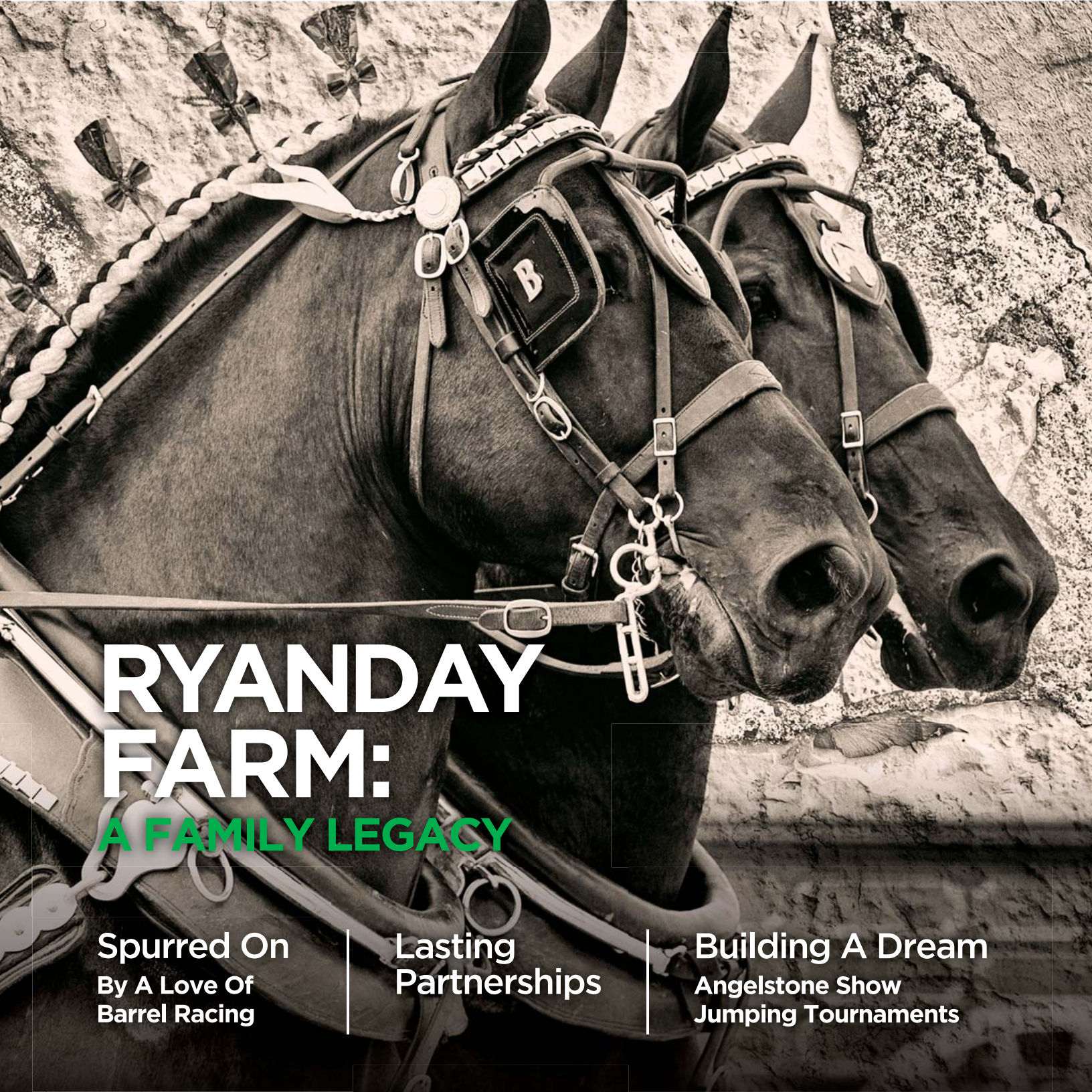




2020 Edition

HORSE & COUNTRY

IN THE HILLS OF ERIN



RYANDAY FARM: A FAMILY LEGACY

Spurred On
By A Love Of
Barrel Racing

**Lasting
Partnerships**

Building A Dream
Angelstone Show
Jumping Tournaments

WELLINGTON COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



Wellington County's Economic Development team is here to help connect your business with support services, workforce development and funding opportunities.

Learn more about the County's Community Improvement Programme, Ride Well Rural Transportation and Taste Real Local Food at:

www.wellington.ca/economicdevelopment

CONTACT:

Wellington County Economic Development
519.837.2600 x 2614 | ecdev@wellington.ca



Alternate formats available upon request

^{OM} Official Mark of The Corporation of the County of Wellington



Welcome to the 2020 edition of the Town of Erin's Horse and Country magazine!

This year's cover photo features a team of Percherons, a true Canadian heritage icon. Erin was built on the strength of heavy horses such as these for farming and for transportation. We are pleased to still have families in our community who continue to breed and show draft horses.

With many working and recreational horse farms, Erin is proud to be known as a *horse friendly community*. We are home to many different kinds of equine breeds and disciplines, including race horses, competition show jumpers, rodeo, trail horses and backyard pets. As you drive around Erin, you will pass our many beautiful horse farms and stables; some offering special events and camps during the summer months.

To get a closer look into our amazing equine community here in Erin, I encourage you to visit the Horse Tent at the annual Erin Fall Fair. The Fair takes place on Thanksgiving weekend and brings out a large crowd each year. The Horse Tent offers three full days of fun and educational activities, with something for the entire family. It includes live horse demos, displays, mini horses, health and wellness presentations, a horse heritage exhibit and much more.

Another wonderful equine experience in the Town of Erin is Angelstone Show Jumping Tournaments. This year they are celebrating their 10th Anniversary and during their summer show season, they host world-class competition and offer a fun spectator experience with free admission for visitors.

Thank you for visiting Erin and experiencing the charm.

Sincerely,

Allan Alls,
Mayor, Town of Erin



Photo credit: Bridget Ryan

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Horse & Country Magazine

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Photo credit: Christina Handley

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*SALES REPRESENTATIVE

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Come Join the Excitement, Watch World Class Show Jumping Tournaments in Your Neighbor

JUN 8 • JUN 15 • AUG 24 • AUG 31 | 6:00PM

ALWAYS FUN, ALWAYS FREE

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8720 Wellington Rd #50, Erin, ON N0B 2K0 | WWW.ANGELSTONE.CA

RyanDay Farm: A FAMILY LEGACY

Written by: Bridget Ryan

On top of the hill, looking eastward down the valley between Hillsburgh and Erin sits RyanDay Farm. Owned by Robert and Jennifer Black, RyanDay breeds and shows Percheron horses, a versatile draft breed known for its strength and even temperament.

