

Since 1977

FARM VIEW

A newspaper with something for everyone | July 2026 | Volume 49 #07

Inside this issue:

How Women are Rebuilding our Broken Food System

175th Millbrook Fair

Rural Healthcare Matters

Quilts of Valour Donations

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Fun Farm Science Waz up with Wasabi?



Carly Croft of Millbrook, the 2026 Millbrook Fair Ambassador, shines brightly in her role.



Historic Machines Roar Back to Life in Simcoe County

By John Beischer



Wheels and Tracks in Motion refers to the steel and rubber tired vehicles as well as the tracked dozers that built the roads in Simcoe County in the last century. Annually, the Simcoe County Museum features these wonderful and historic pieces of construction equipment at their property on highway 26, 5 miles north of Barrie. On June 13th and 14th, a spectacular display of historic construction equipment included rollers, graders, excavators, shovels and so much more. A similar event is held in September called the 'Last Blast' fall steam up. Contact the museum at MUSEUM.SIMCOE.CA for dates and times.



In addition to showcasing the evolution of construction technology over the decades, the museum also offered a beautiful look at the history of another aspect of our local heritage, tourism. The cottage pictured here is from Innisfil which was once considered 'cottage country' before highway 400 took tourists further north. This well preserved CEDAR VIEW COTTAGE [pictured above] was built in the 1920's and was donated to the museum in 2005. It is a remarkable window into Innisfil's time as a cottage destination. Visitors to the museum will also enjoy a visit to a century old church, a one room school house, an original barn and drive shed, and a tool shed. This local gem in our midst is accessible to everyone at a very reasonable cost.

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.

July 6th - 9th: NSSCIA Summer Bus Trip

The 48th Annual NSSCIA Summer Bus Trip to Kingston will take place July 6th to 9th, 2026. Cost is \$800 per person and includes meals and accommodations. To reserve a spot, contact Nicole Cross at nsimcoesoilncrop@gmail.com.

July 9th: SCFA Annual Summer BBQ

The Simcoe County Federation of Agriculture's annual Summer BBQ will take place on Thursday, July 9, at 873 Line 3 South, Oro-Medonte. For ticket information, email simcty.fed.agriculture@outlook.com

July 9th: Ontario Forage Expo 2026

Forage Equipment Demonstrations and Trade Show will take place at 1810 County Rd 45, Norwood, ON on **July 9, 2026, 10 am - 3pm.**

July 14th: News and Advertising Deadline

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

July 17th - July 19th: Fenelon Agricultural Society

Agricultural Event not to be missed! Livestock shows, tractor & truck pull, lawn tractor & Atv pull, horse show, demolition derby, Midway and many other activities.
27 Veterans Way, Fenelon Falls, ON
www.fenelonfair.ca

July 16th: Compaction Day

Compaction demos and education stations taking place July 16th from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Tupling Farms in Honeywood. **More information in the ad on page 6.**

August 1st & 2nd: Essa National Draft Horse Show

The Essa National Draft Horse Show takes place **August 1st & 2nd at 7505 10th line, Thornton, ON.** Showcasing magnificent heavy horses, competitions and vendors! Call 705-726-1200 or email admin@essaagriplex.ca for details. **More information in the ad on page 16.**

August 7th: St. John's Pancake Breakfast

St John's United Church will be hosting the annual Potato Pancake breakfast during the Alliston Potato Festival. Taking place in the East parking lot of the Church, all are welcome! Visit www.allistonpotatofest.com

August 27th - 30th: Barrie Fair

The Annual Barrie Fair takes place at **7505 10th line, Thornton, ON August 27th to the 30th.** Many exciting activities, shows and vendors! Visit www.essaagriplex.ca. **More information in the ad on page 16.**

Sept. 23rd: Program announcement for E.D.G.E.

Elmvale District Garden Enthusiasts' Sept. 23rd open Meeting: "Delightful Dahlias, with Gail Cocker master gardener, Elmvale Legion at 7 John Street. Lift available as we meet upstairs at 7 pm. Guests always welcome. Lug your mug and bring a friend.



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Reaping what we sow

“How women are rebuilding our broken food system”

Meeting synopsis by Don Beaulieu

Executive Director of Ontario Organic Dr. Erica Shelly hosted a Zoom meeting last month with the help of a couple of guest speakers. As is true of all their presentations, information and insights were abundant. Farm View will present a few of the key topics of discussion here.

Shelly's guests, among the online attendees, were author



Nancy Matsumoto and moderator Paul Decampo. Also assisting the presentation was Sami Mckay, their Partnerships and Programs manager.

During her introduction of the meeting, Shelley summed up what Ontario Organic is all about:

“It is our job to represent all of the voices in the organic value food chain. From the farmers that are putting their fingers in the soil, all the way to people who are choosing organic foods and putting them into their pantry. ...and basically make the voices heard that sometimes aren't heard in the organic value chain”.

She also made note that this year is the United Nation's International Year of the Woman Farmer. Ontario Organic will be highlighting some of the top women in organic farming. Shelley recognized that there are innumerable women in organic farming in Canada and around the world.

Paul Decampo was introduced, saying he looked forward to introducing the influential Nancy Matsumoto.

Matsumoto is a third generation Japanese-American writer and editor based in Toronto. She writes about agro-ecology, food sovereignty, food in Japanese and American

culture and history. She has a respectful list of successes in books, radio and journals.

Nancy Matsumoto

Matsumoto spoke about her latest book; *Reaping What She Sows, How women are fixing our broken food system*. She says her book is about the entire supply and value chain. In extensive writing and research leading up to this book, she saw a challenge in convincing people to make a change in their purchasing. She addresses the systemic issues at play in this regard.

Her narrative tells the story “...of these amazing, passionate women producers who are invested in regenerating soil and cleaning up waterways and growing ecosystem diversity to help ourselves, our planet, our workers, our animals”.

The book's second look at organic, in her words, “Tells a more nerdy supply chain story about what these women are doing with building new value chain from the ground up.” She continued, “Every link in that chain makes an efficient system that's going to compete with [our current] food supply chain”.

Through questions from Decampo, Matsumoto explained how being certified organic or leaning towards organic at local farmers' markets is not as major an issue as certification/labelling is in a larger market. Vendors at our small town markets can discuss their product and methods with consumers. Matsumoto recognizes those producers who may not be fully certified are valuable as they do their part and do what they can to better the cause.

Her book offers ways to work into the larger supply chain challenges successfully, pulling on the experiences of those who have been through it.

The complexities on many aspects of growing organic in the

marketplace that are covered in *Reaping What She Sows* far exceed (as does any talk/meeting we cover in *Farm View*) what we can present here.

A popular topic in the chat area of this presentation prompted Shelley to mention Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) is closing several research facilities as part of a federal spending reduction.

The closures affect research centres in Guelph, Quebec City, and Lacombe (Alberta), as well as satellite farms across the country.

The targeted AAFC research closures and staffing reductions include the following research centre closures: Guelph, Quebec City, Quebec and Lacombe in Alberta.

