

HFFA celebrates with website launch

Headwaters Food and Farming Alliance (HFFA) is celebrating Local Food Week by launching a new website (hffa.ca) with a celebration for all ages at the Orangeville Farmers' Market this coming Saturday (June 4).

HFFA is an alliance of residents involved in the food system in Headwaters, from farmers to foodies, and includes a range of businesses, governments and community groups. HFFA is working to build a food system in the Headwaters that is productive, sustainable, transparent and fair to support the well-being of residents and contribute to a prosperous and equitable economy.

The website (hffa.ca) extends HFFA's efforts virtually, bringing the Headwaters community together to communicate with each other and learn all about what is going on with local farmers, suppliers, growers and educators.

It provides information about local food events and an interactive directory where you can find local foods, on-farm stores, you-pick farms, local farmers' markets and other vendors.

In addition to finding local foods, the website has a What's Happening section for local events and activities. There are project profiles that explain what HFFA is working on, including the Farm to School program, which invites farmers into the classroom, and the Food Club program, which fills knapsacks with local foods for kids to take home.

There are lots of opportunities for the public to get involved or support local causes. According to the co-chair of the Education, Literacy and Access (ELA) committee, Bob Megens, "The HFFA website is a great resource that connects people to what's happening with local food in Headwaters."

"Our new website puts a focus on all things food in the Headwaters: entrepreneurship, education and access," Janet Horner, a committee member of HFFA and executive director of the Golden Horseshoe Food and Farming Alliance, added.

The HFFA Education, Literacy and Access committee will have an interactive booth at the Orangeville Farmers' Market from 9 to 1 p.m. that promises fun for the entire family. There will be activities and information on how to enrich your lives with local food experiences.

HFFA is a project of Headwaters Communities in Action (HCIA) that encourages everyone to become involved in the health and well-being of their community.

Local Food Week is an initiative of Ontario's Local Food Act. Now in its third year, it dedicates the first week of June to celebrating those who grow, produce, harvest, buy and sell local food.

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