

FARM VIEW

44th year of publication!

A newspaper with something for everyone

July 2021 Volume 44 #07

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4-H member Alyssa with her dog Ava, taking a break after training learned in the 4-H Canine Club.

Complimentary copy for
the FARM household



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.

June 30th: North Simcoe SCIA Scholarship applications due

The North Simcoe Soil and Crop Improvement Association has a scholarship for students enrolled in an agricultural program at a college or university.

Applications are available from **David Spring, 2451 County Rd 92 RR #2 Elmvale, ON L0L 1P0**

Applications must be returned to David Spring no later than June 30th, 2021.

July 1st: Canada Day

Canada turns 153! Celebrate everything you love about our beautiful Country!

July 6th: International Kissing Day

International Kissing Day is the perfect excuse to grab that special someone in your life and pucker up!

July 15th: News and Advertising Deadline

The advertising and news deadline for the August issue of Farm View is **Thursday, July 15th.**

July 31st: Food Day Canada

Food Day Canada encourages consumers across the country to shop local and celebrate the abundance of fresh and delicious Canadian food and beverages we enjoy every day.

Worth a Chuckle... and life lessons

by Aunt Hazel

You know you're Canadian when...

- Someone in a Home Depot offers you assistance... and they don't work there.
- Pike is a type of fish, not some part of a highway.
- You have switched from "heat" to "A/C" in the same day and back again.
- You install security lights on your house and garage, but leave both unlocked.
- You design your kid's Halloween costume to fit over a snowsuit.
- You understand the sentence, "Could you please pass me a serviette, I just spilt my poutine."

Collingwood Agricultural Society: Agricultural Education Award

By Joanne Gregson, Collingwood Agricultural Society

The Collingwood Agricultural society has created the Agricultural Education Award to be given to students who are planning to further their formal education in Agriculture and/or Agricultural related fields.

As part of the mandate of the Collingwood Agricultural Society, education relating to agriculture is an area that we support. The Friday 'Education Day' at the GNE sees over a thousand elementary school students come to the fairgrounds for information and demonstrations of many farm and food related activities.

Two of our past and present Ambassadors brought forth the idea to The Board of Directors who supported higher levels of education as well, resulting in the creation of this Award.

Complete details and application forms can be found on our website, www.greatnorthernex.com

We plan to present the first awards this fall.



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FROM THE EDITOR

This month we celebrate Canada's birthday. I recognize there is a lot of controversy concerning the celebration of Canada Day at this time. But I do believe our collective good as a nation is still something to be celebrated. Throughout this issue of Farm View you will find a Canadian theme. I hope you enjoy the classic jokes that represent us as Canadians. While researching some of these funny tidbits I came across a great website truly dedicated to helping you find and plan the best adventures and enjoyments our country has to offer. Have a look before you plan your next adventure, near or far <https://www.canadianbucketlist.com>

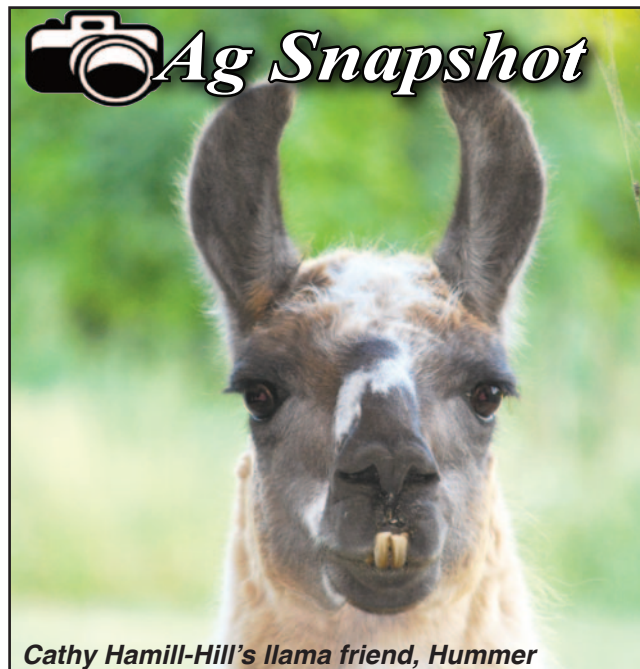
This month we welcome a new advertiser, Quipit. Quipit provides a free online classified website where you can buy, sell, or give away gently used equipment such as hospital beds, wheelchairs, and bathroom safety devices. This business will certainly make it easier to locate or sell much needed home health equipment. Explore their website <https://www.goquipit.com> when you have a moment.

Cathy Hamill-Hill explains why our groceries may be more expensive at the farm store or farm market vs. the big box store on page 6. This article is meant to help inform readers of the hows and whys. I know from experience that budgeting certainly plays a large role in the choices we make, but it is nice to have a better understanding of the price differences.

As we move forward with lighter restrictions on events and gatherings, please keep Farm View in mind if you are hosting an event or craft fair. A member of the Farm View team would be happy to take a few photos for the next issue.

In the meantime, I hope all of you enjoy a great start to the summer and summer break for the kids.

Take care of yourselves and one another,
Roslyn



Cathy Hamill-Hill's llama friend, Hummer

GUEST COLUMN

Canada's Housing Crisis: What's the Cost to Farmland?

By Marie Versteeg, Christian Farmers Federation of Ontario.

Canada's housing market is under increasing strain, and there are major implications for farmland preservation if land use policies give way to development pressures.

The current housing market craze is largely a result of "a worsening imbalance between supply and demand." Most buyers are seeking single-family detached houses, but there aren't enough homes available. Aside from driving up prices, there are other contributing factors: an already severe housing shortage will be exacerbated by the projected increase in immigration over the next twenty years.

There is a lot of land already slotted for development to meet some of that need, but developers interested in building condos and apartment buildings are often stymied by local zoning regulations that limit building heights. Because developers have limited opportunities to build up, their only recourse is to build outward. The result is increased pressure to develop on farmland and forests.

The CFFO has been concerned about the risk that population pressure poses to farmland preservation for many years, but we have also recognized the need for balance in land use planning: land should be put to its best purpose, whether agriculture, ecological preservation or housing. That's why the CFFO has proposed that all prime agricultural areas (as defined by OMAFRA) be added to the Greenbelt.

But the current demand for affordable, detached housing heightens the urgency of protecting farmland. Under so much pressure, it will take an enormous effort of political will to preserve farmland for the long term, but it's worth it.