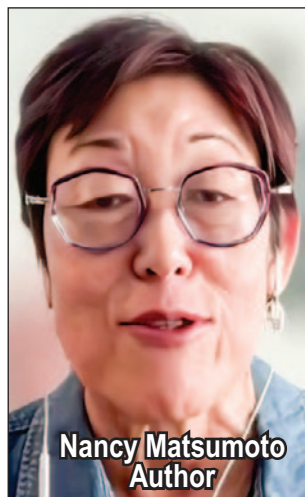
Satellite farm closures have occurred in Nappan, Nova Scotia. Scott and Indian Head in Saskatchewan as well as Portage la Prairie in Manitoba. Swift Current was closed about a week-and-a-half before this Zoom meeting took place, said Shelley.

There is also a workforce impact because of all this. Approximately 665 AAFC staff positions are being eliminated. The wind-down of scientific operations at these facilities will follow a deliberate decision process that could take up to 12 months.

According to Shelly, offering Ontario Organic's view on the closures: “We are actively involved... in the fight against the closure of these facilities. They are recognizing that they did close things too quickly. It did not have the appropriate review. There has been a recommendation to have further review into closures”. Reaching out to members of parliament and members of provincial parliament has been recommended to bring attention and perhaps a change to this situation. There is concern about losing the research that has been done in these facilities and fields on organic farming, thus far.

To find out more about Ontario Organics mandates and activities, check out <https://ontarioorganic.ca/who-are-we-online>.

The August edition of *Farm View* will have a report from the June 21st meeting in Creemore: Women in Farming, Presented by Purple Hills Arts and Heritage Society and Valerie Smith of Sotheby's International Realty.



Nancy Matsumoto
Author

Bursary Available

Every Year the Cookstown Agricultural Society offers a Bursary for students continuing in post secondary education. Students must be a resident in South Simcoe County at the time of application, enroll in a Degree, Diploma or Apprenticeship Program, and are members of the South Simcoe 4-H Clubs sponsored by the Society, or have family who are current or past members of the Cookstown Agricultural Society.

Applications are available from the Cookstown Agricultural Society Secretary 705-718-0362 or petrahewson999@gmail.com

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Rural healthcare matters to every farm family

By Sara Wood, Vice President, Ontario Federation of Agriculture

Access to health care is a concern for people across Ontario, regardless of where they live. Even in large urban centres, many residents struggle to find family doctors, wait for hours in emergency rooms or face long delays for specialized care and testing.

But while access challenges exist everywhere, hospitals, clinics and specialists are usually not far away in urban areas. In rural Ontario, however, the situation is often very different — and when services are reduced or unavailable, patients may be forced to travel hours to access care they need.

For farm families, the issue is especially personal. That's because agriculture is one of the most physically demanding and dangerous professions in Ontario. Farmers work with large machinery, livestock, chemicals, heights and unpredictable conditions every day, and when accidents happen on farms, quick access to emergency care can make all the difference.

That is why it is deeply concerning to see rural hospitals across Ontario continue to face temporary — and in some cases permanent — emergency room closures because of staffing shortages and limited resources.

My family and I farm near Mitchell in southwestern Ontario, and when you live in a rural area, a closed ER does not just mean inconvenience. It can mean driving an extra hour or more in an emergency or delayed care during a heart attack, serious injury or farm accident. And for aging rural populations, it creates even more uncertainty and stress.

Rural communities also continue to struggle with shortages of family doctors and primary care providers. That affects everyone, including farm families trying to bring the next generation home to the farm. Young families considering building a life in rural Ontario want to know there will be access to doctors, emergency care and health services for their children.

This is no longer just a health care issue; it's also a rural economic development issue.

At the same time, Ontario is also facing evolving health challenges linked to changing environmental conditions and climate trends.

Ticks and tick-borne illnesses like Lyme disease are becoming increasingly common, including in many rural and agricultural areas where they were once rare. Public Health Ontario maps show blacklegged tick habitat has expanded dramatically over the past decade.

For people who work outdoors every day, including farmers and farm workers, this is becoming a serious concern. This spring especially has already been bad for ticks in many parts of the province with farmers noticing them more frequently in fields, fence lines, bush lots and around livestock areas.

Lyme disease and other emerging tick-borne illnesses create new challenges not only for patients, but also for rural health care providers who need access to testing, resources and up-to-date training to respond quickly and effectively.

That is why rural health care systems must also be responsive to emerging threats and changing realities, which includes the resources and diagnostic tools necessary to identify and treat conditions like Lyme disease early.

There are also positive examples of rural communities and farmers working proactively to strengthen rural medicine.

A program called Discovery Week is a mandatory one-week placement in rural and regional communities at the end of the first year for all undergraduate medical students at the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry at Western University in London.

This program has been in place since 1998, and it was in the early 2000s that the Bruce County Federation of Agriculture began hosting these students on

tours of local agriculture to learn about farming and the types of injuries or emergencies that can happen in agricultural settings.

This marked the second year of expansion for the farm tour program, which is now up to eight tours taking place in Bruce, Grey, Essex, Elgin and Oxford counties with the support of the local federations of agriculture. Students were able to climb onto farm equipment, see robotic milking equipment in action, try on farm safety gear and meet farmers and farm employees, including seasonal international workers.

That kind of collaboration matters.

What also matters is including farmers and rural residents in conversations about rural health care planning like hospital services, hours of operation, staffing needs and where new health care facilities should be located. Rural Ontario has unique realities that need to be understood by decision-makers.

Ontario's health care system is under pressure everywhere, and health care workers continue to do incredibly valuable work under difficult circumstances. They deserve our thanks and support.

But rural Ontario cannot continue to fall behind. Strong rural health care systems are essential not only for the health and safety of farm families, but also for the long-term sustainability of our communities, our rural economy and Ontario agriculture itself.

On the Cover

Carly Croft, the 2026 Millbrook Fair Ambassador, a lifelong farm enthusiast, says her favourite part of the fair is seeing local agricultural families and residents come together to connect and celebrate the community. For more from the Millbrook Fair turn to page 12.

Cover photo by Cathy Hamill-Hill

Farm View is available at the following agricultural businesses

- ALLIANCE AGRITURF in Ivy, Bolton, Fenelon Falls, Baxter and Lindsay
- BARRIE KOA (Seasonally)
- BRADBURY SMALL FAMILY FARM INC.
- BRADFORD GREENHOUSES GARDEN GALLERY, Barrie
- CHARWEN FARMS
- COLLINGWOOD FUELS
- COUNTRY CONCESSION QUILT STORE
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- DEREK'S DIESEL SERVICE INC.
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- FOODLAND in Elmvale
- HAMILTON BROS.
- HARRIS FARMS (Seasonally)
- HOLMES AGRO in Stayner and Orangeville
- LEGACY FUNERAL AND CREMATION SERVICES INC in the Barrie Cedar Pointe plaza
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- 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 businesses between the 25th and 29th of each month, with copies available while supplies last.

If you would prefer to have The Farm View mailed directly to your home, one-year subscriptions are available for \$45. For more information or to subscribe, contact Roslyn at 705-722-0138, by mail at 8 Luella Blvd., Minesing, ON L9X 0W7, or by email at farmview@on.aibn.com.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Farm View invites letters to the editor. They should be fewer than 300 words and deal with a single topic affecting farmers. All letters must be signed, including your full name, address and daytime phone number. All letters are subject to editing for brevity. Please no phone calls.

