



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SPRING HAS FINALLY SPRUNG DOWNTOWN AS PITTSBURGH DOWNTOWN PARTNERSHIP'S MARKET SQUARE FARMERS MARKET REOPENS THIS THURSDAY

- **14TH SEASON WELCOMES A MARKET RECONFIGURATION AND EXPANSION TO ACCOMMODATE MORE VENDORS**
- **MORE THAN 20 NEW VENDORS WILL ROTATE THROUGHOUT THE SEASON**
 - **ANNUAL KICK OFF TRADITION CONTINUES WITH WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA CONSERVANCY'S FREE BULB AND REDBUD GIVE-AWAY**

Downtown Pittsburgh – The Market Square Farmers Market returns on Thursday, May 10 for its 14th season. Presented by the Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership, the Market features more than 30 vendors of locally grown produce, organic products, small-batch foods, spirits, and live entertainment under the Pittsburgh City Paper Stage. The Market occurs rain or shine each Thursday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. through October 25, 2018.

With a new Farmers Market season comes many new part-time and full-time vendors increasing the Market's already diverse product offerings. This year, more than 20 new participants will join the Market, including several new farmers, bakers, cheese producers, bbq sauce and jerky vendors, plus several local distillers, vineyards and brewers will sample and sell their products. The complete list of full and part time vendors is available below.

"This year, we are pleased to make room for even more vendors at the weekly market, providing more opportunities for local farmers and food producers," said Jeremy Waldrup President and CEO of the Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership. "We believe this excellent mix of products, produce, and goods makes for a truly thriving and attractive market."

The PDP Small Business Spotlight program is also returning to the Market in a program is designed to support small retailers in Downtown Pittsburgh. Many weeks at the Market will showcase a Downtown retailer to the Market's more than 5,000 weekly visitors. Among the Downtown businesses slated to participate this year are Grateful Doug's and Charmed by Jen at Boutique La Passerelle. More information on the program can be found at <http://downtownpittsburgh.com/do-business/retail-small-business-resources/>

An annual favorite, The Western Pennsylvania Conservancy will once again give away thousands of reclaimed daffodil bulbs and redbuds during the season opener this Thursday starting at 10:00 a.m. The Conservancy is distributing bulbs removed earlier this spring from its planters around Pittsburgh on a first-come, first-served basis as long as supplies last.

In addition to the excellent vendors, the Market features free, weekly entertainment under the Pittsburgh City Paper Stage, including performances from a variety of local festivals, groups and luminaries such as the Pittsburgh Opera and Pittsburgh Irish Festival. The first of many local musical artists performing throughout the season will be Zanetta Grant, who will perform this Thursday from 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. The Market will also present special theme days such as Christmas in July, Irish Day, and a Halloween Bash.

[Just Harvest](#) will be back conducting their [Fresh Access program](#) every week of the 2018 Farmers Market season. This program enables shoppers to use their credit/debit cards and food stamps via electronic benefit transfer (EBT) to purchase a variety of fresh produce, baked goods, meat, and dairy products. SNAP users can swipe their cards and receive tokens that are accepted by many of the vendors. Users of the token service for credit and debit card purchases will be asked to contribute \$1 per transaction to defray costs of the program.

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2018 Farmers Market Vendors

The list of regular Market Square Farmers Market vendors features many familiar faces who, along with a mix of new participants, will bring diverse products to market (* **denotes new vendor**).

[Alpha Farms](#) – Located on what was formerly Breezy Hill Farm, specializing in a variety of fresh produce and microgreens

[Always Summer Herbs](#) – Family business specializing in honey, tea, and herbs from Slippery Rock, PA

[Andrews Farm Market](#) – Delicious farm fresh fruits and vegetables from St. Thomas, PA.

[Aunt Carol's Gourmet Dips](#) – Pre-packaged homemade dip packets that you whip up fresh at home

[Batch](#) – Unique homemade jams and jellies made from surprising ingredients

[Billy's Country Smoke House](#) – Frozen and smoked meats to go and delicious ready-to-eat sandwiches

[Brenckle's Organic Farm & Greenhouses](#) – Certified organic produce, flowers, and vegetable seedlings from Zelienople, PA.

[Cinco De Mayo Salsas](#) – Fire roasted salsas and dips

[City Fresh Pasta](#) – Made from scratch fresh gourmet pastas, ravioli, pierogis, gnocchi, artisanal sauces and butters

[Cobbler World](#) – Cobblers, cheesecakes, pound cakes and more

[Enon Valley Garlic](#) – Featuring over 20 varieties of garlic

[Fabulous Homemade Cookies](#) – The name says it all! A local favorite

[Family Farms Creamery](#) – Cheese, yogurt, milk, and delicious homemade ice cream

[Good L'Oven Bakery](#) - Specializing in old fashioned cookies using all natural ingredients from local sources

[GoodLIFE Juices](#) – Carefully crafted cold pressed health juices

[Gosia's Pierogies](#) – Fresh ready-to-eat pierogies from a Polish family recipe

[Hello Hummus](#) – Offers handmade, small batch hummus

[Jose Quiroz Farm](#) – Home grown produce out of Salem, OH

[La Scola's Italian Ice & Frozen Custards](#) – Homemade Italian Ices, frozen custards and basil lemonade.