Photo: Jennifer Black



Early morning at RyanDay Farm

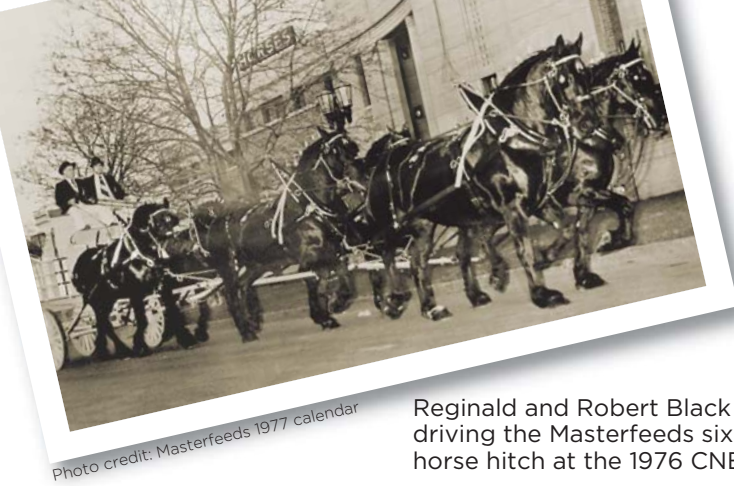


Photo credit: Masterfeeds 1977 calendar

Reginald and Robert Black driving the Masterfeeds six horse hitch at the 1976 CNE

Black family: four generations



Photo Credit: Lynn Cassels-Caldwell

In 2019, RyanDay Farm foaled eight registered Percherons and is expecting five foals in 2020. Their yearlings, stallions and mares are sold throughout Canada, the U.S., Cuba, England and France. They also produce and distribute a premium horse vitamin-mineral supplement.

Their children, Ryan and Dayna—for whom the business is named, grew up learning about heavy horses. Robert and Ryan have driven up to eight horses at once, and over the years have shown six and four horse teams, singles and breeding classes. Shows are a big undertaking and the entire family pitches in to help. Their grandchildren visit often and will be the fourth generation of Blacks to take up the reins.

The Blacks' horse heritage goes back to Herbert Black, Robert's grandfather. In the late 1800s and into the early 1900s, heavy horses were needed for working the land on their family farm, which is where Pearson International Airport is now located.

In 1969, Robert's parents, Reginald and Helen Black moved from Brampton to a Wellington County dairy farm, where they continued their interest in registered Percherons. Reg and Helen became known for breed development, specifically their Blackhome line. The horses provided them with continued learning, a break from the milking and farm work, and a place to connect with other horse people.

Reginald, Ryan, Jacob and Robert Black



Photo credit: Lynn Cassels-Caldwell

“My grandfather spent his life perfecting the (Percheron) bloodlines. He found a good cross and from them came world champions in both mares and stallions. He taught us all the little things, he taught us about the show ring and horses and how to be around them. My boys are now learning from their grandfather and it's a family tradition that we hope to continue.” –Ryan Black

Robert and Jennifer embraced the Black family tradition, and continued breeding and showing while each had full time careers off the farm. In 1973, the Black's six-horse team was hired by Masterfeeds to promote their brand at fairs and special events. This work lasted through the 1970s and '80s.

Robert is an accredited judge, overseeing shows in Canada, the U.S., and England. He serves as a director on the provincial breed organization and on the Royal Draft Horse committee. Ryan is also a judge for draft breed shows in Canada and the U.S.

The Royal Winter Fair (the Royal) in Toronto remains one of their favourite show venues and in 2013, Robert was recognized for sixty-five consecutive years of showing there (1948 to 2013). Last year, RyanDay's MRD Valentino's Lance, won the prestigious Royal Winter Fair, 2019 Senior Stallion championship. Over the years, they have earned many ribbons, prizes and championships, however, they say it is the people and the love of the breed that motivates them to continue.

RyanDay six-horse hitch driven by Ryan Black




Photo credit: Lynn Cassels-Caldwell

Showing is a huge commitment of time, energy and expense. The heavy horses require a tractor-trailer and driver, space for nine heavy horses, the wagon, harness and show gear. Many pre-show hours are spent training the teams. Preparing for the Royal (and all shows) includes:



- Checking, cleaning, oiling and polishing all the show tack;
- Transporting the horses into Toronto on the preceding Wednesday;
- Washing and wrapping all the horses on Thursday. It takes a 'pit crew' of at least four to five people another two hours to roll and prep their manes, groom the horses to be show-ready and tack them up after the washing has taken place;
- Showing in various classes all day Friday, Saturday and Sunday;
- Ship back home to Erin/Hillsburgh, Sunday night.

RyanDay takes part in four to 10 shows every year, wrapping up their show season after the Royal in November. Then, the horses' shoes are pulled off for the winter, and they are on vacation until spring. The owners are not. The stable work, feeding and horse-care of these gentle giants continues every day, seven days a week. Big horses, big hearts, it is a labour of love. The RyanDay family legacy continues.



Celebrating 170 years of Horse Heritage

Since 1850

ERIN AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY
190 Main St. Erin | 519.833.2808 | erinfair.com



