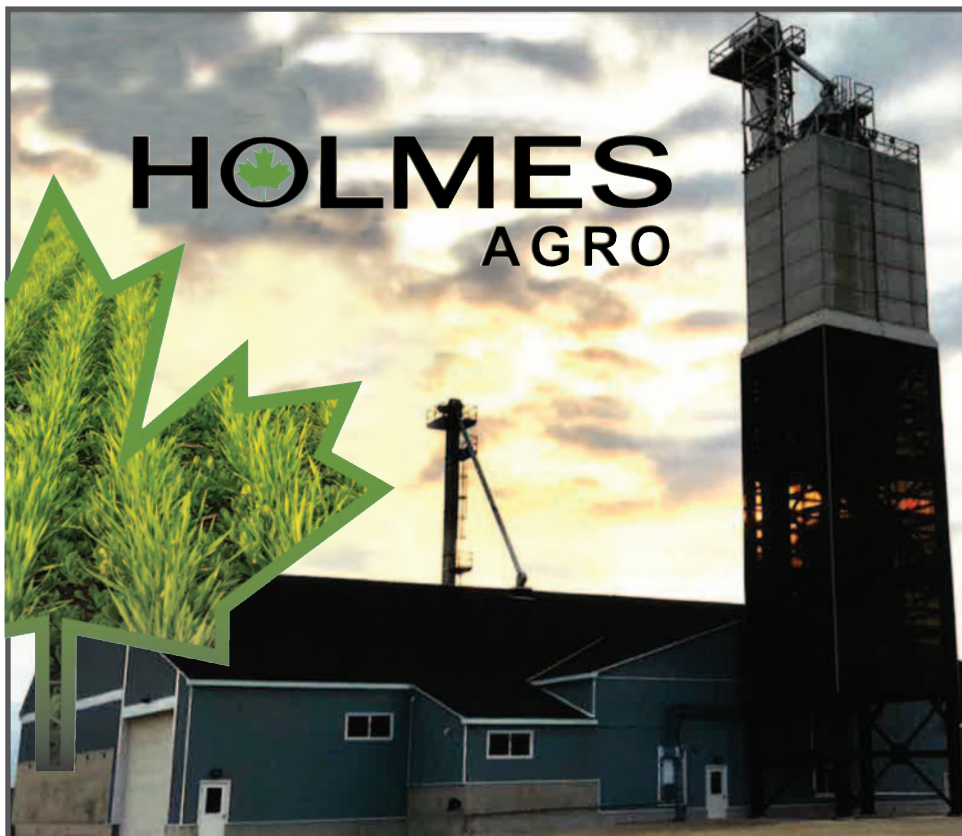
But in an age where being serviced by rail meant the difference between prosperity and stagnation, Fleetwood was on the outside looking in. Residents had good reason to be resentful when the Midland Railway, which as later absorbed by the Grand Truck Railway (GTR), bypassed their village in favor of Franklin, a much smaller hamlet 20 kms to the east. They knew what the decision meant for their future. Fleetwood began to fade.

The 1910 opening of a small flag station, called Fleetwood Station, some six kms distant on a new Canadian Pacific line, did nothing to slow the village's decline. The final blows came when the church and school were closed, in 1947 and 1967 respectively, after which Fleetwood became a forgotten backwater, a virtual ghost town.

Today, the one-time village lots are overgrown, the homes and businesses that once sat upon them long gone. Fleetwood had lived up to its name.

Village stories

by Andrew Hind



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4-H Members Making a Difference in the Community

By Katelyn Mann, club president

This year, members of the community involvement club have been busy giving back through a variety of local events. **Hike for Hospice** – Members hiked the trails, facilitated interactive activities for children, and helped raise over \$2,000 for Matthews House Hospice. Kids activities, tattoos, facepaint ,games, and sharing what the 4-H organization is about. One member dressed in a cow costume to promote agriculture. **Schomberg Fair** – Members facilitated games, face painting, and agriculture-based activities for youth and families. Engaging with the community and sharing about 4-H. **Bradford Valley care Community Visit** – Members played interactive games, led a nature-based craft, and enjoyed an afternoon of conversation with over 25 seniors, enjoyed a few rounds of bird bingo and played the popular human slot machine using 4-H symbols. **St. John’s United Potatofest Pancake Breakfast** – This year volunteers celebrated the 50th anniversary for this event and 4H members cleaned tables, distributed drinks, and helped with teardown equipment and supplies that contributed to the success of raising over \$12,000 for community initiatives. Members shared their reflections on the year:

· “Being a part of these events gave me the chance to give back to my community in meaningful ways. I learned how important it is to work as a team and that even small efforts can make a big difference. Talking with seniors and helping kids reminded me how special it is to connect with people of all ages. I felt proud knowing our club raised money and supported important local programs. Overall, being involved has made me feel more connected to my community.”– Nicole Palmateer

· “The Community Club benefitted me this year by showing me how to care for people. When we went to the Senior citizens’ home, I liked seeing the joy on people’s faces and I felt happy to help them with whatever they needed help with. Community club showed me

you don’t have to be in a club to be a part of a community. While I was at Matthews House Hike for Hospice, many volunteers came to support even though they weren’t in a club. And you too can help out with the community, even if you are just saying good morning to a stranger.” -Evangeline

· “Being a part of local events involving our community has shown me that taking the time to talk to someone can make an impactful change in someone’s life. From playing bingo with seniors to raising money for the hike for hospice, a cause close to my family members shows that even brief encounters can make an impact for other families in our community.I am proud of how our members worked together and learned that even small efforts can make a big impact.”-Katelyn Mann, club president

· “It feels good to help people and I met some new friends and interacted with a lot of new people. Lots of community members know about 4-H now because of this club.” -Catherine

· “I enjoyed it because I enjoy helping people and going to fairs and teaching people new things. It was fun to think of ways to entertain the children and have them excited about 4-H and having fun in their community.” -Victoria



South Simcoe 4-H Shines at the Great Northern Exhibition

By Isabella Cullen



South Simcoe 4-H members were participating at the Great Northern Exhibition September 19th, 20th and 21st. They were showing dairy, beef, sheep, poultry, rabbits, crops and teaching line dancing on the main stage. A big thank you to the Collingwood Agricultural Society and volunteers for making the Great Northern Exhibition a fun and entertaining event.



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Fun Farm Science: *Striped cattle aren't just laughing stock*

Presented by the curious Don Beaulieu

Biting flies aren't just annoying; they stress livestock and affect reproduction. In fact, Japanese farmers often keep prized Wagyu cattle from grazing freely to protect them from pests; but one creative researcher had a surprising idea.

Television can be inspiring

"When a cattle farmer approached me about ridding his cows of flies, I started racking my brain for ideas," recalls Tomoki Kojima, a researcher at the Aichi Agricultural Research Center. The centre, in Japan, is known for its innovative work. Inspiration struck Kojima while watching a television program about zebra stripes and learning about research by evolutionary biologist Tim Caro.

Zebra stripes, it turns out, do more than look striking. Decades of studies suggest that black-and-white stripes help zebras deter biting insects. Flies rely on visual cues to land, and the bold, contrasting patterns appear to confuse them, making it harder to settle on the animal's body. Caro's 2014 research confirmed that striping likely evolved for pest avoidance, rather than camouflage, predator deterrence, or social recognition.

Armed with this insight, Kojima wondered if painting cows with zebra-like stripes could protect them, too. To test the idea, his team recruited three black Wagyu cattle. One was painted

with white stripes, one with black stripes, and one left unpainted. Over several days, the researchers observed fly-repelling behaviors such as head throws, tail flicks, and leg stamps. They also counted the number of flies landing on each cow.

The result? Cattle with white stripes had significantly fewer flies and fewer swatting movements than their unpainted or solid-black counterparts. In other words, the zebra make-over actually worked. The stripes likely confuse flies visually, though Kojima notes that more research is needed to understand the exact mechanism.

Cattle earn their stripes

Since Kojima's work was published in 2019, Japanese farmers have adopted the technique, using longer-lasting paint that can stay on cows for over a month. "I was skeptical at first, but I was really surprised that no insects came," one farmer reported. The painted cattle blended-in socially with no bullying (pun intended) from other herd members, which had been a concern.

Kojima and his team of fellow researchers recently won this year's Ig Nobel

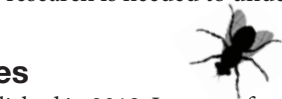
Prize in biology for discovering that painting cows in a zebra pattern makes them attract fewer blood-feeding insects. It is the 19th consecutive year that Japanese researchers have received an Ig Nobel Prize, a spoof of the Nobel Prize, that honours humorous-but-creative research, as in ignoble, or un-noble. The award ceremony was held at Boston University in Massachusetts.

As whimsical as it sounds, the zebra-inspired cattle aren't just a funny sight in pastures; they're a practical, low-cost, and animal-friendly solution to an age-old farming problem. The stripes are black-and-white, but the results are solid.

Here in Ontario, compared to Japan, our cattle face a briefer but sometimes intense insect season (notably black flies in spring and stable flies in midsummer), but it's typically less severe and shorter-lived; we likely won't see "zebras" in our fields any-too-soon.



