



Manager's Report

October 2020

VENDORS – changes since August

New

- Lua Brazil
- Three Six General
- Smokin Wick Candles
- Stoke Cold Pressed Juice
- Happy Hollow Native Foods
- Bubbs Seltzer
- Harin's Speciality Teas
- Tamale Addiction
- Caption Call

Holiday

- Abby Jane Bakeshop
- Bailey's Jewelry
- Bill's Pecans
- Love Succs Succulents
- Magical Farms
- Midnight Moon Botanicals
- Mt. Hoppe Farm
- Rose Burkhardt Jewelry
- Two and a Half Hearts Bakery
- Janet's Arthouse

Returning

- Mamo's Garlic Sauce
- Millwood Farms

Hiatus/Withdrawn

- Engels Farms
- Onion Creek Farm
- Texas Hill Country Olive
- Tough Mother Brand
- Evolve Chiropractic
- Salt Lick BBQ

MARKET GROWTH

After reduced numbers of vendors over spring and summer (due in large part to COVID), market membership is growing at a rapid clip this fall. (See numbers of new vendors in above list.) Numbers of shoppers are noticeably higher than this time last year, following a bump from COVID-induced panic shopping last March and April. The Market Manager is fielding inquiries from prospective vendors every week.

LIVE MUSIC RETURNS

Following appeals from the FMAB and market supporters, Mayor Foulds gave his approval for live music to return to market. Loyal market musicians Jon Parmentier, Alex Dormont, Jerry Rivers and Jerry Kirk have all agreed to resume monthly performances. Many customers have expressed their enjoyment with the improved atmosphere the live music brings to market.

NEWSLETTER NEWS

Recent updates from our newsletter provider, Constant Contact, orphaned the template Laurel has used to create the weekly newsletter for the past several years. She saw the interruption as an opportunity to freshen the newsletter template and will be emailing an improved weekly newsletter again soon.

NEW TECH FOR MARKET STAFF

CoDS is providing several new software and hardware advances to market staff – including an online booth reservation/payments system (ActiveNet), an improved meeting agenda software (Municode), a soon-to-arrive city cell phone, and a new laptop able to connect to internet and the city server via an internal SIM card. The latter will enable Laurel to fully utilize the Farmers Market office in the DSRP Ranch House, which hasn't had reliable internet service since Parks and Community Services staff relocated there last January.

Submitted on November 12, 2020 by Laurel Robertson