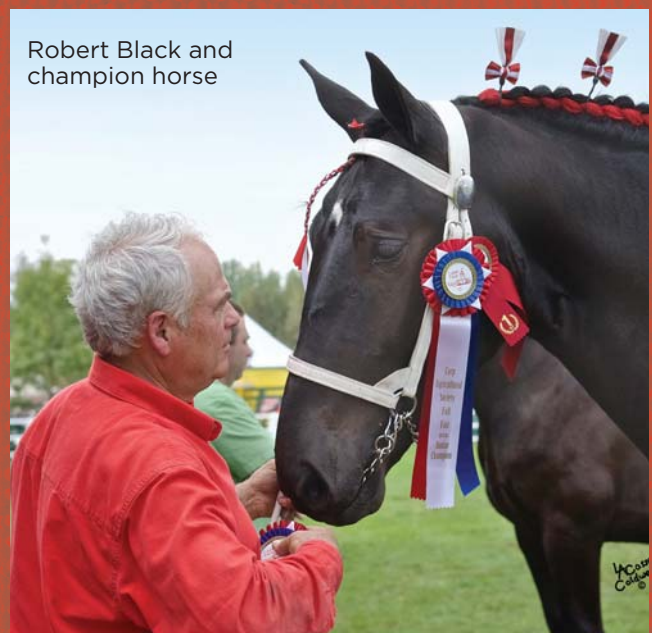
PERCHERON HORSE

The Percheron horse breed originated in the former province of Perche, in western France. The horses are often black or grey in colouring, but can also be chestnut or sorrel. A healthy foal weighs about 150 pounds and a mature animal weighs 1,800 to 2,000 pounds. An average height for an adult is 18.2 hh (hands high). That's 73 inches or about six feet! The Percheron is also called a draft horse and includes other heavy horse breeds such as Belgians, Clydesdales, Canadians, Gypsy Vanners and others. Heavy horses are used for showing, logging, farming, sleigh and carriage rides, parades, and mounted patrol. Occasionally, these gentle giants are involved in dressage and eventing competitions.



SIX-HORSE HITCH

A six-horse hitch is made up of three horse teams: the wheel team in the back, the swing in the middle and the lead team at the front. Owners and drivers strive to put together teams that are similar in breed and colour, size, stride and head carriage (how the horse holds their head). These attributes help a team work together in unison.



Robert Black and champion horse

Photo Credit: Lynn Cassels-Caldwell

You'll be amazed at what they can do!

We expect great things from our horses. Let's make sure that they can expect a happy and dignified retirement when their racing days are over.

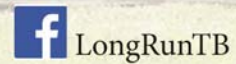


First Out aka Creemore with adopter Andrea McGowan



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The image shown here is for creative purpose only. We strongly recommend all riders wear helmets and proper protective gear.

FOCUS ON A LOCAL

Interview by: Bridget Ryan

Photo credit: Submitted photo

Joanne Milton, owner of Rustic Meadows in Erin, is a dedicated horse-woman who started her equine journey as a young girl in Northern Ontario. She moved to Toronto to study Equine Studies at Humber College and then worked in the racing industry. Joanne was a licensed Standardbred trainer. She's also a breeder and continues to offer lessons in reining, sidesaddle and general horsemanship. Joanne has shared her hands-on experience and passion for horses with the local community for over 35 years.

Joanne Milton riding side-saddle on Vanna

Tell us about your first pony:

I got Rusty for \$225 from a friend of the family at age sixteen. This price included the saddle, bridle and all the grooming tools. He was a 12 to 15 year old Quarter Horse.

What was the most important horse memory for you? Why?

My Grade 10 Enlehart Ontario High School teacher, Mr. Lou Marasco. He told me about the Equine Program at Humber College in Toronto. I knew immediately that was what I wanted to study!

Do you have a favourite equine author?

Author: Alois Podajski, his book 'My Horses, My Teachers'. Podajski was the head of the Spanish Riding School in Austria, and he worked with Lipizzaner Horses.

Other than riding, what else do you do for physical fitness, and what are your interests or hobbies?

Managing a stable requires a great deal of physical work, everything from mucking out and throwing hay bales to leading and moving horses around. A couple of years ago I wore a pedometer for a month. I averaged 11 miles (17.6 km) per day just doing my daily chores.

Do you watch horse shows, if so, what?

I don't watch very much TV, I prefer to read books. I read a lot!

Who is the most interesting horse-person you've ever met?

Barbara Schulte.

Barbara is a Professional Cutting Horse Trainer, Personal Performance Coach, Author, Clinician, and Equine Consultant. Barbara's training includes tips and skills to help riders develop their full potential, perform under pressure, and overcome fear. In 2012, Barbara was inducted into the National Cowgirl Hall of Fame, and honoured for her outstanding career accomplishments.

What disciplines or horse sports do you take part in?

Coaching: My mother was a teacher, so it just seemed natural that I would want to educate and pass on my love of learning. I strive to develop 'thinking' students that have the tools to work through problems on their own.

Reining: I got into the sport a bit late, but I love the discipline. I am totally immersed in the bio-mechanics and precision needed to lay down a pretty pattern—at speed.

Breeding: My goal was to produce great-minded, athletic and sound horses that the pros could show, but who would also be kind and forgiving enough for non-pros and youth to get along with. I was producing horses I liked, but it was an expensive business.

Is there another equestrian discipline or horse sport you would like to do?

All of them! Especially Dressage and Driving.

What is your vision, hopes and suggestions for building a strong Erin Horse Community?

I would like to see more equine education in our local schools and more youth engagement. I'd also like to see more local municipal and provincial government support for the equine and agriculture industries and to promote existing programs like 4H.

We need people to step up and get involved, to volunteer for our many different agricultural events, horse groups and organizations. A good example is the Erin Fair.

The community as a whole benefits from volunteer involvement, and community building. Youth awareness and education regarding horse activities and sports is key to engagement.



Joanne Milton and Vanna at McKinnon Timber Mart Christmas event

Photo credit: Supplied by Joanne Milton

What Equine Associations, and horse organization memberships or affiliations do you have?

- Ontario Reining Horse Association (Secretary, Lifetime Member)
- National Reining Horse Association (Lifetime Member)
- Reining Canada (Lifetime Member)
- Rockwood Trailriders (Director, Past President)
- Ontario Sidesaddle Association (Treasurer, Lifetime Member)
- Equine Canada (Coaching Certification)
- Ontario Equestrian (Stable Member, Coaching)
- International Sidesaddle Associations (Lifetime Member)
- Ontario Trail Riders Association
- Women's Horse Owner's Association

Equine Directory

Can't find what your looking for?
Check out our online Business
Directory for further business
listings in Erin at www.erin.ca

ACCOMMODATION & INNS

Bed & Breakfast

Devonshire Guest House

3 Union St.
Erin, ON N0B 1T0
519-833-2187
www.devonshireguesthouse.ca

Hillsburgh House by the Pond B&B

3 Station St.
Hillsburgh, ON N0B 1Z0
519-855-9487
www.bbcanada.com/hillsburghhousebythepond

Tailwinds B&B

17 Station St.
Hillsburgh, ON N0B 1Z0
519-855-3242
www.tailwindsbb.ca

ACTIVITIES, EVENTS, FAIRS

Horse Shows

Angelstone Show Jumping Tournaments

8720 Wellington Rd. #50
Erin, ON N0B 2K0
519-279-6788
www.angelstone.ca

Erin Agricultural Society

Erin Fair Horse Tent
184-190 Main St.
Erin, ON N0B 1T0
519-833-2808
www.erinfair.com

