

At Saturday's Washington County Farmers' Market, three "big" tomatoes were put on the scales, but only Donald Madden's tomato broke June Voyles' record setting tomato of 2.30 lbs. Not by much. but the 2.34 lbs. beat the record by about 2/3 of an oz. enough to get Donald a \$5.00 gift certificate to the market. It is unbelievable that three big tomatoes were within an oz of each other. (pictured is Monica Madden taking a bite out of record tomato). Rumors has it that there are bigger tomatoes still on the vine, if the critters don't get them first. Really need a tomato of three or four pounds! Everyone wins a certificate, recorders under four pounds wins five dollars, over four pounds, ten dollars in Market bucks.

Aug. 4 through Aug. 10 offers another opportunity to celebrate with great food, it is National Farmers Market Week. Farmers markets are an ever-growing link between the consumer and farm. The United States Department of Agriculture listed 7,864 markets in its directory — a 9.6 percent increase since 2011. "Farmers markets are an important public face for agriculture and a critical part of our nation's food system," said Secretary Tom Vilsack. "They provide benefits not only to the farmers looking for important income opportunities, but also help fill a growing consumer demand for fresh, healthy foods".

The mission of your Washington County Farmers' Market Farmers allowing consumers to have access to locally grown, farm fresh produce, giving farmers the opportunity to develop a personal relationship with their customers, and cultivating consumer loyalty with the farmers who grows your produce. His produce quality and quantity were the real 'stars' at the Washington County Farmers' Market. Please stop by this week and 'get to know' your farmer! Meet our newest vendors with their patent-pending All "Georganic" Produce.

Washington County Farmers' Market opens Saturday 8:30 am to 12:30pm and Tuesday evenings 4:30 pm to 7:00 pm, Washington County Fair Grounds.

(Thank you for supporting your Washington County Farmers' Market)

Jack Stephenson, Assistant Market Manager

3005 Middle Fork Ln

Salem, IN 47167