

## Good Eats!

BY: LOYCE MARTINAZZI

The corn's not yet quite as high as an elephant's eye, but local strawberries are starting to turn red, and tart rhubarb is ready for the plucking. The memories these two fruits bring back! My mother used to make a strawberry-rhubarb pie that was so delicious we would scarf it down, warm from the wood stove oven, layered with a little cool fresh cream. But even more local produce is ready in the here and now. Lettuce, onions, radishes, chard and spinach are ready for a crisp spring salad, and freshly dug new potatoes and green peas combined with a cream sauce are a menage a trois made in heaven. If these delicacies are ready, tomatoes, corn and beans cannot be far behind. Yes folks, it's almost time for the 2012 Tualatin's Farmers Market!



Ruth Prier, on the left, and Del Judy were market managers for the Lakeside Market sponsored by the Tualatin Historical Society. 1996.

Market that operates on Fridays on the east side of the Lake of the Commons. Begun in 2010, the very successful market is sponsored by: Whole Foods, City of Tualatin, Times Newspapers, Pacific Foods, Providence Bridgeport, Tualatin Life, Meridian Park Med Center, West Coast Bank and Hayden's Restaurant. The market starts on Friday, June 15, is open from 4 to 8 pm and features produce, meats, food, flowers and plants, all grown locally. What a privilege to purchase local produce that was harvested the same day, not stored in a cooler for weeks.

It seems the whole community is pitching in to help make this market a success. The Kiwanis Club collected



Del Judy sells produce for Lee Farms at the Tualatin Lakeside Market in the 1990s.

The history of our local produce markets goes back all the way to the time during the depression era when farmers put some extra produce out by the road with a coffee can for change. The Tualatin Historical Society sponsored a Lakeside Market at the Commons in the 1990s. Led by Del Judy and Ruth Prier, the market featured crafts as well as produce.

Now under the leadership of Beth Roach, a five woman board has organized a new Tualatin Farmers



Arlene Hornshuch buys fresh Swiss Chard from Eleanor Fitzgerald at the 2011 Tualatin Farmers Market.

443 pounds of left over produce last year and delivered it to the local food pantry; Hayden's on the Lake stores the tents, and the City has been most helpful in providing extra rest rooms, electricity and recycling containers. Volunteers, 28 of them, worked a total of 900 hours to make the market a success.

A volunteer meeting is scheduled for June 12 at 7:00 pm in the Community Room at the library. All citizens are welcome to attend and participate in this great endeavor.

Robert Richter coordinates music at the market until the Concerts on the Commons begin at 6:30 pm the west side of the lake. Robert is such a kind fellow. He asked me to play and sing a couple of songs with him on opening day, and you can bet I will be there with my Martin guitar!

I love Tualatin, and I love the Farmers Market, and I love growing organic produce for the Grange to sell at the market. What a truly good way to

meet ones' neighbors and support local growers, all while enjoying free music. So come join us on opening night, June 15. I'll see you there!



Tualatin's first farmers market. George Saum Jr. sells his produce on Borland Road during the great depression.



Flowers Galore at the Tualatin Farmers Market.



Russian ladies bring their lovely berries from the Canby area.