

For Immediate Release

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New Farm Market Opening on June 12 in Beallsville, in the Heart of Montgomery County's Ag Reserve

The Common Ground Market will have its opening day on June 12, 2016 from 10 am—2pm with a ribbon cutting with Planning Board Chair Casey Anderson and Councilmember Roger Berliner. The market is located at Owen's Park on Old Hundred/109 near the intersection of Darnestown Rd/28. The address is: 19900 Beallsville Road Beallsville, MD 20839.

The market is a collaboration between Christina Nanof of Our Green Acre Farm, Amanda Cather of Plow and Stars Farm, Caitlin Robinson - Moon Flower Farm CSA, Mary Kingsley of Three Graces Farm, Courtney Bucholtz of From the Earth Foods and Montgomery Countryside Alliance (a nonprofit that promotes and protects Montgomery County's Ag Reserve). Currently the market will feature 10 Montgomery County vendors selling produce, meat, flowers, herbs, and artisan goods along with food trucks. (Secured for opening day: Linda's Luncheonette, Grandma Kona Ice and Java Cruiser).

"We are so proud to be part of bringing this new market to fruition," said Caroline Taylor, Executive Director of Montgomery Countryside Alliance. "While the Reserve grows lots of food, residents here have seen all their brick and mortar food retail options close in the past few years. Having a market in rural Montgomery County is a win-win as it gives farmers a retail option close to home and gives their neighbors access to fresh healthy food and neither party needs to drive too far."

The market will continue through the growing season, the second Sunday of the month from June-October and farmers/artisans looking to join should visit the website: **TheCommonGroundMarket.com**

"We are really looking to create a fun community atmosphere, we are hoping families will come and stay awhile, meet their neighbors, maybe even bring a picnic blanket and grab lunch from one of the food trucks and play on the playground. The venue of Owens Park really lends itself to this and we are thankful to the Parks Department for helping us secure this spot."

Market organizers encourage visitors to round out their day by checking out more of what the Ag Reserve has to offer after visiting the market- hikes, Sugarloaf Mountain Vineyard, historic sites and more. Visit mocoalliance.org/AgGuide to learn more.

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