

## Farmers Market offers flowers, fruits and festivities

By Elizabeth Warren, Staff Writer

LAWRENCE — The Lawrence Farmers Market returns for a 14<sup>th</sup> season tomorrow.

Each Wednesday until Oct. 29, vendors will take over Appleton Way between Essex and Common streets at City Hall and the courthouse, from 10:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

There will be fresh fruits and vegetables in season, along with flowers.

“With the changing seasons come different items that are sold. During the earlier weeks of the event, flowers will most likely be the main attraction, since some of the fruits and vegetables are not yet in season,” said Rose Gonzalez, program manager for Groundwork Lawrence, which manages the market.

“We’re all very proud of the market’s success,” said Gonzalez. “We put this on each year for several reasons. First, we want to help promote local farmers’ businesses. Second, we want to spread healthy eating habits. The food purchased here is local, fresh food that is picked that morning. Unlike grocery store produce that is grown for selling, our produce is grown for taste.”

Starting July 9, the market also will be an entertainment venue.

There will be an eclectic lineup of performers, including the Los Sugar Kings, a band whose music was described by Gonzalez as “danceable electric mambo.”

There also will be performances by local theater company Acting Out, a swing band, and a blue grass concert, as well as a demonstration by a Brazilian martial arts group.

There is no cover charge for the market and vendors will accept almost all forms of payment such as WIC, senior coupons, EBT, cash and credit cards.