This is one of the bovines which were painted black and then painted with white stripes, used in experiments back in 2017. Since then, conclusive evidence shows these "zebra stripes" deter a high percentage of biting insects, making life more bearable for the animals.



From the left, we see Kazato Oishi, associate professor at Kyoto University's Graduate School of Agriculture; Tomoki Kojima of the National Agriculture and Food Research Organization; and Sei Sato of the Aichi Prefectural Livestock Research Center, at the award ceremony for the Ig Nobel Prize in Boston, Massachusetts, on Thursday, September 18, 2025.



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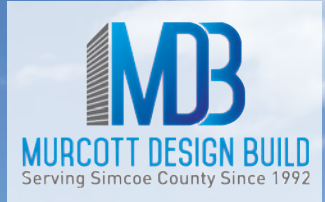
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Caledon's Victoria Kolb Crowned 2025 Ontario Queen of the Furrow

By Anne Thompson



Victoria Kolb, (center) Ontario Queen of the Furrow, pictured with her parents Dan and Laurie Kolb.
—Photo by Corinne Bosch

Victoria Kolb of Caledon is the new Ontario Queen of the Furrow. Representing the Peel Dufferin Plowmen's Association, Kolb was crowned during the Celebration of Excellence evening last Friday—the 2025 International Plowing Match and Rural Expo (IPM) finale that also saw the top competitive plowmen named.

Kolb grew up on her family's dairy farm and is a third-year mathematics student at the University of Waterloo. Active in her community, she belongs to 4H, volunteers with her local Bolton Fall Fair, the Bolton Fair Tractor Pull, the "Udder Tournament"—an annual charity women's hockey tournament held in honour of her aunt—her youth group and is a former Girl Guide.

Kolb was crowned by outgoing Ontario Queen of the Furrow, Taylor Legge of Bruce County, who won the honour at last year's IPM in Lindsay.

"We congratulate Victoria and look forward to working with her over the next year as we prepare for the next IPM in Bruce County," said Melvin Switzer, Ontario Plowmen's Association (OPA) president.

- Other evening winners included:**
- First Runner Up**
Sidney Sicard of Grey Keppel-Sarawak
 - Second Runner Up**
Danielle Gagnon of Essex
 - Top Five Finalist**
Desiree Dracup of Hastings; and Nina Hiddema of Wellington
 - Miss Friendship**
Nina Hiddema of Wellington
 - Top Five Plowing Competitors**
 1. Janeen Overdevest of Oxford Blenheim;
 2. Danielle Gagnon of Essex;
 3. Sidney Sicard of Grey Keppel-Sarawak;
 4. Mackenzie Terpstra of Huron; and

- 5. Nina Hiddema of Wellington**
- Other Competitors**
- Jasmin Schiestel of Bruce
 - Lauren Ross of Chatham Kent
 - Megan Burnside of Durham
 - Sarah Campbell of Frontenac
 - Abbey Cocking of Haldimand
 - Autumn Bressette of Lambton
 - Regan Carkner of Leeds
 - Haleigh-Jo tePlate of Stormont

During her winning speech Kolb told the audience that farming is more than harvesting crops and raising livestock. "It's the hardworking people who dedicate their lives to the industry. It is the community created amongst these people. And the joy it brings me when I spend time with them that reminds me how important agriculture is", she said.

The first Ontario Queen of the Furrow was crowned in 1961 and since the programme's inception Kolb is the ninth representative from the Peel Dufferin Plowmen's Association (formerly the Peel Plowmen's Association) to win the honour. Previous winners include Barbara Cunnington, 1962; Irene Lawrence, 1967; Mary Dolson, 1970; Arlene Wilson, 1974; Barbara Taylor, 1976; Darlene Downey, 2004; Abbie Brander, 2005; and Mel Karpenko (2023).

Kolb will now spend the next year travelling the province



—Photo by Corinne Bosch

acting as an ambassador for the Ontario agriculture and the Ontario Plowmen's Association (OPA)—the parent host of the IPM—attending events to promote next year's IPM being held in Walkerton, Bruce County from Tuesday, September 22 through September 26, 2026.



Ontario Queen of the Furrow competitors pause for a photo, proudly representing their counties during this year's competition.
—Photo by Corinne Bosch

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Ontario's Best on Display as Davenport Captures Championship at IPM

Article by Anne Thompson, photos by Corinne Bosch

After four days of focused concentration and attention to detail in the fiercely-competitive plowing competition, the judges' scores were tallied and the winners announced at the International Plowing Match and Rural Expo (IPM) Celebration of Excellence awards ceremony held last Friday in St. Catharines.

