



## Yorktown Market Days celebrates National Farmers Market Week

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

National Farmers Market Week is August 2-8, 2015. Yorktown Market Days invites everyone to join the celebration on Saturday, August 8, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The market hosts more than 35 local farmers, producers and vendors throughout the season with a variety of homegrown favorites. The market also hosts over 20 local artists this season, with four to seven featured artists appearing each week. Throughout the summer, the market will also feature a variety of entertainment, local artists, and chef demonstrations. The scheduled entertainment for August 8 is *Diken & Vallet featuring Swing, Blues, Country and Ragtime tunes*. Featured artists for August 8 include **Chanee Hall** (Jewelry), **Debbie Werner & Jeff Harrell** (Woodworking), **Jessica Thompson** (Jewelry), **Stephany Elsworth** (Pen & Ink), and **Larry Krussel** (Photography).

Farmers markets are more than just an outlet for fresh produce and friendly farmers. According to United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) statistics, these grassroots venues have increased in number by over 60% since 2009 to nearly 8,500 today. These markets preserve farmland, stimulate local economies, increase access to fresh nutritious food, improve community health, and promote sustainability.

Yorktown Market Days began in 2007 and is in its 9<sup>th</sup> season in 2015. The market operates weekly along the Yorktown waterfront at Riverwalk Landing on Saturdays through September 26 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Following the close of the weekly market season, monthly markets will be held on October 10, November 7 and 14, and December 12, with extended hours of 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The market is free and features seasonal fruits and vegetables, fresh seafood, eggs, poultry, fresh breads and mixes, baked goods, peanuts, cut flowers, herbs, vegetable plants, fresh mozzarella, organic and gluten free products, potted plants, coffee, jams and jellies, quality art and live musical entertainment.

According to Market Manager Don Willis, "Yorktown Market Days is excited to celebrate National Farmers Market Week with a variety of vendors, featured entertainment, and local artists in the beautiful waterfront setting. August is prime time for produce so shoppers will find the freshest and most flavorful fruits and vegetables, ripe and ready right now."

"Farmers markets play a vital role in forming healthy, local food systems," says Jen Cheek, Executive Director of the Farmers Market Coalition. "By providing the opportunity for farmers to connect directly with consumers, markets serve as education centers. Vendors are teaching customers about agriculture, sharing recipes, and exposing them to new foods. Markets are making people and communities stronger and healthier."

Find additional information about Yorktown Market Days including confirmed market vendors, entertainment, artists and chef demonstrations online at [www.yorktownmarketdays.com](http://www.yorktownmarketdays.com).

Special thanks to the 2015 market days sponsors including founding market sponsor 1<sup>st</sup> Advantage Federal Credit Union, and other market sponsors Farm Bureau, Custom Gardens and Warwick Forest. Yorktown Market Days is presented by York County and the Riverwalk Landing Business Association.

Free parking is available in several public parking areas throughout Historic Yorktown. The free Yorktown trolley runs daily from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. with extended hours of 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day.

The markets are rain or shine. In the event of severe inclement weather, please call the Yorktown events weather hotline at 890-3520 for updates. For more information, please visit [www.yorktownmarketdays.com](http://www.yorktownmarketdays.com).

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