

MARKET MUSINGS

By Jan Freedman

In between the blazing hot and humid weather and the downpours of last week, we were very lucky on Saturday for the Farmers' Market to have just one short shower before closing. The farmers desperately need rain for their crops, so in a perfect world, it would rain overnight. We hope that we will get enough rain soon to offset the effects of a drought, which would be devastating. Now that it's mid-July, our farmers have expanded their booth space to accommodate all the produce that is coming from their fields. We still have strawberries, lettuce, broccoli, zucchini, peas, beans and now raspberries and cauliflower. There are also beets and a wide assortment of leafy greens. Choose some wonderful vegetables from our farmers, a protein from our butchers and a tasty dessert from one of our bakers and you'll have a great meal, sourced locally.

Let me introduce another new vendor this year. Pathways to Perennials is a family run business. They are a full service landscape design, construct and install company with a Boutique, Garden Centre and Garden Café on the outskirts of the Oak Ridges Moraine. Located in Pottageville, they have almost 12 acres of beautiful perennial gardens, a children's playground, treehouses and water features.

The Blossom Café is a tasty addition to the Garden Centre where visitors can enjoy anything from a three course meal prepared by their chef, to a light lunch of soup, quiche or salad.

Pathways welcomes bus tours, private parties and corporate affairs as well as hikers, bikers and others who often drop by for a specialty tea, coffee and mouthwatering treat.

Pathways to Perennials is well-known as residential landscaping experts who resolve challenges like drainage problems, help homeowners increase the value of their properties, and who design, renovate and create alluring landscapes and gardens. They can help you renovate, modify or completely transform your property.

Their services and products attract average homeowners, avid gardeners and visitors from out of town. They provide a broad range of lush and beautiful plant collections as well as top-tier products for your home and garden, and gift ideas for birthdays, anniversaries and weddings.

Your garden is a large part of your life and should reflect your personality. Combining plants and properties in an environmentally friendly design is uplifting, and encourages family and friends to meet and gather outdoors. Huge patios and major stonework aren't inviting until softened by plants, caressed by greenery and brightened by flowers. How invigorating and enriching it is to step outside to meet the fragrance of flowers, and the songs of birds in the ambience of a beautiful garden.

The services offered by Pathways to Perennials include garden design, renovation, consultation and professional installation. Whether you're looking for an entire property makeover or for assistance one garden at a time, their experienced team of landscape professionals will provide you with a premium level of service to meet your unique needs. They also run workshops regularly to help educate homeowners on how to create and care for their gardens.

The Pathways to Perennials booth at the Farmers' Market is located on Wells Street. Please visit the booth to see the lovely perennial plants and to talk gardening.

Our next Special Event is Family Day and takes place on July 23rd. I do not have all the specifics of our plans but they will include great entertainment at the Bandshell as well as crafts for the children and several family-friendly games and races. Seniors from the Aurora Seniors' Centre have been invited to participate with their line dancing group and there will be a draw for a market bag full of goodies.

See you at the Market!