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Community Invited to Celebrate Farmers' Market 30th Anniversary

A day of celebration is planned for Sat., July 16, as the Oak Park Farmers' Market officially commemorates its the 30th anniversary. Entertainment, giveaways and presentations on the history and traditions of the Market all will be part of the celebration.

Activities are scheduled to begin 9 a.m. with surprise giveaways of garden trowels and seed packets to some lucky Market patrons. Performances by the Bravo Summer Performing Arts Academy, the community's highly-acclaimed children's group, will launch the official program at 10:45 a.m.

At 11 a.m., Martin Noll, president of the Community Bank of Oak Park River Forest, a key sponsor of the day's activities, will offer a brief history presentation and recognize Market founder Marge Gockel and growers who have been bringing fresh produce to Oak Park for more than 20 years.

The ceremony will conclude with the regular Market musicians delivering a lively bluegrass rendition of the Oak Park Farmers' Market original song and other special selections.

Since its first season in 1975, the Oak Park Farmers' Market has grown to include certified organic produce, prepackaged frozen meat, fresh flowers, donuts baked on site and even Farmers' Market merchandise, such as apparel, mugs and shopping bags.

The market is held in the Pilgrim Church parking lot just west of the intersection of Lake Street and Ridgeland Avenue and is open from 7 a.m. – 1 p.m. every Saturday from June through October

For more information visit www.oak-park.us, email farmersmarket@oak-park.us or call 358.5780.

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