Today’s Highlights: April 3rd, 2021

* Welcome Back! Let’s get this 52nd season started!
* Be a M.V.P. - Member.Volunteer.Partner.
* Weather, Birthdays, UnClassifieds and more on the back page!

**From Kirsten**

Good Morning Saturday Marketers! Welcome to Opening Day 2021! A few reminders as we kick off the season:

1. Every member must have a fire extinguisher in their booth — our fire inspection is happening at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday. Please have your fire extinguisher visible during the fire inspection;
2. Booth weights are required on pop-ups — 25 lbs. per leg for an 8'x8 and 50 lbs. for an umbrella;
3. Parking during loading and unloading is limited to 20 minutes. All meters, both on the Park Blocks and on the exterior of the Park Blocks, are free 5 a.m. – 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. – 10 p.m. Please don’t park on the corners of the blocks or in commercial loading zones;
4. We have bulk hand sanitizer available for free to members on Saturday. Please bring your container.

The staff is here to help you in every way we can, so be sure to reach out to us if you need something.

Thought for the day: “You are not a drop in the ocean. You are the entire ocean in a drop” - Rumi

**About Parking**

Parking is always an issue when we get started. Please do your part to make loading in and unloading fast and hassle free. Here are your friendly reminders.

• Do not park on the park blocks unless you are actively loading/unloading;
• Wait in line for your space, then go get your car;
• You have 20 min. to park for loading/unloading;
• Move your car, then set up your booth;
• The Parcade and the Overpark are free. You can also use one of the nearby paid parking lots;
• Parking at the park blocks is reserved from 10am to 4pm for customers. If you have a space by the curb, please do not put your chairs in the street.

**Booth Weights Available**

Booth weights are required for pop-up booths and umbrellas. A flying booth can cause a lot of harm. The fire marshall will be on-site inspecting us today.

We have canvas weight bags with clips available at the Info Booth or during the week in the office for $10 each. They are not filled. You will have to do that yourself, but it’s easy and inexpensive. You can purchase weighty material of your choice for about $5 or less at Lane Forest Products.

**Farmer’s Market Move**

The Lane County Farmers Market will be held at a new location on 5th Avenue between High Street and Oak Street this year. Their temporary location is to allow the Eugene Town Square project to commence with demolition of the Butterfly Lot and the construction of the Market’s permanent home. At this time, construction is expected to be completed in May.

You can expect a lot of questions from shoppers about this move. We have flyers at the Info Booth. Feel free to send shoppers over to pick up a flyer. We didn’t receive enough to allow members to keep a stack in their booth.

**COVID-19 Safety Rules Reminder**

Welcome to Opening Day of our 52nd Season! We are happy to open on time this year. We are opening at 80% capacity again and will make adjustments through the season based on the course of the pandemic. We did a spectacular job of keeping everyone safe in 2020. Let’s keep it up. We can see the finish line folks!

Some of you have been vaccinated. All members must continue to adhere to the safety guidelines even after you have received your vaccine.

Here’s a reminder of the rules we must continue to follow to stay in compliance with all government mandates as an open air shopping mall:

• Staff, members and shoppers must wear a face mask. Members must provide their own masks; however, we have a few for anyone that doesn’t have time to get one by their first market or if you forgot yours.
• You are your booth’s Social Distancing Officer. We will give you a sign that says “Please Keep 6’ Social Distance” for your booth. This means you must ask your customers to maintain 6’ distance. Call the Info Booth for help if you have any problems.
• Move products to the front of your booth.
• No booth sharing unless you share with a member of your household. Only one member and one person from your household allowed in the booth at a time.
• Only 1 customer allowed inside your booth at a time.
• Sidewalks are highly recommended.
• No strolling or busking.
• No food samples are allowed.
• No personal services such as massage, face painting or hair services.
• Limit cash transactions. Try to use touchless credit card processing with no signature required. Sanitize your terminal after each use.
• Have hand sanitizer in your booth. Market will provide the sanitizer while supplies last.
• Consider covering products to minimize touching. Sanitize products after they have been handled.

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**UnClassifieds**

To place your free unclassified, bring it to the Info Booth by the end of the day, to the office by Thursday at noon, or e-mail it to us at info@eugenesaturdaymarket.org with "NEWLETTER" in the subject.

Free fabric! I have a wide variety of fabric for anyone who can use it. Lots of different things, woven and knit, fancy and plain, scraps, small pieces and some bigger. I will be bringing a tub full to market each week until I can clear enough space in my attic to do some electrical work. Come by and see if there’s anything you can use! Mais with the bird shirts, probably in space 188/189. (4/5).

**Credit Card Sales**

Saturday Market accepts Visa, Mastercard, Discover, & American Express. Please ask your customer to the South Park Info Booth with a properly filled out credit card slip.

**NEW:** Your check for the amount of the sale less 5% for bank charges will be MAILED on Wednesday. Call the office if you would like to pick up your check. We will not put Visa checks into Reserve members’ envelopes.

**Reminder:** You cannot charge your customers a fee or increase the cost of your product by a percentage for paying with a credit card. You can offer a cash discount instead.

**The Kareng Fund**

The Kareng Fund is an emergency relief fund set up to help low income, self-employed artisans and their families who experience a serious career threatening crisis. You can make a donation any time, just specify your donation on the front of your payment envelope. You can “round up” your fees to easily donate a little each week. You can also help the Kareng Fund every time you purchase something from Amazon!

The Kareng Fund is offering $250 grants to any member that need help paying medical fees, reserve fees or booth fees. They will also help with Holiday Market booth fees this year.

To contribute through Amazon, go to smile.amazon.com and search for “Kareng Fund”. From that point forward, every purchase you make through Amazon will benefit the Kareng Fund, helping artisans in need. Brochures are available at the Info Booth or on their website at www.karengfund.org.

**Weather**

Happy Opening Day! Today is going to be glorious! A touch cloudy with sunny, tippy chance of rain. The high is 64 degrees with mild winds. We hope everyone is going to be a spectacular spring day to hang out in tents and wear freshly laundered masks. Welcome Back!

**Attention 4x4 Booth Folks**

If you are planning on selling in a 4x4, please wait until you have your space assigned before putting your booth and product in. You must move your car after you have unloaded your booth. Do not place your chairs in the street, thanks!

**South Park Info Booth:**

**Making Change:** The market will make change for our members, up to $60, each Saturday.

**Vendor Check Cashing:** Available at the Info Booth. There is a $5 charge for a return check. We do not cash checks for customers.

**Lost & Found:** Please turn in found items to the South Park Info Booth and tell customers to go to the South Park Info Booth for lost & found items. They can also call the office at 541-686-8885. Saturday Market is not responsible for lost or stolen items.

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