



## **GREAT THINGS EXPECTED TO GROW FROM FARMERS' MARKET**

The West Chester Farmers' Market kicks off at The Square @ Union Centre May 17<sup>th</sup> bringing more than locally grown produce and flowers to shoppers. The Farmers' Market sets the stage for a full schedule of great activities at West Chester's new downtown center and introduces the community to those who grow the food we serve.

The Farmers' Market is the first of many activities planned for The Square and is presented by First Financial Bank. The Market will be open from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. every Saturday through October.

"Farmers' Markets have a wonderful way of bringing a community together and creating identity," said Township Administrator Judi Boyko. "The roots of our community are deeply planted in agriculture and while West Chester has grown and become quite urban, there is still something very basic and human about buying your food directly from the person who grew it."

West Chester's Farmers' Market will be managed by Jim and Linda Rosselot. The Rosselots have been farming land in West Chester for generations and more recently operated The Feed Barn on Cincinnati-Dayton Road. Jim and Linda also run Gravel Knolls farm and have devoted themselves to the promotion of organic farming and furthering the efforts of farmers throughout the region.

"We want to make the Farmers' Market a great place to visit on Saturday mornings," Jim Rosselot said. "In addition to produce, flower and even meat producers, we will have entertainment available for families to enjoy while they shop."

There are estimated to be nearly 4,000 farmers' markets in the United States. Farmers' markets are shown to have great positive impact on communities offering access to fresh, local, healthy food; connecting small farmers with consumers; providing valuable outlets for local growers; and building stronger neighborhoods by bringing people together.

The West Chester Farmers' Market will be set up along Centre Pointe Drive while construction on The Square is completed. There is plenty of available parking and the Market is free.

First Financial Bank, official clock tower sponsor of The Square, will present additional activities once construction is completed. By July, The Square @ Union Centre will be home to Wednesday lunchtime activities, Thursday After-Work Concerts and Family Sundaes at the Square.

Other event sponsors include: BAE Systems, Huntington Bank and AK Steel.