We're seeing growing recognition that the agricultural industry offers tremendous economic opportunity for Canada. According to a recent report in the Financial Post, experts have identified agriculture as perhaps Canada's most promising industry, if adequate supports are put in place. The article recommends a number of must-haves to achieve success, including industry coordination, increased processing, research and development, political strategy and extension services. Alarmingly, one thing that didn't make the list is farmland protection.

In the second largest country in the world, it can be hard to accept that land is a finite resource. But only seven per cent of Canada is arable, much of which is in Ontario. Taking the long view, Canada will better position itself for future economic success if it prioritizes farmland preservation now.

Increasing urban density is one important way our nation can meet the challenge. Canadians have long seen home ownership as an ideal way to live and raise a family, but in other parts of the world, such as Asia and Europe, owning a detached house is far from the norm. We may be witnessing the beginning of a similar trend. Well-planned neighbourhoods with shared greenspace can be excellent places to raise a family, too. Admittedly it takes a big leap in mindset, but let's not sacrifice our food security for the sake of an untenable ideal.

The Farm View is available at the following fine establishments

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- BEARDS FARM SUPPLY
- EGO'S FARM MARKET (Seasonally)
- BARRIE KOA (Seasonally)
- DALSTON STORE
- RICHARDS EQUIPMENT
- PEAVEY MART in Alliston, Bradford and Collingwood
- THE UPS STORE in the Cedar Pointe plaza
- BRADFORD GREENHOUSE
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- FOODLAND in Cookstown and Elmvale
- COUNTRY CONCESSION QUILT STORE
- EISSES FARM FRESH EGGS
- EDWARDS FARM STORE
- KEVIN BARKER AUCTIONS in Lindsay

The Farm View is delivered to these business between the 24th and 27th of each month and copies are available while supplies last. If you would like the Farm View mailed directly to your home, one year subscriptions can be purchased for \$49.95. Contact Roslyn at 705-722-0138, by mail 8 Luella Blvd Minesing, ON L9X 0W7 or email farmview@on.aibn.com.

The Farm View is also available online at www.farmviewonline.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.

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**In memory of
Jill Beischer**

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

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

W.J. Bryan

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

OFA Zone Director for Peel, Simcoe and York:

Keith Currie: 705-444-1398 email: keith.currie@ofa.on.ca

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Direct from the farm purchasing supports the local farmer

By Cathy Hamill-Hill

Why is buying “direct from the farm” often more expensive than buying the same product produced by the same farmer at the big box chain store? This question is one that comes to farmers often that sell at Farmer's Markets or Farmgate Stands.

The short answer as to why the farmer has a higher price tag on farm grown products is because consumers are paying directly to the farmer. This



farmer standing in front of you at the Market or the Stand has to make a profit from that product. That profit is needed to pay property taxes, fuel costs, mortgages, college tuition for the family's children, etc. The chain box store may not need any profit from that same farm product at all that week because it is part of the chain box store's “loss leaders” program.

Loss leaders are in simplest terms, the products featured on the first and the last page of the flyer. Chain box stores sell so many products that they can lose money on the “loss leaders” because once in the store, most people will buy enough regular price items to give the chain box store profit. With thousands of products in a chain box store, having a few sold for no profit does not hurt the chain box store's final profits at all. No farmer has thousands of products to sell- and instead, depends on each product to make them a profit.

“We cannot compete with loss leaders at the chain box store flyers. We don't even try,” Lisa Cooper, who along with her husband own the Cooper CSA Farm in Zephyr. She says she's fully aware that people sometimes can get Ontario fresh produce cheaper from the chain box store certain weeks of the year compared to her farm prices, however, she said that the farms customers realize and prefer to support their local farmer with every dollar they spend.

Farmer's Markets are also not a discounted place to buy at. Purchases at the Farmer's Market are usually from the direct grower of that product as that is the mandate of many farmer's markets to sell only what one personally grows at their farm. Most smaller farms are diversified meaning the farms grow more than one product or one type of livestock. For example, beef cattle cannot be housed in the same space as pigs nor can they eat the same hay. For each segment of livestock production, there is a lot of money invested- and this is part of why buying from the smaller farmer at the Farmer's Market is expensive, to help cover those overhead costs. Further, livestock producers work with small abattoirs that cannot offer discounts to small farmers because again, they need that income to survive in a business that must comply with heavy government regulations. Lisa reports, “We, and other small farmers pay about \$1,000 to our local meat processor to get one beef broke down to sell whereas large corporations can have this done for 1/6th of the cost.” It is no different for vegetable production. Large farms that have one product such as potatoes, need only one line of planting and harvesting equipment and one line of storage area needed for their large specialized operations so they can sell cheaper to box chain stores which in turn, means cheaper prices available at those stores.

“Some people realize that food is not just about “on sale” items. Food that is grown on a small scale and carefully is important to many people and that demand is increasing,” Lisa says. She explains that her farm has laying hens that get pasture every day and eat only non-GMO feed. These pastured hens produce eggs that have more nutrients plus many people would argue they taste better compared to the eggs available on sale some weeks at a chain box store. Consumers that believe pastured hen's eggs are healthier and taste better have no issue in paying more money for eggs. Cooper CSA Farm eggs sell for \$7.50 a dozen and are so popular that special arrangements must be made to buy them as there is not even close to enough produced for the demand.

Today's consumers are becoming less and less interested in only pricing before they buy food. Diana R. from Holland Landing says she and her family want to know who produces their food and prefer to know the producer directly. She says, “We prefer buying direct from the farmer because we can see who is growing our food and know their practices. Even if a grocery store says it's from Ontario, you don't know which farm and you don't know how long it's been on the table or in their truck to get to the store. The farmer doesn't deliver direct to (the chain box store), it's still part of a longer supply chain,” she says.

Freshness is highly important to today's consumer too. Diana realizes that fresh-from-the-field is a lot different then fresh picked a week ago. She says, “When I pick up my box of veggies (from the farm), they were generally just picked and that means they last longer at my house and taste fresher.”

Small farmers often grow products that are different from the mainstream produce available at the grocery store. Farmers Markets offer that experience. Diana reports, “Some farmers focus on different types of produce that you won't find in common grocery stores. Browsing at a farmers market let's you get to know the different varieties and types of produce out there and discover something new. Finding a giant head of lettuce for \$2 that has amazing flavour can't compare with the nondescript version at my grocery store.”

Supporting local may not be the cheapest option every week to the consumer, but it certainly is the option that helps the most to keep small local farmers in business.

