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NEWS RELEASE

For more information: Diana Friend, Communications and Marketing Manager
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A Fresh Idea Each Week at the Monday Market *Library's Farmer's Market Opens May 16*

(TOPEKA, KS) At the Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library, you can pick up good literature and groceries. Starting **May 16**, customers can pick up much more than books and DVDs. They can buy food directly from Kansas farmers.

At our **Monday Farmers Market**, local growers will set up in the library parking lot to sell their goods each Monday from **7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. beginning May 16 through Oct. 10**.

Customers can purchase items such as farm-fresh vegetables, herbs, flowers, bedding plants, eggs and other seasonal produce, and they can ask questions of the vendors, who include, Shane Root of T&S Root Farms and William Randall of Last Stand Brand.

The Monday Market is a Capital City Wellness initiative, a state program that aims to promote healthy eating and exercise, especially among Downtown Topeka employees. Carol Mongold, co-organizer of the event, said customers appreciate the convenient location.

"Customers are encouraged to walk to the market, if possible, though the library provides plenty of free parking," she said.

Mongold emphasizes the farmers market's tie to the library's Health Information neighborhood, where more than 5,000 books and DVDs on living healthy are shelved together for ease of browsing. The newly opened Cooking and Lawn & Garden neighborhoods also have a tie to the market.

Mongold directs market customers inside to discover more information, whether it's a new recipe from our collection of cookbooks or a gardening book on what herbs grow best in Kansas' soil. Customers can also pick up recipes at the library's booth at the market and also talk to librarians about how to get the most out of their library experience.

This year marks the third annual Monday Farmers Market @ your library®.



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The Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library is 21st-century, landmark library, and features the Alice C. Sabatini Art Gallery, the Millennium Café, the Chandler Booktique Gift Shop, meeting rooms, and free computer and Internet access and training.

Library hours are Mon. through Fri. 9 am to 9 pm, Sat. 9 am to 6 pm and Sunday 12 pm to 9 pm.

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