

Fairest of them all: Orangeville and area fall fairs

By Amanda Jerome
For The Banner

You know summer is coming to an end when the corn grows ripe. Like the last bites of that corn on the cob, the sweet warmth of summer fades away into frosty mornings, dark evenings, and the folds of too many sweaters.

With the cold comes something nostalgic and beautiful in its simplicity - a place where ferris wheels rule, pie is home-made, vegetables win prizes, and tractors receive applause - the annual fall fair.

E.B. White once wrote "You will find that the conditions at a fair will surpass your wildest dreams."

Some fall fairs in this area have been held for more than 100 years.

You may remember a childhood spent holding your grandfather's hand as you watched the horse show at the Erin Fall Fair, his grip tightening at the excitement of the barrel races.

Now it's a family tradition that you never miss and your children are the ones gripping your hand instead.

If you move away, the fair is something you come home for; as you grow old, the fair is something that makes you feel like a

kid again; and as times change, the fair is one thing that remains relatively the same.

Midway games, agricultural shows, and bumper cars don't need smartphones or wifi to be entertaining, they just need family, friends, and a Saturday afternoon.

Time and seasons moves quickly. The summers fly by, the snow will be here before you know it, but everything seems to slow down at the fall fair.

Pleasures are still simple and although you can feel winter coming the sun is still warm on your face.

The fall is a sentimental season, balanced perfectly in a spot that brings change for the future and memories of the past.

No matter your age, as the air turns brisk and the leaves change to candy apple red, it's difficult not to get excited about a fall fair.

With the Orangeville Fall Fair (Sept. 4 to 6), the Dundalk Fall Fair (Sept. 11 to 13), the Shelburne Fall Fair (Sept. 18 to 20) and the Erin Fall Fair (Oct. 9 to 12), the region has many opportunities to celebrate the beginning of autumn and enjoy the traditions the season brings.

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