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Orinda Farmers' Market Now Open

By Laurie Snyder



Sun, smiles and a taste of Paris. La crépe a moi did a brisk business on opening day of the Orinda Farmers' Market April 4. The Bee Man. The Egg People. The Jam Lady. The names may sound like a list of Hollywood super powered movie villains, but to Orindans, they are old friends who magically appear with truckloads of tasty treats at the Village Square on Orinda Way every Saturday morning from April through November.

The annual tradition continued April 4 as the Orinda Farmers' Market kicked off its 2015 season with vendors offering organic meats, fresh produce and brightly colored floral bouquets. Excited chatter reverberated throughout the marketplace as Orindans ogled, nibbled and shopped, their work week woes falling away with each beat of the toetapping live music provided by the Simmons Family Bluegrass Band.

Vendors slated to make their products available during the 2015 farmers' market season in Orinda include: Steve Gentry - the Bee Man, a fourth generation Orindan who is as beloved for his

support of the Wagner Ranch Nature Area as he is for his healthful honey products; Ratto Farms, established in 1898; Dale Simmons' Lone Oak Ranch with its pomegranate juice, nuts and organic citrus; Great Valley Poultry - the Egg People who offer cage free and organic eggs; Cottage Kitchen with locally sourced fruit products from Barbara, the Jam Lady; La Crépe A Moi; Rose Lane Farms; the Pacheco family's Achadinha Cheese Company from Petaluma; and Billie Espinosa's Body by Bees with its natural bath and body wares.

The market will be open every Saturday for the next eight months, including on Orinda Action Day April 18. To learn more and receive recipe tips, visit: www.facebook.com/OrindaFarmersMarket.



What could be better than good music and a lovely spring day? Shopping for goodies at the Orinda Farmers' Market while listening to the live strains of the Simmons Family Bluegrass Band. Photos Ohlen Alexander

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