

SouthFields Village Farmers' Market will open Sept. 4

Back by popular demand, SouthFields Village will soon resume its Thursday afternoon farmers' market.

The fledgling community is looking forward to welcoming back food and value, adding vendors as an opportunity to support local food sources, encourage young entrepreneurial spirit and, of course, hang out with neighbours after a busy summer.

This year's market will open Sept. 4 and bring back a number of vendors from their inaugural season, as well as introducing a number of exciting new ones. Customers will not only be able to stock up on fruit and veggies, but also be able to bring home healthy, ready to reheat or just add water goodies such as flash frozen home cooked meals by Love Lina and delectable Soup Girl concoctions. Those familiar with the Caledon farmers' market scene (be it at Inglewood or Bolton) will remember Eat Local Caledon's Jennifer Clark who has turned her moniker into a thriving local business success story.

'We are just over the moon at all the quality of vendors that we have been able to attract to this year's market,' commented Market Manager Yevgenia Casale. 'People love coming to the market on Thursday nights. Initially I was going to take a year off because we didn't think we'd have a venue, but the Town has graciously let us get a permit for this temporary location and the vendors have been very understanding and supportive, even though it's a bit of a late start for us this year.'

The community of SouthFields is still in the midst of its evolution, with promises of a downtown commercial core and an active use park space called the Village Blue. That's where the permanent location of the SouthFields Village Farmers' Market is supposed to be, once everything is complete.

In the meantime, organizers have been making do with what space is available.

'I kept getting emails and phone calls from people looking for the market and many were very disappointed when they found out that the market wouldn't resume until 2015,' Casale said. 'So after consulting with the Town and the prospective vendors, and looking at the lovely space adjacent to the school parking lot, we all pulled together and got it done.'

This year, kids will be getting out of school and be able to enjoy authentic Mexican food, kettle corn popcorn and much more. Plus, the market steering committee is working with weekly market sponsors to present a children's craft station

As always, artists, buskers and community groups are welcome to take advantage of the opportunity to promote their talents and community offerings. A couple of sponsorship spots are still available.

More information is available on the markets' Facebook page at facebook.com/SouthfieldsFarmersMarket, or by contacting Casale at 905-846-4852 or at info@southfieldsvillagevoice.com

The market will run Thursdays from 3 to 8 p.m. at the park parking lot beside SouthFields Village Public School at 110 Learmont Ave.