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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

2026 ADVERTISING RATES

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1/2 Page	\$525./month
1/3 Page	\$395./month
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1/16 Page	\$100./month
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Healthy Waters Projects Keep More Than 2,000 Tonnes of Soil on the Land Each Year

For more than three decades, the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority's (NVCA) Healthy Waters Program has partnered with farmers and landowners to protect valuable topsoil, improve water quality, and strengthen the health of local waterways. Through restoration and stewardship projects completed across the watershed, an estimated 2,090 tonnes of soil are kept on the land each year, rather than being washed into rivers and streams. This is equivalent to 2,485 kg of phosphorus or 15 fully grown blue whales.

"Topsoil is one of a farmer's most valuable assets," said Don Little, Manager, Stewardship & Restoration Services at NVCA. "A recent capacity study found that approximately 37,000 tonnes of topsoil erode into the rivers and streams across the Nottawasaga Watershed each year. Along with that soil goes nutrients and investments that were intended to support crop production. Excess nutrients like phosphorus entering waterways can contribute to algal blooms, affecting drinking water quality and reduce oxygen levels for fish and other aquatic life."

NVCA works with farmers and landowners to implement practical solutions that keep soil and nutrients where they belong. Nutrient management planning, improving manure storage, and installing systems that divert clean water around farmyards, can reduce nutrient losses while supporting productive agricultural operations.

Livestock fencing protects sensitive areas from trampling, reduce bank erosion and prevent bacteria such as E.Coli from entering the watercourse. These efforts not only benefit the stream but also support healthy herds.

Native trees, shrubs and grasses can be used to create vegetated stream buffers. These buffers absorb nutrients reducing concentrations before they reach the water, while stabilizing banks to reduce erosion and soil loss. Natural materials such as tree root wads, rocks, and recycled Christmas trees help stabilize streambanks and reduces soil loss.

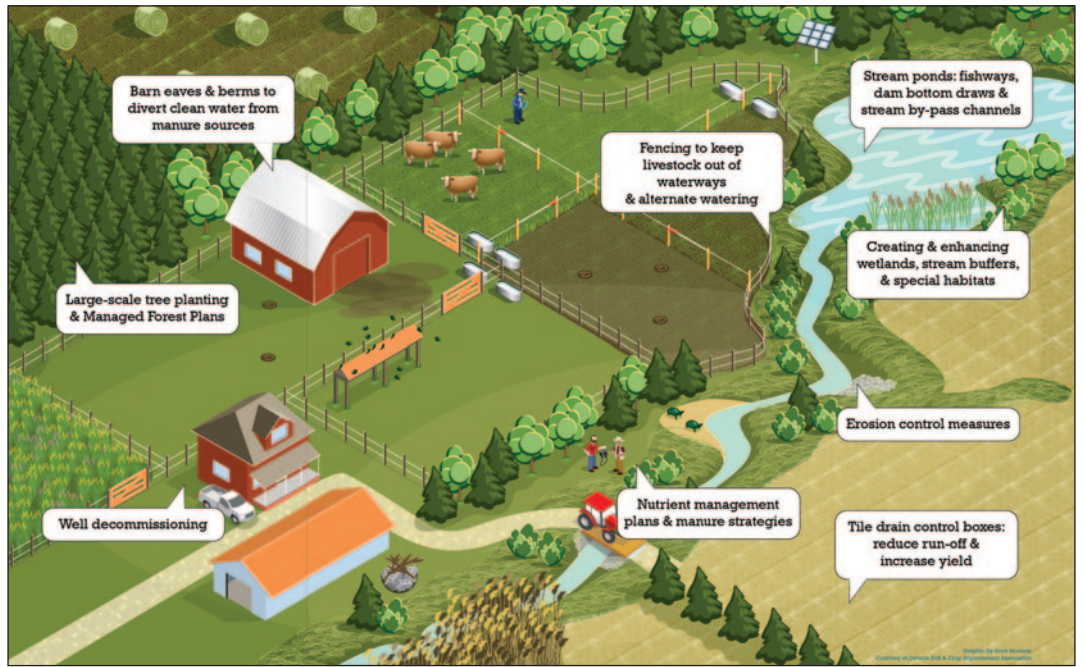
"Agriculture is an important part of the Nottawasaga Wa-

tershed's identity, with generations of farm families stewarding the land since the 1800s," said Kevin Eisses, Chair of NVCA's Agricultural Advisory Committee. "Healthy, productive soils are essential to successful farming operations. Through the Healthy Waters Program, NVCA has helped hundreds of farmers strengthen their operations while protecting the rivers, streams, and natural resources that support our communities."

Cost-share funding is available to help landowners undertake stewardship projects that conserve topsoil and reduce sediment and phosphorus entering local waterways. Eligible projects include livestock fencing, streamside and wetland planting, and streambank stabilization. Funding levels vary by project type, and technical assistance is available through NVCA.

Farmers in Dufferin County may be eligible for additional cost-sharing funding through partner programs to support projects such as cover crops, well upgrades, and farm machinery stream crossings.

Visit nvca.on.ca or call 705-424-1479 or email stewardship@nvca.on.ca to learn more.



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Agricultural Anecdotes from Farmer Tim



It's funny the people you meet when selling things on Marketplace.

Over the years, I've had folks from every walk of life pull into the yard to buy something like vintage glass, an old shovel, spare parts, ... you name it. Almost every time, the conversation eventually turns to farming.

Recently, a woman came by who lived in the city. She told me she had been vegan for years but had recently started eating meat again. What struck me wasn't that change (I respect all food choices), it was how she said she had made most of her food decisions based on things she saw from YouTube influencers. She openly admitted she didn't trust "science" very much, but she trusted the videos she watched online. I bit my tongue and listened - for a while at least.

Then she realized she was standing in a farmyard talking to an actual farmer.

You could see the lightbulb moment.

She got excited and started asking questions, lots of them, while we both stood in the garage freezing. How do you care for cows? What do they eat? Do farmers really use antibiotics all

the time? What about hormones? What happens when animals get sick? What about pesticides?

Before long, she was apologizing because she said she was "talking my ear off."

I told her not to apologize because I loved it.

Here is the thing: farmers are some of the most transparent people you will ever meet. We feed our own families with the exact same food we sell. Our neighbours eat it. Our communities eat it. If we didn't believe in what we were doing, we wouldn't be doing it. Heck, I could make more money and have an easier life doing other things.

If people want honest information about food and farming, there are some great places to start.

Organizations like Farm & Food Care Ontario do a fantastic job connecting consumers with farmers and real information about how food is produced. Universities and scientists publish peer-reviewed research that goes through rigorous review before it ever sees the light of day. Veterinarians, agronomists, and nutritionists spend their entire careers studying how to produce safe, healthy food while

caring for animals and the environment.

And of course, you can always ask a farmer.

We're real people. Not influencers. Not anonymous internet accounts. Just folks who wake up every morning to care for animals, grow crops, and try to do things a little better every year.

Where shouldn't you get most of your information?

Probably from someone whose primary qualification is having a basement studio and a strong opinion.

Social media can be entertaining, and it can even start conversations, but algorithms reward outrage and simplicity, not accuracy or depth.

Food production is complicated, and farming is complicated. There are challenges, trade-offs and constant learning involved.

That's why the best information usually comes from people who dedicate their lives to studying it and living it.

So, if you ever find yourself with questions about food or farming, come talk to a farmer.

Fair warning, though.

We might talk your ear off too.

Farmer Tim farms in Southern Ontario and has been sharing his stories through social media for many years. Tim is quoted saying "All farmers need to get their stories out there and have fun while they do it!"