Fallbrook Trail Ranch

Trailriding and Kids Camps
14097 9th Line
Georgetown, ON L7G 4S8
905-873-6588
www.fallbrook

AGRICULTURAL & EQUINE FEED PRODUCTS

Agricultural & Equine Feed Products

Budson's

Provisions For Country Living
Carol Wetering, Manager
93 Main St.
Erin, ON N0B 1T0
519-833-2002

Foxcote Farms

Hay and Straw
Ben Loof
RR #1 Hillsburgh, ON N0B 1Z0
226-979-6687

Hillsburgh Feed and Supplies

Don and Dave Cheyne, Owners
29 Trafalgar Rd. N.
Hillsburgh, ON N0B 1Z0
519-855-4403
www.hillsburghfeedandsupplies.com

Stewart's Equipment

Rob Fletcher, Equine Equipment Sales
9410 Wellington Rd. 124, P.O. Box 10
Erin, ON N0B 1T0
519-833-9616
www.stewartsequip.com

BREEDERS

Beaverwood Farm

Welsh Ponies
Kirsten Brunner
5513 3rd Line
Erin, ON N0B 1Z0
519-833-7169
www.beaverwoodfarm.on.ca

Dominion Farms Draft Horses

Manual Tavares
5627 Wellington Rd. 23
Erin, ON N0B 1T0
519-833-2589

Hidden Meadow Farm

Canadian Horse
Brenda and Geoff Pantling
RR#1 Orton, ON N0B 1N0
519-855-6498

Minshall Farms

Thoroughbreds
Quarter Horse Cutting Horses
Lisa and Shaun Minshall
9133 Wellington Rd. 22, PO Box93
Hillsburgh, ON N0B 1Z0
519-855-9056

Noblebrook Farm

Miniature Horses
Rita Noble
Hwy 124 Erin, ON N0B 1T0
519-833-5012
www.noblebrookfarm.com

Ryan Day Farm Percherons

Robert and Jennifer Black
PO Box 579, 8th line
Hillsburgh, ON N0B 1Z0
519-855-1774
www.ryandayfarm.com

Southern Steele Quarterhorse Ranch

Quarter Horses
Robin Williamson
9330 9th Sideroad, RR #2
Erin, ON N0B 1T0
519-833-4697

TLC Quarter Horses

Scott & Lisa Gray
5677 3rd Line, Erin, ON
519-855-4584

Woodlands Farm Thoroughbreds

Gail Wood
5842 4th Line, P.O. Box 164
Hillsburgh, ON N0B 1Z0
519-855-4915
www.woodlandsfarm.com

COACHING & LESSONS

Greyden Equestrian Facility

Denyse Knapton
5565 Trafalgar Rd., RR #2
Erin, ON
519-833-2274
www.greydenequestrian.com

Meadowlarke North Stables

Andrea Larke
5154 3rd Line RR #2
Erin, ON N0B 1T0
800-295-0419
www.meadowlarkestables.com

Myrddin Equestrian Centre

Margaret Godson
5046 Trafalgar Rd., RR #1
Georgetown, ON L7G 4S4
905-877-6698
www.myddin.info

Rustic Meadows

Joanne Milton
Reining, Sidesaddle
5712 Trafalgar Rd., RR #2
Hillsburgh, ON N0B 1Z0
519-855-6865
www.rusticmeadows.com

EQUINE REAL ESTATE

Maria Britto Real Estate

Erin, ON N0B 1T0
519-315-0146
www.mariabritto.com

Jacqueline Guagliardi, Broker

Royal LePage RCR Realty, Brokerage
75 First St. Suite 14
Orangeville, ON L9W 2E7
519-939-7355
www.jacquelineguagliardi.com

Wayne Baguley

Royal LePage RCR Realty, Brokerage
75 First St. Suite 14
Orangeville, ON L9W 2E7
519-941-5151
www.waynebaguley.com

HORSE BOARDING/ STABLES

Eagle Valley Equestrian

Laura Stahl
5992 8th Line
Hillsburgh, ON N0B 1Z0
519-216-2934
www.evequestrian.com

Harding's Horse Haven

Katrina Harding
4998 6th Line
Erin, ON N0B 1T0
905-691-8980
www.hardingshorsehaven.com

Heavenly Hills Ranch

Terri Pencarinha
9320 24th Sideroad
Erin, ON N0B 1T0
905-407-7227
heavenlyhillsranch@gmail.com

Hillside Acres Ltd

8863 Wellington Road 124
Erin, ON N1H 6H7
416-655-3973
www.facebook.com/hillsideacresltd

Lenches Farm

Mary Cox
6036 9th Line
Hillsburgh, ON N0B 1Z0
226-228-3555

Whitney Stables

5192 3rd Line, RR #2
Acton, ON L7J 2L8
519-362-6662
www.whitneystables.ca

HORSE TRAINING

Circle Four Horsemanship Center

Ron Chauvin
5428 1st Line, RR#3 Erin, ON N0B 1T0
519-766-2560
www.circlefourhorse.com

Dan O'Callaghan Racing Stable

9 Barker St. P.O. Box 378
Hillsburgh, ON N0B 1Z0
519-855-6580

Friday Hill Stables

Tom Dvorak, Dressage
5727 5th Line, RR #2
Hillsburgh, ON N0B 1Z0
519-831-4310

Hillierin Farm

Bryn and Carol Robertson
Quarter Horse Racing, Barrel Racing
6011 9th Line Hillsburgh, ON N0B 1Z0
519-855-4770
carolrobertson@sympatico.ca

Hill Haven Stable

Eventing & Dressage
Allison Banbury
9580 27th Sideroad Hillsburgh, ON
N0B 1Z0
519-855-4067
www.hillhaven.ca

Holly Jacks Equestrian

& Smither Racing
Cross Country, Eventing & Dressage
Wellington Rd. 124 Erin, ON N0B 1Z0
519-938-2232
www.hollyjacksquestrian.com

