

THOMAS P. GORDON
County Executive

DAVID A. GRIMALDI
Chief Administrative Officer



For Immediate Release
June 9, 2015

Contacts: **ANTONIO M. PRADO, Director of Communications**
(302) 395-5108, (302) 545-1462 AMPrado@nccde.org
MELODY KITCHEN, Executive Assistant
(302) 395-5117 MAKitchen@nccde.org

NEWS RELEASE

Route 9 Farmers Market Grand Opening To Be Held at Garfield Park

NEW CASTLE, Del., - New Castle County Executive Thomas P. Gordon is scheduled to hold the Grand Opening Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the Route 9 Farmers Market at 5 p.m. Thursday, June 11, 2015 at Garfield Park located at 26 Karlyn Drive in New Castle.

The Farmers Market will be open from 3 p.m. until 7 p.m. each Thursday this summer and into autumn. The program will kick off at 3 p.m. with a Farmers Market Story Time presentation. The Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at 5 o'clock sharp will be followed by live music from the First State Symphonic Band.

The Route 9 Farmers Market is the newest of four markets operated by the County's Department of Community Services.

"I am proud to have Garfield Park officially join the established Farmers Markets at Rockwood, Carousel, and Glasgow parks," County Executive Gordon said. "This gives us four markets that are distributed evenly in order to give the residents of New Castle County a chance to buy local produce and other goods."

With the opening of the Farmers Market site at Garfield Park, New Castle County will provide the communities along the recently established Route 9 Innovation District with expanded access to fresh produce and healthy food choices. The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) designated many of the Census Tracts located within the Route 9 Innovation District as "food deserts" for having extremely low access to healthy foods, fruits and vegetables. Using approximately \$100,000 in grant funding from the USDA, the County is proactively promoting its four Farmers Market sites, with specific focus on creating and promoting the new Route 9 Market.

Local farmers and producers interested in more information about New Castle County Farmers Markets and how to become a vendor should contact Michael Begatto at 302-395-5624 or mbegatto@nccde.org or go to New Castle County's website at nccde.org/farmersmarkets.