South Coast Farmers' Markets



by Butch McCarthy

Sunday was a beautiful day, the kind of day that's perfect for a quick road trip. It also happened to be the opening day for the Fairhaven Farmer's Market, which is held every Sunday on the grounds of Fairhaven High School on Huttleston Avenue (Rte. 6), just over the bridge. I parked my car in the lot behind the school and walked over to the grounds where about twenty booths were set up. The various vendors offered produce, plants, meats, cheeses, bakery goods, dried fruits, nuts, and hand-crafted items. All of the folks in the booths were friendly and helpful, and there were plenty of customers wandering about on this beautiful day.

As an added bonus, there was live music! The local band Pumpkin Head Ted was set up under a tent at one end of the grounds and they graced us with their wonderful music all afternoon. I was enticed by the strawberries at the booth of Silverbrook Farm of Dartmouth. I had a hard time selecting a quart because they all looked so perfect. The guys working there helped me pick out the best ones and they were truly delicious. There's nothing like locally grown berries in June.

A nearby booth offered an amazing selection of dried fruit and nuts. Ed and Ben at The Original Delancey Street Peanut Company let me sample a few, and eventually I went with a mixture of dried cherries, blueberries and kiwi. Yum. Right in the center of it all was Marilyn Watts with her "Little Jimmy's Italian Ices" cart. I tried the watermelon and it was

awesome; just what the doctor ordered on a hot sunny day.



Fresh veggies at the farmer's market.

There are several farmers' markets in the New Bedford area including:

- New Bedford/Brooklawn Park Farmers Market at Brooklawn Park: Mondays from 2:00-7:00 PM
- Old Rochester Farmers Market at Old Rochester Regional High School: Tuesdays from 3:00-6:00 PM
- New Bedford/Wings Court Farmers Market at Purchase and Union Streets: Thursdays from 2:00-6:00 PM (starts in July).
- Taunton Farmers Market at Spring and Summer Street: Thursdays from 11:00-4:00PM
- Dartmouth Farmers Market at 351 Elm St: Fridays from 1:00-6:00 PM
- Westport Farmers Market at 870 Main Rd: Saturdays 8:30-1:00PM
- Middleboro Farmers Market at South Main Street &

Nickerson Avenue: Saturdays 9:00-1:00PM

• Fairhaven High School Farmers Market: Sunday 1-4 PM.

In the summer there is nothing better than eating fresh, locally grown produce and meats, and farmers' markets provide a great place to find everything you're looking for. Not only will you find a large selection of ripe, delicious food, you will also be supporting the local growers who produce it. My mouth is watering just thinking about the corn on the cob that comes later in the season, but for now make sure to get out there and enjoy everything your local farmer's market has to offer.

Share