Are you looking for information on the Agricultural Stewardship Initiative 2026 Application Intake?

The next application intake opens on July 8, 2026, 9am ET and will close on July 29, 2026, 3pm ET. Eligible farm operations can apply for cost-share funding under the following project categories:

- Basic Energy Use Assessment (Level 1)
- Detailed Energy Audit (Level 2)
- Energy Efficiency Improvements
- Larger-Scale Energy Efficiency Improvements
- Equipment Modifications to Reduce Soil Compaction
- Equipment Modifications to Improve Manure Application
- Nutrient Application Equipment Modifications
- Nutrient Management and

Soil Health Planning
 · Erosion Control Structures
 · Adding Organic Amendments
 · Equipment and Technology to Enhance Manure Storage
 Carefully read the Agricultural Stewardship Initiative Program Guide as only eligible and complete applications will be considered. The Program Guide provides information on eligible activities and costs, available cost-share, required application documentation, and provides a link to the OSCIA Portal.

The program guide for this project, and other opportunities can be found at <https://programguides.ontariooilcrop.org>



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Keeping Faith in Farming



BRIAN SAUNDERSON

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After The Chores: Chicken Business

By Cathy Hamill-Hill



Chicken buying 2026 sure gave me an education.

The first plan was to just go to a quiet little auction and bring home some young laying hens. The quiet little auction has seen such massive success that I became concerned. Neither Sweetie nor I have any auction attending experience, I was visioning bidding on and having to purchase, accidentally, fifteen dozen hatching goose eggs or sixteen roosters. Sweetie then said a firm NO WAY was he going to an auction alone so that means I would have to sacrifice a Fair day with my rabbits for chickens- not happening. The auction plan was out.

The next way to buy chickens around here is with a guy known as Karl who is basically a "chicken broker". Karl get calls from people that need to offload chickens and he comes- fast. Auctions only happen on week-ends and life happens every day, so Karl is a busy guy. Sweetie called Karl and said he wanted a small flock of laying red hens a few days after that killer mink was finally officially off the job of killing. It took weeks before Karl called saying he had found some older hens and reported he would have them in three days. Three days passed, and no call back. Sweetie was sad.

I decided to "fix" the chicken-less problem and went to Facebook marketplace. "Laying hens" got me an immediate response. I asked "chicken" facts and got what I wanted to hear, six months, red, laying, delivery included and "half price" because I wanted so many. I admit that "so many" didn't sound normal as 30 is a tiny number when it comes to chickens. But this was a "backyard poultry" operation so maybe 30 was a lot when one is hatching eggs in an incubator in the living room. There were pictures, though the chickens' red feathers were an odd shade of red. Sweetie was all excited when I gave our address and the fact I would be home the

next day for chicken receiving.

"I need an e-transfer of the full amount for travelling expenses" was the next message I got. I answered with "I will pay you cash when you arrive with the chickens".. "Okay, you can e-transfer half of the amount now". "I will pay cash when we see you arrive with chickens" was my reply." "I don't take cash. Etransfer only" was the reply. Now the red flag was starting to wave. I have yet to meet anyone that won't take cash. And it was then bright and clear- this was a chicken scammer.

I now understood how Karl the chicken broker could have been sidelined as chicken scammers are real. A local police report advised someone e-transferred \$75 for three fancy chickens and went to pick them up at an address. The address owner had zero chickens and no idea about any of this. Now we see why the auctions are so busy in 2026, this is the safe way to buy poultry these days unless you know a chicken broker.

We went to pick up this new-to-us laying flock of 30 hens from Karl. There were pigeons flying around, groups of hens with a rooster outside, a flock of geese wandering around- and small buildings with outside enclosures with ducks and chickens in them. There was a strutting peacock that had just arrived here that had new friends, some very quiet adult lady turkeys. This was on a Sunday afternoon and moving chickens through the day is usually close to impossible. With a net, Karl got those chickens caught calmly as fast as Sweetie could load them in crates. He apologized for the peacock that flew up on our truck and the turkeys he had to push out of the way to get past. If there ever was a "feather whisperer" title, this guy should get it.

Sweetie has gone from 0 to about 120 here this spring. He has future laying hens now here under the heat lamp, a set of meat chickens, a group of turkeys for Thanksgiving and his new laying senior hen flock in his band of poultry.

The rooster comes next week- and life will be noisy in the mornings- and normal again.

ADVERTORIAL

2026 IS GOING TO BE A ROUGH YEAR FOR MORTGAGES BUT ONTARIO-WIDE FINANCIAL CAN HELP LIGHTEN THE LOAD

Tracy Green, Broker at Ontario-Wide Financial says, "close to 60% of Canadians mortgages are going to be coming up for renewal in 2025-2026. This will make it one of the most significant mortgage renewal periods in decades. And this is stressing out a lot of homeowners!"

That works out to approximately 1.15 million Canadian mortgages across the country, with many borrowers facing significantly higher payments after locking in low rates during the pandemic. While specific numbers vary by source, projections from the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) point to this large volume of renewals in 2026, impacting a massive number of households.

"Well, we have the first year "2025" under our belt and we've worked really hard to help our clients have as much of a soft landing as possible. We've been busy consolidating debt and negotiating the best rates possible for renewals, refinances and reverse mortgages," says Tracy Green 35-year veteran in the mortgage industry, and Owner of Ontario-Wide Financial. "One advantage in 2026 is that rates have gone down from last year although there is no guarantee for how long. AND YES, WE NEGOTIATE RATES FOR OUR CLIENTS!"

I'm not going to sugarcoat it; things are very unpredictable, with tariffs and droughts affecting livestock, making food prices soar, and the uneasiness of the economy resulting in falling property values. So, for clients with upcoming mortgage renewals carrying significant debt, whether it be loans, credit cards, property or income taxes, CERB repayment etc., it's important to reevaluate the whole picture now to see if there is a better and more affordable way to restructure.

Homeowners thinking about doing upgrades to their homes or securing a credit line for future expenses or just to have as a cushion, now is the time!

Don't think you'll qualify or have already been turned down? Here at Ontario-Wide I hear this constantly and while I can't help in every situation many of my clients have been surprised and happy with the outcome once they did call. I work personally with every single client. It is my job to do my best to help my clients achieve their goals."

Have questions? Call! Because each client's situation is unique let's have a one-on-one discussion to see what options are available to you with no pressure or obligation to move forward.

At Ontario-Wide Tracy works to find solutions for all realms of clients.

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Why is it ESPECIALLY important to consolidate debt and mortgages maturing in 2026 for some homeowners?

Consolidating mortgages and loans during renewal in 2026 is important because it lets you combine high-interest debts (like credit cards) with your mortgage, often securing a lower interest rate, simplifying payments into one bill, improving monthly cash flow, and potentially paying off debt faster by lowering overall costs, and because you're up for renewal you won't have penalties to do so!

Key Benefits

2026 rates are lower than last year and over all still reasonable so a good time if you're not planning to sell anytime soon to lock in a longer term at a reasonable rate if your looking for security and peace of mind.

Alternatively variable mortgages are reasonably less and if you're thinking shorter term or want to take advantage of lower rates to lock in later, now is also a good time as long as you keep a close eye on the movement of current rates.

