

Learn how to protect yourself

www.mass.gov/MosquitoesAndTicks

Sunday, June 30, 2013
70° Forecast | Radar

NEWS | SPORTS | OPINION | ENTERTAINMENT | LIVING | SPECIAL REPORTS | SIGHTS & SOUNDS | YOUR TOWN | MARKETPLACE | SERVICES

Saint Anne's to write prescriptions for fresh produce

Photo 1 of 1 | Zoom Photo +



Kathleen Brennan of Dartmouth's Silverbrook Farm puts out fresh lettuce at Saint Anne's Hospital in Fall River. Saint Anne's, along with Southcoast, has kicked off new farmers markets on-site. The markets will run through the end of October.

JOHN SLADEWSKI/The Standard-Times

Text Size: A | A | A

Print this Article | Email this Article

ShareThis

1 of 3 clicks used this month

[LOGIN](#) | [REGISTER](#) | [SUBSCRIBE](#)

By **ANIKA CLARK**
aclark@s-t.com
July 19, 2012 12:00 AM

FALL RIVER — Conventional wisdom says an apple a day keeps the doctor away. But through Saint Anne's Hospital's soon-to-launch produce prescription program, a patient will be able to receive a physical and fresh fruit in the same visit.

After recently starting a weekly farmers market on-site in Fall River, Saint Anne's is striking partnerships with select area doctors to offer prescriptions for fresh produce.

Funded through the hospital's community benefits program, the vouchers are redeemable at the market for one serving of fruits or vegetables, per day per person, for up to four family members throughout the market's season, according to Susan Oldrid, vice president for mission and community partnerships. Oldrid said she was inspired in the charge by the nonprofit organization Wholesome Wave.

Under the program, slated to begin by Aug. 1, participating doctors will offer prescriptions to patients considered vulnerable, and either at risk for — or already dealing with — prevalent local health problems such as diabetes, hypertension, obesity and heart disease, Oldrid said.

Dr. Michael Campbell, who will write produce prescriptions from Steward Health Care's Millview Medical Associates, said he frequently includes eating fruits and vegetables on patients' treatment plans. But this is the first time he's been able to actually prescribe it.

"I think it's wonderful," he said.

After launching last month, the market will run through the end of October, but Oldrid said she sees potential for the market to eventually extend into the winter. In the future, the hospital also plans to expand the market to include additional farmers.

The hospital started the market with Dartmouth's Silverbrook Farm because of Andrew Pollock's experience working with government-subsidized food programs and because of collaboration with the Codman Square Health Center in Dorchester, according to Oldrid.

Pollock participates in a community supported agriculture (CSA) program at the health center — a model under which customers buy shares of produce — along with a farmers market in the area.

He said Codman Square has also offered produce prescriptions and called the concept "so forward-thinking."

POPULAR TODAY

[Everyone loves NASA's 'Mohawk Guy'](#)

[Warren Murdoch](#)

[Anastasia E. George](#)

THE 2014 Mazda6 WITH SKYACTIV TECHNOLOGY

THE FORMULA FOR GAME-CHANGING PERFORMANCE.

[LOCATE A DEALER](#) | [REQUEST A QUOTE](#) | [SEARCH INVENTORY](#)

MazdaUSA.com *Legal

Lime light DEALS

Current Price: **\$2.50**

50% off

Clark's Point Creamery

\$2.50 for \$5 to Spend at Clark's Point Creamery

BUY NOW!

Deal Expires: 2d:23h:08m
[View More Deals](#)

COUPON OF THE WEEK

June Doorbusters are here!
Savings up to 40% OFF. Hurry because supplies are limited. First come,...

Mahoney's Building Supply Inc.

SEE ALL ONLINE TODAY [MORE >>](#)

\$100 OFF!
Regal House

FREE Vacuum Cleaner Repair Estimate right away while you wait.
Handy Andy's Quality Vacuum Cleaners

Buy 1 get 1 free admission!
Ocean Explorium

\$10 OFF Any Fall 2013 Adult Education Evening Course
Greater New Bedford Regional Vocational Technical High School

[TOP JOBS](#) | [TOP HOMES](#)

Campbell said his practice will first write prescriptions for elderly, Medicare recipients with certain health problems before expanding to other patients.

Participants will need to allow doctors to track key measures such as body-mass-index, weight and blood pressure, according to Oldrid. She said she also wants to link patients with nutritionists.