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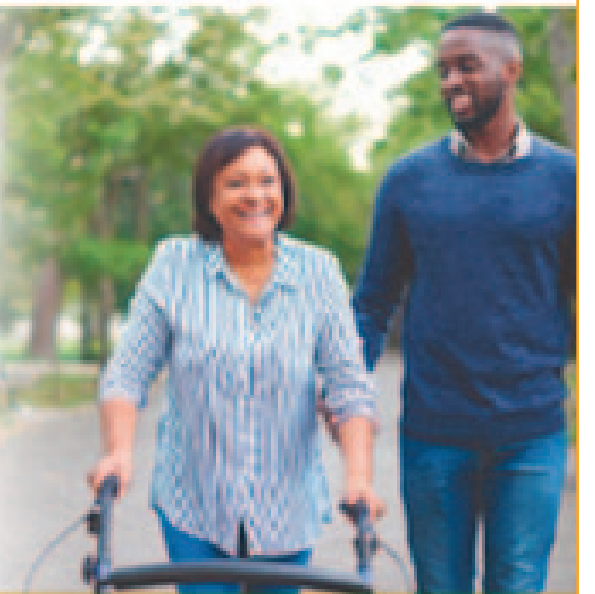
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AUCTIONS?
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See page 18

Every driver must do their part to ensure road safety

We officially welcomed Summer 2021 on June 20th but it has felt like summer for a few weeks already with the hot and dry conditions. Another sign of summer is the busy tourist season.

In normal circumstances, tourist traffic on our rural roads was not unexpected. We all understand the significance of the economic contributions to our rural communities that



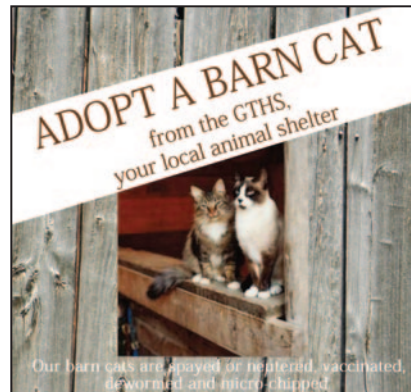
By Leah Emms
OFA Member Services Rep.
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approach farm equipment. It can be daunting for a driver to consider passing. Some drivers would rather just follow along and wait. But this too can cause the driver directly behind the equipment to become mesmerized and they may not notice that your four-way flashers have turned off and just a signal light is flashing indicating you are about to turn. Mothers

OFA Fact Sheet titled Farm Implements on the Road. www.ofa.on.ca

I have a supply of No Trespassing, Biosecurity and Go Slowly signs available for our OFA members. Please contact me if you need signs for your farm property.

Enjoy your summer productively and safely.



often say they need eyes in the back of their head to control unruly children. Well, equipment operators need them too while travelling on our roadways.

Do your part to ensure that your

equipment is travelling on our roads in a safe as possible fashion this summer. OFA's website has several "Fact Sheets" related to truck and equipment requirements according to the Highway Traffic Act. A popular publication for the agricultural sector is the Ministry of Transportation's "Farm Guide." It provides valuable information on the sections of the Highway Traffic Act that relates to agricultural trucks and equipment. A link to this guide can be found in the

these visitors bring. This year will likely be another busy summer on our roads due to the pandemic restrictions beginning to slowly loosen. We welcome visitors to our Agri-Tourism businesses to experience the bounty of products produced on our farms in Ontario. The downside is the volume of traffic on rural roads and the drivers that do not usually encounter vehicles of husbandry.

Every driver must do their part towards ensuring road safety. For our farmers, please remember to especially check those left-hand turns. And be sure to indicate your intention to turn left or right to those impatient drivers behind you. Those following you are not thinking you might be turning into a field as opposed to farmstead or crossroad. Check and replace blown light bulbs in your signal lights. Replace faded Slow Moving Vehicle signs and reflective safety tape on equipment. If you are hauling wagons, consider purchasing a portable light bar to attach to the rear of the wagon. It is important that you do your due diligence to ensure your turning intentions are not only visible but operating correctly.

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Ontario Moves Into Step One Ahead of Schedule

By Doug Downey

Ontario has moved into Step One of the Roadmap to Reopen as of 12:01 am on Friday, June 11, 2021. Ontario was originally supposed to move into Step One on June 14, but key health indicators and vaccination rates have allowed for us to begin reopening sooner.

In order to safely enter Step One of the Roadmap to Reopen, Ontario needed to have vaccinated 60 per cent of adults with at least one dose for two weeks or longer, ensuring a stronger level of protection against COVID-19. As of June 6, 2021 at 8:00pm, 72 per cent of the 18+ population in Ontario had received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccination, with over 10 million doses being administered in the province.

Before entering Step One, the province also needed to see continued improvement in key public health and health system indicators. During the period of May 25 to 31, 2021, the provincial case rate decreased by 35.1 per cent. As of June 6, the number of patients with COVID-19 in ICUs is 497, including 31 patients from Manitoba, as compared to 687 two weeks ago. The public health situation currently exceeds the best-case scenario for recent modeling, which indicated the province would reach below 1,000 new daily infections by June 30, 2021.

Step One of the Roadmap focuses on the resumption of more outdoor activities with smaller crowds where risk of transmission is lower. It will also permit more limited indoor settings to be open, all with restrictions in place. In consultation with the Chief Medical Officer of Health, the Ontario government has amended Step One to also permit indoor religious services, rites and ceremonies, including wedding and funeral services limited to 15 per cent capacity.

Step One of the Roadmap to Reopen includes but is not limited to:

- ◆ Outdoor social gatherings and organized public events with up to 10 people;
- ◆ Outdoor religious services, rites, or ceremonies, including wedding services and funeral services, capped at the number of people that can maintain a physical distance of two metres;
- ◆ Indoor religious services, rites, or ceremonies, including wedding services and funeral services permitted at up to 15 per cent capacity of the particular room;
- ◆ Non-essential retail permitted at 15 per cent capacity, with no restrictions on the goods that can be sold;
- ◆ Essential and other select retail permitted at 25 per cent capacity, with no restrictions on the goods that can be sold;
- ◆ Outdoor dining with up to four people per

table, with exceptions for larger households;

◆ Outdoor fitness classes, outdoor groups in personal training and outdoor individual/team sport training to be permitted with up to 10 people, among other restrictions;

◆ Day camps for children permitted to operate in a manner consistent with the safety guidelines for COVID-19 produced by the Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health;

◆ Overnight camping at campgrounds and campsites, including Ontario Parks, and short-term rentals;

◆ Concert venues, theatres and cinemas may open outdoors for the purpose of rehearsing or performing a recorded or broadcasted concert, artistic event, theatrical performance or other performance with no more than 10 performers, among other restrictions;

◆ Outdoor horse racing tracks and motor speedways permitted to operate without spectators; and

◆ Outdoor attractions such as zoos, landmarks, historic sites, botanical gardens with capacity and other restrictions.