Lower Interest Rates: Mortgage rates are usually much lower than credit card or personal loan rates, saving you significant money over time.

Simplified Finances: Instead of juggling multiple bills with different due dates, you'll have just one payment, making budgeting easier.

Improved Cash Flow: Lower overall interest and potentially extended terms can significantly reduce your total monthly payment, freeing up cash.

A good time to prepare for income taxes owed.

Pay off the debt owed from Covid "CERB" (Canada Emergency Response benefit) balances to avoid penalties.

Faster Debt Payoff (Potentially): While you can extend the term, a lower rate can help you pay down principal more effectively, reducing total interest paid.

Review Your Whole Financial Picture: Don't just accept your bank's offer; look at all debts, not just the mortgage.

Consult a Professional: Consider talking to Tracy to see if consolidation is right for your specific situation. Tracy at Ontario-Wide Financial will go over your finances together with you to determine what the next step is in the right approach to help reduce financial strain and interest.



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Fun Farm Science column writer Don Beaulieu tells us why wasabi farming is an agricultural pursuit that can make a farmer nostalgic for the simplicity of raising orchids... underwater or even in the dark.

Waz up with wasabi?

Japan's famous green condiment may be one of the world's fussiest crops

Most people recognize wasabi as the bright green paste often served alongside sushi. It is famous for its sharp, sinus-clearing heat and for making unsuspecting diners question their life choices after taking too large a bite.

But, there is a surprising secret behind wasabi; many people have never tasted the real thing.

Outside Japan, much of the "wasabi" served in restaurants is a mixture of horseradish, mustard and green colouring. It mimics the flavour and appearance of genuine wasabi well enough for most purposes, but true wasabi comes from an entirely different plant. It is one of the most demanding crops grown anywhere in the world.

Wasabi and its peskiness

The wasabi plant is native to cool mountain valleys in Japan. In the wild, it grows along streams where cold, clear water flows continuously over gravel beds. Those conditions are not easy to reproduce, even in modern agriculture. Most crops have a list of preferred growing conditions. Wasabi has a list of demands.

It likes cool temperatures, generally between about 8 and 20 degrees Celsius. It dislikes extreme heat and severe cold. It prefers shade rather than full sun. It wants plenty of moisture, but not soggy soil. The water must be clean and rich in oxygen. Sudden changes in growing conditions can stress the plants, and of course, disease can become a serious problem. As a result, wasabi farming resembles a careful balancing act rather than traditional field agriculture.

Some growers cultivate wasabi in specially designed gravel beds supplied by flowing spring water. Others use highly controlled greenhouse environments where temperature, humidity and irrigation can be monitored closely. Even then, success is far from guaranteed.

Investment in time

The challenge is made greater by the plant's slow growth. Farmers may wait two or even three years before a wasabi rhizome reaches marketable size.



Wasabi, freshly picked.

That rhizome—the thickened stem growing just above the roots—is the part most often grated and served as a condiment. Waiting years for a harvest means growers have a great deal invested in a crop before any income is realized. A disease outbreak, equipment failure or prolonged heat wave can threaten years of work.

For that reason, genuine wasabi is often expensive. The price reflects not only the crop's rarity but also the patience and care required to produce it. Yet the surprises do not end at harvest.

Unlike many food products, wasabi's best flavour appears only after it is prepared. When the rhizome is grated, chemical reactions occur inside the damaged plant cells. These reactions create the compounds responsible for wasabi's distinctive heat and aroma.

The result is a flavour that is noticeably different from horseradish. People who have sampled genuine wasabi often describe it as fresher, more complex and less harsh. Its heat rises quickly through the nose but tends to fade more rapidly than the burn of hot peppers. Unfortunately, those flavour compounds do not last forever.

Wait: For an immediate use

The flavour compounds begin to break down almost as soon as the wasabi is grated. Many chefs consider freshly grated wasabi to be at its peak for only a short period of time. This is one reason high-end sushi restaurants sometimes grate wasabi to order rather than preparing it hours in advance.

Traditional preparation methods can be surprisingly specialized. In Japan, wasabi is often grated on a board covered with sharkskin, whose rough texture produces an exceptionally fine paste.

Even the rest of the plant need not go to waste. The leaves, stems and flowers are edible and are used in a variety of dishes. Depending on the market, growers may be able to sell more than just the prized rhizome.

For farmers, wasabi represents an interesting example of a high-value specialty crop. It will never replace major field crops, but it demonstrates how agricultural success can sometimes come from producing small quantities of something unique rather than large quantities of something common.

The next time you see a small green dollop beside a sushi roll, consider the journey it may have taken. If it is genuine wasabi, it may have spent years growing in carefully controlled conditions, nurtured by a farmer striving to satisfy one of agriculture's most demanding plants.

Three years of growing. Fifteen minutes of peak flavour. Few crops can claim quite that ratio.

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Young Gardeners Dig In at Elmvale Farmers' Market Opening

By Roslyn Watkins



The Elmvale Farmers' Market kicked off its season on June 11, welcoming both new and returning vendors who offered shoppers a wide variety of unique, locally sourced, and affordable products.

The event featured more than just shopping. The local library hosted a book sale staffed by volunteers, while the Fire Department delighted children by introducing them to fire safety and sending many home proudly wearing Junior Firefighter hats.

The Elmvale District Garden Enthusiasts (E.D.G.E.) joined the opening festivities with a selection of perennials, annuals, and shrubs, along with free gardening advice for visitors. Young attendees were invited to unleash their creativity in a chalk garden by drawing their favourite flowers and to plant a marigold seedling in an ice cream cone to take home. The hands-on activity proved to be a crowd favourite, with many budding gardeners leaving with smiles on their faces.



Adding to the festive atmosphere, several musicians entertained marketgoers throughout the afternoon, including one performer who wowed the crowd by playing the accordion while walking on stilts.

The Elmvale Farmers' Market is held every Thursday from 3 to 7 p.m. in the Community Centre parking lot, offering residents and visitors an enjoyable opportunity to shop local, support community vendors, and spend an afternoon with family and friends.

A Strong Future for Agriculture in Simcoe North

Message from MPP Dunlop

Ontario's agri-food sector continues to be a driving force behind our economy, and I am proud to represent a region where agriculture plays such an important role in the success of our communities.

Farmers, producers, processors, and agribusinesses across Simcoe North work tirelessly to provide high-quality food, create local jobs, and contribute to the economic strength of Ontario. Their dedication, innovation, and resilience continue to make our region a leader in the agri-food industry.

I was pleased to recently announce that Ontario is investing \$5.4 million in 28 new agri-food research and innova-

tion projects through the Ontario Agri-Food Innovation Alliance. These projects will help develop practical solutions to support farmers, improve productivity, strengthen food security, and enhance the competitiveness of Ontario agriculture. Research initiatives include advancements in crop protection, livestock management, and emerging technologies that will help producers adapt to future challenges and opportunities.

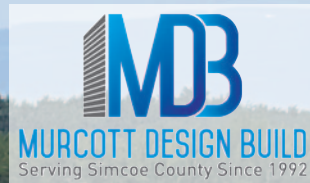
Ontario has also announced investments in agricultural research infrastructure, including new facilities and upgrades that will support innovation and provide valuable resources for producers across the province. These investments

are helping ensure Ontario remains a global leader in agricultural excellence.

