

The Farmers Market Messenger -- News for the June 24th Market

Well, it looks like 3rd time's a charm! As we roll into the third week of the Market, it looks like we can expect great weather--temps in the low 80's, low humidity and 0% chance of rain. A perfect day for a visit to the Farmers Market!

Tomorrow is really a "berry" good day as we **celebrate strawberries!** These seedy characters are unique and have quite a history. Did you know that on the average there are 200 tiny seeds on every strawberry? Also, the strawberry is not classified by botanists as a true berry. True berries, such as blueberries and cranberries have seeds inside. The strawberry, however has its dry, yellow "seeds" on the outside. Anyways, a little trivia you can use to impress your friends and family. All we know is it's a great season for these lovely luscious berries that can be enjoyed in so many ways--salads, desserts, and jams/preserves.

This Thursday **Beck's Greenhouse is offering some strawberry specials -- Buy 4 quarts, get 1 free OR 8 quarts for \$30.** Strawberries are just such a sign of summer--what a great time of the year it is!

At the **Market Info Trailer pick up some free recipes featuring strawberries**--one of which is for freezer jam. Making jam happens to be on my list of things to do this weekend, and I've roped my mom into help, and she used to help her mother. Grandma would save empty margarine tubs in which to freeze the jam, and seemd to have an endless supply that she would share throughout the year. She would actually go to a farm and pick the berries herself, but in the interest of time, I'm going to get my berries at the Market where someone has done that work for me.

Kids are invited to come by the Market Info Trailer for a **strawberry activity sheet** in keeping with our theme. These weekly sheets encourage kids to learn more about the food they eat and where it comes from.

Other fun things are happening at the Farmers Market this week.....

Highway 610 update--Interested in finding out how things are progressing on this major project coming through Maple Grove. Representatives from the Minnesota Department of Transportation will be on hand to answer your questions and provide insight on this project that is changing the face of the northwest metro area.

3 to 5 p.m.

We always look forward each year to our visit from the **Naturalists at Three Rivers Park District.** We know what we like to eat, but what about animals? Come learn about why they eat what they do in this great interactive experience for kids.

3:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Enjoy the **music of Ben Woolman.** Ben is is hailed as one of the Midwest's leading finger-style guitarists. His music can be heard around the world on cable radio and among programming for Minnesota and National Public Radio. He has contributed music to various film soundtracks and has 10 recordings, solo and compilations, His engaging, high energy, performances cover a diverse musical terrain including: American blues, folk, Latin, Jazz, Celtic, Classical, and African music as well as his own brand of catchy, introspective compositions. "Very inspiring!" is a common refrain one often hears after a Ben Woolman performance.

4:30 p.m.

Family storytime: Every Thursday at 4:30 p.m. is the time for kids to "Grow with Great Stories"

Vendor update: Please note that so far we have been informed that Cinnamon Roasted Nuts will not be at the Market this Thursday. If any other updates come in, we will send out a quick note via email.

Speaking of updates, as you know, we are always working to **spread the word about the Maple Grove Farmers Market and encourage visitors**. We are thrilled to have about 1,600 people who receive market updates each week. Work is also underway to expand our presence on [Facebook](#), and would love to have that same number of people "like" our page. Help spread the word to your Facebook friends. Also, by all means share this email with friends, neighbors, those in your homeowners association, friends at your place of worship, co-workers, and family. Your continued support is very much appreciated, and it is so rewarding to have new visitors each week as well as many familiar faces.

See you at the Market!

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