[Little Athens Catering](#) – Ready-to-eat Greek foods such as grape leaves, spanakopita, pastitsio and more

[Mediterra Bakehouse](#) - Bread baked in custom stone-hearth, steam-injected ovens.

*[My Sweet Lilly](#) - Boutique, from-scratch pastries and specialty sweets

[The Olive Tap](#) – Unique, flavorful and fresh; award-winning olive oils and balsamic vinegars

[The Pickled Chef](#) – Local canning, preserving and pickling company features a variety of all natural preservative free hand canned and hand packed products

[Pisarcik Greenhouses & Flower Studio](#) – Fresh flowers including Annuals, Perennials, herbs, succulents, and more

[Ridgeview Acres Farm](#) – Located between Ligonier and Donegal, a family owned and operated farm specializing in fresh cut flowers

[Sand Hill Berries](#) – Pies, jam, fresh berries, and jellies

[Simmons Farm](#) – Fruits, vegetables, flowers

[Sweet Patootie](#) – Homemade and natural pet treats

[Two Acre Farm](#) – All-natural, gluten-free, sugar-free artisan sauces, rubs, and condiments

The Brinery at Two Acre – Fresh homemade pickles in a variety of unique flavors

*[West Penn Farm Alliance](#) - Certified organic vegetables, herbs, mushrooms, ginger, fruit and pastured pigs, beef, and chickens

[Woolf Farms](#) – Apples, strawberries, blueberries, cherries, sweet corn, and cider

Part Time Vendors

In addition to the vendors who will be at the Market each week, the PDP looks forward to welcoming rotating vendors, including several new vendors who will join the Market for limited engagements.

*[Cherish Creamery](#) – Pasture fed, non-gmo, artisan goat cheese and milk products

*[Chocolate Moonshine Company](#) – Gourmet fudge and artisan truffles

*[Cutting Root Farm & Apothecary](#) - Fresh plant material for cooking or medicine making

[Drew Mathieson Center for Horticulture & Agriculture Technology](#) – Plants, herbs, and hanging baskets

*[Ekernally Yours Gourmet Popcorn and Sweet Treats](#) – Just as the name says, gourmet popcorn and sweet treats

*[Goat Rodeo Farm & Dairy](#) – Award winning cheeses using traditional methods of artisanal cheesemaking

*[Good Wolf Bread](#) – Stoneground sourdough and wholesome baked goods

[Greendance Winery](#) – Estate wines lovingly created from their very own berries

*[Greens & Grains](#) - Fresh, local, and delicious ready-to-go side salads, snacks, and summer soups

*[Laurel Highlands Meadery](#) – High quality artisan mead made in small batches

*[Liberty Pole Spirits](#) - Grain to glass craft whiskey distillery

[McLaughlin Distillery](#) – Small Batch Craft Distillery located in Sewickley, Pennsylvania; produces high quality Bourbon, Moonshine, and Vodka

*[Pittsburgh Sweet Treats](#) – Featuring homemade baked products

*[The Renegade Winery](#) – Wine from the Pocono Mountain region of Pennsylvania

*[Sinful Sweets](#) – Handmade gourmet chocolates and Candy

*[The Smokey City's 412 BBQ](#) - Quality BBQ Sauce and Dry Rubs

*[Sturgess Orchards](#) – Hard Cider from a family farm growing 14 acres of apples

*[Threadbare Cider & Mead](#) – Small batch cider made from scratch with regional apples

*[Tommy's Jerky & Smokie Outlet](#) – Featuring Jerky and Smokies, a premium low-carb, high-protein meat snack

[Underhill Farm](#) – Artisan yarn and wool from Leicester Longwool sheep and Angora goats

*[Verdant PGH](#) - Fresh, healthy, & seasonal foods

[Wigle Whiskey](#) – An array of award-winning organic craft spirits, made in Pittsburgh

*[Wise County Biscuits](#) - Appalachia inspired, Pittsburgh made buttermilk biscuits, sandwiches and treats

About the Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership

Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership (PDP) is a dynamic, nonprofit organization comprised of business and community leaders, property owners, civic organizations, foundations and residents who provide energy, vision and advocacy for Downtown Pittsburgh. Working collaboratively with its partners, the PDP strives to create a positive Downtown experience for residents, workers and visitors alike. The PDP's strategic initiatives include clean and safe services, transportation, and economic development and advocacy. For more information, visit www.DowntownPittsburgh.com, follow us on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/downtownpitt> and "like" us on Facebook.