

Borough of Paramus Farmer's Market Flyers, pictures, and newspaper articles

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## Farmers' Market starts producing



The Paramus Farmers' Market officially opened for business last month. The market will be held every Wednesday from 3 to 7 p.m. through Sept. 26 in Petruska Park on Farview Avenue. Above, shoppers decide which produce to purchase at one of the farmer's tables. Below, Jillian Baker of The Yellow Dog Bakery gives Chice a sample of the yogurt while Chice's owner, Dianne Prefer, looks on.





Above, Kristin Perry of Bobolink Dairy and Bake House slices a piece of cheese at the Paramus Farmers' Market.

### ORADELL Funds a for tow reasse BY MEGAN BURROW

Managing Editor

An ordinance to pro of \$75,000 for a town was passed unanimou cil at its June 26 meeti The council had pre ing the hiring of App company, to perform Appraisal Systems tial and commercial Since that time, prop dreds of residents hav The reassessment, previous revaluation, ing its revenue, officia ough's revenue is der Councilman Garr Councilman Garr the reassessment a "le "When people file the costs of municipa body is granted a re to make it up," he appropriate tax rate Recently, the nei Dumotr and River Dumont and River joint bid, with mixe performed by Appra Some River Edge tioning the drastic ju other residents saw

### PARAMUS

## Council is set to green light farmer's market

#### BY BRYAN WASSEL Staff Writer

The creation of a farmer's market in Paramus is under way, and the borough's Environmental Commission is putting together the paperwork needed to make it official.

The basic rules and regulations for the market have been laid out, but health and business licenses are still required before the proposal can move forward, according to Borough Administrator Joseph D'Arco.

The borough will waive the cost of the business license required, but the commission still needs to meet with the Health Department to discuss the details of licenses for each participating business, according to D'Arco. The commission and the Health Department have met, and the fee for businesses will likely be modest, according to Environmental Commission chairman Gerald Anthony.

The Environmental Commission has met with both Fairway and Whole Foods, and neither organization had any objection to the idea of a market, D'Arco said. One of the concerns when the market was first proposed was that businesses may consider it competition, but both supported the plan.

"I think we've addressed almost every item I can think of," D'Arco said.

To get an idea of how the farmer's market could be handled, the Environmental Commission is considering holding a "mini farmer's market" during the borough's Earth Day celebration April 29, according to Anthony.

"Maybe three little tents, put the banner up and just introduce it to the town," Anthony said. About five vendors have already

About five vendors have already officially agreed to participate in the market, and more are waiting to confirm it is definitely happening before they commit, according to Anthony. If the council passes a resolution making the farmer's market official, it will be easier to get the participants needed to start the event this summer, officials said.

"We just want to get it official so we can sign on more vendors," Anthony said.

Mayor Richard LaBarbiera praised Anthony's work in putting in the work needed to get the program started, saying that without the efforts of the commission a farmer's market wouldn't even be a possibility.

"Thank you for appearing and recognizing the problem and addressing it, because it sounds like if you didn't do that, there would be no farmer's market," LaBarbiera said. "You've identified the hurdle and cleared it, so best of luck."

E-mail: wassel@northjersey.com TBWN NEWS 4/J/1 http://www.northjersey.com/community/149061385\_Paramus\_Farmer\_s\_Market\_to\_start \_\_in\_June.html

Northjersey.com : Community

# **Paramus Farmer's Market to start in June**

Thursday April 26, 2012, 11:07 AM Town News <u>Print | E-mail</u>

The <u>Paramus</u> Farmer's Market, officially approved at the April 17 Mayor and Council meeting, will be held for the first time on June 20.

Despite some initial concern that local businesses would feel threatened by the market, they have supported the idea and the benefits it could bring to the borough, according to Environmental Commission chairman Jerry Anthony.

With that hurdle overcome and the council's blessing to move forward, the commission chose <u>Washington Township</u> residents Dina Burke and Judith Remiszewski as the program's managers. They have previously run a market in their hometown, according to Anthony, and have already started finding vendors for <u>Paramus</u>.

"They're the boots on the ground in this operation, and they've been working very hard," Anthony said.

The commission hopes to find between 12 and 15 participants, and overhead will be covered by vendor fees, according to Anthony. The vendors themselves will be from communities in both New Jersey and New York that are within 200 miles of <u>Paramus</u>, according to Burke.

In addition to fresh fruits and vegetables, more specialized items such as sausages, bread, tea, cheeses, natural sodas and sauces will be available, according to Burke. Non-food items such as soap and holistic dog biscuits will be available, and all products are guaranteed freshly made.

"That's the rules of the farmer's market," Burke said. "You get it all fresh."

At the end of the day, some of the leftover produce will be donated to local food pantries, according to Burke. <u>Paramus</u> Mayor Richard LaBarbiera supported the idea, noting that

while there are plenty of donations during the holidays, pantry stocks run low during the summer months.

"It's a nice fringe benefit for the community," LaBarbiera said.