Brian Davenport of Owen Sound—fresh off his win as Canadian Champion (Conventional) in the recent Canadian Plowing Championships—had a solid performance all week, taking top spot in the Ontario Championship competition (Tractor Plowing with Conventional Plow) and winning the IPM Champion Tractor Award.

Those two top finishes earned him his first nod for the Brian Fried Memorial Award, donated by the many friends in the close-knit farming community to honour the late plowing champion. Fried represented Canada at the World Ploughing Championships an impressive ten times—a record second only to Barry Timbers, who competed at the world competition 11 times as the reigning Canadian Champion (Conventional).

There was a lot at stake during the four-day competition, particularly in the Ontario class, which is where the Ontario Plowing Champion is named, earning the right to compete at the Canadian Plowing Championships next year in Middlesex County. Representing Ontario at that event will be:

Ontario Championship Tractor Plowing with Conventional Plow

Reserve Champion (Conventional): Barry Degeer, Thornton

Ontario Championship Tractor Plowing with Reversible Plow

Champion (Reversible): Tom Evans, Tiverton; and

Reserve Champion (Reversible): Mackenzie Reinhart, Teeswater

Other award winners included

• IPM Reserve Champion Antique: Richard Pepper, Chesley;

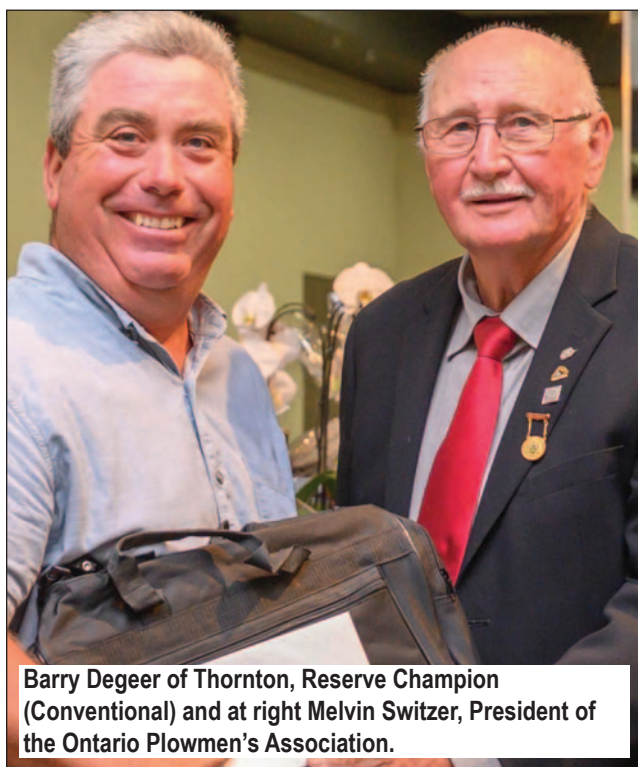
• Barb McAllister Memorial Scholarship: Brendan Hickey, Auburn; and

• IPM Reserve Champion Tractor Award: Brendan Hickey, Auburn

On the final day of the match 24 young plowmen took to the fields for a Junior Championship. For some of these participants it was their first appearance at the provincial competition. At the conclusion of the one-day event it was Alex Cameron of Owen Sound (Class 7-3 winner) who took Reserve Champion honours for the Winston Roberts Memorial Award, with Honourable Mention to Chayle Oatt, of Tara, the Class 7-1 winner.



Above Daryl Hostrowser presents Brian Davenport with the Brian Fried Memorial Award. At right, Brian Davenport puts his expertise to work in the field, competing in the Conventional Plow division.



Barry Degeer of Thornton, Reserve Champion (Conventional) and at right Melvin Switzer, President of the Ontario Plowmen's Association.



Ontario Champion – Tractor Plowing (Reversible): Tom Evans of Tiverton with Melvin Switzer, President of the Ontario Plowmen's Association.



Scott Thomas of Elmwood works with a new team of horses during the 2025 IPM.



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Meet the Advertiser:

Innisfil Artist Shifts from Restoring Machines to Capturing People’s Beauty

Article by Andrew Hind, photos provided by John Rundle



“I like to make things look good,” says Innisfil resident John Rundle, “to use my skills to enhance somethings natural beauty – whether it is painting an old truck or piece of farm equipment or shooting a photographic portrait of an individual.”

Restoring the appearance of aging equipment through paint was Rundle’s original passion. He’s been perfecting his skills for over four decades.

“I sort of fell into it,” Rundle explains. “I had an antique pickup, a 1952 Ford, through high school that needed a fresh paint job. I did it myself – I’m completely self taught – and at the time never expected to make a career of it.”