The province will remain in Step One for at least 21 days to evaluate any impacts on key



public health and health system indicators. If at the end of the 21 days the province has vaccinated 70 per cent of adults with one dose and 20 per cent of adults with two doses, and there are continued improvements in other key public health and health system indicators, the province will move to Step Two of the Roadmap.

All public health and workplace safety measures currently in place will remain in effect until the province moves to Step One on June 11, 2021 at 12:01 a.m. During this time, the government will continue to work with stakeholders on their reopening plans, including targeted measures for specific sectors, institutions and other settings to ensure that they have full awareness of when they can begin to safely reopen and how.



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The history of Avalon Orchards

By *Sharlene Dinsmore*

Long before Innisfil became a township then a town, it was a collection of small hamlets with the majority of the inhabitants employed in agriculture. As Innisfil Historical Society celebrates the now over 200 years in existence, we look back on some of the agricultural aspects of the past and look forward to the new and innovative techniques of the future.

As a member of the Historical Society, I have been privileged to work on its two most recent publications – Innisfil Veterans: their lives & memories & 2020 Historical Review: 200th Anniversary Edition. By interviewing local folks and delving into Innisfil's past, it's given me a wonderful insight into the place we've called home for 48 years.



This is the story of Avalon Orchards.

The property on the north side of the 5th line (south part L 9, C 5, Innisfil) that is now home to Avalon Orchards was originally owned by the Haughton family, who took ownership from the Crown in 1856. They and the Lennox family set up a sawmill, shingle mill, and grist mill on Lots 8 and 9 and milled most of the wood in the area.

At one time there was a small village with a post office on the property and several houses for the mill workers. The post office was known as the Lennox Post Office and operated for several years, from 1872 to 1880. (Some of the foundations for these buildings can still be found at the front of the property and remnants of the saw mills have been recovered.)

There was also a large mill pond on the property, and it is said in historical records that John Lennox introduced the Churchill community to curling on this pond.

There is a story told that one of the millworkers drowned in the pond and they had to drain it to find his body. After that, the pond was left unrestored, and the owners put up the

mills for lease. (See Brian Baker's article in the 1984 Historical Review, Page 233.)

Many years later, Gaye Trombley purchased the property from the Cooper family.

"When I purchased the property in 1987, the only structure left on the property was a dilapidated barn that was eventually torn down. The land had been rented out to local farmers to grow crops, and no one lived on the farm. There were many very old apple trees on the property, and these were an inspiration to start an apple orchard.

After a lot of research, I decided to establish an organic apple orchard. In 1989, along with help from my family, I planted the first 800 trees by hand. Since that time, a large cold stor-

age and operations facility, a building for equipment storage, which converts to a store during harvest season, and a home have been built. The orchard now has about 10,000 trees and is one of the largest plantings of naturally disease-resistant apple varieties in Canada and retains its organic status. At peak season, there are 9 to 10 employees who help with harvest and staff the retail operation, and over the years the orchard has given many local young people their first work experience.

The orchard is open to the public for "pick your own" during harvest season and welcomes school tours and visitors from around the province. Fresh apple cider and vinegar, made on the premises, are sold in our store here, as are the products from other local farms, during the harvest season.

The greatest challenge facing the orchard is Mother Nature. With limited options in organic disease control and pest management, weather and climate determine the success of the orchard on an annual basis. Wind machines have been installed to mitigate the effects of frost at blossom time, and some organically approved products can be used for insect control. However, with changing climate conditions, producing a good crop is always a challenge.

In a good year, there is great reward in producing quality organic fruit, sharing it with the orchard community, and knowing that you are contributing to a healthy environment. However, a future challenge will be the sustainability of continuing the orchard, considering the pressure of urban growth in Innisfil. Another factor will likely be the willingness (or unwillingness) of a next generation to operate an unpredictable but rewarding farm business." Gaye Trombley, February 2019

For more information about Avalon Orchards please visit <https://www.avalonorchards.net>

Collwest Grain LTD of Collingwood

By *Cathy Hamill-Hill*

Collwest Grain Ltd is a privately owned successful grain elevator business just outside of beautiful Collingwood. The business buys, sells and stores grain.

Farming has always been a part of John Taylor as he grew up on a farm. John owned his own crop farm in Creemore when he got a job at Collwest Grain Ltd in 1990 as the office manager. In 2003, John and his wife, Eva, purchased the full business. The couple made improvements to help provide their customers with the best possible service with increased pricing and marketing options.

There have been big changes in the crop farming business, John reports, from when he first started at Collwest Grain Ltd. "There are way more acres now farmed for crops. Farmers are farming more acres than before along with having those acres being more productive. There are way more acres in soybeans than in the past," he says adding that his business is much busier now than it was 30 years ago. These changes prompted additional storage capacity and the new dryer that were added in 2010.

Collwest Grain Inc has been growing to accommodate the increased acres of today's crop farmer. In 2019, the IP Soybeans storage area was added along with increasing overhead shipping and container loading capacity.

Collwest works with customers within the Counties of Simcoe, Grey and Dufferin and in the areas of Owen Sound and Shelburne. The area has been better serviced with the addition of two satellite elevators. In 2012, Scott and Jeremy Davison of Fairfield Farms in Meaford came on board with a satellite elevator. This elevator's location was helpful to customers in the Grey County area. In 2019, another satellite elevator was added. This time a new elevator was built at Highland Custom Farming in Proton Station. This new location helped to expand the market experience in the Grey and Dufferin County areas.

When asked about the best part of his job as owner of Collwest Grain Ltd, John did not hesitate in his answer, "working with the farmers." He says he likes being in a business that works directly with the local farmers. John says that his job is all about helping farmers in the business of crop farming. Storing and marketing crops is a key element in crop farming and the team at Collwest realize this and are there to help.

Collwest Grain Ltd has been a long time supporter here at Farm View. John says that he chooses to support Farm View with his advertising needs because, "Farm View is a local paper and I want to support local."

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Essa Townships best advocate of preserving and recording the municipality's history has died.

By Richard Blanchard

Long time Essa Historical Society secretary Olive Lee passed away in May at 77 years of age.

Olive, a long time resident of Thornton, joined the society in 1997 and became the society's secretary shortly afterward.

