

Local growers and artisans excited for Farmer's Markets in Belmont

BY DONNA RHODES
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BELMONT — Summer is here, and the Town of Belmont was pleased to kick off the growing season last Sunday morning with fresh local crops and some amazing crafters and artisans who will take part in the monthly Farmers' Market Sundays, held at the Tioga Pavilion, which is located behind the library in Belmont Village.

Events coordinator Gretchen Olsen-Wilder said each monthly market will be unique, bringing in monthly regulars along with some new vendors and new products each time.

"As the growing season progresses, the produce offerings will vary each time according to the month," said Olsen-Wilder.

Every month will also feature some children's activities and demonstrations for all to enjoy.

Last Sunday, it was ten-year-old Olivia Tatro of Balloonatic Parties in Moultonborough who not only demonstrated her creative balloon art skills, but taught others



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The monthly Farmers' Market Sundays started in Belmont last weekend with June's featured demonstrator, 10-year old entrepreneur Olivia Tatro (center) of Balloonatic Parties in Moultonborough. Olivia helped five-year-old Carly (left), three-year-old Jordyn (right) and others create some fun balloon dogs as adults shopped for fresh produce.

how to do it as well.

With her guidance boys, girls, and even some adults learned how to make dogs, giraffes, guitars, swords and even fish from balloons. She also had balloon hats as an option, with themes such as fireworks, flowers, animals, and one fun hat she simply called "Crazy."

Don Womack, the Garlic Man of Lindon Farm will bring an array of garlic products to the market over the next three months, including garlic scapes, and bunches of fresh green garlic bulbs, gar-

lic powders and other foods from his Gilman farm. Last week he also brought along some native strawberries and said that as the growing season progresses, so will his product offerings.

Meadow Pond Soaps of Canterbury also stopped in for the first month with homemade soaps, dog shampoos and other natural goods and will be returning in September with more of their products. In the meantime they can also be found at other weekly farmers' markets in central New Hampshire.



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Don Womack of Lindon Garlic Farm in Gilman brought fresh strawberries and his famed garlic products to Farmers' Market Sunday in Belmont last Sunday morning.

Loudon's Fen Ridge Farm brought a delicious variety of wine jellies, which are each enhanced in flavor with their locally grown fruit juices, and Robin Ann Hats & Goods from Gilman had other tempting items such as fresh-baked cinnamon rolls, pies, and breads. She also offered her homemade canned jellies and jams, blueberry pie fillings and other tasty treats, along with a variety of crocheted hats and "Koozie Mittens" that are perfect for holding cold beverage cans at fall and winter sporting events or tailgating parties.

Also new to Bel-

mont's Farmers' Market Sundays this year is Jim Ramanek of Warner River Produce in Webster. Ramanek's greenhouses have given him a jumpstart on the vegetable growing season and his booth is filled with something for every dinner table.

Broccoli, beets, onions, cucumbers, mushrooms, squash, and other popular vegetables were available last week. They were accompanied by fresh eggs, raw honey, and even potted herbs, such as lavender and basil plants of many varieties.

"I'll be here every month with whatever is available at that time,"

Ramanek said.

Art's Wood Products of Gilford also lends a creative touch to the market with themed pens, each designed with ornate clips and adornment for sports such as fly fishing, baseball and soccer. Art even makes a 30 Caliber Bolt Action pen that comes in a small cushioned "gun case" storage box. Each pen is made from quality, exotic woods that make a beautiful gift for any occasion.

In addition to the pens there are unique mineral stone purse hangers, beautiful painted glass globes and ornaments made of shells and sea urchins that add a great decorative touch to any home or holiday tree.

Art's Wood Products can also be found each Saturday at the Gilford Farmers' Market.

Future market days in Belmont will take place from 9:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. on July 31, Aug. 28 and Sept. 18. Vendors are still welcome to join the market and those interested are asked to contact Gretta Olson-Wilder by phone at 998-3525 or by email at events@BelmontNH.org.

Sanbornton police warn residents to be wary of phone scams

BY DONNA RHODES
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SANBORNTON — Reports of telephone scams continue to come in to local police departments, and in Sanbornton, Chief Stephen Hankard is again cautioning residents to not give out any personal or financial information to callers.

Last Friday, an elderly resident notified SPD that they had received a call from a 919 area code during which the caller stated they had court paperwork for a relative.

The targeted resident, Hankard said, was suspicious about the nature of the call and asked a few questions, which then caused the caller to hang up. Two calls, with different callers on the phone each time, have been placed to this residence.

"If there is official

court documentation to be served, that typically will have to be served in hand by a police officer, sheriff, or other agent of a court," said Hankard in an alert to local residents.

No personal information should ever be given out over the phone, and police will gladly check the validity of any such call. In this instance, a quick online search of the phone number showed other areas of the country getting similar calls.

This latest scam comes in the wake of several other types of fraudulent telephone calls that crop up periodically, each seeking personal or financial information. Some even threaten to have the person arrested for noncompliance.

Callers who claim to be from a bank or credit card company should al-

ways cause a red flag to fly if they ask for account numbers, pins or other forms of personal identification. In those instances, people should hang up and call the official number listed for their bank or creditor, not the number listed on their caller i.d., and verify its validity.

Other suspicious calls will ask the recipient to provide passwords and other information to correct a "problem"

with their computer or requests bail money for a family member in trouble that should be sent to an offshore bank.

Still another phone scam tries to convince people to purchase iTunes cards in order to receive funds from a federal small business grant they've been awarded.

If it sounds too good to be true, police advise, it usually is and people should simply hang up.

Hankard has made an

extra effort to educate residents of Sanbornton about such scams and said he is happy to know people are not only paying attention to the warnings but also contacting his officers when they receive such a call.

"I am very pleased that our residents are getting the message and not falling for these scams. Also, if you get a new one, please let us know, so we can share the knowledge," he said.

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