Since then, Rundle has painted everything from trucks and tractors to farm equipment and wood chippers. He enjoys the challenge of taking something weathered and worn and restoring it to an appearance as pristine as when it left the factory.

Rundle saves customers time and money by coming to them, painting on-site. He serves an expansive area and will drive as far as two hours from Barrie.

Three years ago, his artistic eye began to branch out into photography.

On a bit of a lark, Rundle bought a camera and began teaching himself photography. As his skills grew so too

did his interest.

“I became more confident and more knowledgeable and started to think about taking photography from a hobby to a profession,” he says. “I’m getting close to sixty and have been wearing and breathing paint for forty years. I started to think that perhaps it was time for a change as I approached retirement.”

Now, with a professional grade camera and a more mature skill set, Rundle has leapt into the photography world with both feet.

“I specialize in portrait work with a bend toward glamour,” he says. “I find real pleasure in it. I like to make the subject look like they are appearing on the cover of Vogue magazine.”

Part of Rundle’s inspiration came from his departed mother, who always complained that she felt she never looked good in photographs. “Everyone should feel good about themselves. I use my skills to take photos that subjects will be proud of.”

As artistic inspiration, Rundle looks to the pin-up art of the 1950s. “Everyone looked so classy and glamorous back then,” he says. Rundle has used that sensibility when shooting photos of Andreia Pacheco, Ms. Canada United



World 2024, who he credits for teaching him much about the pageantry and glamour world.

Rundle also enjoys taking family portraits, capturing fleeting memories that can’t be duplicated.

While Rundle continues to paint equipment, his passion has now undeniably shifted to photography. “I find working with people far more rewarding than painting an inanimate object,” he says. “I enjoy getting to know people and learning their stories during the shoot.”

Whether painting equipment or taking portraits, Rundle prides himself on beautifying his subject.

The Meet the Advertiser series is a complimentary news article for Farm View advertisers. If you are interested in being featured, please contact Roslyn Watkins at farmview@on.aibn.com.





John Rundle

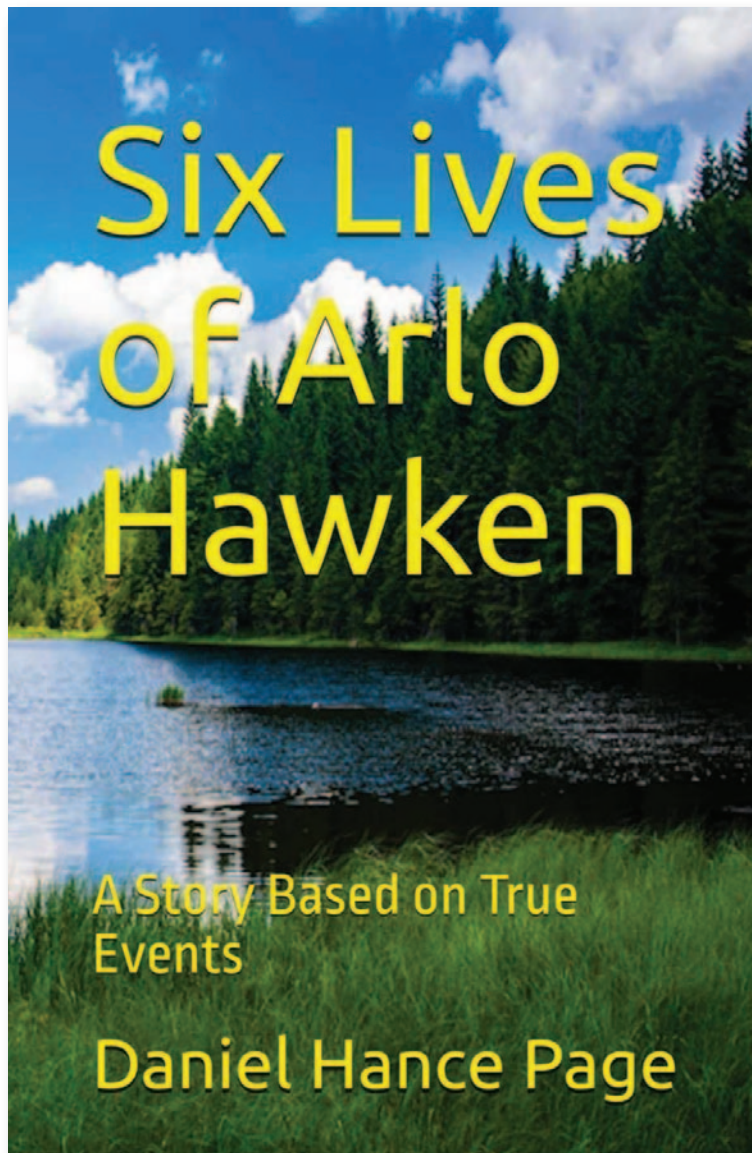
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Six Lives of Arlo Hawken, A Story Based on True Events