"Olive was such a driving force behind the society's projects for the past two decades. From so many of our plaques to our annual calendars and her authorship of several local histories of the township's villages and hamlets, she played a critical role in the society." Said society president Richard Blanchard.

Olive came by her love of township history easily. Born in the township, she lived there all her life until a recent move to the Muskoka area.

During her professional career, she worked as a secretary at several Barrie schools including over a decade at Barrie Central Collegiate and at the school board office in Midhurst.

She was a member of the Barrie Chapter of Professional Secretaries International (PSI) and obtained her CPS rating in 1988. She held many positions within PSI locally, provincially and internationally.

"Olive brought those strong organizational skills to the society. It was a great help to all of us on the executive," said society vice president John Beischer

She and her husband, Ross Lee, were instrumental in producing annual calendars for over a decade and the erection of seven plaques through the township.

She and Ross also helped maintain many of the plaques after their erection.

"Olive especially enjoyed meeting with family members who contributed their family stories to those local histories," said Blanchard. She was crucial to the publication of histories of Ivy, Thornton, Egbert and Utopia in the past decade.

Most recently, Olive was involved in the society's unveiling of a plaque for the Nicolston cemetery in 2020.

Olive's service was recognized when she was elected to the Wall of Honour at the Museum on the Boyne in Alliston in 2012.

In addition to her husband, Ross, she is survived by her sons Allan and Ralph (Cindy) Blakely and by her sister, Elenore Helmer. She was predeceased by her husband, Jim Blakely, and her brothers, Fred and Mervyn. A memorial service is planned for the future.



Olive Lee at the unveiling of the West Essa plaque in 2018 with then Essa Mayor Terry Dowdall.

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Contact information on page 4.

Lower Landing; a hive of military activity



Up until the mid-point of the 19th century, Lake Simcoe was part of a vital transportation route that linked Lake Ontario with Lake Huron, and extension eastern

To safeguard against this threat, he envisioned an overland route linking lakes Huron and Ontario that would basically mirror the old Indian path. Thus, Yonge Street was born as a military road from York (Toronto) to Lake Simcoe.

As sagely predicted by Lord Simcoe 20 years prior, when the War of 1812 erupted the Americans quickly cut Britain's maritime lines of communications. Britain would have to rely on the overland route to support her forces in the west. Lower Landing became a storage depot, where material was gathered before shipping across Lake Simcoe. Extensive wharves were built, and warehouses and accommodations raised.

Hundreds of men and tons of supplies, everything from payroll to food, ammunition to beef oxen, passed through. If not for these men and material, Britain would have been defeated in the west and modern-day Canada likely would stop on the shores of Lake Huron.

Even after the war, the landing remained in use by the British in supplying her naval base at Penetanguishene until 1825.

The most notable relic is a 4,000-pound, 15-foot anchor that rests in Holland Landing's Anchor Park. It is the only reminder of the vital but obscure and forgotten role Lower Landing played during the War of 1812. Victory was won not just by the soldiers in battle, but by the quartermasters, teamsters, and boat-handlers in East Gwillimbury.

Canada to its west. Never was this route more needed than during the War of 1812.

One of the vital areas about this highway was the Lower Landing along the east branch of the Holland River about five kilometres north of Holland Landing. From 1812 to 1815, the Lower Landing or Soldier's Landing, as it became known for a time, was a hive of frenzied military activity.

This seemingly innocuous location, forgotten today, literally helped save our nation.

The Lower Landing – and indeed the entire route – had been used by Indigenous people for centuries before it was pressed into war service. Travelling up the Rouge River from Toronto, they crossed land to the landing on the Holland River. They would paddle down the Holland River into Lake Simcoe, across to the head of Kempenfelt Bay where Barrie stands today, and then portage nine miles to Willow Creek, which fed into the Nottawasaga River and, eventually, into Lake Huron at Wasaga Beach.

From the moment John Graves Simcoe became Lieutenant-Governor of Upper Canada (Ontario) in 1791, he was pre-occupied with the looming threat of an expansionistic United States. He was all too aware America could quite easily seize Fort Detroit, close the St. Clair River, and block all shipping to the Upper Great Lakes.

At the time, one of the most strategic sites in North America was the British Fort at Michilimackinac at the northern extreme of Lake Huron. Michilimackinac's significance was twofold: it was a vital nexus for the valuable fur trade and enabled Britain to back its claims to Western Canada. Simcoe recognized that if Fort Detroit fell, Michilimackinac would be isolated and all British interests in the west threatened.

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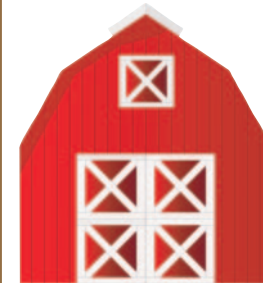
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After The Chores: Bad drama for the Llama

By Cathy Hamill-Hill



This long night of chores, I was about to close the front door- when I noticed there was an empty pen. The pen belonging to Hummer. Pandee was lying down in his spot beside the empty llama pen per usual. Pandee was almost asleep.

There are no fences from the barn to the quiet sideroad we live on. We have paddocks for the sheep but it is wide open otherwise. Hummer could be anywhere. I was picturing Hummer getting hit on the road- or llama loping into the next County. Hummer wears no collar or halter so catching him would be impossible. The only way to move a Hummer is with a bucket of grain and call his name. So for the third time this longest night, I put the lights back on. I then went to find a grain bucket and some grain. I had to find Hummer, there was going to be no peace for me until I found my llama friend.

There was no moon, not even a star out in this pitch black night. I debated on what to do. The idea of waking up Sweetie to go llama hunting was officially last resort. The idea of going to the house for the big flashlight was placed second and first plan was to walk the property by the house and call out for my long necked friend.

I called out plenty around the yard- and nothing answered. I shook the grain pail and called out again to Hummer nothing. Now I'm in full out panic stricken terror that my llama friend is really gone somewhere. Pray. I should learn to pray as first resort not third plan. With prayers for Hummer,

calling out Hummer's name and shaking the grain bucket all at the same time, out POPPED Hummer into the yard light scaring me nearly to bits. With no resistance, Hummer trotted behind me to the barn to get into his pen for his grain per usual. It took me half an hour to recover from the experience. Hummer had eaten and was lying down ready for sleep when I finally got the barn lights turned off for this long night.

It seemed that Hummer was angry from being left out that night and all the bad drama that was caused from that. He was in a bad mood the next week or so. He almost got himself put on a livestock truck as he was suddenly mean and rude to the sheep. Hummer forgot his manners.

