

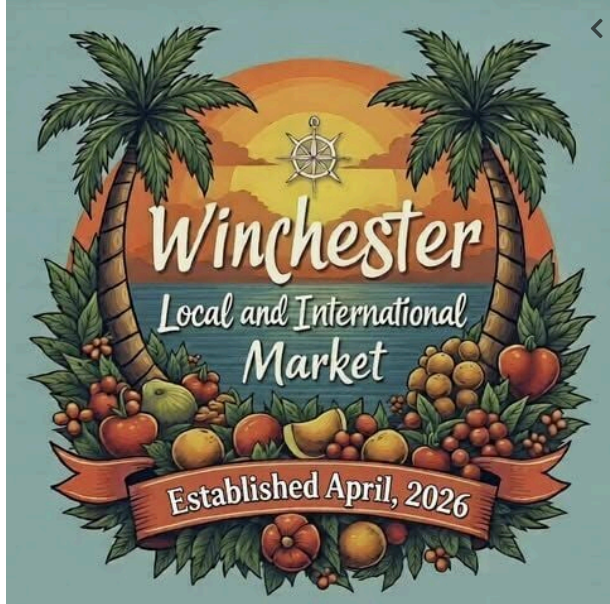
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## New outdoor market opening Saturday in Winchester

By KRISTA G. FARRIS Special to The Winchester Star  
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The Winchester Local & International Market launches this Saturday in front of the Moose Lodge at 215 E. Cork St.

An outdoor market, it will offer an eclectic mix of fresh fruits and vegetables, handmade items, beverages, music and more. It's the brainchild of Monique Campbell, who has been selling her Ginger Delight drinks at markets around the region for years.

Campbell says the market will be open each Saturday from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. from April through December, rain or shine. As long as vendors have the appropriate paperwork to sell their goods, they are welcome to apply for a spot and join the fun.

So far, vendors from Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania have committed to come. The list includes Wicked Whisk Bakery, Jean's Farm Fresh Flowers and Garden, Fur & Bers dog treats and embroidery, Ginger Delight drinks, Josephine's Kitchen sauces and more, Mimi's Hotdogs & Nachos, and My Empanadas. Campbell says the more the merrier — vendors, nonprofits, musicians and more are welcome.

As the market grows, which Campbell anticipates, there is space for as many as 50 vendors. Anyone interested in selling their products or sharing their musical skills can email Campbell at [mygingerdelight@gmail.com](mailto:mygingerdelight@gmail.com). She's hoping to add more produce and meat vendors.

Campbell knows her way around outdoor markets. She has been a vendor for more than a decade. She notes that it's important for markets to have a variety of vendors so that there is something for all tastes and ages — from cake pop lovers to those who appreciate heirloom tomatoes. It's wise, in her view, to have different vendors with a little crossover in what they're selling so that if one vendor cannot come on a particular Saturday, customers can still find what they're looking for.

Creating a welcoming, fun atmosphere that is consistent and family friendly is key to a vibrant outdoor market, she added. "I used to take my daughter and daycare kids to a market. The kids love running around on a Saturday. It gives families something to do on Saturdays. I traveled around to markets and wanted a local one to support each other, to include the international vendors and to have food."

Out of all of the markets she visited, there are aspects of the Wardensville Garden Market in West Virginia that she hopes to emulate at the Winchester Local & International Market. "It's very friendly. They [the vendors] all help each other and look out for each other. I want the market people to be a community instead of trying to outshine each other."

She aims to have themes at the market to make it inviting for families. "At Halloween we can have a party. We can do things that make sense. I'd like to have kids safely running around while parents shop."

Campbell says the Moose Lodge parking lot is the perfect place to launch and grow the market. The location has ample parking, it's close to Old Town Winchester and it's in a vibrant, walkable neighborhood.

The Moose Lodge has been very supportive of the effort, she added. It's providing the space, flyers and a large banner on busy Cork Street advertising the market.

Campbell envisions people being able to walk along the Green Circle Trail from the new Patsy Cline Park, hear music emanating from the market and stop by to check it out.

"There's lots of potential," she says.

For more information, follow the market on Facebook.

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