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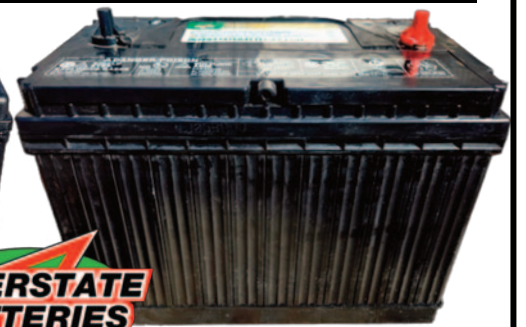
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As we pause to reflect on Remembrance Day, and Indigenous Veterans Day, we honour the extraordinary bravery and sacrifice of our veterans and active service members. Their dedication has shaped the freedoms we enjoy today, and it is our duty to ensure their legacy is never forgotten.

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Threads of Talent and Tradition Weave Through Simcoe County's Artisan Fair

By Janis Hamilton

The Quilt, Rug and Artisan Fair was held at the Simcoe County Museum just outside of Barrie on September 19-21st. It was a wonderful event and I certainly hope you were able to attend. The museum is renovating and apparently as normal the renos are taking longer than anyone would like, however the show must go on. Running strong since 1970, the Quilt, Rug and Artisan Fair was never in danger of cancellation this year. The show offers a chance to explore and celebrate the crafts cherished and created by the people of Simcoe County. There are weavers, spinners, stitchery, knitting, rug hookers, embroidery, pottery-even a potter's wheel in full motion outside, lace making, Simcoe County Arts and Crafts Association (SCACA), quilts, demonstrations of all of the above and yes, vendors selling supplies for those needing more for their "stash". There was also an opportunity to purchase crafts, and this is where you can do a lot of your Christmas or birthday shopping for the year, and the prices were reasonable and the

quality is amazing. The outdoor area featured rope making and nautical knots that were demonstrated and the reasons described behind each one, tool/scissor sharpening, forging demonstrations, kids' crafts like weaving bookmarks and of course the optional lunch sold by Friends of the Museum. The attendance was in the range of 1200 for the weekend. However, it never seemed crowded, as you strolled through exhibits at your leisure.

With the quilts, there was an opportunity to vote for your favourite wall hanging, full sized quilt, the challenge for the year was "when life gives you scraps". The quilts can be viewed with help from "white glove" volunteers as they will show you the back, the label, the stitching on the back when you ask. We love to have children view the quilts and their comments are just priceless and some even suggesting future quilters are standing in the room. In the challenge category Ruth Allen, Simcoe County Quilters' Guild came 1st (photo on page 4) and Deborah Jones, Kempenfelt Quilters' Guild placed 2nd. In the Wall Hanging class Nancy Irvin won with her O'Canada Mystery entry and Heather Eland placed 2nd with her landscape scene of Georgian Bay. In the quilt class, Kathleen Kelly won with her New York Beauty Paper-Pieced quilt and Donna Schwada placed 2nd with her hand turned applique quilt.



Kathleen has been quilting for 12 years and hosts a monthly quilt sew day at the Bradford Legion, as well as weekend retreats for up to ten quilters. She loves the social aspect of quilting and connecting with others. Over the years, she has longarmed hundreds of quilt tops and yards of fabric, donating them to a northern Indigenous reserve, and made a dozen quilts for residential school survivors at Six Nations. Recently, she joined the Alliston Quilt Guild and won first place at the Simcoe County Quilt, Rug and Artisan Fair with a block-of-the-month quilt featuring a pattern by Wendy Williams.

The museum is still open in the inside gallery, and they do have upcoming events, my favourite is the Victorian Christmas Dec. 11-13th from 6-8:30 with admission prices in effect. (usually under \$10).



Donna Schwada earned 2nd place with her hand-turned applique quilt.

Have a quilt show to share?
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Quilting stories and photographs always welcome!

