

Minding Your Business



Sean Richardson with his wife Emily, Sassy Richardson with her husband Terrence Roche.

The Farm WB Richardson Growers "Cape Grown for Cape People" 40 Rock Harbor Rd., Orleans 508-240-1222

Spring Hours: M-S 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sunday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

www.thefarmcapecod.com

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Where's the Farm? What's the Farm? If you don't know the answers to these questions, you are missing out, and so is your garden or back yard! Now's the time to go to the Farm. Located on the way to Rock Harbor in Orleans just down the road from downtown, the Farm is 10 acres of "thousands of perennials and annuals as well as a large selection of unique and unusual tree and shrubs." And more importantly a wealth of knowledge on how to make your Cape Cod garden flourish. You will not be disappointed. Since 1975, the Richardson Family has provided the best in plant stock to their customers.

"We moved to our present location in 1993," said Sassy Richardson. "It's still my Mom and Dad's business but my brother Sean and I run it now with our spouses Emily and Terrence."

Pansies, lots of pansies, greeted me last week. And the full greenhouses were festooned with color from the annuals which will soon be ready for your garden. "We usually say wait until Mother's Day to put out the geraniums," said Sassy. "And this year's so different we find ourselves constantly checking the 10-day forecast. We start growing the geraniums from cuttings in March. The pansies and cold-tolerant annuals are ready for planting now. Also some for the vegetables like the lettuces, broccolis and Brussels sprouts.

"We grow all our perennials here. There's a lot! Over 28,000! Every

greenhouse you see is full," she said. There's pride in her voice and you see evidence of that pride around you in the hustle and bustle of activity. Customers are conferring with Emily and there's another talking to Sean about the trees. "Sean and Emily go out west in the fall and hand pick the trees. Those trees arrived this week." While specializing in Japanese maples, they also provide "a wide variety of

unique and unusual trees and shrubs. Take a walk through the evergreens and deciduous tree sections. We carry a huge selection of hydrangeas from the unique to the traditional. Or maybe it

is the substance of some evergreens for the home, from junipers to rhododendron, inkberry to hollies, we are happy to help you with all your tree and shrubbery needs."

Customers are wandering the rows and rows of perennials in amazement as Terrence walks with them. The nursery's stock is abundant and incredible. "Our parents worked hard to get to where we are," said Sassy. "Every year we expand a little. This year we are offering seeds, starter potatoes and added more to the gift shop." They've always created custom planters and window boxes, too. It's a perfect stop for gifts of all occasions.

"We post gardening tips on Facebook daily, and update our blog often, too." The Farm is a trip to your future - your garden and yard this summer!



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