

MARKET MUSINGS

By Jan Freedman

The Labour Day weekend, the last long weekend of the summer, heralds the unofficial start of autumn and is accompanied by several changes.

The days become noticeably shorter and the evenings are cooler. Families are back in town from holidays and cottages, children return to school and teens go off to university.

It becomes a very busy time and the same can be said of the Farmers' Market.

The Farmers' Market is busy in September with three Special Events which will all have entertainment. There will be more about that shortly.

I'd like to introduce you to another business which is new to the Market this year and to the two fascinating people who operate it.

The business is called 'KareDesign' and is the brainchild of Karen and Michael.

The high school sweethearts have two children and now have four grandchildren. They started their business when the children were young so Karen could stay with them all the time.

As a young artistic, cool couple with a distinctive hippie vibe, they began with stained glass and tie-dye in the late 70s. What they design and create has changed over the years but tie-dye still has a special place in their hearts, as it always takes them back to the cool days when they were young and hip.

People visiting the booth for the first time have a similar response and love the great colours and patterns. Apparently, many of us have the same happy memories of the 60's and 70's.

Michael was a graphic artist and print designer for Warner Bros. and Universal Pictures and Karen was a pre-school teacher and watercolour artist/illustrator. Through KareDesign they have created two children's books.

They began to make stained glass art stones with recycled glass that they had on hand. Instead of throwing them away, they discovered a creative use for them. They are both strong advocates of 'upcycling' and are working on new renewable ideas all the time.

Their booth offers a full range of tie dye clothing, from infant onesies to old school adult and youth tea shirts, dresses skirts and hoodies. They also have an assortment of hats, hemp necklaces, doggie bandanas, beach towels and, of course, hippie bags. Their eclectic artwork ranges from custom stained glass garden stones to original watercolour paintings.

They love being at the Market and we love having them as part of our Market family. Peace and love!

Here is the recipe that they contributed:

Gramma Marge's

Mac and Cheese

2 cups elbow noodles

(cook until al dente)

½ bar of old cheddar cheese

Lay a layer of noodles on bottom of casserole dish. Lay a layer of cheese on top of noodles. Repeat until all ingredients are used.

Season the top with salt and pepper. Add 2% milk to the dish about ½ way up (you can tilt the dish so you can see the milk). Cook in a preheated 375F oven for about an hour or until the cheese is bubbly.

September is a month of Special Events at the Market. This Saturday, September 7, is both our Apples and Honey Fest and the En Plein Air day.

Many vendors will have several varieties of apples for your eating and baking needs and there will be apple crafts for the children. Through the Aurora Cultural Centre, several artists will be coming to the Farmers' Market to fan out in the neighbourhood to paint, in the great outdoors, whatever may catch their fancy.

You may remember that this event was scheduled last year but was rained out. One brave, intrepid artist did stay under an assortment of umbrellas to paint and he gathered quite a crowd. Clearly, we are hoping for better weather this year. Watching a work of art come to life before your eyes is exciting and not to be missed.

Our entertainment for the day will be provided by Pip and Bill Walker of the Wild Walker Band.

For you strudel lovers, John Abraham will be back at the market on September 14, as well as the last Saturday of the month.

See you at the Market!