Observation is the key to farming. Any body can put water and feed into a pen for animals, but only a farmer can observe an animal and figure out if the animal is well or not well. I observed Hummer. He was healthy but he was "mentally off" being irritable and angry. I watched him carefully- and realized that he was being "picked on." Hummer is a natural born guardian, he takes care of his flock of sheep and watches them all, baby lambs included. When he gets upset with the sheep, he will paw using his front hoof but will never make contact with a sheep. When he gets very angry, his ears go flat and he will puff air in the animal's faces that he is angry at.

Hummer's "bullies" were three week old kid goats. The kids were marching into Hummer's pen at grain time through the big hole left open we have for Pandee to visit his father. The kids that weighed about 15 pounds each at most would put their little faces into Hummer's grain bucket- and the 300 pound 7 foot tall llama did his best to get them out of there. Hummer pawed and huffed and puffed- while watching the kids eat all his grain. The gentle llama was full out beaten by the little goats.

I apologized to Hummer. First, about forgetting about him outside that night. Second, about him getting picked on by those kid grain bandits. The old plastic sled I tucked



It is chore time. Chore time is known by Hummer the llama here as he gets in place waiting for his grain snack.

— Photo by Cathy Hamill-Hill

away fit into Hummer's manger so that I could wedge in a grain bucket at his eye level. Hummer now had his own high grain feeding station that nobody but he could reach.

I still was feeling guilty about Hummer going through so much bad llama drama making him feeling so bad that he nearly got sent out of here. I was putting the grain into the sheep's grain buckets one day and spied Hummer through the window. I opened the window and Hummer walked up to me. I put the grain bucket on the windowsill and offered Hummer a grain snack from the bucket. I didn't think Hummer would remember but now, he's at the window every night. I pet Hummer while he serves himself now from the grain bucket. I consider this a "bonding session" and this bonding could well be handy if I ever get forgetful again on a long night of chores.

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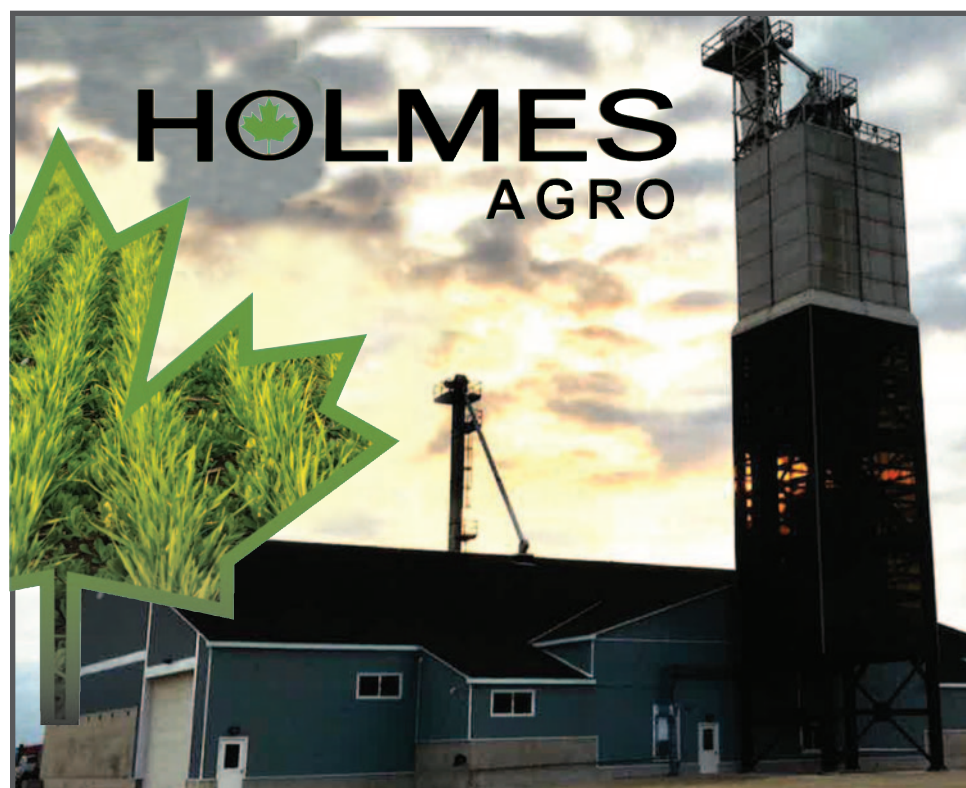
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Grey Bruce Farmers' Week Scholarship Winner

Grey Bruce Farmers' Week has been a main stay for the agricultural industry in Grey and Bruce Counties since 1966. The featured commodities have evolved as the area's agricultural focus has changed, but the mandate to provide information to producers and agribusiness has remained firm. Producers have supported our programming for 55 years, so the committee would like to give back to the community. With that mandate in mind, the Grey Bruce Farmers' Week Committee has established an annual \$1000 Grey Bruce Farmers' Week Prize in conjunction with the University of Guelph, Ontario Veterinary College (OVC), to recognize new veterinarians entering food animal practices serving producers in Grey and Bruce Counties. This award recognizes the individual's past accomplishments, but also encourages their future contributions, and commitment to our rural communities.

On June 12, 2021, the OVC Class of 2021 Virtual Veterinary Oath Ceremony took place. The GBFW Committee was delighted to watch this ceremony and to announce that Dr. Heather Reinhardt is the recipient of the 2021 GBFW award.

Heather grew up in South Bruce County (Teeswater), on a small dairy farm. The farm has been in their family for four generations. Since Heather was a young child, she has been highly involved in the farm work. She much

preferred being out in the barn caring for all the calves or kittens than spending time in the house. Heather was an active member of the local dairy 4-H club. She started riding horses at the age of 11. Although the farm was mostly dairy cattle, when she was a teenager, she purchased a few sheep and started her own small sheep flock.

During her undergraduate degree Heather was fortunate to gain experience working in the swine industry. She managed a sow barn, and worked for



Southwest Vets, a swine specialty veterinary clinic. Prior to attending veterinary school, Heather completed a Master of Science Degree in livestock nutrition.

Heather always wanted to be a veterinarian; however, over the years, many experiences and mentors influenced and shaped her reasons for pursuing this career. Heather loves animals and has a deep passion to help them and work with them. Being a veterinarian will allow her to blend that passion with a desire to be involved in agriculture and production medicine.