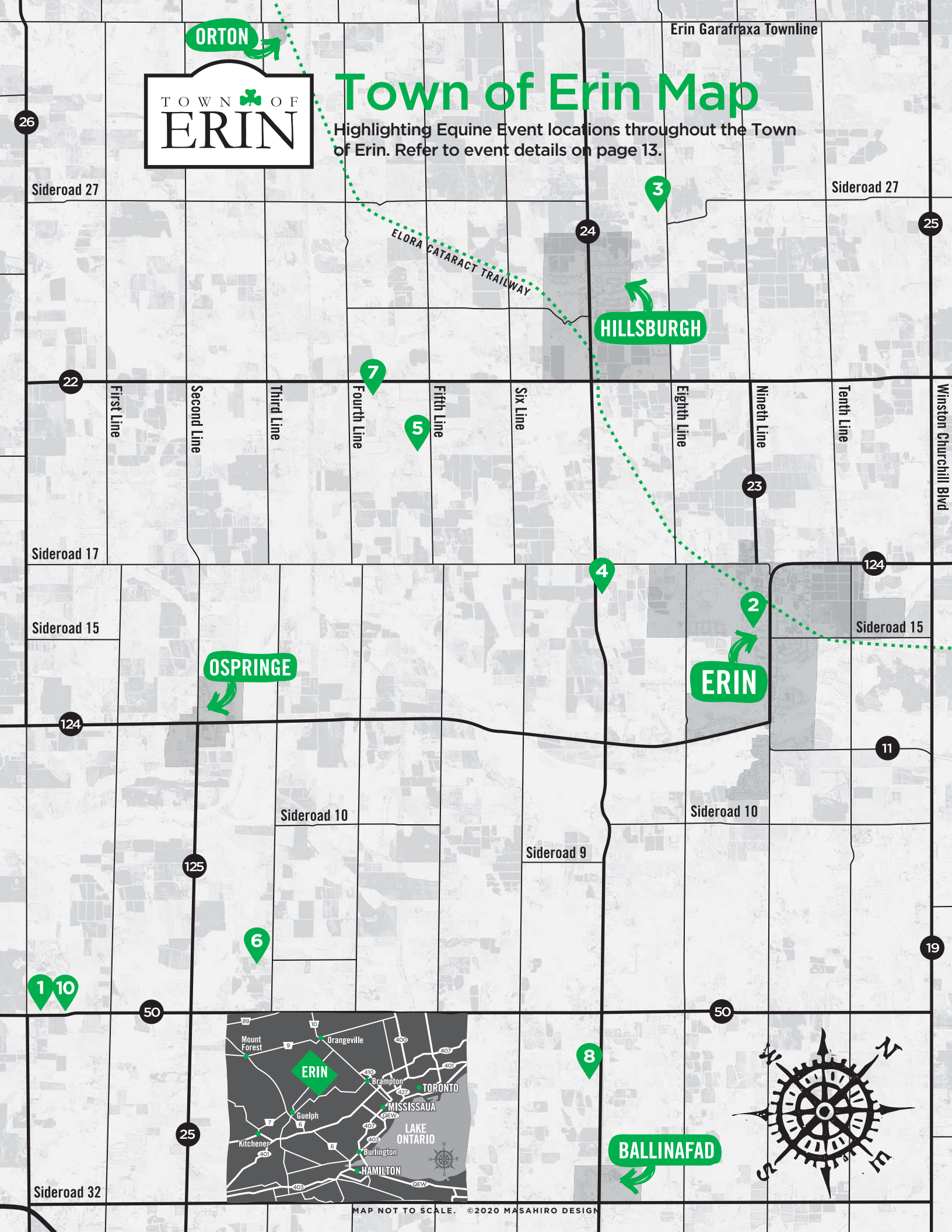
Ideal Training Centre

Standardbred Horses
5222 Wellington Rd. 125 Erin, ON N0B 1T0
519-833-0900
www.idealtrainingcentre.com



Town of Erin Map

Highlighting Equine Event locations throughout the Town of Erin. Refer to event details on page 13.



OSPRINGE

HILLSBURGH

ERIN

BALLINAFAD



2020 Equine Events

1. Angelstone International Show Jumping Tournaments

World-class show jumping facilities and family entertainment. Open to the public, Free admission.

Jun 4-7: The Headwaters Cup
Jun 11-14: The Champions
Jun 27: The West (1)
Jul 18: The West (2)
Aug 1: The West (3)
Aug 20-23: The International
Aug 27-30: The National
Sep 10-11: Silver Playoffs

8720 Wellington County Rd 50, Erin, N0B 2K0
www.angelstone.ca

2. Erin Fall Fair

A Thanksgiving Tradition and preview to the Royal Winter Fair.

Oct. 8-12, 2020:

Horse Tent: Open 9 am-4pm (Sat/Sun/Mon)
Displays, exhibits, live horse demos, entertainment tent.

Erin Fair Horse & Pony Shows

Saturday: Heavy Horse Pulls, Hunter Jumper Show

Sunday: Heavy Horse Shows, Pony Shows

Monday: Gaited Pony Show, Open Horse Show

190 Main St. Erin

519-833-2808 | horsetent@erinfair.com

3. Eagle Valley Equestrian

5992 8th Line, Hillsburgh

519-216-2934 | www.evequestrian.com

4. Greyden Equestrian

Year round riding lessons, summer camps, spring and fall little riders club, clinics and shows.

Little Riders Spring Session

April 18, April 25, May 2 and May 9

Summer Camps

Scrapbook Camp - July 20th to July 24th

Full Immersion - July 27th to 31st

Pony Pals - August 4th to 7th

5565 Wellington Rd. 24 (Trafalgar Rd), Erin

519-833-2274 | www.greydenequestrian.com

5. LongRun Thoroughbred Retirement Society

Stable Open House to be announced

5674 5th Line, Erin (by appointment)

416-675-3993 x3440 | www.longrunretirement.com

6. Meadowlarke (North) Stables

Riding Lessons, Horse Boarding and Training, Horse Shows and Sales.

Summer Competition Series

Mar 29: Jumpers only, Indoors

Apr 5: Hunters & Hack only, Indoors

May 18: Jun 28: Aug 3: Regular series, Hunters & Jumpers

Sep 7: Finale

5154 3rd Line, Erin

1-800-295-0419 | www.meadowlarke.com

7. Minshall Horse Farms

Thoroughbred Foaling/Yearling facility and Quarter Horse Cutting Horse ranch.

