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**SIZE** **Stalemate looms** Council appears headed for deadlock once more. **PAGE 3**

**LABOUR** **Settled** County avoids confrontation with unionized workers. **PAGE 2**

**LIVING** **Done and done** Painter and producer make a new home in the County. **PAGE 14**



# THE TIMES



## Raiding the henhouse Thyme and space

PHOTO: KATHLEEN SABYAN

A fresh take on the family farm.

Vivienne Jaehn-Kreibaum is a neighbour and volunteer at Thyme Again farm near Carrying Place. Among her tasks is collecting fresh eggs from the chicken coop—something she does with apparent glee.

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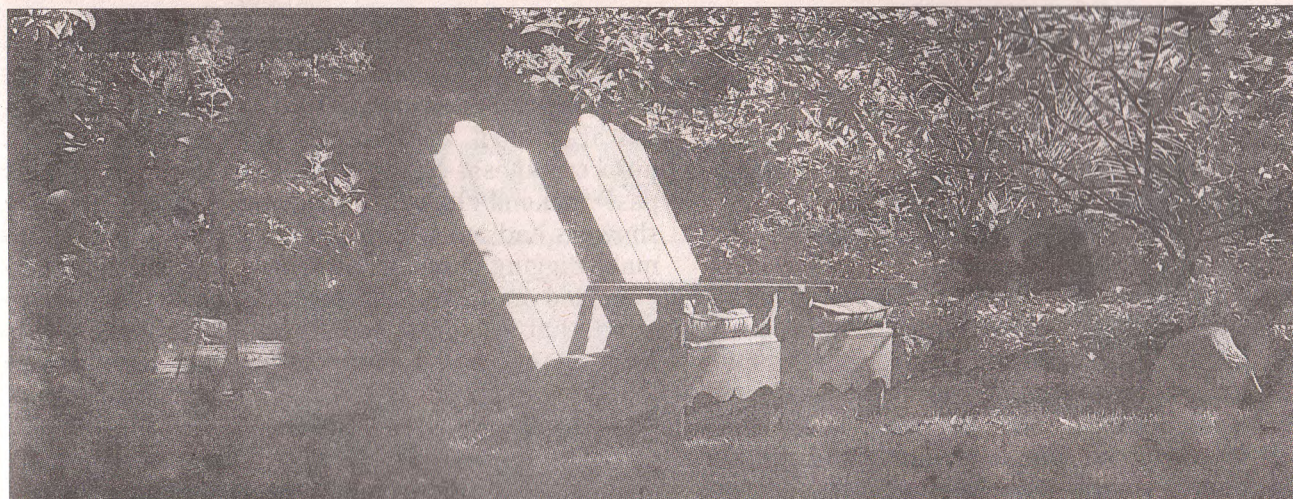
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# Open garden

STORY AND PHOTOS: KATHLEEN SABYAN

## Thyme Again Garden gate opens for all to enjoy

**F**our times each year the farmgates at Thyme Again swing open for any and all to explore and discover. Once inside, visitors are welcome to wander the sprawling perennial gardens, the lush vegetable garden and visit the animals—from hens to hogs.

Lori Aselstine and Lorraine Schmid are the farmers and caretakers of this 115-acre property and bed and breakfast.

The idea grew from customers' requests to see where the food came from and from Aselstine and Schmid's willingness to share their knowledge of farming, health, nutrition and the pride and joy they get from their land.

"The whole idea of what we want to do, why we do the open gardens, is not just for

also offer workshops from seed saving and natural movement to nutrition and cooking.

"For me it's really important that people get healthier and feel better and feel better about what they are doing. It's all about feeding your body really healthy foods and re-educating people because we need to look after ourselves to avoid the health care system," said Schmid, who added "I want to also share the garden. We had so many people just come and hang out for the day. The different times that we did it [Open Garden] was to show the progression in the gardens and what's available at what time during the season. Eating in season is really, really good for you."

Thyme Again is a community-shared agriculture (CSA) farm where consumers pre-pay and subscribe to their service and receive a weekly supply of produce based on preference of what's available. This service is offered both locally and to customers in Toronto. Many of these customers visited the farm's Open Garden events.

"All of them said it was important to them to know where their food came from.

They wanted to connect with a farmer and a farm," said Aselstine. "We thought if people really want to see the farm why don't we set four weekends aside a year where they can come and see the perennial gardens too, so this is the time where everything is open so people can come and see it all and it's fun for kids to see where their food comes from too."

Although this past weekend was the final Open Garden for the season at Thyme Again, they will continue to sell their product at the Wellington Farmers Market until Thanksgiving, as well as at their roadside stand on Smokes Point Road, until they no longer have produce.



In front of the Thyme Again Farm Stand are (L-R) Vivienne Jaehn-Kreibaum, Lori Aselstine and Lorraine Schmid.

people to see the vegetables that are in season and how we are growing them," said Schmid. "But also the nutrition of it all, how to prepare it and when we talk to customers here at the farmstand the proper preparation to combinations of foods, what's the nutritional value of it, why is it good for you, what ingredients to use and why."

Nutrition and health are important to the philosophy of the function of the organic farm. The Open Garden events not only allow guests to explore the grounds, they



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