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Alliston Guild Presents Quilt of Valour to Deborah Martin

Story by Cheryl Dobo, photos provided by Senora Baldry

At our guild meeting on October 7th we had the honour and privilege to watch one of our very own be presented with her Quilt of Valour. Deborah Martin served 20 years in the Regular Force and 28 years as a Department of National Defence employee, for a total of 48 years service to her country. It was interesting to see the 3 steps of the presentation, the quilt presented folded, the opening of the quilt and the wrapping of the quilt around Deborah, giving her a hug from our nation. Presenting the QoV was Amanda Holt from the Transition Unit Borden, wrapping the quilt around Deborah were friends Pam Carbonneau and Jennifer McDougall, also present was Liz Seamans, QoV Rep, friends Kathy Walker, Bob Hurley, Cheryl Dobo and all the members of the guild. Congratulations Deborah and thank you for your service!



Fall Craft Sales Kick Off!

By Janis Hamilton

November is full of craft sales nearly every weekend, check for events in your area, and if you're lucky, you might find several in one day. Most offer free admission, lunch, and are hosted by community halls as volunteer-run fundraisers.

There are many listed at this website. <https://al-levents.in/barrie/christmas-markets-and-fairs#>

Jarratt Christmas Craft Show (free) 837 Horseshoe Valley Rd E, Oro-Medonte Nov. 1-2 10-4

Quayle's Brewery Christmas Market (free) 4567 Line 12 N, Coldwater Nov 15-16 & 22-23.

One of my favorite events is Midland's Sainte-Marie's First Light. Now in its 25th year, this award-winning holiday celebration features family activities, live music, and the magical glow of thousands of candles taking place November 20-23, 27-29, December 5-7, 2025 5:30-9 pm

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No matter what you are able to take in before Christmas, enjoy the creativity of others and come home inspired. We need this in our daily lives.



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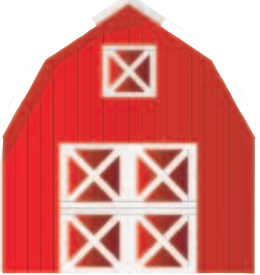
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Sunny Skies and Sweet Apples Draw Crowds to Holliday’s Farm for Kawartha Lakes Farmfest

Story and photos by Cathy Hamill-Hill

It was a beautiful sunny day on Saturday, October 4th for the 23rd Annual Kawartha Lakes 2025 Farmfest. Farmfest is all about fostering the connection between local grassroots farmers and the public. The event offers a fun day filled with farm and food.

For the first time, Holliday’s Farm was on the tour as an Applefest stop. This farm has been owned by Rae and Sylvia Holliday since the spring of 2007. The farm was a strawberry farm in its beginnings and now it has transitioned into a thriving small apple orchard.

“We started growing apples as an experiment to extend our season into fall,” Rae said explaining that the apple trees did even better than expected.



This was 3 month old lyla Tawil's first trip to an orchard along with parents, Lori and Joey. This family is from Elmvale and came to Kawartha Lakes for the day to spend time with family at Farmfest. Joey says the Applefest experience was wonderful, "we loved this orchard".

The 99 acre farm now has a three acre apple orchard-with plans to expand. Every tree is carefully pruned each fall by the owners. Trees that are cared for can produce for up to 50 years, Rae says explaining that pruning is a key part of keeping a tree healthy.

The extremely dry summer didn’t slow down this small productive orchard, the trees are loaded in apples. “We had an excellent spring here with lots of moisture,” Rae explained adding the dry summer did cause the apples to be a bit smaller in size this year.

The Applefest event meant that visitors to the farm were invited to go out and pick their own apples right off the trees in the orchard. A small farm store also offered apples for sale ranging from baskets to bushels. There were five varieties available: Cortland, MacIntosh, Empire, Spartan and Liberty.

The event took place from 10 am to 4 pm. In those six hours, Applefest at Holliday’s Farm had an incredible 300 people come to the farm. Sylvia reported the farm store was nearly all sold out.

The entire crop of apples is sold through the on site farm store which is located on 1641 Glenarm Road in Kawartha Lakes.



Pictured above is Rae Holliday, co-owner along with Sylvia Holliday, of Holliday's Farm that was part of the 2025 Kawartha Lakes Farmfest tour. He stands beside one of the orchard’s thriving apple trees, part of the bountiful “pick-your-own” experience that drew hundreds of visitors.

Hunting Season Safety Tips for Camp and Field

By Dennis Gannon

November is a time when those who enjoy hunting are at their camps or out in the forests or woodlands seeking their prey. Unfortunately there are reports of fires in hunt camps, lost hunters or hunters injured unintentionally by others. Following these tips will hopefully help and result in a great season.