May 23 & 24 Cutting Horse Competition

9133 Wellington Rd. 22, Hillsburgh

519-855-6602

www.ontariocuttinghorseassociation.com

8. Myrddin Equestrian

Getting to Know a Horse with Kim Logue

Introductory Rider Level 1 & 2

8 Week Course Combining

Fun Activities, Safety Around Horses, Stable

Management & Riding in 1.5hr sessions

Start Dates: Mar.2; Apr.27; Jun.1

5046 Trafalgar Rd. Ballinafad

905-703-6698 | www.myrddin.info

9. Ontario Extreme Cowboy

Regional West Division: Erin Race to be announced

519.855.1127

ontarioextremecowboy2012@gmail.com

10. Pony Club Events

Canadian Pony Club is a member-based association, managed by volunteers, offering youth and adult programs for people interested in riding, learning about and/or caring for horses or ponies.

July 25, 2020: Regional Dressage Show

July 26, 2020: Regional Show Jumping

www.canadianponyclub.org/WesternOntario/activities.htm

HORSE TRAINING (continued)

Keurwood Equestrian

Eventing & Competition Horses

Christina Keur

8712 Wellington County Rd. 50

Rockwood, ON N0B 2K0

519-856-0332

www.keurwood.com

Park Lane Stables

5647 6th Line Hillsburgh, ON N0B 1Z0

416-899-4021

www.parklanehorses.com

Peter Gisborn

Hunter/Jumper Horse Training

Erin, ON

416-669-3002

pgisborn@rogers.com

Someday Farm Equestrian Centre

5192 Winston Churchill Blvd

Erin, ON N0B 1T0

519-927-9444

www.somedayfarm.ca

Xenora Horse Empowerment

American Warmblood Horse

Hans Hollenbach, Owner

5511 2nd Line RR #3

Acton, ON N0B 1T0

519-833-9026

www.xenora.ca

ORGANIZATIONS & CLUBS

4H Ontario

Rockwood, ON

www.4-HOntario.ca

Canadian Dressage Riders & Owners Association

13-1575 Upper Gage Ave.

Hamilton, ON L8W 1E6

www.ontario.cadora.ca

Canadian Horse Association

RR#1

Orton, ON L0N 1N0

519-855-6498

www.canadianhorses.com

Canadian Recreational Horse & Rider Association

7143 Ashburn Rd.

Whitby, ON L1M 1L6

905-655-4666

www.crhra.ca

Canadian Sport Horse Association

7904 Franktown Rd., P.O. Box 970

Richmond Hill, ON K0A 2Z0

613-686-6161

www.c-s-h-a.org

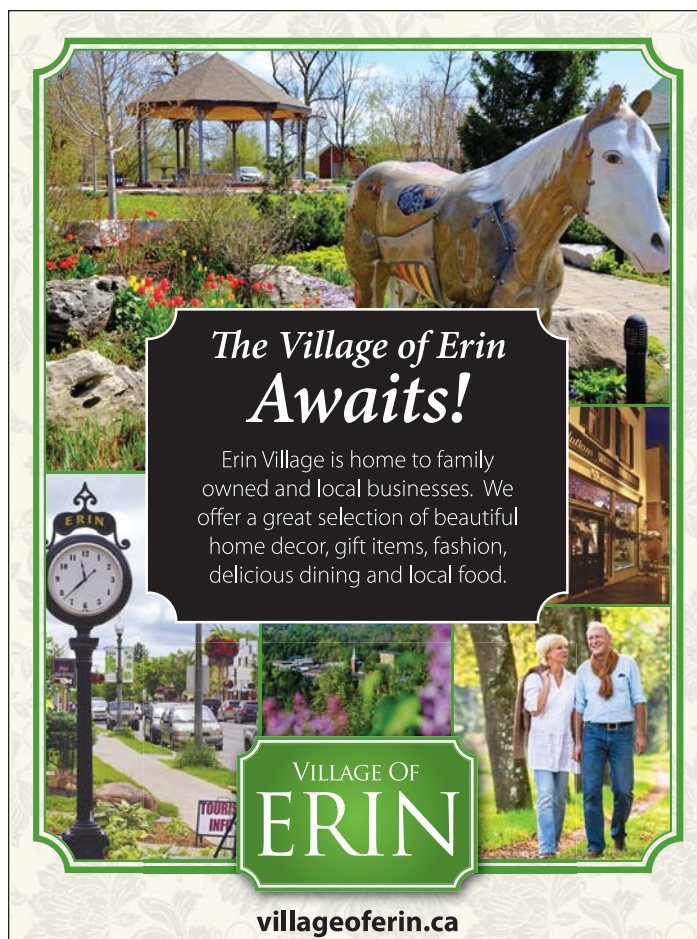
Canadian Thoroughbred Horse Society

P.O. Box 172

Rexdale, ON M9W 5L1

416-675-3602

www.cthsont.com



The Village of Erin Awaits!

Erin Village is home to family owned and local businesses. We offer a great selection of beautiful home decor, gift items, fashion, delicious dining and local food.

VILLAGE OF ERIN

villageoferin.ca

ORGANIZATIONS & CLUBS (continued)

Canadian Warmblood Horse Breeders Association

2417 Holly Lane
Ottawa, ON K1V 0M7
519-928-2779
www.canadianwarmbloods.com

Eglinton & Caledon Hunt Club

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519-830-7220
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A photograph of Robin Williamson, a woman in a pink shirt and a white cowboy hat, smiling as she barrels a brown horse. The horse is leaning into a large, dark blue barrel with gold and white text. The background is a blurred red tractor. The image is decorated with white starburst graphics.

Robin Williamson
and Bully at Grand
River Rodeo

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RACING**

Robin Williamson, Southern Steele
Quarter Horse Ranch

Written by: Bridget Ryan

If you drive up the laneway at Southern Steele, you pass generous pastures and end up at a twenty-four stall stable with an indoor arena. Diesel, the farm cat and stable manager guard the door. Dixie, the dog offers a friendly wag. On this day, Robin Williamson was on the tractor, getting her morning chores done.



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2019 Royal Winter Fair Presentation



Robin and Bully



Ross Millar, CBC star Amber Marshall, RWF 2019

Southern Steele was built from the ground up by owners Robin Williamson and Glenn Pattison. Their business includes breeding, training and boarding mostly Quarter Horses. Robin also owns Southern Equine Distributing, a complete line of equine nutrition products. Robin's pastime and passion is the sport of barrel racing. For over twenty years, Williamson has been a fierce competitor in the sport, taking part in more than fifty rodeo and barrel racing events throughout Canada and the U.S. in a season. Spurred on by a love of the sport, she has built a name for herself and Southern Steele.

