

MARKET MUSINGS

By Jan Freedman

Once again, we were blessed with a simply gorgeous day on Saturday at the Farmers' Market. We experienced a slightly chilly start to the day with brisk gusts of wind, but we progressed to a warm, sunny day free of the recent humidity. After a slow start, we had a busy day with everyone in a great mood enjoying the relief from the suffocating heat of recent days.

You will be able to find just about anything that grows in Ontario now, short of the squashes. We still have strawberries, raspberries and blueberries. These have been joined by peaches, apricots, plums and melons. All the leafy greens are available along with broccoli, cauliflower, zucchini, new potatoes of many types, beets, onions, mushrooms, carrots, beans and more. Our two butchers are very busy with requests for something to barbecue to accompany the wonderful assortment of vegetables we offer. Why don't you stock up on your way to the cottage?

Everyone knows that Magna's annual Hoedown is approaching. Every year, several worthwhile groups are chosen to benefit from the funds raised by the Hoedown. This year, the Aurora Sports Hall of Fame is one of those groups and will be alternating with the Optimists at the Market to sell Hoedown tickets.

The Aurora Sports Hall of Fame was established in 2013 by Sport Aurora and with financial support of the Ontario Trillium Foundation. The ASHoF is a celebration of sport history and excellence, and is dedicated to recognizing the contribution of sport to the Aurora community. As a not-for-profit organization, it is affiliated with Sport Aurora, the Town of Aurora, the Aurora Historical Society, Aurora Museum and Archives, Canada's Sports Hall of Fame and the Canadian Association of Sports Heritage.

The mission of ASHoF is to honour, celebrate, preserve, educate, inspire and share the outstanding contribution of those who have brought recognition to Aurora through sport. The ASHoF selects and inducts worthy members into the Hall, collects and displays sport artifacts that represent the inductee's participation in sport as well as artifacts from other sport activities in town, and publicizes and shares sport history within and outside the town.

The ASHoF is the primary keeper of the rich sport legacy of Aurora. The Hall relies on the financial support of individuals, businesses, and organizations who value sport excellence and who wish to advance the work of the ASHoF. The donations are directed to building and preserving the assets of the Hall as it grows, ensuring that the Hall properly reflects its place in the sport history of Aurora. Supporting the Hall's mission and work effectively helps support their goal of educating and inspiring all the Hall's visitors.

Like our vibrant Farmers' Market, sport is part of the fabric of a healthy community. Sport promotes active lifestyle choices, long-term mental and physical health benefits, social inclusion and community spirit and pride. Sport is a fantastic instrument for engagement and the Hall endeavours to celebrate that key role for individual and community betterment.

In the fall of 2016, the Aurora Sports Hall of Fame is moving from the third floor of Town Hall to new, larger quarters at the Stronach Aurora Recreation Centre (SARC). This new, more accessible location will feature interactive and larger displays of the celebration of sport in Aurora. Be sure to visit the new location.

The Farmers' Market's next Special Event is our popular Community Corn Roast on Aug. 20. We have invited the Mayor and Town Councillors to assist in roasting and serving the corn to the public. There will be a fabulous band playing at the Bandshell, corn-y crafts for the children, a draw for a Market bag plus more. At 11 a.m., Mayor Dawe will be distributing Town of Aurora Volunteer Awards to six of our long term members. Please join us for this exciting event. See you at the Market!