Heather views veterinary medicine as an opportunity for a diverse career path with many different areas of interest and opportunity. Veterinarians are not only involved in health management of food animal production systems but also are highly involved in production management. Heather chose to serve in a large animal practice as that is where her roots lie. She is so excited to be working within the agriculture community and have the opportunity to work alongside the hard-working families that provide us with our food. She is also pleased to return to her hometown region and provide support to her family run dairy farm.

Dr. Reinhardt is currently employed at the Walkerton Hanover Veterinary Clinic, and the Walkerton Equine Clinic. She will be performing a diverse set of roles and services within the clinics. It may be too early to ask Heather what her specialty will be, but she is hopeful that her training in livestock nutrition will be a unique asset to the clinics, in addition to her passion for production management. She is looking forward to beautiful sunny days on the road, driving around the countryside and chatting with local farmers about cows and other livestock!

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



Dr. Heather Reinhardt



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South Simcoe 4-H clubs report on their activities

Cookstown 4-H Beef Club News Report

By Madeleine Cullen

On May 26th the Cookstown 4-H Beef club held our third meeting on Zoom. We had a guest speaker, Christine Ryan who's occupation is a large animal veterinarian in the Barrie area. She presented a wonderful and educational slide show on herd health and vaccinations. She discussed herd health programs to members and answered many questions. She played a cow breed guessing game with 15 photos of different breeds of cattle. The member with the most correct received a prize. Our president Emma Hulse said the 4-H pledge and 4-H motto. We all learned a lot and had a great evening on Zoom.

On June 9th the Cookstown 4-H Beef club held our fourth meeting on Zoom. We discussed local fairs that are cancelled in our county and alternative plans that we will need to create for our achievement day. We discussed the virtual judging competition and what is required from the members in our club. We learned how to judge beef replacement heifers at this meeting. We made notes and gave a set of reasons for our placements. Lynn Gilpin gave the official placement of the class. We discussed appropriate times to visit our 4-H beef animal projects and that we should call the day before to make sure it is okay to work with the animal we have been assigned. We repeated the 4-H motto and pledge. We had a great meeting and are excited to do the county virtual judging competition.

South Simcoe Garden Club 4-H News Report

By Isabella Cullen

We opened with the 4-H pledge at the South Simcoe 4-H Garden club's meeting on June 2nd. We viewed a video about Canada blooms. We saw amazing flower arrangements and creative garden displays. Lots of great ideas. We talked about what we were all planting and growing for the season and a bit about our garden journals.

Our leaders introduced us to the Ontario judging and exhibiting standards. We discussed how to prepare vegetables and flowers to be shown properly at our achievement day. Did you know to trim the carrot top approximately 1.3 cm above the crown, potatoes should be brushed clean so as not to

damage the skin and tomatoes the calyx should be attached if you were planning to show it at a fair.

We learned that we need to know the differences between a spray, bloom and a stem to make sure we get our flower entries correct. We judged asparagus and rhubarb to prepare for the virtual judging event. There was a slight difference in everyone's final placements, but most of us learned that you should pull rhubarb.

The leaders told us they would email us last years entry list and for us to let them know what we were hoping to show for this year so changes can be made if required. It was another great learning meeting.

Canine Club News Report

By Jessa Bray

We have had an amazing start to our Canine Club. Our club has done many exciting things including having Sarah and her super collie, Hero. We sure did see them do some awesome tricks. Another amazing visitor that we have had was Tanya from The Tiny Paws Company. She taught us all about how to take care of our dogs' grooming needs and to know when to take them to a professional. Last but not least, we had Jane from the COPE support dogs program. She showed us some of the amazing commands they teach with black lab, Sierra, that are used to help people with physical disabilities. The COPE dogs also visit schools and hospitals to help children and adults during tough times. Then we enjoyed learning a little bit about dogs with jobs. That was just the first three meetings and we can't wait to have more!

Cookstown & Everett 4-H Sheep Club Report

By Morgan Gilpin

The Cookstown & Everett 4-H Sheep club had their 3rd meeting Monday June 14th online using zoom. The president opened the meeting at 7:30 pm with the minutes of our last meeting. Tonight's roll call was what is your favorite breed of sheep. We discussed this year's virtual judging competition that started Monday June 14th and will run for the week ending Friday June 18th. The judging competition is mandatory for all members in a livestock club. Thank you to the committee who could make the virtual judging competition happen. Our leader Grant Cowan showed us two videos about what to look for when judging market lambs, which is a reason's class at this year's judging competition and how to start training your lamb for the season. We also discussed what this year's achievement day will look like with the current Covid 19 restrictions. Our meeting ended in two exciting Kahoot games that were created on showmanship and general animal care. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00pm with the 4-H motto Learn To Do By Doing.



4-H member Morgan Gilpin and his lamb Buttercup.



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Fun at South Simcoe 4-H

4-H Go For The Gold Club Report

By Abby Patton

The South Simcoe Go For the Gold club met for the third time. At this meeting we explored all things bread with Breadventure! Did you know that yeast needs to be put in water to be woken up before you can use it? Next we learned about Farm Machinery. We went through all the different symbols you could see on a tractor dashboard and what they mean. Then we broke into breakout rooms and made questions so we could quiz each other. Next meeting we will be learning about Llamas and fitness.

Cookstown and Everett Judging 4-H Club

By Brooklynn Downey

On May 24th, we had our fourth meeting. We had one of our leaders teach us how to judge apples. With an upcoming judging competition, we watched a video on how to judge market steers. We are looking forward to our next meeting, where we will be giving our reasons from the virtual judging competition.

4-H Cookstown Mini Horse Club

By Isabella Cullen

May 27th was an exciting night on Zoom. We all got together to start the 4-H Cookstown Mini Horse club season! We opened with the 4-H pledge. Members introduced themselves and told everyone their expectations for the season. Our executive is as follows President Arley Cochrane, Vice Amber Follitt, Secretary Jaiden Van Kolfshoten and News Reporter Isabella Cullen. We talked about getting our mini horses registered in Assist Expo on our laptops. We talked about the club requirements. A senior returning member created and had the members play a couple of kahoots. Kahoots are quizzes in case you didn't know what they are. You play them on technology and running results are live. Its amazing to see who goes up because they are getting answers correct and who goes down because they are learning and guessing. It also tracks if you are on a streak. Over all they are a lot of fun and a great learning opportunity to test your knowledge. We adjourned the meeting by repeating the 4-H motto learn to do by doing.

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"Do wut?" Asked hillbilly #2.