As we look ahead, supporting local agriculture remains a priority. Strong partnerships between government, industry, researchers, and producers are essential to building a resilient and sustainable agri-food sector that can continue to grow and thrive.

I want to thank the agricultural community of Simcoe North for everything you do. Your hard work supports families, strengthens local economies, and helps feed communities across Ontario and beyond.

Best wishes for a successful summer season!



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Ontario Welcomes \$100 Million Investment in the Agri-food Sector

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Tradition and Togetherness Shine at 175th Millbrook Fair

Story and photos by Cathy Camill-Hill

The 175th Millbrook Fair celebrated its long agricultural tradition while bringing together residents from across the region for a weekend of family fun and community spirit.

Carly Croft of Millbrook is serving as the 2026 Millbrook Fair Ambassador. She credits the Fair's remarkable 175-year history to the dedication of volunteers and the support of the entire community. "A lot of volunteers and the whole community come together for this Fair. We need everyone to make it happen," she says. Croft decided to run for the Ambassador role to improve her public speaking skills and because of her lifelong connection to agriculture. "I wanted to help myself get better at public speaking, and I grew up around horses and farm animals," she explains. For Croft, the best part of the Fair is seeing people come together. Pointing to groups of beef cattle exhibitors chatting ringside, she notes that events like the Fair provide a rare opportunity for people in the agricultural community to connect. "It's not like these people can meet and talk together every day," she says. "I like seeing everyone come together like this on Millbrook Fair days."

The Millbrook Agricultural Fair traces its roots to local fairs held in the 1830s, although the Agricultural Society recognizes 1849 as the official date of the first fair based on a 1949 centennial grant application. Following a reorganization of the Agricultural Society in 1942, the event moved from a fall schedule to its current June date. For generations, the fair has fulfilled its mission of bringing together rural and urban communities through education, entertainment, agricultural exhibits, competitions, and family-friendly activities. Its logo, adopted in 1980 and designed by Karen Shaughnessy, reflects that balance with a pig representing agriculture and a clown symbolizing fun and entertainment.



Katie Elmhirst of Indian River is pictured with her homebred heifer, IRCC Prom Queen, winner of the 2026 Jackpot Class banner at the 175th Millbrook Fair Open Beef Show. Holding the banner is Wyatt Burgomaster of Peterborough.



Eight-year-old Mila Noel of Norwood tries her hand at milking "Maple," a model cow featured in the popular interactive display presented by Durham Farm Connections at the Millbrook Fair. The organization promotes stronger connections between local farms and the community, helping foster a shared commitment to the wellbeing of farmers and agricultural land.



This is Shelby Corp at the 175th Millbrook Fair in the Open Beef Show. Shelby is helping out by showing this Hereford owned by Stonewood Grange of Lakefield.



Chris Haas of Haas Acres, a family farm operation near Peterborough, took part in the Antique Tractor Pull on Saturday afternoon at the 175th Millbrook Fair, competing with the family's Farmall tractor.

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4-H Members Shine at Schomberg Fair and Community Events

Reports and photos submitted by Simcoe County 4-H

The South Simcoe 4-H Community Involvement Club News Report

By Charlie Leal

On May 3, at the Hike for Matthew's House Hospice, my fellow South Simcoe 4-H Community Club members and I had a lot of fun helping children with ceramic painting, face painting, and arts and crafts. Thank you to Sheldon Creek Dairy for hosting, as well as to the volunteers, 4-H leaders, and Matthew's House Hospice volunteers who helped make the event a success. Last but not least, thank you to everyone who came out to support Matthew's House Hospice and participate in the hike.



South Simcoe Cookstown 4-H Beef Club

By Trinity Flavell-Thwaites

The Cookstown Beef 4-H group attended the Schomberg Fair on Sunday May 31st. Five members showed their heifers ranging from Junior to Senior divisions, and went home with placements and or ribbons.

The Cookstown Beef 4-H Club opened their meeting at 7 pm at the Gilpin Farm on June third. The group practiced judging items such as tires, halters, and buckets. Proper etiquette for speaking when giving reasons was discussed. After all reasons were given the group worked on their showmanship and gave each other ideas and advice. Members practiced by leading three heifers around.



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Soul Sisters Celebrations Tending the Garden Within

Over the past few weeks, I have found myself with dirt under my fingernails more often than usual. Between hauling soil, carefully choosing vegetable locations, digging holes that always seem deeper than expected, and standing back to admire spaces that still look like “works in progress,” I have been spending a great deal of time preparing, planting and watering my garden. As I was kneeling in the soil one morning, surrounded by seedlings and weeds that somehow appeared overnight, it struck me how much tending a garden resembles tending a life.

Gardens are curious things. We plant with hope. We water with faith. We spend hours nurturing something that, for quite some time, gives us very little visible return. Yet somehow, we continue. Because somewhere deep inside, we trust that growth is happening beneath the surface.

Human beings are not so different. We often move through seasons believing we should constantly bloom,

always be productive, always thrive, always showing visible success. Yet nature reminds us otherwise. Gardens rest. They become messy. They experience storms. Some plants flourish while others need replacing. None of this means the garden has failed.

Our spiritual selves require similar care. The physical act of gardening asks something beautiful of us: patience. You cannot rush roots. You cannot force flowers open. You cannot yell at tomatoes into growing faster (though many of us have tried). The same is true for healing, joy, grief, purpose, and personal growth.

Too often, we neglect our inner gardens while focusing entirely on maintaining what others can see.

We forget to ask ourselves:
What needs watering?
What needs pruning?
What have I outgrown?
What weeds have quietly taken over?

Sometimes tending your spiritual garden looks profound; meditation, re-

flection, meaningful conversations, or moments of deep connection. Other times, it looks wonderfully ordinary: sitting in sunshine for ten minutes, laughing with a friend, saying no when you mean no, or allowing yourself rest without guilt.

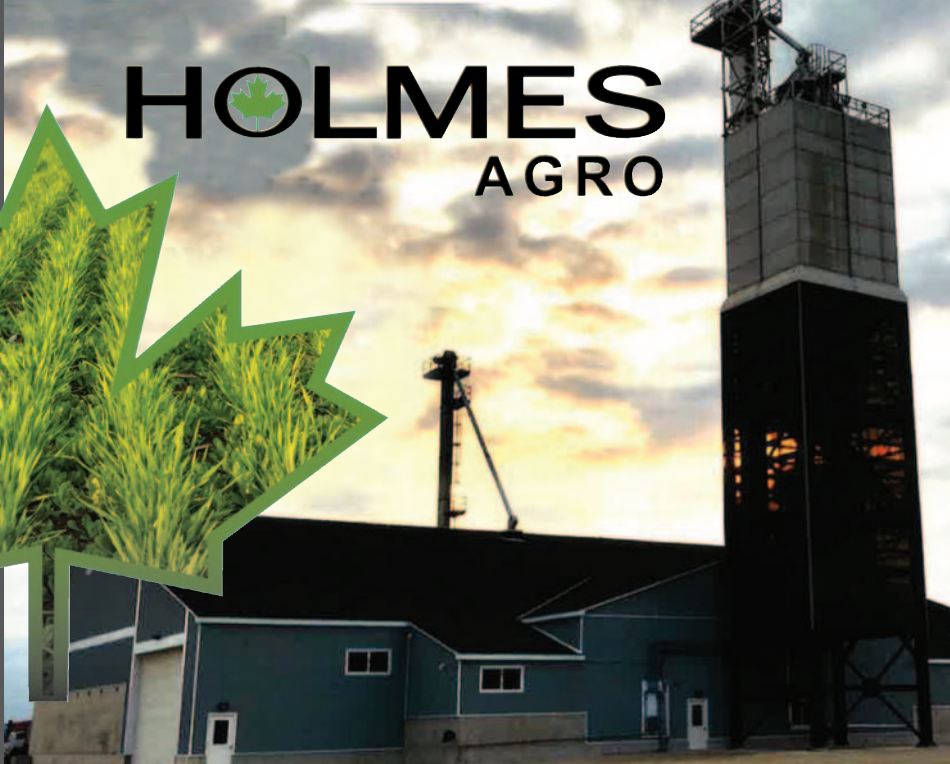
Gardens also teach us about seasons. Not every season is meant for blooming. Some are meant for planting. Some for resting. Some for letting go. There is great wisdom in accepting where you are instead of constantly trying to force yourself into a different season. As I continue planting my own garden, I know some plants will thrive and others may not survive the first heat wave. That is part of the process.

