

Farmers Market reopens



By [JIMMY LAROUÉ](#)

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Though it's starting off small, the Waynesboro Farmers Market saw a steady stream of customers on its first day Wednesday, something that pleased organizers and vendors alike. "We're real pleased with the vendors that we have, and we hope that will increase in number," said Jim Nichols, chairman of the farmers market committee. "I think that the reputation of this market will get out among other vendors with other markets, and we'll get a lot of other vendors."

With slots full at markets in Staunton, Harrisonburg and Nellysford in Nelson County, Nichols believes more vendors will be attracted to Waynesboro's mid-week market, which, said Nelson County market manager Amy Childs, "is all the more reason for this market to be here, mid-week."

Heidi Lanford, the Waynesboro market manager, said that with only 18 cents of every dollar going to farmers, "a local farmers market is a way to get the money to the farmer."

Jim Showwalter, who along with his wife, Loretta, runs Heartland Harvest in Mount Solon, said it sold out of its fresh bread within the first hour of the market. The two were also selling beef, pork and poultry.

"Someone's done some good advertising here," said Jim Showwalter. "There's a lot of traffic." Right next to the Heartland Harvest table, Lynn Davis of the Flying Fox Vineyard in Afton, had a variety of wines.

"There were people waiting here at three o'clock," Davis said. "It's a beautiful place for a market. It's undercover, with beautiful views."

Glenn Clayton, with the Hungry Hill Farm in Shipman, was with his wife Louise selling honey. The two also participate in the Staunton and Nellysford markets.

"For the first time, this is a good turnout," Clayton said. "They've just got to keep going and keep at it."

Clayton said the market's ample parking and its location – at the pavilion in Constitution Park – is ideal. He offered a suggestion to promote the market further.

"Advertising on the highway would be a key thing," Clayton said.

Childs, selling her own perennials at Waynesboro's market, has offered her expertise as the

Waynesboro organizers get their market off the ground, helping them get in touch with food growers and producers.

“It’s already well-rounded,” Childs said of the market, with wine, honey, meats, bread and bedding plants. She said even with the small size of the market – having just five vendors – there’s more than enough available to prepare a meal.

“That’s what I look for in a market is where you can go and get your next meal,” she said.

Reader Reactions

Posted by (PeteinAugusta) on April 25, 2008 at 2:43 pm

Oh terrific thanks Heidi I’ll have to swing by after work. I notice there was no mention of the hours in above article. A bit odd I think. Thanks again!

Pete

Posted by (Heidi) on April 25, 2008 at 12:48 pm

If you are working on Wednesdays, you can still attend the market! The market hours were designed to be available to everyone. The market opens at 3 p.m. and remain open until 7 p.m.

Posted by (PeteinAugusta) on April 24, 2008 at 9:16 am

It would be great to be able to buy at this market but unfortunately as a 9-5’er it’s not practical mid-week. Is there another market by the downtown Kroeger across from 2nd Time Around?