

RENTONREPORTER.com

Renton Farmers Market to end successful season on Tuesday

By [DEAN RADFORD](#)
Renton Reporter Editor
Sep 10 2009

When the final bell is rung on this season's Renton Farmers Market Tuesday, 10s of thousands of shoppers will have strolled the Piazza downtown looking for flowers or a good deal on local fruits and vegetables.

And so much much more.

The market added some new choices this year, including the basics like eggs and meat.

Something new and good weather were a big boost to the crowds, even though recession-weary shoppers weren't spending quite as much as in past years.

Stefeny Anderson, the market's coordinator, estimates the number of visits at the market over its summer-long run at somewhere between 80,000 and 100,000.

That number places the [the Farmers Market](#) among some of the larger markets in the Seattle area.

"This has been a great great year," she said. "We tried to create a greater variety of vendors."

Tuesday, as is traditional, the market will put on a feast for the vendors and recognize them with special awards.

One vendor who will come back next year is Jim McCaslin of Maple Valley, owner of McSweet Pickled Gourmet. This is his first year at the market.

The market has provided much-needed exposure for his pickled goods that he sells in markets.

"They wouldn't have tried it if it had been sitting on a grocery shelf," he said.

A market favorite is Darrell Westover, who's hard to miss in his farmer duds. He has seen his business drop about 15 percent and he's not seeing some of his regulars.

But he plans to come back next year.

Renton Farmers Market

Tuesday is the last day for this season's Renton Farmers Market. Market hours are 3 p.m. - 7 p.m. at the Piazza at South Third Street and Burnett Avenue. The Red House will do the chef demonstration at 4:30 p.m. and the Rain City Breakers will provide entertainment at 5:30 p.m.