Still, I will keep watering.
Still, I will keep tending.
Because gardens, both physical and spiritual rarely ask for perfection. They simply ask us to return, again and again, with care. Perhaps that is the real work: not building a perfect garden but becoming someone willing to keep tending it.

In Gratitude, The Soul Sisters
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Loretto: The Rise, Fall, and Revival of a South Simcoe Hamlet

Village Stories

by Andrew Hind

modest size, the community gained a reputation that loomed large in the annals of South Simcoe lore.

Irish-Catholic settlers began arriving in the fertile area as early as the 1830s, and a post office was opened by P.D. Kelly in 1864, but Loretto was truly born when Lot 15 on Concessions 5 and 6 of Adjala Township were surveyed for subdivision in 1866. It was only then that a recognizable community began to take shape.

By 1872, Loretto had become a thriving village. Local businesses included three general stores, three blacksmiths, a butcher, currier, tailor, barber, and the practice of Dr. McKenna. At any time, as many as four inns operated in town, each of them surviving largely on the proceeds from the ever-crowded barrooms.

There was, of course, a school, SS#4, located just south of the corners. At one time, the student body approached sixty and required two teachers. The original frame school was replaced in 1905 by one made of brick.

A tiny farming hamlet located about 15 km as the crow flies from Tottenham, Loretto was never particularly large. Yet, despite its



From 1880s, around which time the village was at its zenith, Loretto became home to Adjala Township council.

Kelly apparently selected the name of the community – as was his right as a postmaster and supposedly honours Our Lady of Loretto, the Virgin Mary. Kelly, a staunch Irish-Catholic, stamped his legacy on the community.

Despite developing into a thriving hamlet, Loretto's reputation was sullied by a series of macabre incidents that – justly or otherwise – called into the question of those who called the village and its environs home. As many as four murders took place in the area in the latter half of the 19th century, all of which were unsolved as the village closed ranks to protect its own.

Loretto survived this black mark, only to eventually fall victim to the changing ebb and flow of time.

By the early 1900s, the day of the cross-road hamlet had come and gone. Loretto began to atrophy as its businesses closed or left for greener pastures. The Loretto Inn was the last to go, burning to the ground in 1936.

Soon, the village was but a sad shadow of its former self, a ghost-like community that somehow seemed more dead than alive. But Loretto has proven remarkably resilient and has bounced back from the brink. Today, it's a small but thriving community once more.

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QUILTING

Guild Members Stitch Comfort for Veterans

By Senora Baldry

Quilting Corners Guild presented an impressive array of quilts for Quilts of Valour Canada on June 2, 2026. Thirty-two beautiful quilts in a range of designs and colours were displayed and given to our regional rep, Elizabeth. Our thanks goes to the many creative hands involved in piecing, long-arming and binding these important hugs for those who have served our country. Thank you also goes to Country Concessions Quilt Shop for giving us their classroom for gals to meet, sew quilt tops and socialize for this important endeavor. I am always filled with pride when I see the culmination of work created by this guild. A few examples of the beautiful quilts are pictured here.




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Stitching with Heart for Quilts of Valour

By Janis Hamilton

On June 13th, 2026, the air show was held in Barrie, so after supper I took my book out to the bench by my pond, started to read and stopped as the Snowbirds flew over my house. They just amaze me with their precision and they fly so close to the house. They entertained me for over an hour with the by-planes, the one jet and the group of Snowbirds. I imagine the crowds down at Kempenfelt Bay were equally impressed.

On July 1st, consider Canada Day as the beginning of something that can change so many lives. You may be wondering, "What does this have to do with quilting?" The answer is: quite a lot.

Did you know that quilts are made for our soldiers returning from duty who simply need a comforting hug? These handmade quilts are given by people who care deeply, offering warmth, gratitude, and support to those living with both visible and invisible injuries. You can see a few photos from a recent Quilts of Valour presentation on page 16.

Quilts of Valour Canada Society has been active since 2006 and became a registered national charity in 2009. It began with an Edmonton Quilter, Lezley Zwaai. She knew of three Canadian Armed Forces members who were recovering in a local hospital from being in the Afghanistan conflict. Zwaai wanted to say "thank you" and give some comfort to them. Since the beginning in 2006 there have been thousands of quilts (over 28,537) made by individuals, groups or guilds and even retired armed forces members are making quilts.

One of our members from the Simcoe County Quilt Guild recently shared the Quilt of Valour she received "a hug from a grateful nation." She explained how this meaningful gesture supported her healing and described the profound impact the quilt has had on her life.

Log on to www.quiltsofvalour.ca to see what they can offer for you to get started. The website will explain in detail what they do, who sponsors them, the resources they offer and even the regional person to contact. Locally you can contact Elizabeth Seamans in Angus elizabethseamands@quiltsofvalour.ca or call her at 705-424-0759.

Under the resources section there are hug block patterns if you don't wish to make a full quilt. There are also free pattern downloads, longarm patterns for those doing the longarm work and even support for the longarmer. One of the patterns was made by our very own local quilt pattern designer, Jen Holden. Jen has resided in Horseshoe Valley for years and now lives off grid but teaches all over North America and speaks at local quilt guilds when she is in the area. Jen's pattern has been used by many and of course the fabric is made by Canadian manufacturer, Northcott. Another designer is Paul Léger who lives in Ottawa but was taught to quilt by our local Joan Winters years ago. He is a veteran so clearly knew what would be important in the design. You can read more about him in the "Home" tab and meet the designers. There is a "What's new" section and you can also see quilt recipients and if you know of anyone from World War II to current military members you can request a quilt. The criteria for these quilts is very well thought out as first and foremost they are to last so quality is vital. The qualifications are listed below.

If you are making a quilt or have a quilt ready to donate please ensure that it meets the QOV Specifications.

The following is from their website:

- Fabrics should be new, high quality 100% cotton. Do not use repurposed fabrics (eg: old shirts, blue jeans etc.)
- Choose fabrics with prints that are appropriate for a Canadian Armed Force member.

- Patterns and blocks can be of any design; however, recipients often prefer quilts that have a Canadian theme.

- Quilts must be large enough to cover an average-sized adult, with a minimum size of 55" x 70" and a maximum size of 72" X 84".

