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ALLSTON BRIGHTON

Farmers' market to return to Allston for 2nd year; more vendors, greater frequency planned

Posted by Matt Rocheleau May 2, 2012 02:36 PM

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By Matt Rocheleau, Town Correspondent

A farmers' market that launched in Allston last summer will return again this month in the same spot, and will be held twice as frequently and with twice as many vendors as a year ago.

The Allston Village Farmers' Market will launch Sat., May 12, organizers said. It will be held every Saturday through the end of September from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Union Square in Allston along a plaza front of the Jackson-Mann school and community center at the busy intersection of Cambridge Street, North Beacon Street and Brighton Avenue.

This year's list of vendors includes: Foxbarn Farm, Marshall Farm, @Union Cafe, Bazaar, Big Sky Bakery, Commonwheels Bike Co-Op, Mother Juice, St. Elizabeth's Medical Center, Sweet Sisters and Treats on Washington, Alana Olsen, director of Allston Village Main Streets, said in an e-mail.

The wonders are expected to offer a mix of produce, arts, crafts, educational

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To help promote the market in its first week of the season, The Vegetable Circus will hold a special performance there on May 12. A program of the Allied Wellness Education Network, the performance group "uses circus arts to teach children creative and exciting ways to grow up healthy," according to the program's website.

The market, a collaboration of the neighborhood Main Streets group and the Allston-Brighton Community Development Corporation, launched last July. It was called the Union Square Famers' Market in its inaugural season and was held every other week.

To aid with affordability, the market will continue to accept SNAP food stamps and EBT benefits and will participate in the Boston Bounty Bucks program, Olsen said.

The goals of the market include: expanding the communities' access to local, fresh, affordable food; enlivening the square; and driving traffic to surrounding small businesses.

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