Robin's career with horses began with thoroughbreds at Sam-Son Farm in Milton. One of her most memorable moments was assisting in the foaling of the filly Dance Smartly, who went on to be the 1991 Queen's Plate winner. In 1988, Robin was watching barrel racing on television and decided to try it out. Her first year produced astounding results—coming home with the championship title from the 1989 Hamilton Rodeo and her first of many buckles.

Williamson loves all of her horses, but one in particular, stands out. Bully, the feisty and fast quarter horse gelding competed with Robin for almost two decades. Born in Oklahoma, Bully raced as a three year old at Ajax Downs in Pickering. However, he was afraid of the flying dirt and mud and refused to break out of the gates. Williamson transitioned Bully to barrel racing where he competed until his retirement in 2019.

Some of Bully and Robin's many accolades and awards include:

- 2008-2011: International Professional Rodeo Association (IPRA) Finalist
- 2010: IPRA Reserve World Champion
- 2010 Champion, St Tete's, Quebec, Western Festival
- 2008 Quarter Horse Congress in Ohio, Horse of the Year
- Rodeo Finals: Bully qualified every year from 2006 until 2019
- Career prize winnings of over \$120,000

In honour of Bully's retirement, a special celebration was held at the 2019 Royal Agricultural Winter Fair. Ross Millar, President of RAM Rodeo along with CBC television Heartland star, Amber Marshall presided over the tribute.

"Robin always comes prepared with Bully who is always in great shape. The bond between Robin and Bully is exceptional," said Millar.

Bully and Robin were honoured for their commitment and contribution to the sport and the Canadian Cowgirls escorted them around the Winner's Circle one last time. They were also presented with a plaque inscribed with these words:



Going forward, Williamson plans to continue breeding, and racing the barrels. She enjoys spending time with her family and two young grandsons and is expecting a new grandchild in early 2020. Southern Steele is also expecting two new foals this spring, both with excellent breeding and hopeful rodeo prospects. 2020 will be an exciting year for Robin as she faces new challenges and trains new horses. She is looking forward to what comes next!

Williamson envisions the Erin horse community as a thriving horse-hub, and a town that offers equine activities and a central venue for hosting larger horse shows and events. Williamson believes that youth greatly benefit from involvement with horses and agriculture. Local organizations such as 4-H, the Ontario High School Rodeo Association, and Pony Club connect kids to animals and build skills. It's fun too. For newcomers interested in barrel racing competition, Robin's advice is to check out local rodeos and then talk to those involved in the sport; you might just be hooked!



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Lasting Partnerships

LongRun Thoroughbred Retirement Society

Written by: Bridget Ryan

LongRun Thoroughbred Retirement Society's mission is to provide a dignified retirement for thoroughbred racehorses who are no longer able to compete. Finding these deserving horses loving adoptive homes and alternative careers is a paramount concern.

Imperial Dream—Running in field

LongRun Thoroughbred Retirement Society's mission is to provide a dignified retirement for thoroughbred racehorses who are no longer able to compete. Finding these deserving horses loving adoptive homes and alternative careers is a paramount concern.

Society members also strive to educate owners, trainers, breeders and the general public about the merits of this humane alternative. Through generous donations from the racing community, private sponsors, grants and the support of Woodbine Entertainment and other sources, LongRun has been able to foster and re-home more than 1,000 horses to date.

Established as a registered charity in 2000, LongRun is one of only two facilities in Canada accredited by the Thoroughbred Aftercare Alliance (TAA). Their administrative office is located in the Woodbine Racetrack backstretch where they are very connected to the racing community.

In 2016, LongRun purchased a 100 acre farm in Hillsburgh. The farm is operated by a dedicated staff and hardworking volunteers who provide the daily care, rehabilitation and retraining of the horses as well as assist with events, farm visits and fundraising for the organization.

On average, there are more than 50 retired thoroughbreds residing at the LongRun farm awaiting adoption. Horses with physical limitations or those not suitable for retraining are offered permanent sanctuary at LongRun where they may be used for equine-assisted therapy, social or educational programs. LongRun is also home to a number of 'stable stars', thoroughbreds who have excelled at the track and who will live out their lives at the farm, sponsored by their former owners.

LongRun is focused on creating lasting partnerships. Famous racing champions such as 2010 Queen's Plate Winner, Big Red Mike is enjoying a second career in dressage and a wonderful relationship with his new adopter. Something Extra, a \$1 million winner also known as Charlie, is a social and adaptable thoroughbred. He's one of LongRun's ambassadors, participating in on and off-farm events such as Doors Open Erin and the Erin Fair Horse Tent. He lives permanently on the farm and loves having his photo taken with visitors.



“Racing star Melmich has begun his road to the 2020 RRP, the Thoroughbred Makeover Competition held in Kentucky Horse Park in October! Looks like he is going to be a superstar in his second career as well!”

– LongRun’s Operations Manager, Tracey Knoblauch

LongRun’s Stable Manager: Lauren Millet-Simpson with youth group

LongRun’s adoption process goes like this:

- Prospective adopters complete an application (found online).
- LongRun’s Adoption Manager matches the applicant’s goals with a suitable horse.
- The applicant and horse are introduced to each other, to determine if the new partnership is a good fit.
- A farm inspection is arranged and references are contacted.
- If approved, the applicant pays a \$750 adoption fee, the adoption agreement is signed and the horse is moved to its new home.
- The horse’s ownership remains with LongRun for one year during which the adopter must provide a vet report at six months and again at one year.

■ A visit is made to the horse and if everything is satisfactory, the adoption is finalized and registration papers provided.

■ LongRun retains first right of refusal, should any issues arise afterwards.

Melmich, a nine-year-old racing celebrity with more than \$1 million in winnings, retired to LongRun following his successful racing career. He was recently adopted and his new owner plans to take Melmich to the 2020 Retired Racehorse Project (RRP) in Kentucky. The RRP is an annual event showcasing retrained thoroughbreds in their new discipline including dressage, jumping, western pleasure or eventing. Since its inception in 2010, the RRP has inspired thousands of horse people to consider an OTTB (Off Track Thoroughbred) as a viable new horse option.