- Quilts must have a top, batting, and backing, and must be machine quilted or hand quilted. A tied or tufted quilt is not acceptable as a Quilt of Valour.

- Backing fabric should also be a good quality cotton fabric, and if seamed the selvage edges have been trimmed from the seam.

- Batting should be 100% cotton or an 80/20 cotton/poly blend. Wool, bamboo or 100% polyester batting should be avoided.

- Quilting should be appropriate for the quilt and not overly dense, which can reduce the loft of the quilt.

- Binding strips should be joined with diagonal seams. Binding should be double-fold ("French fold"), attached by machine, and finished by hand or machine.

- Please DO NOT wash the completed quilt. We want your gift to be crisp and new.

- When your quilt is ready please contact a QOVC Representative near you who will make arrangements to pick it up and sew on an official Quilts of Valour label. Provide your name and the names of others who helped make the quilt so that they may all be added to the label.

So, if you find yourself stuck inside on a stormy or rainy day and you hear your sewing machine calling to you consider spending quality time together making a quilt that in the end will make a huge difference to someone who left their family to serve Canada proudly. Small acts of kindness can quietly change the world one stitch at a time.



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Annual E.D.G.E. Plant Sale Blooms Despite Rainy Conditions

By Roslyn Watkins

Despite cool, rainy weather, the Elmvale District Garden Enthusiasts (E.D.G.E.) annual plant sale at Heritage Park on May 23 attracted eager shoppers who arrived early to browse the wide selection of plants and perhaps discover a few new favourites.

Visitors found an impressive assortment of locally grown perennials, shrubs, vegetables, ground covers, annuals, and a popular collection of native plants. With knowledgeable volunteers on hand to help and plants conveniently organized by growing conditions, including sun, part shade, and shade, shopping was enjoyable and easy for everyone.

Although the sale continued until noon, only a handful of plants remained by closing time thanks to the enthusiastic turnout. Gardeners who were looking for more were able to visit E.D.G.E. at the first Farmers' Market of the season that was held on June 11 from 3 to 7 p.m. in the Community Hall parking lot at 33 Yonge Street, Elmvale where additional plants and free gardening information was available.



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Stay Safe Around Water This Summer

By Dennis Gannon

After a long, cold winter and a less-than-spectacular spring, many of us are looking forward to a warm and enjoyable summer. When the temperatures rise, there's nothing quite like cooling off in a lake, pond, river, or swimming pool. However, spending time around water requires caution, as drowning remains one of the leading causes of accidental death in Canada.

Statistics show that more than 450 people drown each year across the country, with nearly half of those incidents occurring in lakes and ponds. Children under the age of nine account for a significant number of drowning-related hospital visits each year.

Fortunately, there are several simple steps that can help prevent water-related tragedies.

Young children and inexperienced swimmers should always be closely supervised and kept within arm's reach when in or near the water. While flotation toys, water wings, and arm bands can be fun, they can also create a false sense of security. Anyone who is not a confident swimmer should wear an approved personal flotation device whenever they are near or in the water. Avoid distractions such as cell phones while supervising swimmers, it takes only seconds for an emergency to develop.

If you have a backyard pool, ensure that your fencing meets local bylaw requirements and that gates are self-closing and lockable. Approved pool fencing is designed to prevent children from climbing through or over it. Keep furniture, toys, and other objects away from the fence to eliminate climbing aids. It is also wise to keep lifesaving equipment nearby, including a throw rope, life ring, and first aid kit. When the pool is not in use, consider using a safety cover.

A jump into a cool lake can be refreshing on a hot day, but always make sure the area is safe before entering the water. Diving headfirst into unknown water can result in serious injury. Enter feet first whenever depth and underwater conditions are uncertain. Be aware of currents, undertows, and fast-moving water, which can quickly overwhelm even experienced swimmers. Whenever possible, swim with a buddy and avoid swimming alone.

Alcohol and recreational drugs impair judgment, balance, and reaction time and should be avoided when swimming, boating, or operating any watercraft.

Knowing your location can also make a difference during an emergency. Consider downloading the what3words app to your fully charged phone. The app can help emergency responders locate you quickly if assistance is needed in a remote area, park, beach, or on the water.

Learning CPR is another important way to protect yourself and others. If you have never taken a CPR course, consider registering for one this summer. The life you save could be that of a family member, friend, or neighbour. Likewise, if you do not know how to swim, it is never too late to learn. Most community recreation centres offer swimming lessons for all ages and skill levels.

Have a wonderful summer, enjoy Ontario's beautiful waterways, and make water safety a priority wherever your adventures take you.

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Used Equipment



Kubota DMC8536T
center pivot trailed , 11'6' cutting width , semi swing tine conditioner, adjustable swath settings , adjustable cutterbar, 540 RPM, Unit is located at Stewarts in Stayner. **\$34,800**



Kubota BX23S
hours showing: 793, 4wd, diesel, 64 PTO Hp, cab/heat/air, Nokian Tires, 360/70r20 fronts, 440/80r30 rears, radio, Kubota M37 Loader, Mechanical SS coupler, In Erin. **\$21,800**



New Holland L218
2230 hours showing, cab/heat/air, 10x16.5 tires, hydraulic QC, 66" low pro bucket front aux hydraulics, 2 speed, hand/foot controls, Unit is located at Stewart's Equipment in Erin. **\$38,900**



John Deere 757
hours showing : 573.6 , gas , four post rops , mower deck, Unit is located at Stewarts Equipment in Erin. Stock Number: U29498 Serial Number: TC0757B043240 **\$6,300**



Gehl 1465
gehl round baler , 4x5 bale , twine , soft core , 540 rpm, Unit is located at Stewarts Equipment in Stayner. Serial Number: 17727 Stock Number YU0434 **\$2,350**



Kubota SVL97-2
hours showing: 1123.8, cab/heat/air, high flow, hydraulic quick coupler with bucket, rubber tracks, dutchman stabilizers on rear, iso/pilot controls, located in Erin. **\$85,800**



Great Plains EWNT10
great plains no-till drill, liquid fertilizer, grass seed box, 3x13 press wheels, spring tooth harrows, 9.00x24 rib implement tires, 3071 acres , excellent shape, unit is located at Stewarts Equipment in Stayner. **\$20,850**



Rockomatic 57
rock-o-matic rock picker , 540 rpm, Unit is located at Stewarts Equipment in Erin. Stock Number: YU0401 Serial Number: OH78544 **\$4,600**



Volvo L110H
hours showing: 11029, 4wd, cab with heat and air, auto lube system, opti shift, hydraulic QC, bucket, 23.5r-25 tires, Unit is located at Stewarts Equipment in Erin. **\$106,500**



New Holland L218
hours showing: 4680.4, ROPS, 10x16.5 tires, hand/foot controls, front auxilliary hydraulics, hydraulic quick attach, no bucket. Unit is locate at Stewarts Equipment in Erin. **\$24,900**



Case Maxxum 125
hours showing:458.5, 4WD, cab/heat/air, 14.9r28 fronts, front fenders, 18.4r38 rears, 2 remotes, 16x16 auto shift, fender mounted switches, 540 rpm, metal plessis snow blade **\$126,900**



Kubota SVL95
hours showing : 1941 , diesel , cab with heat and air, rubber track machine , 80" low profile bucket, Unit is located at Stewarts Equipment in Stayner. **\$66,900**

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