

# Volunteer retires from market

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WAYNESBURG - When the Waynesburg Farmers' Market concluded its fifth season on Oct. 14, it also marked the final time that Carol Patterson will serve as the market coordinator.

Patterson, who lives in Waynesburg, volunteered more than 600 hours of service to the Farmers' Market since it began in 2005. During that time, she was present for each market day for the 23 weeks of each year it was in operation, collecting vendor fees and selling Farmers' Market tote bags and cookbooks.

On days when the market was not being held, she also helped to create the cookbook, sewed a wall-hanging quilt that was raffled during the most recent market season, attended meetings to plan the market and produced a weekly market newsletter.

"Carol is very dedicated to our vendors and has become friends with all of them, including me," said Barb Wise, Farmers' Market manager and board member of Waynesburg Prosperous & Beautiful, the nonprofit organization that operates the market.

"She runs a tight ship and knows the rules and regulations by heart. When it comes time for our special markets, she loves to organize it and is very creative at coming up with activities, decorations and entertainment."

According to Jeanine Henry, president of Waynesburg Prosperous & Beautiful, Patterson provided an invaluable service to the community during her years as the Farmers' Market coordinator.

"Carol has done so much for Waynesburg and the surrounding communities through her dedication to the Farmers' Market," Henry said. "She has been at each and every market and has put so much time and energy into it, even out of season. She is an integral part of its success throughout the past five years, and Waynesburg Prosperous & Beautiful would like to take this opportunity to recognize her and to thank her for all her efforts."

Patterson often brought her Jack Russell terrier, Pixie, along with her to the Farmers' Market. Over the years, Pixie became the market's mascot and even earned herself a spot on the Farmers' Market quilt, along with the fruits, vegetables, baked goods and hot dog stand.

"Carol loves the market most when there is music and the market is filled with customers," said Wise. "She is truly the best volunteer ever and will be terribly missed by all of us."

The Waynesburg Farmers' Market, which operates from mid-May through mid-October, provides an opportunity for farmers and gardeners in Greene and Washington counties to sell locally grown fruits, vegetables, flowers and herbs directly to area residents. The market also features baked goods and locally produced meats and eggs.

Waynesburg Prosperous and Beautiful is a nonprofit, Main Street program that operates in conjunction with the Pennsylvania Downtown Center. Funded by the state Department of Community and Economic Development, Waynesburg Prosperous and Beautiful represents a community endeavor to preserve and revitalize historic downtown Waynesburg and raise awareness of the educational, cultural and historical opportunities, as well as the convenience of shopping, associated with the town.

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