

'WE'RE PROBABLY SITTING ON A RECORD CROP,' CHUDLEIGH'S FARM CITES STEADY SUN AND RAIN FOR BUMPER-CROP YEAR

ALEXANDRA HECK
aheck@metroland.com

Tom Chudleigh says that when a farmer calls a growing season "perfect," it's a little suspicious.

But the Milton apple grower says this year's steady rains and sunny summer has led to a near perfect season for the apples on his farm.

"We're probably sitting on a record crop," said Chudleigh, who has been growing apples on his family farm for over 50 years.

He says his trees produced a lighter crop last year, but this year the season's conditions were perfect. "We had rains all along,

all summer long."

The farm has four new strains of apple trees bearing fruit this year, all from Western Canada's fruit growing mecca; the Okanagan Valley.

"All four of them grow very well in Ontario," said Chudleigh, noting that one apple, the Silken, is named after Olympic Canadian rower Silken Laumann.

"She doesn't know that she has an apple named after her," he said with a chuckle, noting that one of the producers in B.C. was a big rowing fan.

He says that over the years, consumers have shifted preferences from classics like Red Delicious and McIn-

tosh, to different flavours like gala and honeycrisp.

The farm grows over 28 different varieties of apple and sells 22 of them.

To pick the perfect apple, Chudleigh says to look for the bottom, or the eye of the fruit.

"Eye to the sky," he said, twisting the fruit upward, making a clean snap.

He says that freshly picked apples hold the heat from the orchard, and that heat causes the fruit to break down if they aren't quickly cooled.

He advises apple pickers to refrigerate their apples for a day after bringing them home, just to bring their internal temperatures down,



Alexandra Heck/Metroland

Tom Chudleigh and his son Dean picking apples in their orchards in Milton, where pleasant summer conditions have made for a record crop.

then store them in room temperatures.

"We've got a lot of young orchard coming on so that's contributed to the volume," said Chudleigh, noting that the family has planted a number of trees in the past eight years.

For the past 30 years, Chudleigh's has been expanding their offerings of

baked pies, crumbles and desserts.

Now, the desserts are available in Longo's and Metro grocery stores year-round.

The company ships their desserts to the U.S., as well as small portions internationally to markets in Australia, South Korea and India.

"We sell a lot of products in Southern California and Hawaii," said Chudleigh.

Even the farm store has changed a little this season, with live music taking the stage every Saturday and Sunday, as well as a larger petting zoo.

Apple picking season runs through the fall until Oct. 31.

NOTICE OF PASSAGE OF DESIGNATION BY-LAW

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NOTICE OF PASSAGE OF BY-LAW NO. 2018-0054

TAKE NOTICE THAT on September 10, 2018, Council for the Town of Halton Hills passed By-Law 2018-0054 to designate Andrew Laidlaw Farmhouse, 9111 Third Line, under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act.

Purpose and Effect of the By-Law: THAT Andrew Laidlaw Farmhouse, 9111 Third Line, (Part Lot 6, Concession 4, Part



1 RP 20R1415 Town of Halton Hills, Regional Municipality of Halton) be conserved under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act as being of cultural heritage value or interest.

For further information contact Ashley Mancuso, Information Governance & Records Management Specialist, Office of the CAO, Town Hall, 1 Halton Hills Drive, Halton Hills, ON L7G 5G2 905-873-2601, ext. 2356 or ashleym@haltonhills.ca

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NOTICE OF PASSAGE OF DESIGNATION BY-LAW

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NOTICE OF PASSAGE OF BY-LAW NO. 2018-0055

TAKE NOTICE THAT on September 10, 2018, Council for the Town of Halton Hills passed By-Law 2018-0055 to designate Glen Williams Schoolhouse (SS #11), 15 Prince Street (Glen Williams), under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act.

Purpose and Effect of the By-Law: THAT Glen Williams Schoolhouse (SS #11), 15 Prince Street (Glen Williams), (Village



Lot #69, being part of Lot 21, Concession 10, Esquesing Township, Town of Halton Hills, Regional Municipality of Halton) be conserved under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act as being of cultural heritage value or interest.

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