Melmich in winter blanket

“From the moment I met Melmich, I discovered that what makes him truly unique is his kind heart. He really finds enjoyment in pleasing the people that surround him. He nickers when I call out his name and enjoys riding without a bridle. I am truly grateful for the ability to develop a partnership with such a special horse and I know this opportunity wouldn't have been possible without LongRun.”

– Melmich’s new owner, Caroline Godson

Angelstone Show Jumping Tournaments BUILDING A DREAM

Written by: Bridget Ryan

In 2007, when Kean White bought his farm in Erin, his dream was to build a world-class equine competition site that offered a great spectator experience.

White's dream included the creation of a unique experience for riders and spectators while building strong partnerships.

2020 marks the tenth anniversary of Angelstone Show Jumping Tournaments. Over the past 10 years, Angelstone has welcomed many of North America's top riders, almost 1,000 championship-level horses and over 20,000 visitors. Angelstone's show roster regularly lists world-class and Olympic-level riders, including Ian Millar, our most decorated equestrian rider. Captain Canada recently retired from show jumping, however Millar has committed to return to Angelstone and take part in the *Ian Millar Legacy Grand Prix* each season.

During the summer, shows take place over five weekends. By integrating education into special activities, visitors get the opportunity to better understand the sport. Show announcers work hard at entertaining their audience as they share the intricacies and rules of the course and horse jumping in general. Super Saturdays are geared to heighten spectator engagement, offering a variety of activities including a prize draw for their \$1,000. 'Commitment to Education' bursary that also pairs the winner with a rider for the evening.

Other show spectator and family activities include:

- The Kids Zone, a partnership with Ontario Equestrian offers interactive horse education and is located in the middle of the show grounds.
- The Horseless Horse Show (no horse required) is a race over a jump course takes place prior to the Triple Crown Grand Prix events on Saturday evenings.
- Pre-show 'Course Walks' educate spectators about the jumping course.

Visitors are welcome to bring a picnic basket, or there is a variety of food/drink options - from food trucks to reserved box seats to catered dining. An advanced reservation will get couples a special date night at Angelstone with a ring-side love-seat and champagne for two. Admission and parking is free.

The Riders Development Cup is new for 2020. Offering \$100,000 in prize money, this program will include classes for all ages and levels. Based on the successful Rocky Mountain Show Jumping (Alberta) program, this is a partnership with Ontario Equestrian and is targeted to developing young riders.

Sam Walker, 2019 champion



Photo credit: Victoria Clermont

Sam Walker with Kubota prize and Sponsor rep



Photo credit: Ringside Media

Kean White and Leilani



Photo credit: LongRun 2020 calendar



Championship Podium Celebration

“The Rider’s Cup is a great way to kick off our 10th anniversary year and show our continued commitment to the sport. It’s important for our young riders to compete in a team atmosphere; they are the future of our sport,” says Kean White.

By investing in infrastructure such as show ring reconstruction and bleacher upgrades and supported by a strong sponsorship program, Angelstone continues attract high-level competitors. The Triple Crown Grand Prix takes places three times over the season, and is especially exciting to watch. It’s a dream that continues to evolve.



Ontario Equestrian

Ontario Equestrian is a member-based organization, dedicated to promoting equine sport and providing equine insurance, certification, education and safety programs in Ontario. www.ontarioequestrian.ca



Equestrian Canada

Equestrian Canada is the national governing body for equestrian sport and industry in Canada. Their mandate is to represent, promote and advance all equine and equestrian interests. www.equestriancanada.ca



Hunter

This show jumping class is judged on how the horse moves, jumps, their attitude, the shape of their jump, and striding. Points are awarded based on accuracy, turnout, grace, and elegance of both the horse and rider. The team with the most points wins.



Jumper

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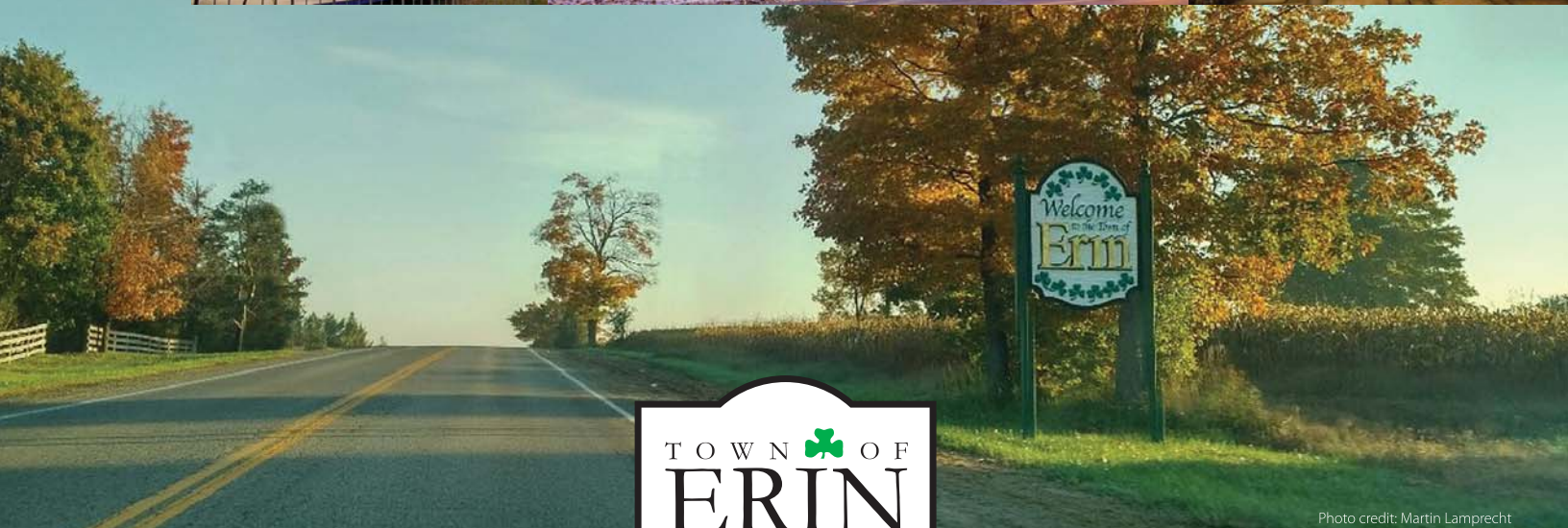


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