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Sample of Springwater Project

Photos and story provided by Flos Agricultural Society

The Flos Agricultural Society ran a successful project on June 12th called "A Sample of Springwater." We wanted to bring a little bit of Elmvale Fair food, activities that families could enjoy safely as well as items to promote the wonderful agricultural heritage that we are so fortunate to be part of. Candy Floss, Kettle Corn, honey, crafts, gardening supplies, novelties, recipes and lots more were in this pre-packaged bag. Thanks to our generous sponsors, we were able to offer it for only \$20.

The public's interest overwhelmed us and over 150 bags were sold within 48 hours!

Successful buyers safely received their bags by way of a drive-thru curbside pick-up, following current health & safety guidelines.

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Worth a Chuckle... and life lessons

by Aunt Hazel

A little more Canadian humour...

- Name the two seasons of Canada. Winter and July.
- Did you know that Canada has a real hard water problem? Most of the time, it's frozen.
- A Canadian went into a Tim Horton's and noticed there was a "Roll Up The Rim To Win" Contest. So, he rolled up the rim of his coffee and started yelling, "I've won a motor home! I've won a motorhome!" The girl at the counter said, "That's impossible. The biggest prize is a car." The person shouted, "No, it's not a mistake. I've won a motorhome!" He handed the Cup to the girl who read: "WIN A B A G E L"

**New Improved
Ontariohaylistings.ca**

The Ontario Hay Listings is new and improved! Until now, the site has provided an avenue for buying/selling only hay, straw and biomass products. In an effort to improve the site and provide increased value to our producers, the categories have been expanded to include everything from manure exchange to the labour to shovel it! There is always room for expansion and improvement, so if you have something forage-related to advertise that isn't included, please let us know.

The process has been simplified and you don't require a user account to post an add. Simply fill in the form and click post. The site will remember your information for your next ad.

New available categories include:

- Hay/straw wanted/for sale
- Switchgrass and Miscanthus wanted/for sale
- Cover crop grazing opportunities – Do you have a cover crop you would like grazed, or are you seeking winter grazing opportunities?
 - Farm Labour
 - Equipment - limited to forage equipment
 - Manure Exchange – Do you have excess manure, or are you seeking it for your land?
 - Hay Hauling and Transport

Canadian Culture

This puzzle is from <https://thewordsearch.com>



N	O	V	A	S	C	O	T	I	A	H	S	N	A
I	S	I	O	D	Y	A	D	A	D	A	N	A	C
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D	R	D	N	O	N	E	T	O	R	O	N	T	O
L	E	I	N	R	A	S	N	L	G	O	O	S	E
O	V	V	G	M	A	P	L	E	S	Y	R	U	P
C	A	E	D	N	G	I	R	O	A	R	N	I	I
R	E	R	E	G	I	E	E	R	D	E	E	E	H
I	B	S	F	G	A	L	I	F	E	T	E	H	O
C	C	E	P	C	A	N	R	O	R	N	F	C	C
W	O	N	S	E	R	S	A	U	U	I	F	C	K
M	A	P	L	E	L	E	A	F	C	W	O	K	E
R	R	R	G	N	I	H	S	I	F	E	C	I	Y
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- CURLING
- NOVA SCOTIA
- COLD
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- DIVERSE
- COFFEE
- SKIING
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Summer BBQ safety tips

By Dennis Gannon

After a long day at work or a fun day at the beach with family or friends, what better way to cap off the day than with a meal made on the BBQ. The savory smells of the food cooking away is mouth watering and almost everyone looks forward to enjoying what has been prepared. BBQ's come in many types now and different sizes and they can be fueled by wood, natural gas or propane, wood pellets and the old standard of charcoal. Whatever type is used, there are safety factors we all need to follow so that our meal is enjoyed and the day comes to a relaxing end.

Start by remembering that BBQ grills should only be used outdoors. Carbon monoxide is a byproduct of BBQ's and fresh air is important. For gas and propane BBQ's it is important to not allow grease to build up on the burners or at the base of the BBQ as this could cause a grease fire. Clean the burners at the beginning of the season and regularly throughout the year. Always make sure your gas grill lid is open before lighting it. It is important to watch where you position your BBQ. Too close to vinyl siding on homes, wooden fences or walls and there is a great chance that it may ignite those combustible materials. Many home fires

have been started with the BBQ too close to vinyl siding with devastating results. Keep children and pets at a safe distance and never leave the BBQ unattended when in use. Throwing water on a grease fire will only spread the flame so avoid this at all times. Always turn the gas valve off first when finished, then turn off the burner controls, so no gas is left in the connecting hose. Finally, after the burners have cooled down, close the lid. Remember, if you smell gas while cooking, immediately get away from the grill and call the fire department. Do not move the grill.

Charcoal BBQ's have been around for many years and even for the most seasoned BBQer, can be a challenge. Using a charcoal chimney starter allows you to start the charcoal using newspaper as a fuel. It provides a great start to get the charcoal going. If you use a starter fluid, use only charcoal starter fluid. Never add charcoal fluid or any other flammable liquids to the fire. Another method to start the charcoal is to use an electric charcoal starter, which does not use fire. Make certain to use an extension cord rated for outdoor use. After grilling, let the coals

completely cool before disposing them in a closed metal container away from buildings and anything combustible.

BBQing requires a clear head and careful attention. It is a good idea to leave the alcohol drinks until the cooking is done, it is the safe thing to do as they don't mix.

July is the peak month for BBQ fires with approximately half of the injuries involving BBQ's being thermal burns. Think about what you are doing.

Enjoy the BBQ this season and be safe!

The Best BBQs are Fire Safe

Never BBQ in a garage, tent or enclosed space.

Place your BBQ away from wooden fences, walls and anything that burns.



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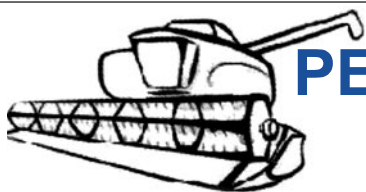
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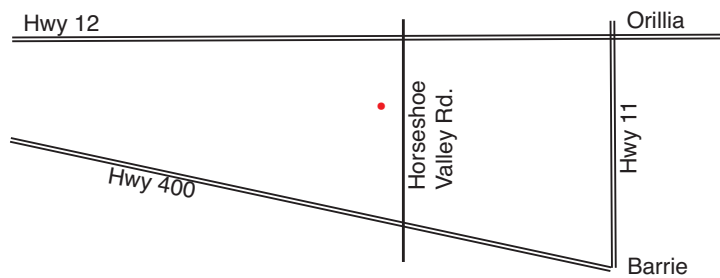
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