



A MAIN STREET ORGANIZATION



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Stevenson Farmers Market Manager Steps Down After Nine Years

Stevenson, Wash. - Stevenson Farmers Market Manager Pharaoh Skinner announces her departure from the market after overseeing it for nine years.

"I'm at a point in my life where I cannot give the market the attention it deserves anymore, and the market possesses its own momentum now. It is time for me to let it go and let the enthusiasm of our volunteers and SDA drive it," says Pharaoh Skinner, who became its leader nearly a decade ago. "For the first time in the nine years of managing, I know without a doubt our little Farmers Market is going to make it. But not just continue... it's going to thrive. I'm so proud of what Stevenson and surrounding areas have done to support our local community of backyard gardeners, farmers, crafters and bakers."

During her tenure, Pharaoh led the market through growth, changes, challenges and successes. In her first year as manager, the total market sales topped out at \$14,000 for the season; in 2023, total market sales ringed in at over \$81,000! Likewise, market attendance grew from 2,000 people in the 2015 season to more than 10,000 attendees in 2023. Moving the market from the courthouse lawn area to the waterfront in 2020, thanks to the support of the Port of Skamania, proved to be a key growth opportunity with sales and attendance skyrocketing since the 2019 season. In 2022, the Stevenson Downtown Association absorbed the market as one of its programs, another boost to the market with Pharaoh leading the way.

“We are grateful for and proud of Pharaoh’s dedication and passion that kept the Stevenson Farmers Market viable over the last decade,” says Kelly O’Malley-McKee, executive director of the Stevenson Downtown Association, the local Main Street organization that now oversees the market. “Pharaoh is leaving it far better than she found it, and we are poised to continue her successful legacy into the next decade with the help of generous volunteers and a new manager leading the way.”

The organization is currently accepting applications for the job opening and hopes to find the next part-time Stevenson Farmers Market Manager as soon as possible, as planning for the 2024 season is already underway. Full job description and application instructions are available at stevensonmainstreet.org.

About the organization:

The Stevenson Farmers Market is a seasonal market operated by the Stevenson Downtown Association. Held at the beautiful Stevenson Waterfront, the market aims to enhance the quality of life in Skamania County by providing access to fresh, locally grown produce for all income levels; support for micro-enterprises and cottage industries; food education and assistance; and a family-friendly gathering place.

The [Stevenson Downtown Association](#) is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, affiliated with both [Washington Main Street](#) and [Main Street America](#). This coalition of local business owners and community volunteers works to promote and revitalize Downtown Stevenson and enrich the local heritage. By embracing the Main Street Approach, they envision a historically preserved, economically vibrant downtown where locals and visitors alike come together for community, culture and connection to the Columbia River. Become a volunteer, donate or learn more at stevensonmainstreet.org.

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