But Saint Anne's initiatives don't stop there.

Oldrid said she is hoping to launch a "double-coupon" program that would allow a limited number of people to double the value of government benefits for seniors and Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program benefits at the Saint Anne's market. She said the hospital is also reaching out to other community groups who can help meet the varied needs of farmer's market shoppers. And already, she said, hospital employees can pay for their produce through payroll deductions.

"These two employees came out and they had never eaten fresh sugar snap peas," she said, referencing a video that captured the moment. "They were just astonished at how delicious they were."

The Saint Anne's farmers market runs Mondays 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the South Main Street side of the hospital.

\$329,000



Dartmouth, Massachusetts

[More Details...](#)

[View All Featured Ads](#)

See more homes at [SouthCoastHouseandHome.com](#)

[HOME](#)

[Print this Article](#) [Email this Article](#)

Ads by Google

[Vistaprint coupons](#)
www.vistaprint.com
Take up to \$30 off your next order
Redeem your Vistaprint coupon now!

[Cardiac Surgery](#)
SouthcoastHeart.org
The only Cardiac Surgeon in the Region
is at Southcoast.

[GiftTree Baskets & Gifts](#)
www.GiftTree.com
Save 10% On Gift Baskets Today! Shop
GiftTree.com For All Occasions

AdChoices

Site index

[Full index](#)

Marketplace

- [Classifieds](#)
- [Jobs](#)
- [Cars](#)
- [Real Estate](#)
- [Apartments](#)
- [Place an ad](#)
- [Local search](#)

Interact

- [Blogs](#)
- [RSS Feeds](#)
- [Rate / Review](#)

News

- [Local](#)
- [State](#)
- [National](#)
- [Education](#)
- [Business](#)
- [Weather / Traffic](#)
- [Death Notices / Obituaries](#)
- [Politics](#)
- [Religion](#)

Multimedia

- [Photos](#)
- [Videos](#)
- [Out & About](#)
- [Submit a Photo](#)

YourTown

- [Acushnet](#)
- [Dartmouth](#)
- [Fairhaven](#)
- [Fall River](#)
- [Freetown](#)
- [Lakeville](#)
- [Marion](#)
- [Mattapoisett](#)
- [Middleboro](#)
- [New Bedford](#)
- [Rehoboth](#)
- [Rochester](#)
- [Somerset](#)
- [Swansea](#)
- [Wareham](#)
- [Westport](#)

Sports

- [High School](#)
- [Red Sox](#)
- [Patriots](#)
- [Celtics](#)
- [Bruins](#)
- [Sports Blogs](#)
- [Sports Columns](#)
- [Golf Guide](#)
- [Youth Sports](#)

Services

- [Subscribe](#)
- [Email Alerts](#)
- [TextAlerts](#)
- [Mobile Shortcut](#)
- [Toolbar](#)
- [NIE](#)

Lifestyle

- [Health](#)
- [Gardens](#)
- [Outdoors](#)
- [Pets](#)
- [Family Room](#)
- [Weddings](#)
- [Columnists](#)
- [WiFi HotSpots](#)
- [Waterfront](#)
- [Guide](#)
- [Family](#)
- [Milestones](#)
- [BookLovers](#)
- [Locks of Love](#)

Entertainment

- [Coastin'](#)
- [Movies](#)
- [Dining](#)
- [Wailing City](#)
- [Grape](#)
- [Expectations](#)
- [Horoscopes](#)
- [TV](#)
- [Sudoku](#)
- [Crossword](#)
- [More Games](#)
- [Calendar](#)

Special Reports

- [Restaurant Inspections](#)
- [Crime Database](#)
- [Immigration Raid](#)
- [Surviving Hard Times](#)
- [SC Bridge Database](#)
- [Casino](#)
- [A Nossa Vida](#)
- [Whaling in NB](#)
- [Half-Marathon Inauguration](#)

[SUBSCRIBER AGREEMENT & TERMS OF USE - UPDATED](#) | [COPYRIGHT](#) | [PRIVACY POLICY](#) | [COOKIE DISCLOSURE](#) | [SITE MAP](#) | [CONTACT US](#) | [ADVERTISE](#) | [FAQS](#) | [CAREERS](#) |

Copyright © 2013. Dow Jones Local Media Group, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

SUBSCRIBE