The market will be held every Wednesday from 3 to 7 p.m. in Petruska Park from June 20 through Sept. 26.

-Bryan Wassel

http://paramus.patch.com/articles/farmers-market-to-start-in-june

## **Farmers Market to Start in June**

Council gives approval

• By <u>Myles Ma</u>

April 17, 2012

The Environmental Commission wants to bring a farmers market to the northern parking lot at Petruska Park.

The Paramus Farmers Market will start June 20, after receiving formal approval from the Borough Council Tuesday night.

The market will be managed by Dina Burke and Judith Remiszewski, who previously managed the Washington Township farmers market.

Burke and Remiszewski are charged with seeking out and vetting vendors, setting up and cleaning up the market and making sure vendors follow the rules. The market will be supported by vendor fees, Gerald Anthony, chairman of the Environmental Commission, which is sponsoring the market, said.

"We think it's going to be fabulous, being it's Paramus and the traffic on Farview Avenue is incredible," Anthony said.

Burke and Remiszewski are neighbors living in Washington Township. They had been attending farmers markets together for a long time before starting their own in Washington Township in 2011.

Anthony contacted several market managers, but chose Burke and Remiszewski.

"They had experience and since they ran the next one over, they had connections with all the vendors," he said. "It just seemed like a logical way for us to get the Paramus market off the ground."

Starting a farmers market takes a lot, Burke said. The Mayor and Council need to give their blessing, as well as the Borough and county health departments, the state Department of Agriculture and the police and fire departments.

However, the farmers market will have a lot to offer, Remiszewski said. She tallied off a list of products, including: corn, tomatoes, peppers, eggplants, melons, berries, onions, eggs, flowers, pumpkins, garlic, cheese, apricots, peaches, pie, cake, stuffed bread, kielbasa, pierogi, bratwurst, stuffed cabbage, fresh pasta, pasta sauce, handmade mozzarella, homemade Italian sausage, olives, hummus, barbecue sauce, homemade ketchup, coffee, loose tea, pickles, candy, soap and honey.

Members of the Mayor and Council were initially <u>concerned that the market</u> might compete with Paramus supermarkets. Burke said the market would focus exclusively on New Jersey produce, not pineapples, mangoes, kiwis or other fruit that doesn't grow in the state.

"Your orange juice and your milk and all of your staple items, that's not part of the farmers market," Burke added.

Both New Jersey farmers and the Paramus community should benefit from the market, Burke said. The farmers get business and the community has a place to come together for fresh products.

The needy will also benefit from the market, Remiszewski said. Some of the leftover produce will be donated to the Paramus food pantry.

The managers hope to secure 12 to 15 vendors for the market. They will set up shop at the nortern parking lot at <u>Petruska Park</u> every Wednesday from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. until Sept. 26.

http://paramus.patch.com/articles/farmer-s-market-coming-to-paramus#photo-9396727

## **Farmers Market Coming to Paramus?**

Environmental Commission hopes to start market this summer

• By <u>Myles Ma</u>

March 23, 2012

The Environmental Commission wants to bring a farmers market to the northern parking lot at Petruska Park.

Borough residents could have a place this summer to buy freshly picked, locally grown produce.

The Environmental Commission hopes to start a farmer's market, possibly in the northern part of the <u>Petruska Park</u> parking lot as soon as this summer.

"For four hours a week, we'd have a little community down there," Environmental Commission Chairman Gerald Anthony said.

The vision is for up to 12 vendors to sell fresh produce, honey, bread, jam and handcrafted foods. Anthony said the market would likely take place Wednesday afternoons for 12 to 14 weeks during the summer.

All the produce would have to be picked 24 hours prior to selling it, Anthony said. The farmers market could serve as a temporary main street for Paramus residents, he said.

"They get to buy good food, they get educated and they get to have a little fun at the same time," Anthony said.

The cost to the Borough should be minimal aside from some start-up costs, Anthony said. Any staffing at the market would be covered by vendor fees, he said.

The Mayor and Council gave the idea their support, with one concern—Mayor Richard LaBarbiera said grocery stores might see the market as a competitor.

"I think if the businesses were to step forward and say 'This is not a concern and we'd be happy to participate or we take no objection to it,' that's something that I would support whole-heartedly," he said.

Anthony said <u>Whole Foods</u> has already pledged its support. He intends to reach out to all the markets in Paramus to inform them of the planned farmer's market and invite them to participate, though they might not be able to sell their goods under the 24-hour harvest rule.

However, Anthony said businesses could participate in an educational or other capacity.

Councilwoman Maria Elena Bellinger asked Anthony to bring the governing body concrete details on the logistics of the market in addition to reaching out to local businesses.

"I think with all those things in place I could foresee a farmers market in Paramus," Councilwoman Bellinger said. "Hopefully we still have enough time that we could get it in for this season."

If not, she said, the Borough can still pursue the idea next year.

"We definitely want to be inclusive of all our markets in town and all our local businesses," Anthony said. "They're going to be welcome as much as possible."