



Ballet Folklórico Raíces Mexicanas dancers perform at the season's first Downtown Farmers Market Thursday. (Robinson Kuntz/Daily Republic)

[Fairfield](#)

Farmers market season blooms in Fairfield

By [Ryan McCarthy From page A1](#) | May 01, 2015

FAIRFIELD — Alvina Sheeley arrived after a five-minute bicycle ride. Eulises Rodriguez drove two hours from Watsonville. Robert Danielson will be come to the city with fresh salmon from Alaska.

The 2015 Fairfield Certified Farmers Market began Thursday with what Shelley said was good weather, prices, produce and a compliment from the mayor.

“Alvina, you’re more popular than I am,” the 74-year-old bicycle rider said Harry Price told her.

Danielson of the family owned Freshway Fish in Placer County said the smoked salmon, Ahi Poke – spicy sushi – and other fish that will be available this month at the farmers market in Fairfield will prove popular as well.

The fish caught in Alaska leave Dutch Harbor or Kodiak, are flown overnight to Sacramento and then packed with about 40 pounds of ice at the farmers market, he said.

Alaskan fish and produce from Rodriguez Ranch are among additions to the market that Mayor Price said continues to evolve.

Eulises Rodriguez, beginning his first year in Fairfield, noted “people are saying this year is much bigger.”

About 2,000 people were expected at the event Thursday on the lawn at Jefferson and Texas streets next to the Historic Courthouse, said Margaret Manzo, executive director of the Fairfield Main Street Association.

Scott Tonnesen, chairman of the city Planning Commission and a director of the Main Street Association, said he is impressed with the market’s growth

“We’re just happy with the way it’s expanding every year,” he said.

The farmers market, said Fairfield Fire Chief Tony Velasquez, provides the opportunity to take advantage of local produce when a nutritional challenge to encourage healthy eating is underway among city employees.

Fairfield dentists returned to the event with a booth that provides free toothbrushes.

Jenny Caskey, operations manager for the North Texas Street dental practice, said the market’s focus on health and wellness means a booth at the event makes sense.

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Solano County farmers markets

- **Fairfield Certified Farmers Market:** 3 to 7 p.m. Thursdays through Oct. 8. Lawn at Jefferson Street just north of Texas Street. Info.: www.fairfieldmainstreet.com.
- **Green Valley Certified Farmers Market:** Noon to 4:30 p.m. first Sunday of the month, June through October. Green Valley Road at Vintage Lane. Info: www.gvtotallylocal.org.
- **Vacaville Farmers Market:** 8 a.m. to noon Saturdays through Oct. 10. Main Street between Parker and Dobbins streets. Info.: www.pcfma.com.
- **Rio Vista Certified Farmers Market:** 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays through October. Downtown Rio Vista. Info: www.riovista.org.
- **Kaiser Permanente Vallejo Farmers Market:** 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Fridays, year-round. 975 Sereno Drive. Info.: www.pcfma.com.
- **Vallejo Farmers Market:** 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays, year-round. Georgia and Marin streets. Info.: www.pcfma.com.
- **Benicia’s Certified Farmers Market:** 4 to 8 p.m. Thursdays through Oct. 29. First Street between B and D streets. Info.: www.beniciamainstreet.org.