

Bellingham Farmers Market launches Friend campaign

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BELLINGHAM – The Bellingham Farmers Market has launched a “Be a Friend of the Market” Campaign, in an effort to thank ongoing supporters and also raise funds and support for the Market’s programs. “There are folks we see here every week, enjoying their interactions with our vendors and the local fresh produce, cheeses and meat, crafts, ready-to-eat food, and more,” Market Director Caprice Teske said. “They’re like a fan club for the Market, so we thought, ‘Why not come up with a pin, so everyone knows how they feel?’ Teske added there is a serious side to this campaign too. “The Bellingham Farmers Market is not a non-profit, but it runs on a shoestring budget, like most nonprofits. As donations through the Friend of the Market campaign build, they will help us in many ways, such as providing additional support for our community education programs.”

Over the years, the Bellingham Farmers Market has been able to expand and improve upon its community education programs, such as the Chef in the Market series. With additional funds, the Market would like to be able to do the same with their Kids Vending Day, outreach to low-income individuals and families, and other consumer education programs.

Market vendors are giving discounts to shoppers wearing the new Bellingham Farmers Market Friend pin, and others will be joining in. Donation levels range from \$25 to \$500, with a \$1,000 corporate level also available. Each level includes the pin and several Farmers Market items. All memberships purchased in 2010 will remain in effect through the 2011 season. For more information, visit www.bellinghamfarmers.org. The Market is open on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. through Dec. 18.