

THE BELLINGHAM HERALD

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Bellingham Farmers Market to celebrate 20 years at Saturday opening

ZOE FRALEY - THE BELLINGHAM HERALD

BELLINGHAM - For county residents hungering for spring and all of its bounty, there's no better way to usher in the season than with the opening of Bellingham Farmers Market, Saturday, April 7.

The market will kick off its 20th year this season with celebratory cake and a small antique tractor procession on Railroad Avenue before the annual tossing of the cabbage by Bellingham Mayor Kelli Linville marks the market opening at 10 a.m.

Luckily for market-goers, Saturday's weather forecast calls for mostly sunny skies.

"Opening day is probably my favorite day because you just can't help but be happy," said market director Caprice Teske. "I've been there when it's been snowing and when it's been raining, and people are still happy."

A trip to the market isn't complete without something to snack on, and this year there will be several new options. Dashi Noodle Bar will offer steam buns, the Bellingham Pasta Company's The Table Restaurant will provide pasta, and Acme Ice Cream will serve up scoops.

Fans of seafood will be able to pick up frozen sushi-grade seafood from Wild Fish Wives, and dog owners can pick up natural treats for their pups from B.E.G. and Bear Dog Biscuits.



Families with children will find more offerings this year, with Chelle Beautiful Face Painting on hand to decorate little faces, and with several new vendors selling children's toys and clothing.

There also will be more farmers on hand to sell local seeds, plant starts and produce.

Even bargain shoppers have something to look forward to. Starting in May, the first Saturday of the month will be "20 percent off" day, with vendors encouraged to offer one of their items at a discounted price. Teske said she hopes the specials will motivate people to take a look at what vendors have, and try something new.

"There's something for everybody at our market," she said.

IF YOU GO

What: Bellingham Farmers Market.

When: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturdays, through Dec. 22.

Where: Depot Market Square, on Railroad Avenue between Chestnut and Maple streets.

Other farmers markets in the county:

- Ferndale Farmers Market, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays, April 21 to Oct. 13, at Centennial Riverwalk Park.
- Wednesday Markets in Fairhaven, noon to 5 p.m., June through September, at Fairhaven Village Green.
- Lummi Island Farmers Market, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays, May through September, walking distance from the ferry landing.
- Lynden Farmers Market, 2 to 6 p.m. Thursdays, starting June 25, at Centennial Park, downtown.

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Read more here: <http://www.bellinghamherald.com/2012/04/05/2467965/bellingham-farmers-market-tocelebrate.html#storylink=cpy>