

# Farmers' Market in full swing

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WAYNESBURG - Even though the official start of summer was Monday, the weekly Waynesburg Farmers' Market on East Greene Street has been open for business for more than a month.

The Farmers' Market takes place from 2 to 5 p.m. each Wednesday through October 20. This is the sixth year for the event, which is organized by Waynesburg Prosperous and Beautiful.

The market offers a multitude of fresh fruits, vegetables, baked and other goods that are sold in the American Legion parking lot by vendors who set up stands to sell their produce.

There has been a decrease in vendor turnout this year compared to recent years, but it is still early in the season. On Wednesday, there were just five vendors set up an hour into the event. Although the turnout has been down, that hasn't deterred other vendors that have showed up for the market or had an impact on their sales.

"There were more vendors at the meeting this spring," said Jack Davin of Rutan, who grows and sells his hydroponic tomatoes. "We had about 10 to 12 vendors at the meeting and about that same number at the market last year."

Davin said he couldn't explain the reason for fewer vendors, but he said his sales have been doing just fine. "My sales are just about the same as last year and the year before," Davin said. "A lot of customers have been buying my tomatoes."

Homer Hart of Fredericktown said he travels to sell his produce at many farmers' markets in the area and thinks things will pick up soon. He said the quality of produce will get better as time passes and numbers will pick up.

"We just don't have a lot of produce coming in yet," Hart said. "I checked my cabbage, and it wasn't quite ready."

Despite the low turnout of vendors, there were plenty of customers interested in making purchases at the market Wednesday.

As summer kicks into gear, the market will have more vegetables available for sale, and as they head into the fall season, apples and featured wines will be available for purchase.

The market also will hold several events throughout the remaining portion of their schedule. Summer Fest will be held July 28; Senior Day Aug. 25; Fall Fest will be Sept. 29; and a vendor yard sale is scheduled for Oct. 13.

For more information on the market, call organizer and market manager Barb Wise at 724-627-7818.

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