If you have a hunt camp or use a recreational trailer then you are required by law to have a working smoke alarm and carbon monoxide detector. Carbon monoxide is a colourless odourless gas that comes from every fuel operated device such as wood stoves, fireplaces, propane heaters as well as kerosene heaters. There are no warning signs that carbon monoxide levels are high and a detector is the only way to know. If possible turn off all heating devices when turning in for the night. Ensure that cell phones are charged and that you know the exact location of your hunt camp in the event emergency services are required. Have an escape plan that everyone is familiar with along with a meeting place. Cooking and alcohol do not go together. Discuss with your hunting buddies what is expected and have the cook of the day avoid consuming alcohol while making the meal. Keep food refrigerated and wash all utensils thoroughly to avoid contamination.

In wood stoves and fireplaces burn only clean dry wood. Before lighting the first fire check and clean all flue pipes to prevent creosote from building up. Clean ashes regularly and place them in a non combustible container far away from the building. Portable heaters should be equipped with automatic shutoffs that function if the unit is tipped over as well as having proper certification labels.

When heading out for the day let everyone know where they will be for the day. Carry a small first aid kit with every hunter and have a well equipped kit at the camp. All cell-phones should have the what3words app installed and practiced with others. In the event of a lost or injured hunter, emergency services can respond quickly and accurately to provide assistance.

Remember to practice firearm safety and treat every firearm as if it is loaded.

Enjoy the hunt and time together with your family and friends.

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OBITUARY**Ronald Murry Coutts**

Ronald Murry Coutts slipped away quietly late September 24, 2025, under the exceptional care of Dr. J Lai, staff and volunteers at Hospice Simcoe.

Born December 30, 1936, Ron was predeceased by his beloved wife Helen Elizabeth Kell in 2015. They were a great team. Ron and Helen worked and travelled together and always enjoyed life to its fullest. They were both highly involved in Midhurst United Church (MUC), organizations within their larger community and the agricultural sector. Ron remained fully engaged with the church (MUC) and Midhurst Lions Club until his passing.

Ron's children, Janice (Roger) McCuaig, and Gord Coutts (Diane Martin), have a lifetime of memories to carry them forward.

Ron's grandchildren will miss the jokes, pranks and twinkle in his eyes whenever they were in his company. Lovingly remembered by Alex (Leslie) McCuaig, Britt (John) Roters, Kelcey (Conner) Montag, Rachel Coutts (Nic

Chevrette), Natalie Coutts (Nick Brake), and Brad Coutts.

A proud GG to his great grandchildren Logan and Adeline McCuaig, Elliot and Audrey Roters, and Paisley and Denver Montag.

The seventh and youngest child of the late George and Gertie (Carruthers) Coutts of Midhurst, he is survived by his sister Mavis Hughes (late Doug) and predeceased by the remainder of his siblings and their spouses, Marie and Phil Shellsell, Beryl and Ross Hubbert, Myrtle and John Davy, Walter and Doris Coutts, and Lois and George Lumree.

Ronald/Ron/Ronnie/GOF will be missed by his many nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

Ron received extraordinary care at Hudson Regional Cancer Centre (Dr. R. El-Maraghi, Dr C. Stevens and their staff), from Family Doctors, Dr J. Bailey, Dr. D Evans and staff, the Heart Function Clinic (Nicole Paulin NP, and Dr K. Chen) and Home and Community Care's Robyn and Billy Jo.

A special thank you to Veal, Champ and Hope for their care and support of Dad over the last several months.

Instead of flowers (not really Ron's thing) please consider making a donation to Midhurst United Church, Hospice Simcoe, Hudson Regional Cancer Centre or Midhurst Lions Club.

A visitation and service have already taken place and messages of condolence may be forwarded to the family through adamsfuneralhome.ca

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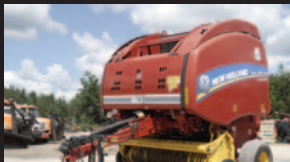
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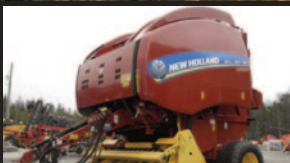

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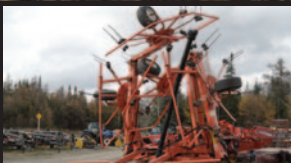

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dual rotor rake , 7.1m working width , side delivery , hydraulic offset, Unit is located at Stewart's Equipment in Erin. (Financing available @ 4.99%* O.A.C.) **\$22,900**


Kubota L4310
Hours showing: 1847.60, 4wd, open station w/foldable rops, 540 rpm, one remote, glide shift, 8-16 fronts, 14.9-24 rears, grill guard, kubota la682 loader with bucket, Unit is in Erin. **\$14,900**


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 Stewarts Equipment in Erin. **\$24,300**

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**“They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning,
We will remember them.” —*Laurence Binyon***

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